



January 2023

The party's over.



**We'll be collecting your
pointy hats at the door.**

Dear Member,

Welcome to the *California Connection*, the monthly missive sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

Things to Know

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We don't see any New Year's resolutions on your refrigerator door. They probably fell off. Allow us to help.

Resolution #1 - Say "Yes" whenever AAUW California asks for volunteers.

Resolution #2 - Read the *California Connection*. (We are not above shameless self-promotion.)

Resolution #3 - Read all the emails and newsletters from your branch leaders, the national office, AAUW California, and your tax



advisor. Do not read communications from your hitherto unknown fourth cousin who has been kidnapped and needs \$1M in small bills, Target® gift cards, and airline miles.

You're welcome.

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Atwitter about Twitter! You had a lot to say about our decision to terminate our Twitter account in response to Elon Musk's changes and the resulting rhetoric that did not reflect AAUW's values. Some of you agreed; some did not. We read and respect all your feedback. We want to thank you for the reminder that we are a diverse organization with differing opinions. We also want to thank you for reading the *California Connection*. We're grateful that you don't treat our email like an ad for silicone oven mitts and hit Delete.

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Were you the kid who asked for extra credit work? Yep, we thought so. We are such overachievers. We set a goal and then we overshoot it. Our target for AAUW Fund contributions by California members was a lofty \$525,000. So, of course, we exceeded it. You put your money where your mouth was and donated an additional \$44,682 (as of November) to support AAUW's mission and programs. Thank you for your commitment and generosity. Considering the rate of inflation, that makes California's contribution roughly the equivalent of three googolplexes, which may someday be the price of a loaf of white bread. Asiago cheese would add another googolplex.

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Things to Do

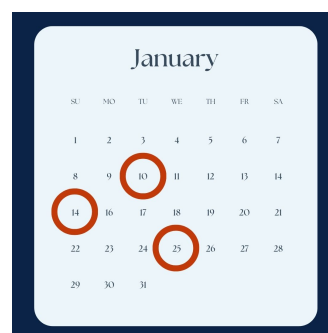
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Confess. Some of you yell at the TV news. We think we have actually heard you occasionally. AAUW members are, shall we say, opinionated, and like to make their views known. Luckily for you, we are offering a bully pulpit. The Public Policy Committee has organized Lobby Days to give you a chance to talk directly to your legislators about the bills that AAUW supports. We'll teach you about the bills and how to advocate for them. Whether your meeting is in-person or by Zoom, no one will hit the mute button. That's better than arguing with a disinterested 65" LCD screen. Sign up [HERE](#) by January 18th.



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If the “bomb cyclone” didn’t blow you away, our January webinars will. We forecast a deluge of ideas and inspiration. Only a power outage should stop you from joining us. Or maybe the final episode of Doc Martin.



January 10th 7pm The Kindness of Color

Two families: one Japanese American and one Mexican American. Both battling racism and segregation in the WWII era. Hear author and descendant Janice Munemitsu tell the riveting story of how their lives intersected and, thanks to the kindness of friends and strangers, resulted in a landmark California court decision.



[Click HERE to Register](#)

January 25th 7pm Growing AAUW California

You and your branch need more AAUW peeps! Join the Membership Committee for a presentation of several fresh ideas to attract new members. YOU are AAUW’s best recruiter. Get some tips for getting others to say Yes without offering them a Tesla.



Click [HERE](#) to Register

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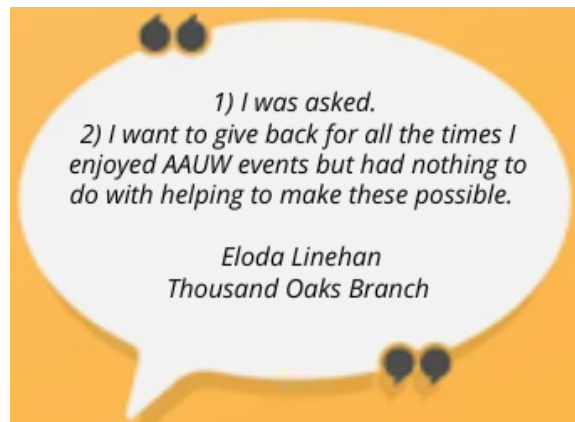
Last call! No, we're not talking about *Cheers*. We're talking about Gov Trek. **January 14th** is the final day for high school junior and senior girls to register for the opportunity to learn about careers in elected office and public service. Those of us who are, to put it delicately, somewhat past high school age, are so envious. The girls will participate in interactive activities and hear from nearly 20(!) women leaders and legislators to see if a career in politics is right for them. Nearly 70 girls have already signed up. In a few years, one of them could be the Speaker of the House and it won't take 15 votes to elect her! Pass the word along to a high school student you may know. They can register [HERE](#).

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Leaning into Leadership

We have been asking you to tell us why you became a leader in your branch (or anywhere).
And some of you did!
Here's another one:



Feel free to send one or two (no more!) sentences to cc@aauw-ca.org and answer the question:

Becoming a leader: why'd ya do it?



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

[AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org)

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.

www.aauw-ca.org



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