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January 2021

Hi!
**How many of your New Year's resolutions
have you broken?**

Dear <<First Name>>,

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

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Things to know

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"Me? Little old me? Really? Me? You're kidding, right? Me? An award? Oh my gosh." Every year, AAUW Fund and local branches bestow the **State and Branch Named Gift Honoree awards** on those "how do they do it all?" individuals who work tirelessly to support AAUW. Nomination details are [here](#). Your branch can submit nominees by February 15th. We do hope their acceptance speeches will have bigger words with more syllables.



Some branch members got to play 20 Questions with AAUW California's newly hired marketing consulting firm, Dowitcher DESIGNS.

Focus groups answered questions about why they joined, why they stay (or might not) and their perception of AAUW's image and role. Apparently, most of the participants had all the answers. Look for reports and action plans in the future (oh boy, reports and action plans!).



In the words of famed American poet Walt Whitman (you were awake in your high school English class, right?), "*If you done it, it ain't bragging.*" So we're giving you a chance to tell us about what you've done without shamelessly bragging. This year, two **Branch Activity of the Year Awards** will be given to stellar branch activities that are novel, inspirational and promote AAUW's mission and image. Details are [on the web](#). And in case you want to know what you slept through, Walt Whitman's most famous poems are [also](#).

Things to do

Okay, folks, no more Hallmark holiday movies with fake snow, fake plot lines and fake gingerbread cookies. Get back to real life, real issues, and real food by attending AAUW California's January webinars.

- **1/11 7 PM Title IX: Breaking Down Barriers 2020** - It's not just about sports! Learn about its widespread impact and its imperiled status.
- **1/27 7 PM Mentoring Women for Career Advancement** - Learn how to advance



through mentorship, networking, and self advocacy.

Note: It's okay to eat real (and buttered!) food during webinars. There are no rules.

View Webinar Schedule and Register

Whereas, you are still stuck at home during lockdown, and

Whereas, you've already binged on eight seasons of "Game of Thrones" (twice) and eaten 45 lbs. of peppermint almond bark, and

Whereas, you have plenty of time now to contemplate the problem of unequal pay for women and,

Whereas, you want to do something about it,

Be it therefore resolved that YOU will work with others in your branch to ask your local officials to issue a proclamation that March 31st is Equal Pay Day. Your branch leaders have received instructions and a template.

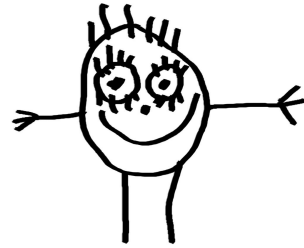
Make a statement!



Let it not be said that AAUW women are not stylish (Whaaat? Who said that? Check out my jeggings!). Don an AAUW mask for safety and style and a sneaky way to market the organization. Get one [here](#) for only \$9. But wait....there's more.
No, there isn't.

This might not qualify for the annual AAUW art contest (hint: a torso wouldn't hurt). But maybe

your work can! Create a work of art that speaks to AAUW's mission using any medium. Well, except finger painting and Etch A Sketch. Several winners will be chosen and their work printed on notecards. Of course, then you actually have to send a note to someone. More details [here](#).
Deadline: February 3rd.



**We bid goodbye to 2020 with a few more of Walt Whitman's words
(immortalized in the movie "Dead Poets Society"):**

O Captain! My Captain! our fearful trip is done.

Happy New Year from

[AAUW California](#)

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AAUW's mission: Advancing gender equity through research, education and advocacy.

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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