

# Board to Board

A Communication from the

AAUW California Board to Branch Boards

September 2020

As we settle into a new branch year, there are a few things to remember:

- Past Board to Board issues can be found by clicking [HERE](#).
- The password needed for a few areas on the AAUW California website is aauwca. This should be included in your branch directory.
- Each month every member with an email address will receive the *California Connection*, a new monthly eblast from your state organization. It is geared toward our members with what they might want to know or do to be an active AAUWer.

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## FROM DIANNE'S DESK...

*Dianne Owens, President, AAUW California, [statepresident@aauw-ca.org](mailto:statepresident@aauw-ca.org)*

In August, your California Leadership Team met for their first Touch Base/Check In meeting. We plan to hold these discussion meetings each month between our quarterly-board meetings.

We decided to continue our calls to branch presidents to say “hello” and find out how all of you are doing. We want to know if you have any questions and/or need help with something. We also want to know if you have something that you would like to share with other branches—maybe a great program idea that you presented via Zoom?

Keep the questions coming to ASK US FIRST at [askusfirst@aauw-ca.org](mailto:askusfirst@aauw-ca.org) to get an answer to any question. If one of our Leadership Team members does not know the answer, we will find out for you.

Our webinars are going very well. Join us in September for two and in October for four! Click [HERE](#) to register on our California website.

**What I need to know:** Members of the state Leadership Team will be contacting branch presidents to check-in.

**What I need to do:** Share stories of things that are going well in your branch.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Include information on the upcoming webinars and encourage members to register. Remind members about “ASK US FIRST.”

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## AAUW FUND

*Judy Cavin Brown, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, [aaufund@aauw-ca.org](mailto:aaufund@aauw-ca.org)*

## AAUW FUND VIRTUAL LUNCH WITH THE FELLOWS/GRANT RECIPIENTS

As we shared with you in the August B2B, the 2020-21 Fund luncheons will be replaced by two webinars, which will be held on two dates at one location--your computer. While we will miss the social gathering aspect of the luncheons, the webinars may afford the opportunity for those hampered by distance or other physical constraints to participate. There will be different speakers at each event so you are welcome to attend one or both webinars. Please note these dates in your branch calendars:

Saturday, October 10th and Saturday, October 24th. Both webinars will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Don't forget to register for the Zoom webinars by clicking [HERE](#).

### CALIFORNIA IS IN IT TO WIN IT!

Provided by **Charmin Goehring**, Northern California Legacy Circle Liaison, [charminme@yahoo.com](mailto:charminme@yahoo.com)

Reminder! We have launched a statewide branch competition which started July 1st and ends November 30th that will help branches work towards Five-Star status as well as help to ensure AAUW's future. We are encouraging members to become [Legacy Circle](#) members and the branch with the highest number of new members during the contest period will be deemed the winner. In addition to announcements across social media and on the state AND national websites, the winning branch will have a special Zoom video strategic update with AAUW California President Dianne Owens, AAUW Director of Development Heather Miller, and other special guests.

Becoming a Legacy Circle member is quick and easy and comes with perks, the most important of which is knowing AAUW will be here in the future. Let the competition continue!

**What I need to know:** Fund luncheons will be held virtually this year. The state has launched a branch contest to sign up members for the Legacy Circle.

**What I need to do:** Encourage members to "attend" the Fund luncheons and to become members of the Legacy Circle.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, many members may have been unable to attend previous luncheons.

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## BRANCH ASSISTANCE

**Crystal Stebbins and Carol Holtzgrafe**, Directors, [branch@aauw-ca.org](mailto:branch@aauw-ca.org)

### AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE

Your Branch Assistance team, Crystal Stebbins and Carol Holtzgrafe, will be happy to offer any help your branch may want in understanding, publicizing to your members, and/or

**What I need to know:** Branch Assistance can help branches work toward earning Five-Star status in the national contest.

fulfilling requirements for the Five-Star Program. Our methods include joining a virtual branch meeting or offering explanations in writing.

This program was designed by AAUW National to help branches with mission-based programs, membership, fund-raising, plus a few other exciting endeavors – and to be rewarded for doing them.

Contact us at [branch@aauw-ca.org](mailto:branch@aauw-ca.org)

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## COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY (C/U) COMMITTEE

*Donna Lilly, C/U Committee Chair, [cu@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cu@aauw-ca.org)*

### FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY

College and university campuses can become partner members of AAUW for \$175. Membership benefits for the entire student body and faculty are free. Two campus representatives also have free AAUW national and AAUW California memberships for one year.

To join or renew campus partner membership of AAUW, advise your local campus to click [HERE](#).

Click on College University Member then click on Join or Renew. Choose the way to pay \$175 membership dues. Complete the application with the name and contact of two people appointed by the campus president to represent the campus.

Last year 85 college & university campuses were AAUW partner members in California.

Let's continue to connect with faculty and students on your local campus through Zoom meetings and scholarship awards.

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## COMMUNICATIONS

*Tracey Clark, Director, Communications Committee Chair, [communications@aauw-ca.org](mailto:communications@aauw-ca.org)*

### THE AAUW CALIFORNIA DIRECTORY & ADMIN PACKET ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

In addition to creating our next issue of the new *California Connection*, the Communications team has been hard at work finalizing and publishing both the [2020-2021 AAUW California](#)

**What I need to do:** Contact Branch Assistance.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, explain to members what the branch is doing to earn Five-Star status.

**What I need to know:** Colleges and universities can become partner members of AAUW for \$175 with many benefits.

**What I need to do:** Follow the instructions to join or renew online.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** No, this information is mainly for branch leaders.

**What I need to know:** The 2020-2021 AAUW California Directory and Admin Packet have been published and posted.

**What I need to do:** Review the important information for branch leaders in the Admin Packet.

[Directory](#) and the [AAUW California Administrative Packet](#). The password (aauwca) is required to access the California Directory. Both are posted on the website and everyone who requested a printed copy will receive it in mid-September. The Directory contains the listings of state committee members, the AAUW California calendar, the webinar schedule, and more.

The Admin Packet contains a wealth of information pertinent to the upcoming year.

Speaking of the webinar schedule, two exciting and informative webinars were held last month: *Speech Trek 101* and *Racial Injustice: Understanding It, Recognizing It, Talking About It*. Both were recorded and can be found on the website [here](#) along with our upcoming webinars for this month: *Waging a Successful GOTV Campaign* and *Show Me the Money: Fundraising Ideas For a COVID World*. Remember to register so a personal Zoom link can be emailed to you!

If you have any questions regarding the Directory or the Admin Packet, please contact Julika Barrett in the AAUW California Office at 916-448-7795 or at [office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org) and she can assist you.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, let members know that the Directory is available online.

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## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

*Elaine Johnson, Director, [diversity@aauw-ca.org](mailto:diversity@aauw-ca.org)*

### **ARE YOU BIASED? NOT ME. Recognizing Implicit or Unconscious Bias**

Each of us has experiences that have an effect on our attitudes. We might not even recognize them ourselves. Yet, we each take actions that have a negative effect on some others around us. AAUW has recently had webinars both at the national and state levels that bring to our attention the need for recognizing our own intrinsic biases. Once we increase our awareness, we can be open to making change and having an effect on making change within our branch and our AAUW organization.

Recognizing implicit bias helps us move into an appreciation for others and increases our ability to be more diverse and inclusive in our AAUW membership.

All of the AAUW California state committees are contributing to an understanding of diversity, inclusion, and social justice.

**What I need to know:** AAUW California is providing webinars on issues of diversity, inclusion and bias.

**What I need to do:** Watch the schedule of upcoming webinars.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members should be informed of all upcoming webinars.

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## FINANCE

**Roli Wendorf**, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee Chair, [cfo@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cfo@aauw-ca.org)

### TAX EXAMPLES AND FUNDRAISING WORKSHOP

#### Tax Examples on Website

Many of you have been in touch about how to fill out the new form CT-TR-1 required by the Attorney General's Office for the first time this year. As promised, we have placed examples of completed forms on [our website](#). Thank you to Roberta Schmalz (CHAR) and Sharon Hawley-Crum (ORE) for providing examples from their branches. An example of the RRF-1 form from CHAR Branch is also provided.

**What I need to know:** There is a new required tax form. Fundraising regulations will be explained in the upcoming webinar Show Me the Money: Fundraising Ideas for a COVID World.

**What I need to do:** Check the website for examples of how to correctly complete the form and to register for the webinar.

#### Fundraising Workshop September 23rd

Check out the AAUW California webinar *Show Me The Money: Fundraising Ideas for a COVID World* on September 23rd. Under the leadership of Sharyn Siebert, it covers many creative ideas for fundraising in the time of COVID. In this webinar, I will be covering a variety of financial issues related to fundraising such as raffles, sales tax, and when contributions are tax-deductible. You can register for the webinar [here](#).

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Share the webinar details. Some members may be inspired to launch new types of fundraising projects.

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## MARKETING

**Michelle Miller-Galaz and Sharyn Siebert**, Directors, Marketing Committee Co-Chairs, [marketing@aauw-ca.org](mailto:marketing@aauw-ca.org)

### SPREADING THE WORD

As Marketing Director, I, Sharyn, interviewed four marketing/PR firms. Now, three have been asked to respond to the RFP (request for proposal) formulated by our president, Dianne Owens to develop a marketing strategy.

We are very excited about the potential to hire one of these firms. Our goal is for the chosen firm to develop a strategy for AAUW California in order to increase awareness of how awesome we are on a statewide basis. With their professional help, we will have a guide for all of us, both the board and branches, hopefully leading to new members and donations.

**What I need to know:** The state board has taken steps to hire a marketing/PR firm to advance AAUW's branches.

**What I need to do:** Stay tuned!

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** No, this is for branch leaders only.

The marketing committee (made up from a very diverse membership) meets monthly to talk about how to help all of you in marketing your branch. MORE TO COME!

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## NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

*Janice Lee, Nominations & Elections Chair, [nominating@aauw-ca.org](mailto:nominating@aauw-ca.org)*

### MOVING AAUW CALIFORNIA FORWARD

Happy Fall! Change is in the air, literally and figuratively. ... Yes, the leaves are falling, And yes, planning, creating and re-adjusting programs for your branches based on our new COVID normal are challenging. It's your bold, brave, and brilliant leadership that will get it all done.

In the next few months, you'll be contacted by the Nominations and Elections Committee (Charmen Goehring, Deanna Arthur or Janice Lee) because the state board needs a few good leaders to join the board in 2021:

- President-Elect
- Chief Financial Officer
- Director

Think about you or someone in your branch who wants to keep AAUW California moving forward with his or her bold, brave, and brilliant leadership talent.

**What I need to know:** Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee will be contacting potential candidates for state office.

**What I need to do:** Propose possible candidates to the committee.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members may want to step up to state leadership.

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## OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

*Jim Doty, Director, Project Oversight Committee Chair, [oc@aauw-ca.org](mailto:oc@aauw-ca.org)*

### LOOKING FOR THE NEXT GREAT PROJECT

AAUW members are inventive and energetic. Branch newsletters are full of news about projects designed to educate and inspire action to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research projects that promote AAUW's visibility in the community, promote collaboration with like-minded organizations, re-energize current members, and attract new members. If you would like to receive copies of branch newsletters, send an email to [webteam@aauw-ca.org](mailto:webteam@aauw-ca.org).

Do you have an idea for a project that could enhance the mission of AAUW in 2021-22? Perhaps you are already developing one. Could you use a little financial help? AAUW California is offering grants of up to \$500 for the best one or two proposals.

**What I need to know:** The state provides grant funds to branches for new and innovative program ideas.

**What I need to do:** Visit the website for details and an application.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members may see an opportunity to launch a new program.

You have time to get organized: applications are due on March 1, 2021. Any member, branch, or AAUW affiliate may apply. Click [HERE](#) for directions and application forms.

Write to me at [oc@aauw-ca.org](mailto:oc@aauw-ca.org) if you have any questions.

There has never been a time when adaptation and innovation have been needed more. Start now.

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## PUBLIC POLICY

*Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)*

### **PUBLIC POLICY INVITES YOU TO REVIEW AAUW CALIFORNIA'S PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES**

In even-numbered years, AAUW California undertakes a review of our Public Policy Priorities. This is an important document, as it provides the context for determining the bills on which AAUW California will take positions in the 2021-2023 legislative sessions.

We are going to use an electronic survey to solicit every member's input on the priorities, and make suggestions for revisions or deletions. This survey will be sent out in September. It lists the priorities and asks members to agree with the current statements or to offer suggestions for changes. Responses are due by November 15th.

The California Public Policy Committee will review and revise the priorities in December, and prepare a draft for approval by the AAUW California Board. That document will be put on the ballot and sent to all members in April 2021 for final approval.

Please encourage your branch members to participate in the survey and add their voice.

The Equal Pay bill, SB973 Jackson, co-sponsored by AAUW California, was passed by the Legislature! It is now on Governor Newsom's desk for signature.

### **PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES POSITIONS ON NOVEMBER BALLOT MEASURES**

The AAUW California Public Policy Committee has reviewed the 12 propositions that will be on the November ballot and is making a SUPPORT recommendation on 7 that relate to our priorities and mission:

**What I need to know:** Members will be surveyed in September to help establish public policy priorities for 2021-2023. AAUW California has taken an official stand on some of the November ballot propositions.

**What I need to do:** Encourage members to complete the survey and to review AAUW California's positions on some current ballot propositions.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members can stay informed of AAUW California's public policy activities.

**Prop 14 – Stem Cell Research** (access to quality health care)

Approves a bond for \$5.5 billion to support continued stem cell research

**Prop 15 – Property Taxes** (funding for education)

Large commercial properties over \$3 million will be assessed at current market value.

**Prop 16 – Affirmative Action** (educational opportunity; social justice)

Reinstates race, ethnicity and country of origin as considerations for school admittance and government employment.

**Prop 17 – Voting for Parolees** (expansion of voting rights)

Allows people on parole to vote once their prison sentence has been completed

**Prop 18 – Voting at 17** (encourages voting)

Allows 17-yr olds to register and vote in primary if they will be 18 by the general election

**Prop 21 – Rent Control** (affordable housing)

Authorizes local governments to place rent control measures on houses older than 15 years

**Prop 25 – Cash Bail** (social & economic justice)

SB10 relies on risk assessment in determining if a suspect will be held in custody instead of cash bail; a “yes” vote keeps SB10

The committee takes “**NO POSITION**” on:

**Prop 19 – Property Taxes**

**Prop 20 – Parole Restrictions**

**Prop 22 – Gig Workers**

**Prop 23 – Dialysis Clinics**

**Prop 24 – Consumer Privacy**

More detailed information on each of these propositions, including who sponsored and who supports and opposes each,



can be found on the Public Policy page of the AAUW California website.

Please remember: branches do not have to adopt the supported measures but they can not oppose them; similarly, individual members may choose to support or oppose any propositions, but they may not act as representatives of AAUW.

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## SPEECH TREK

**Marlene Cain**, Speech Trek, [spechtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:spechtrek@aauw-ca.org)

### **SPEECH TREK 2021 UPDATE: TOOL KITS, ZOOM WEBINARS, AND PRINCE HARRY!**

This year's topic--*Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?* -- is not only relevant and timely, its importance is shared by royalty.

Earlier this year, Prince Harry and his wife Meghan launched a campaign aimed at healing the digital landscape, stating: "Social media is dividing us. Together, we can redesign it."

The [Student Tool Kit](#) is now available on the AAUW California website, and includes the royals' concern that "we are now plugged into a vast nervous system that...reflects our good, but too often also magnifies our bad."

Branches are already working on their virtual competitions. Need help? AAUW California is offering two webinars, starting next month:

- Thursday, October 1st at 7 pm *How to Manage Your Speech Trek Contest on ZOOM*. Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.
- Saturday, December 12th at 11 am *How to Manage Your Speech Trek Contest on ZOOM*. Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register

Other questions? Email Marlene Cain, AAUW California Speech Trek Coordinator, at [spechtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:spechtrek@aauw-ca.org). Remember to send in your MOU (found in the Branch Tool Kit) by Nov. 1, 2020, and let's start the conversation!

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## TECH TREK

**Susan Negrete, and Alice Hill**, Tech Trek State Co-Coordinators, [techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org)

**What I need to know:** The Speech Trek Tool Kit is online now. There will be two Zoom webinars on how to conduct a virtual contest.

**What I need to do:** Send in your branch's MOU by November 1st and register for a Zoom webinar.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** No, this is only for branch leaders and Speech Trek chairs.

## CALIFORNIA TECH TREK FALL START-UP IS HERE!

- **Year 2 of the Pandemic: Student Selection Methods Must Change**

*The health and safety of our branch members, school partners, and young students remain AAUW California's and Tech Trek's number one priority. In cooperation with AAUW's directive, branch members should not be meeting in person through 2020.*

With the country still struggling with COVID-19 and in-person contact strongly curtailed throughout California, virtual contact or a paper process are the safest ways the 2021 selection and interview process can be managed.

Therefore, at this time all Tech Trek Branch Coordinators are asked to NOT begin the camper selection process until January 2021.

DO contact your schools to discuss the virtual or paper process options and to determine their year-end/holiday schedule. Plan to be in touch with them in early 2021.

Other updates to the 2021 Tech Trek Program will be communicated as quickly as possible.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation during this difficult time.

- **California 2021 Tech Trek Tee-Shirts Distributed**

Tee-shirts were shipped in August to all the branches that submitted their 2020 selected campers.

- **New Branch Coordinator?**

Confirm your branch leader submitted your name/contact info on the Branch Officer Report by checking the online directory [HERE](#). If not, email us with your name, branch name and phone number – we'll submit your data to California Communications to ensure you receive our email information.

- **UCSD STEMInists Making Change Pilot a Big Hit!**

From August 3rd – 7th, Mary Isaacs, UCSD Camp Director, successfully presented a 5-day virtual STEM robotics camp that she developed with Qualcomm affiliates. Forty selected Tech Trek campers from 18 SoCal branches attended the camp. The goal for the campers was to design, build, and

**What I need to know:** Branches should not begin the camper selection process until January 2021. The need to use virtual and paper processes should be reviewed early with school administrators.

**What I need to do:** Be sure the BOR has been updated with the correct contact information for your Tech Trek Coordinator.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** No, this information is mainly for branch leaders.

program a wearable hat. Thanks to Mary and the many volunteers, instructors, and parents who supported the pilot!

- **Fall Fundraising for 2021**

Our main priority is the safety and well-being of our branch members and the communities you serve. We've heard concerns about fundraising when it's not clear what the 2021 camp status will be. Always plan for wellness first! Consider:

- Email or snail mail campaigns (funny notes or images are eye-catchers!)

- Telephone marketing – also an outreach also provides social opportunities for housebound members

- Zoom fundraising meetings can be fun! Be creative and enjoy mastering the 'new normal' technology

Remember: Tech Trek 2021 donations will be safely managed by SPF. Click [HERE](#) to refer potential donors to learn more about California Tech Trek.

**Stay safe – be well!**

Branch Tech Trek Teams: Got Questions? Contact both Tech Trek Co- Coordinators at one email address: Alice Hill & Susan Negrete: [techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org)

Congratulations to the creative branches and leaders who developed virtual summer programs and events for 2020 selected students!