



Board to Board

A Communication from the

AAUW California Board to Branch Boards

[View web version](#)

Welcome to Women's History Month and the beginning of spring. As you may or may not have noticed there is a misspelled word in the first sentence. Often we see what we expect to see. That is why it is a good idea to have anything we are sending to our members reviewed/edited before sending it out. FYI the B2B is edited by several people. Sometimes something even gets by the editing team. Enjoy the coming of spring and don't forget to move your clocks forward on March 14th.

FROM DIANNE'S DESK...

Dianne Owens, President, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

"THINK CHANGE: Adapt and Thrive or Fall Behind"

The AAUW Board of Directors met for a special meeting on February 19th and voted to support the proposed bylaw change to delete the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. We also appointed a working group to design a campaign to make sure every California member knows why we are endorsing this change before voting begins on April 7, 2021.

During this next month you will:

- Be invited to attend a webinar on Tuesday, March 16th at 7 pm to hear a panel of current and past AAUW leaders. Register [HERE](#).
- See short videos and statements from the current Leadership Team and AAUW influencers on social media.
- Receive articles in Board to Board and by email to use in your branch newsletters.
- See postings on the AAUW California website with statements of support, newsletter articles, and talking points.

We know that change can be challenging. We also know that change is not something to fear or resist. We have all learned to change this past year as we adapted to new ways of meeting and fundraising and helping each other. Change can be a blessing and the essence of life itself. The world around us is changing and so must we. We all want AAUW to remain relevant and continue to move forward as we work toward Equity for All.

What I need to know: The AAUW California Board of Directors voted to support the proposed bylaw amendment to delete the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. The AAUW California Annual Meeting will be held on April 17th.

What I need to do: Watch for more information to help branches educate their members about the issue. Register for the Annual Meeting.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. A sample article for your April newsletter is coming soon. It is important to encourage your members to attend the AAUW Annual Meeting.

Important Covid Reminder

AAUW does not sanction in-person meetings at this time nor for the foreseeable future. Our insurance coverage may allow meetings if waivers are signed, but exercising that option would likely be tested in court. AAUW's guidance is in adherence with California mandates and in the best interests of all our members. Let's remain safe today and enjoy gatherings in the future!

AAUW California Annual Meeting, April 17, 2021

Our AAUW California Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom for the second year. No travel, no hotel reservations, and no lunch, once again. But, that means you can attend at no cost from your office, living room, or kitchen.

You will learn what has been happening in California this past year and it is a lot! You will see the three Speech Trek Finalists, learn who our 2020 State Named Gift Honoree is, and see the first Equity Award given to former State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson. AAUW Board Chair, Julia Brown will join us and we have a special event brought to us by past Co-President Cathy Foxhoven.

Don't delay. Plan to join us on April 17th at 9:30 am by registering [HERE](#) now!

Be bold, brave, and brilliant,

Dianne

AAUW FUND

Judy Cavin Brown, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aaufund@aauw-ca.org

THE GHOST OF DEADLINES PAST

Named Gift Honorees

The deadline for Named Gift Honoree submissions was February 15th. We continued to accept submissions through the end of the month, as the Q4/end of the year Fund report was late in arriving. However, the time is now past for submission.

Thank you to Sandi Gabe and the Webteam for their continued efforts on this and so many other projects. Thank

What I need to know: Submissions for Named Gift Honorees are now closed. Fellowship and Grant recipient speakers are fully booked for 2020/2021.

What I need to do: Continue to promote donations to AAUW Fund to earn more Named Gift Honorees next year.

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

you to Julika Barrett for creating and processing the Named Gift Honoree certificates. What would we do without them?

Speaker Requests

There is no official deadline for scheduling an AAUW Fellow or Grant recipient to speak at an event. However, I must inform you that the program has been in such high demand this year that we are fully booked for 2020/2021. We are not taking new requests at this time. Thank you to Janice Cook for her hard work on this program.

A thought for the future: the more your branch donates to AAUW Fund, the more Named Gift Honorees you can celebrate next year!

BRANCH ASSISTANCE

Crystal Stebbins and Carol Holtzgrafe, Directors, branch@aauw-ca.org

LIVING OUR VISION OF EQUITY FOR ALL

Your Vote Will Matter

Starting April 7th, all AAUW members in California and across the nation will decide whether or not to open our membership to everyone who wants to join us and help with our mission of education and equity.

Your state board has launched a campaign to explain why the bylaws change is necessary plus how the new rules will – and will not – change your branch. (It's all good!) We will be explaining more on AAUW California's [Facebook](#) page (check us out), as well as Instagram, [Twitter](#), and, of course, our website at aauw-ca.org. Watch for short videos and statements from a host of AAUW stars, past and present.

To learn more, we invite you all to join *Living our Vision of Equity for All*, a webinar at 7 pm on Tuesday, March 16th, where you will hear from a panel of distinguished guests. You can ask questions at that time too. Click [here](#) to register.

Each branch will also receive a sample article for its April newsletters or other communications, covering the bylaws change in more depth. Click [here](#) to see what AAUW National has to say about this issue.

All AAUW members will have a chance to vote on this proposed change. Those with an email address on file with AAUW National will receive their ballot that way. Those who

What I need to know: AAUW California is offering several ways for branches to learn more about the proposed bylaws change. There is still time to earn 5 stars.

What I need to do: Encourage your members to learn about the bylaws change and to vote.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. A sample article for your April newsletter is coming soon.

don't may request a paper ballot by calling 202-785-7700 on or before April 16th (earlier is better) and mail it, postmarked by April 30th. This is a good time for branch officials (membership or treasurer) to check the Member Services Database to confirm correct information for their members to ensure that everyone has a chance to vote. Or, you can click [here](#) to check your own. Click on your own branch and see if your information is correct, edit it if needed.

5-Star Program

There are four months left to earn your stars. You can do it! Get positive feedback for your hard work. Ask us for help if you need it about this program or any questions about AAUW. You can contact us at branch@aauw-ca.org or AskUsFirst@aauw-ca.org.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tracey Clark, Director, Communications Committee Chair, communications@aauw-ca.org

LET'S SEE WHAT OTHER BRANCHES ARE UP TO AND SHARE WHAT WE ARE DOING TOO!

If you would like to share your branch newsletter with other branches, here's what you do:

- Send your newsletter to branchnewsletters@aauw-ca.org and it will be emailed to all subscribers.
- To subscribe to read other branch newsletters, send a request to webteam@aauw-ca.org. Julika Barrett, our office manager, moderates the submissions (please only send in your newsletters), and the emails are sent out in digest form so that you will receive all newsletters submitted in a single day in one email.

What I need to know: There is an established process for sharing and receiving branch newsletters. There are two upcoming webinars presented by AAUW California.

What I need to do: Ensure your branch newsletter is being sent to 'branchnewsletters', consider registering for the webinars.

Webinars

AAUW California will be hosting a couple of webinars in March that you and your branch members may find interesting. First is *Living our Vision of Equity for All* on March 16th at 7 pm. Come explore how eliminating the degree requirement will help us to finally live our intent of equity for all women and girls. Hear from a panel of experienced AAUW members, see how your branch can help members learn about the issue, and envision a future of equity for AAUW. Click [HERE](#) to register for this webinar.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. It is important to keep members informed about upcoming webinars.

And on March the 22nd at 7 pm, the AAUW California's Public Policy team will be presenting the webinar *How to Talk to Legislators*. This is a required session for those members

participating in Virtual Lobby Day on March 24th but it will also be useful to anyone who would like to learn more about talking with legislators in their districts about AAUW public policy priorities and AAUW-supported bills. Register for this webinar [HERE](#).

Brag about your branch in your newsletter and share it with other branches, get ready for Lobby Day and prepare for the AAUW National vote in April/May!

As always, if you have any issues finding information on the website or how to register for a webinar, please contact the webteam at webteam@aauw-ca.org.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Elaine Johnson, Director, diversity@aauw-ca.org

DO YOU BELONG?

A sense of belonging is critical for AAUW members to feel valued. The new interactive DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Toolkit includes the following explanation in the key terms and concepts section.

So if diversity means the characteristics that make us unique, and inclusion refers to behaviors and actions, then what is **belonging**? And why is it important?

Belonging is feeling like you are a part of something, that you actually matter. It isn't necessarily about being liked — but rather being needed.

AAUW needs all of these things together, (diversity, inclusion, and belonging) for our branches to continue to grow and thrive.

The [DEI Toolkit](#) provides guidelines for participants about discussions of uncomfortable issues. The toolkit provides resources for every branch whether small, medium, or large with a format for discussions that encourages participation. That participation might be as an active listener or a vocal contributor.

What I need to know: There is a new interactive toolkit regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.

What I need to do: Review the DEI Toolkit to determine how to present and discuss the concepts presented.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. The information in the DEI Toolkit is a good reference for branch discussions regarding their practices related to diversity, inclusion, and sense of belonging.

FINANCE

Roli Wendorf, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Committee Chair, cfo@aauw-ca.org

TIME TO RENEW

Membership renewals for the coming year will be starting on March 16th. All finance officers will be receiving information from AAUW National regarding the renewal process. National dues will be \$62 for 2021-2022, of which \$59 are tax-deductible. State dues remain the same at \$20 but are not tax-deductible.

If your branch dues are changing for the coming year, please inform Angela Cooper at coopera@aauw.org right away, so she can make the update before renewals begin.

New members joining on March 16th or later will receive free membership for the remainder of this year.

Please remember to mail state membership dues checks to our new office address:

- AAUW California
 - 915 L St, Suite C, Box 418
 - Sacramento, CA 95814
-
-

What I need to know: For 2021-2022 AAUW National dues will be \$62. All finance officers will receive information regarding the renewal process. The AAUW California office has moved.

What I need to do: Inform AAUW immediately if your branch dues are changing.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, the members need to know the AAUW National dues is increasing \$3 for the 21-22 year.

MARKETING

Michelle Miller-Galaz and Sharyn Siebert, Directors, Marketing Committee Co-Chairs, marketing@aauw-ca.org

THE PROCLAMATION-NOW WHAT?

The past two editions of the B2B have asked branches to organize proclamations in their own communities in support of Equal Pay Day and the related work of AAUW. Hopefully, your branches are being honored in this way by your appropriate government entity.

We have provided you with a [template for a press release](#) to be sent to your local media. As March is Women's History Month, we suggest you try to get local coverage of the work your branch has done to support local women and girls. The proclamation is a good start, but so many of our AAUW California branches also support Tech Trek and even have local scholarship initiatives. These are viable programs worth highlighting also.

If you wonder about what makes AAUW so dynamic, click [here](#) and check out the YouTube video.

What I need to know: Women's History Month and Equal Pay Day are good opportunities to market your branch. There is a good YouTube video about what makes AAUW so dynamic.

What I need to do: Use the press release template to promote your branch's activities. Review the video.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, if your branch was able to procure a proclamation and/or media attention regarding Women's History Month or Equal Pay Day. Encourage your members to check out the YouTube video.

Raising awareness of AAUW in each of your service areas is our goal. This could lead to expanded membership and even donations!

The Marketing Committee is working to increase branch awareness, along with our paid marketing consultants. Stay tuned for further developments!

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Janice Lee, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BE ON THE SLATE!

Nominations are still open until March 16, 2021, for three state board positions: president-elect, chief financial officer, and director. If you are still thinking about it ...contact the Nominations & Elections Committee. We are here to answer your questions, cheer you on, or give a little nudge. And if not this year, we want you to be on our list of the bold, brave, and brilliant for next year when we will be looking to fill eight board positions. Remember, we will also be voting on the state's Public Policy Priorities on our ballot this year. Our voting period is 4/16/2021-5/7/2021. We have seen what happens when we work together and vote.

What I need to know: Nominations are still open for the three-state board positions until March 16th. Our AAUW California ballot voting period is 4/16/2021-5/7/2021. We will be voting on the state's Public Policy Priorities and the state board if there are any contested positions.

What I need to do: Review the state's Public Policy Priorities and the bios of the [candidates](#).

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, the members need to be informed about the AAUW California election.

TECH TREK

Susan Negrete, and Alice Hill, Tech Trek State Co-Coordinators, techtrek@aauw-ca.org

TECH TREK IN 2021'S VIRTUAL CAMP WORLD

Branch Online Participation Continues as 2/3 of California Branches Opted IN for the 2021 Virtual Season

Virtual Online Memo of Understanding (MOU) Process Completed! Participating branches can be found on the Virtual MOU Report by clicking [here](#).

Branches Estimate 750+ Students to Attend the 2021 Virtual Camp Season! Three camp weeks are being planned to

What I need to know: The Tech Trek Team has accomplished much in the six weeks startup period.

What I need to do: Check with your Tech Trek team to see if they need any assistance. Note all the links to valuable information provided in the article.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes. Let your members know there are volunteer opportunities for the 2021 virtual camps. Keep your members informed about the unique 2021 Tech Trek.

accommodate the branch estimates of selected 2020 and 2021 students. A fourth camp can be organized if needed.

Virtual Camp Receives Qualcomm's \$24,000 Grant! Tech Trek's longtime corporate affiliate supported the 2020 Virtual Pilot and now is supporting our 2021 season with a \$24k grant. We appreciate the years of support that Qualcomm has provided the UC San Diego residential camp, and are grateful they've increased their support for the virtual program.

Branch Packet Link Fixed! Thanks to branch members who notified us and to the Webteam for the quick fix! Click [here](#) to access Tech Trek Forms and Documents. The password is aauwca.

Annual National and California Reading Materials

Requirement: The virtual camp environment does require branch members to read the updated materials and sign the online Conduct Agreement before engaging with the project (even if they won't interface with students). Due to the pandemic, no physical meetings are allowed, and applicant contact/interviews must be by telephone, Zoom, another virtual meeting platform, or by paper. Lost the link? Click [here](#).

Branch Coordinators (BC) & Teams Conduct Agreements

Must be Completed! BCs will receive online links to the required reading materials and the Conduct Agreement. These must be shared between all Virtual BCs and their team members, even those not interacting with students. Check out the weekly status of signed agreements by clicking [here](#).

Nomination & Student Selection Process Can Begin

NOW! Once branches have submitted their required school/student data and parents have signed consent forms, the system will push the forms to allow the selection process to begin.

Camper Names & Email Deadline – March 29th Branches can enter camper data online as it arrives throughout the month – don't wait!

Branch Camper Fees Deadline – March 15th Fees must be on deposit with the Virtual Camp Treasurer for the requested number of camper slots. Got questions? Contact Alice Hill/Finance at techtrek@aauw-ca.org.

Virtual Camp Website: Our website is always a reliable resource for important forms & updates. Protected forms password: aauwca. Click [here](#).

Workshops Ideas & Presenter Applications - Apply now! Now is the time to submit a proposal, concept, or topic and nominate a workshop presenter. Click [here](#).

Volunteers Needed - Branch Volunteers & Tech Trek Alumnae! We've gotten great feedback, but we still need more camp coaches, instructors, assistant directors, and logistics coordinators. Work for more than one camp! Click [here](#) for applications.

Virtual Camp Deposits & 2020 Funds All virtual camp donations are safely managed by Special Projects Funds (SPF). For more information click [here](#) for their website.

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

Engaging New Donors Tech Trek in a virtual format is a unique STEM program experience! Refer potential donors [here](#).

The Virtual Camp Leadership Team Thanks to the California branches that chose to 'OPT IN' with a virtual camp season! Your willingness to learn something new – to adjust long-standing branch processes and join a paperless model for submitting MOUs, branch data, and consent forms, school contacts, and nomination information - is AMAZING!

Much has been accomplished in six weeks since the official startup of the virtual project – and you're now part of a new chapter of California's premier Tech Trek program.

Thank you for pivoting and trusting in technology: STEM is what we're all about!

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.

For 2021 Virtual Camp questions:

Contact Mary Isaac/2021 Virtual Camp Director at 2021ttvirtualcamp@aauw-ca.org.