



# Board to Board

A Communication from the

AAUW California Board to Branch Boards

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**February 2021**

It is the time of the year when our nominating committees are hard at work encouraging members to accept leadership positions. The AAUW California website has many resources, including forms to help existing and incoming officers do their jobs. The nominating committee members may want to start by reviewing the resources under the Branch Tools tab. Then encourage prospective officers to check out these resources, which may make it easier for them to accept a branch position. Remember the top menu bar and dropdown categories are designed to be used/helpful especially for branch leaders and members. The second menu bar is designed primarily for people who are exploring the website to learn more about AAUW. Of course, all searchers are encouraged to use the magnifying glass and links on the right side of the page.

## FROM DIANNE'S DESK...

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

### “AN IMPORTANT QUESTION & VOTE FOR 2021”

Between April 7th at 9 am PDT and May 17th at 2 pm PDT, all AAUW members will have the opportunity to vote on an important bylaws amendment that will eliminate the degree requirement for membership. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the rationale for the proposed bylaws change brought by the [AAUW Board of Directors](#) and the AAUW Governance Committee.

Plan to attend (via Zoom) the **AAUW California Annual Meeting** on April 17th to hear AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown as she brings us all the news from AAUW National and the latest about the proposed bylaws change. Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Save **March 24th for Lobby Day** (via Zoom). The registration deadline has been extended. See the Public Policy article below for the opportunity to register. This will be a brand-new experience for AAUW California. Plan to attend the **March 22nd webinar** to learn how to talk with your legislator before the big day.

**What I need to know:** AAUW members are voting on an important bylaws change to eliminate the degree requirement. AAUW California is holding its Annual Meeting on April 17th and March 24th will be the virtual Lobby Day.

**What I need to do:** Review the articles in this month's B2B for more information.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, all of this information needs to be shared with branch members.

Thanks to all the branch leaders who have energized your members and delivered mission-based programs that are innovative and impactful.

**You are rock stars!**

Keep reading this *Board to Board* for all the news from your Board of Directors.

Be bold, brave, and brilliant,

Dianne

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## AAUW FUND

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

### THERE IS STILL TIME...

#### Named Gift Honorees

Every year the AAUW California Fund Committee honors members who have done outstanding work in supporting our programs and goals. A Named Gift is a special way to honor an individual, a group, or an organization for extraordinary service to AAUW.

#### Branch Named Gift Honoree

Branches can make one nomination for each \$750 contributed by the branch or branch members on or before December 31st.

#### State Named Gift Honoree

This award is given to an AAUW member who has done outstanding work to promote the programs and goals of the AAUW Fund and/or AAUW California. Please submit only one nomination per branch.

Click [HERE](#) to find the forms and submission instructions. All nominations must be submitted by the deadline of February 15th.

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**What I need to know:** February 15th is the deadline to nominate both Branch Named Gift Honorees and a State Named Gift Honoree.

**What I need to do:** Review the submission instructions on the website.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, information about your branch Named Gift Honoree needs to be included in your branch newsletter.

## BRANCH ASSISTANCE

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

## **5 STAR PROGRAM ●●●●●**

Has your branch earned a star? Or two or three? You can help AAUW California achieve 5 Star status too (It is just harder, but this is California; we lead other states, we do not follow).

We have five months left to meet National's requirements for effective programs, retention, etc. Any qualifying events your branch did from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 will count. You will need a few things to calculate your 5 Star Quotient. The five areas of focus are programs, advancement, communications, public policy, and governance. Click [HERE](#) to find more details.

You can determine your branch's star status using a spreadsheet developed by the Marin Branch. Just fill in the areas where your branch has been effective. This is a terrific tool that can be found on our website [HERE](#). Use it!

The AAUW Strategic Plan mentioned in the 5 Star program description can be found on the AAUW National site [HERE](#). If you have questions, ask us!

### **Ask Us First**

This program, developed to ease the load on National's reduced office staff, has been a success. If you have any questions pertaining to AAUW, send an email to [AskUsFirst@aauw-ca.org](mailto:AskUsFirst@aauw-ca.org). Finding the answers to your questions perks up our days. We are here to answer membership questions too.

Amazing what you can find when wandering around [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org) or [aauw.org/](http://aauw.org/) Try it; you'll like it.

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## **COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY (C/U) COMMITTEE**

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

### **More Than \$800,000 In Scholarships Awarded**

Seventy-four branches in California awarded over \$800,000 in scholarship funds to 442 scholars during the 2019-2020 academic year. These figures include 47 scholars who attended the May 2019 National

**What I need to know:** Review the 5-star program criteria to see if your branch has already achieved one or more.

**What I need to do:** Use the helpful spreadsheet to track 5-star progress.

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

**What I need to know:** There is a lot of good news about scholarship giving in our branches. A virtual NCCWSL will be held May 25-26.

**What I need to do:** Encourage college women to apply and attend NCCWSL.

Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in-person conference at the University of Maryland. Currently, 18 branches of those contacted do not award college scholarships. The good news is all branches raise funds for Tech Trekkers and even better news is that many Tech Trekkers are also honored to receive college scholarships from branches to pursue their STEM dreams. Twenty-four branch presidents have not responded to a phone call by the state C/U committee. We look forward to receiving your scholarship information so we can produce a February update. Contact Donna Lilly at [cu@aauw-ca.org](mailto:cu@aauw-ca.org).

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members can encourage their friends and family college women to take advantage of virtual NCCWSL.

San Jose is proud to award \$100,000 annually and Healdsburg is delighted to report that \$81,000 in scholarship awards support many re-entry as well as returning students. Laguna Beach's scholarship appeal raised \$27,000 during this past pandemic year.

Now is the time for your branch members to raise college scholarship funds with the help of your community. Terrific fundraising ideas collected during the personal phone calls to 119 branch presidents will be distributed to branch presidents in early February.

### **Save a Spot at NCCWSL**

AAUW invites you and hundreds of college students to attend the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders virtual leadership training and networking conference on May 25-26, 2021. Early Bird registration is February 28, 2021. Click [HERE](#) for further information, registration, and FAQ. Tell your college and university students to apply for a free scholarship to NCCWSL prior to the deadline.

Early Bird registration fee for AAUW members and paying scholarship students is \$95. The registration fee has been decreased this year due to the conference being virtual. On March 1st, the registration fee will increase to \$125.

NCCWSL offers college students professional skill-building workshops in addition to well-known speaker panelists. This is your opportunity to enable a college student to learn the skills of a leader. You can pay the \$95 registration fee as an

individual or ask your branch or interbranch council to cover the cost. You may consider registering for the conference yourself to enhance your own leadership skills.

Kudos to the Diamond Bar-Walnut Branch members and California State Polytechnic University Pomona for funding 14 students to attend NCCWSL in May 2019.

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## COMMUNICATIONS

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

### NEED MORE ADVERTISING FOR YOUR BRANCH EVENT?

Just a reminder that you can submit your branch event to [webteam@aauw-ca.org](mailto:webteam@aauw-ca.org) and we will add it to the AAUW California calendar! Let us help you advertise your event!

AAUW California will be hosting several upcoming webinars that you and your branch members may be interested in. First is *She Who Thrives Survives* where you can learn what successful branches are doing to survive...and thrive! Click [HERE](#) to register for this webinar on February 24th.

Another webinar coming up is *Build Community and Campus Relationships* through Work Smart. In this webinar, you will join a panel of experts to learn more about negotiating your salary and benefits when asking for equal pay, a raise, or a new position. Click [HERE](#) to register for this March 8th webinar.

As always, if you have any issues finding information on the website or registering for a webinar, please contact the webteam at [webteam@aauw-ca.org](mailto:webteam@aauw-ca.org).

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## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

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

### A NEW SPLASH OF COLOR

**What I need to know:** Branches can advertise their events on the AAUW California calendar. There are two upcoming webinars.

**What I need to do:** Consider advertising branch events on the AAUW California calendar to encourage other branches to attend.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** The AAUW California webinars should be included in branch newsletters.

**What I need to know:** AAUW National has recently released an interactive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit.

It has arrived! The new interactive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit (DEI) is now available [HERE](#) with splendid and inviting color and design.

**What I need to do:** Review and discuss the toolkit with your branch board.

Will branches use the great new resources? That, of course, is up to each branch. If we all begin using the DEI Toolkit, we can make a difference in our membership and leadership.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members may find some useful tools and educational material.

Key elements of the new DEI Toolkit include:

- Our Commitment
- Getting Started with Difficult Conversations
- Key Terms and Concepts
- Dimensions of Diversity & Identity
- What's Next?

Of special interest are examples of:

- Equity vs Equality
- Intersectionality
- Unconscious Bias

Explore the DEI Toolkit. Now is the time to try out and use some of the materials in the DEI Toolkit and to provide feedback to [diversity@aauw-ca.org](mailto:diversity@aauw-ca.org). Diversity, equity, and inclusion are priorities for all of the AAUW California committees.

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## FINANCE

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

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Starting March 16th, it will be time to renew your AAUW membership for the upcoming fiscal year, 2021-2022. Any new members joining after March 15th will get the remainder of this year free along with next year's membership.

**What I need to know:** National dues will be \$62 (an increase of \$3) for the coming year, of which \$59 is tax-deductible.

**What I need to do:** Make sure the Membership VP and the Finance Officer have this dues information. Follow up with non-renewing members, using the list from National.

Some branch members still have not renewed their membership for the current year (2020-2021). A message was recently sent out to all finance officers by Angela Cooper of AAUW National outlining the procedure for those renewals. If you need that information, let me know.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** It is important that the membership knows of this dues increase.

National dues will be \$62 for the coming year, of which \$59 is tax-deductible.

## State Membership Dues

State dues remain the same at \$20 but are NOT tax-deductible as AAUW California is a 501(c)(4) entity. Here is a reminder of who does and does not pay state dues. For more complete information, check the website [here](#).

1. 50-Year Honorary Members are exempt from paying state dues but paid Life Members must pay full state dues (\$20).
  2. State dues will be waived for past state presidents.
  3. State dues will be waived for representatives from college/university (C/U) partner institutions.
  4. Students from AAUW C/U partner institutions do not pay state dues, but other students pay half (\$10).
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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)**

### ASK YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO PROCLAIM MARCH 24th AS EQUAL PAY DAY

You can encourage your city council, mayor, or county board of supervisors to proclaim Equal Pay Day in your community using one of the sample proclamations on our website [HERE](#). Equal Pay Day marks the symbolic day when women's earnings catch up to men's earnings from the previous year.

Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap. Since then, other Equal Pay Days have been added to the calendar to denote that mothers and most women of color face a wider-than-average gap and need to work even longer to catch up to men's earnings.

**What I need to know:** A good way to promote AAUW is to sponsor a community proclamation that March 24th is Equal Pay Day.

**What I need to do:** Present your request to city officials using a sample proclamation from our website.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, a member may be interested in organizing this.

### **SHE WHO THRIVES SURVIVES WEBINAR**

Big branch? Little branch? It doesn't matter! Your branch can be successful! Thriving branches display characteristics that can be adapted to any size branch and in any type of locale. This webinar will provide attendees with guidelines to analyze if their branch is thriving. It will explore characteristics of successful branches, including leadership, membership retention, growth and engagement, and finally communication. In addition to learning what these characteristics mean, you'll hear examples of how they are put to work in successful branches.

All the presenters for this webinar, most of whom are AAUW California Directors, have deep experience with branches throughout the state in varying types of locales. Those participating include Elaine Johnson, Carol Holzgrafe, Crystal Stebbins, and Sharyn Siebert. In addition, our AAUW California office manager Julika Barrett is a presenter, with input from Janice Lee, AAUW California Nominations Chair. Each has unique input that should be helpful and enlightening.

Date: Wednesday, February 24th

Time: 7 pm

Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.

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## NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

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

### WE HAVE A SLATE – NOW WHAT?

AAUW California currently has a full slate. Please click [HERE](#) to visit the state nominations and elections page and see the bios of the candidates: Sandi Gabe, President-Elect; Roli Wendorf, CFO and Directors, Carol Holzgrafe and Judy Cavin Brown. We will also be voting on the State's Public Policy Priorities. **Our voting period is 4/16/2021-5/7/2021.**

Nominations are still open until 3/16/2021 so if you are thinking about joining the state board but are not quite ready to commit, please let the Nominations and Election Committee know so they

**What I need to know:** Both state and national elections are occurring this year. The voting periods are 4/16/2021 - 5/7/2021 and 4/7/2021 - 5/17/2021, respectively. National is considering a bylaws amendment to eliminate the degree requirement.

**What I need to do:** Continue to encourage branch members to step up to state leadership. Review the state candidates' bios on the website. Review the national bylaws amendment.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members should be aware of the candidates, issues, and voting periods.



can give you personal attention and answer your questions.

National elections will also be taking place this year. **The dates for the AAUW National election are 4/7/2021 - 5/17/2021.** The elimination of the degree requirement for membership will be up for a vote.

We have seen what happens when we work together and vote. Please vote in both elections and please consider running for office – whether it is National, State, Interbranch Council, or your local branch. **WE NEED YOU.**

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## PROJECT OVERSIGHT

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

### \$500 STATE GRANTS AVAILABLE

At April's Annual Meeting we will announce the recipients of state funding for projects in the 2021-22 program year. Will your branch be one of the recipients? Do you have an idea for a new project or enhancements to an ongoing project, but need a little financial help? You have until March 1, 2021, to apply. Any member, branch, or AAUW affiliate may apply. Click [HERE](#) for directions and application forms.

**What I need to know:** There are two \$500 state grants available for a new project or enhancement to an ongoing project. The deadline for applying is March 1st.

**What I need to do:** Consult the website for an application.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members may be interested in proposing a project idea.

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)*

### 3 THINGS BRANCH MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PUBLIC POLICY FOR FEBRUARY

#### Equal Pay Day Correction

Prior publications erroneously stated that Equal Pay Day for this year falls on March 31st. That is an error. The correct date is March 24th.

**What I need to know:** The 2021 Equal Pay Day is March 24th. Virtual Lobby Day is also March 24th

The sign-up date has been extended until February 28th. All members planning on attending Lobby Day must register and attend the March 22nd training webinar.

**What I need to do:** Attend the training webinar and the event. Encourage members to participate in Lobby Day.

## Lobby Day

Thank you to all our members who signed up to join us on March 24th for our virtual Lobby Day. We had an incredible turnout by the January 8th deadline, which helped us establish a baseline for the number of legislators with whom we could meet. We will, however, continue to take registrations through the end of February. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

## Training Webinar

All members who have signed up for Lobby Day must register for and attend the training webinar on March 22nd at 7:00 pm. Training will cover the bills we want members to talk about as well as the logistics for the day. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

Please let your members know about these important dates!

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## SPEECH TREK

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

### SPEECH TREK 2021: NEW WEBINAR FEB. 8th

Branches throughout the state are holding virtual Speech Trek contests and some have already crowned their first-place winner. Next step: uploading the winning video.

Not sure how to proceed with the upload? Register [here](#) for the webinar on Monday, Feb. 8th at 4 p.m. to learn how to edit your video and send your winning speech to AAUW California for judging.

Remember to upload your winning video no later than March 1, 2021!

Michelangelo said, *“The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short, but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark.”*

**Thank you, branches, for setting your aim high!**

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**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, members should be encouraged to be a part of Lobby Day.

**What I need to know:** Speech Trek contests are underway.

**What I need to do:** Register for the training webinar to learn how to upload your winning speech.

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

## TECH TREK

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

### TECH TREK IN 2021'S VIRTUAL CAMP WORLD: ONLINE DOCUMENTATION BEGINS!

#### **Branch Coordinators - Got More Questions? Dr. Mimi is Now Open for Weekly Office**

**Hours!** Starting Friday, January 29th and for the next 12 weeks, Virtual Camp Director Mary Isaac ("Dr. Mimi") will hold weekly office hours on Zoom on Fridays from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. Branch questions are welcomed and will be used to update the FAQ. *Registration is required! Click [here](#) to register for these weekly meetings.*

#### **Branch Memo of Understanding (MOU) Now**

**Online!** An online MOU has been sent to all branches this week as the starting point for 2021 Virtual Camp planning. *The deadline for branches to return a completed MOU with the electronic signatures of the Branch President & Branch Coordinator is February 12th.* Branches opting IN will assist with camp planning by providing the total number of campers requested (please include selected 2020 + 2021 counts). *NOTE: An opt OUT MOU is appreciated as a courtesy, but not required.*

**Next Step – Nomination Process Begins!** Once the MOUs are received, branches that have opted IN for 2021 Virtual Camp will begin participating in the online nomination documentation process.

Stay tuned for more directions and information!

**NOTE:** *If your branch opted OUT for 2021, no further documentation will be required.*

**Marketing Flyer for Schools & Parents** - Download and print or share the Virtual Camp marketing flyer link with members, schools, and parents by clicking [here](#).

**Camper Names & Email Deadline** - Details for selected campers are due on March 29th; this will also be an online process. Watch for updates!

**Virtual Camp Website** - Direct parents, schools, donors & public users to the [Virtual Camp website](#).

**What I need to know:** Virtual Camp online administration is underway. Camp Director Mary Isaac will hold office hours on Zoom for questions and feedback. Camp websites are available for the public.

**What I need to do:** Return the MOU indicating your branch's choice to opt OUT or opt IN (with the number of campers) by Feb 12th.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Select the appropriate useful information, depending on your branch's plans.

**Volunteers Needed - Branch Volunteers & Tech Trek Alumnae: Apply Now!** Camp coaches, instructors, assistant director, and logistics coordinators are needed. Work for one or more camps! Click [here](#) for the application.

**Virtual Camp Deposits & 2020 Funds** - Using 2020 funds for the 2021 virtual camp and/or submitting donations to the virtual camp are safely managed by SPF. For more information refer to their [website](#).

**Catch Us on YouTube – A Tech Trek Resource** YouTube will be used to provide a wide array of information on the 2021 Virtual Camps.

Click [HERE](#) to access our 2021 Virtual Tech Trek channel.

**Engaging New Donors** - Refer potential donors [here](#) for a Tech Trek program overview.

**2022 Tech Trek Goal – It Remains the Same!** When the time is right, our goal is a return in 2022 to the residential camp model. To ensure the well-being of our members, campers, staff, and volunteers, decisions will always be made based on national, state, and local health and safety requirements.

**Questions from Branch Coordinators, STEM & Tech Trek Teams?** For Tech Trek program or finance questions: Contact Alice Hill & Susan Negrete Tech Trek Co-Coordinators at [techtrek@aauw-ca.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-ca.org).

For 2021 Virtual Camp questions: Contact Mary Isaac/2021 Virtual Camp Director at [2021ttvirtualcamp@aauw-ca.org](mailto:2021ttvirtualcamp@aauw-ca.org).

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## TITLE IX

**Alicia Hetman**, Title IX Consultant, [titleix@aauw-ca.org](mailto:titleix@aauw-ca.org)

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

### TITLE IX WEBINAR FOLLOW UP

Thanks to the 100 members and friends who attended the Title IX webinar on January 11th. Click [HERE](#) for the video if you were unable to attend and the questions from the webinar will also be posted there soon. The state Public Policy Committee

**What I need to know:** The video of the recent Title IX webinar is available online. The California Title IX Coalition has created a document to use when interviewing local schools regarding compliance with Title IX.

suggests that you view the Title IX webinar as a virtual branch program.

Title IX is an important federal law that requires school districts and schools to provide equal access, resources, opportunities, and facilities for girls. What can members do locally to raise awareness of Title IX issues? [Opening Doors & Opportunities for Girls](#) is the production of the California Title IX Coalition. The website includes the top 14 questions to ask and it guides you on how to interview your local elementary, middle school, high school, and college personnel about compliance with Title IX.

You can help lead this effort in your community by forming a task force or a focus group and ask the 14 questions in the checklist.

**What I need to do:** Consider forming a task force or a focus group regarding Title IX compliance.

**Should I include this in my branch newsletter?** Yes, encourage your members to understand the issues in Title IX.