

Board to Board (B2B)

A Communication from the AAUW California Board to Branch Boards
Linking together for our mission.



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October 2022

This is the fourth *Board to Board* (B2B) for the 2022-23 program year. As a reminder, you will find many useful links at the top of the AAUW California website. Today we highlight just one: the Communications link under CA Business. There you will find the state directory that requires the password aauwca. Besides the directory, it has additional helpful information. You will also find the archives for past issues of *Board to Board* and *California Connection*. Please check out these links and consider sharing them with your branch.

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AS SANDI SEES IT...

Sandi Gabe, President, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

Leadership can be challenging, rewarding, full of inspiration, AND hard work. I experienced all these emotions last week when our leadership team met for our quarterly meeting. The two days were inspiring and filled with sharing of ideas. While I left tired, I was satisfied and grateful for everyone's dedication and determination. You'll see glimpses of that in the committees' reports. What might not shine through so clearly is the camaraderie the team has in linking together for our mission. I feel honored to be working with such a quality team. Please join me in recognizing them. If you want to feel that same excitement, consider joining the board next year!

Keeping an eye on Membership.

Membership growth continues to be a focus this year. It's also important to keep our current members engaged. There's still time to contact the 17.5% of members who are waiting in the wings to renew as AAUW National extended the renewal deadline to November 30th.

Take a moment to reach out to those members who haven't renewed. They may feel disconnected considering much of our activity has been online rather than in person. You can provide the needed encouragement and familiar voice that can inspire them to continue making a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Help new members join the organization.

Your branch website may need to be adjusted to correctly direct new members to join the organization. Many branch websites included a link to “Join” on the national website. With the implementation of the Community Hub that link no longer works. Please check your website to see if you’re affected. The new link is:

https://my.aauw.org/NC__Login. Potential members must create a new account first and then join.

Thank you for your active participation.

The leadership team is hard at work scheduling peer group meetings – virtual get-togethers for people with the same jobs. Our AAUW Fund fellows are preparing their remarks for the four upcoming fund events and Gov Trek is ramping up for their kickoff in November. Check out the specifics in the individual articles below.

Sandi

Linking together for our mission.

Committee News

AAUW FUND

[*Top*](#)

Karen Vanderwerken, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aauwfund@aauw-ca.org

HEAR THEM ROAR!

The AAUW Fund Events are where branch members can see the benefits of supporting the AAUW mission. It’s the time to see and hear our California fellows and grantees synopsize their projects.

The AAUW Fund Events will be on Saturdays October 15th, 22nd, and November 12th from 10-noon and Sunday, October 23rd, from 1-3 pm.

Click [HERE](#) to view and read the presenters' bios and register for one or more of the AAUW Fund Events.

You can request to schedule a scholar or grantee for a longer program for your branch by clicking [HERE](#).

You can donate to AAUW Fund as a branch or as a member. Consider designating your donation in honor of the AAUW Fund Events. Click [HERE](#) for details.

[Legacy Circle](#)

You plan your day, your week, your vacation. Consider planning your AAUW legacy with an estate gift. There is no minimum requirement. Help ensure the AAUW mission and its impact on the future.

Contact Judy Horan (queenjah@pacbell.net) or Charmin Goehring (charminme@yahoo.com) for more information.

What I need to know: There will be four AAUW Fund Events to hear California fellows and grantees describe their work.

What I need to do: Consider requesting a Fund speaker for a branch program.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, this is an opportunity for members to see the benefits of their donations and be inspired by the speakers.

BRANCH SUPPORT

[*Top*](#)

Carol Holzgrafe and Sharyn Siebert, Directors, Branch Support Committee Co-Chairs, branch@aauw-ca.org

ASK US First!

How to recruit new members? How to get members to take leadership positions? How to get our members onto the Community Hub, so we don't lose them?

What do all these questions and many more have in common? They, plus a plethora of others, come to us at Branch Support. If we don't have the answers, we find out to whom we should refer the questions. You can send an email to Ask Us First at askusfirst@aauw-ca.org.

We reach out via email & phone calls to those submitting their perplexing quandaries. THAT IS WHAT WE DO FOR YOU—our branch leaders and members. Our goal at AAUW California is to link us together so that our awesome organization thrives.

Don't be shy! If you host your board meetings via Zoom, invite any state board member to attend.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- Check out the myriad answers to many of your questions by going to our posted webinars [HERE](#). You can read the slide decks and then decide if you also want to watch the video.

What I need to know: Branch Support is focused on staying connected with branches and answering their questions.

What I need to do: Send questions to “Ask Us First” for a quick answer or routing to the appropriate person. Consider inviting a state director to attend your branch meetings.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

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Dawn Johnson, Director, Communications Committee Chair, communications@aauw-ca.org

You can't say, “There's nothing to watch!”

Forget the TV. Communications is supporting FIVE (!) webinars to watch in October and early November. There will be one on social media, four AAUW Fund presentations, and a statewide DEI chat. Watch the first to learn how easy it is to use Instagram (you'll see!) and the others to be inspired. Check out the descriptions and register [HERE](#).

Gather your techies! Communications is launching a Tech Peer Group on Tuesday, October 25th at 6 pm to informally share the joy and pain of your branch's technology. At this kickoff, the group will decide its direction and schedule. Forward the information to whomever does tech in your branch: webmaster, newsletter editor, list manager, social media guru, etc. Send them this registration [LINK](#). (Note that this was rescheduled from September 26th).

Oops. We inadvertently scheduled some state events on religious holidays, but quickly rescheduled and sent notifications. We are working with the DEI Committee to develop a master calendar of important dates to avoid future conflicts. Thank you for your patience.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

What I need to know: Upcoming webinars include one on social media, four AAUW Fund Events, and a statewide DEI chat. Branch techies are invited to the kickoff of the Tech Peer Group to informally share tips and more.

What I need to do: Forward the registration link for the Tech Peer Group kickoff to whomever does tech-related work in your branch.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members will find all the webinars useful and inspiring.

- In the “Don’t Knock It Until You’ve Tried It” category, consider using robocalling to send quick communications and reminders to all members. Check out [Phonevite](#). It’s easy and inexpensive and, in our experience, members actually appreciate it!

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

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Stormy Miller Sabia, Director, DEI Committee Chair, diversity@aauw-ca.org

LET’S CHAT! A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON DEI

We hope you had the opportunity to participate in the AAUW National DEI Officer Training on September 10th or 17th. If not, not to worry! A recording should soon be available and will be shared with all branch DEI officers and coordinators.

To continue our learning and engagements on issues of DEI, please join us on November 3rd at 6 pm for our first AAUW California DEI Statewide Chat: An Intimate Conversation with AAUW National leaders, Julia Brown and Melissa LaDuke. We’ll discuss their engagement in AAUW on a personal level, what National is doing to promote DEI, and what we can do on an individual and branch level to further our own understanding and strengthen our commitment to this work. You really won’t want to miss it!

This is open to all branch members! To register, click [HERE](#).

What I need to know: There will be a statewide chat on DEI featuring national leaders discussing their personal engagement with DEI and AAUW’s related efforts.

What I need to do: Be sure your DEI coordinator is aware of the recorded training and the upcoming statewide DEI chat.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members will want to hear National’s perspective on its DEI efforts.

FINANCE

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

TAX FILING TIME!

Tax time...tax time... No fun, but it must be done.

The deadline for asking National to file your IRS 990-N for you is **October 15th!** Don’t miss the boat. It is much easier than filing yourself. If your branch income is \$50,000 or less, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to the [Community Hub](#) and log in with your personal ID.
2. Under your PERSONAL SNAPSHOT, go to > MY AFFILIATIONS.
3. Find your branch and click the blue button to the right of it to view options.
4. Click on TAX INFORMATION.
5. Click on ADD NEW TAX DETAILS.
6. Complete the form. For the principal officer, it is usual to enter the finance officer.

What I need to know: October 15th is the deadline for having National file your branch’s 990-N. Other tax filings are due November 15th.

What I need to do: Follow the instructions for filings; check the website for the forms and videos on how to complete them.

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

Besides the IRS 990 forms, several state filings are also required, which each branch must file itself by **November**

15th:

1. 199-N electronic filing for the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB)
2. RRF-1 form for the Attorney General's Office
3. CT-TR-1 form, also for the Attorney General's Office

Links for these forms are available on the website [HERE](#). It also has videos of how to fill out the RRF-1 and CT-TR-1 forms. Note that the filing requirements for 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) branches are the same.

If your branch revenue is greater than \$50,000, your list of filings becomes:

1. IRS 990-EZ or 990 depending on if your revenue is below \$200,000 or not. Note that National cannot do this filing for you.
2. Form 199 for California FTB
3. RRF-1 form for the Attorney General's Office

Since you've had to fill out the 990-EZ or 990, you do not need to file the CT-TR-1 form! All deadlines are **November 15th**.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- Check out the new finance website [HERE](#) . . . your one-stop shop for all branch finance-related information, now in an easy-to-access format!

MEMBERSHIP

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Marsha Swails, Membership Committee Chair, membership@aauw-ca.org

WOMEN WITH A VOICE! HOW ARE YOU GROWING?

A few months ago, the most unusual thing happened at the Beach Cities Branch scholarship awards. A woman came into the room as the meeting began and took a seat at one of the far tables. Each recipient came forward and shared her Tech Trek, TTAG, and AAUW journey. The gratitude expressed and pride of the families in attendance brought many to tears. At the end of the meeting, the woman revealed that she walked in on the wrong meeting. Hers was in another room, but she felt drawn to the magic in this place and stayed. It turned out that one of our members taught her daughter as well. This lovely woman not only joined AAUW on the spot, she also wrote a check for \$1,000 to support the scholarship fund. Perhaps it actually was magic!

This month the Membership Committee would like to celebrate those branches that are growing their membership. We want you to share your success with branches across the state. Do you have a specific story of a new member? What caused this person to join AAUW? We want to hear from

What I need to know: Branches should seek the unique stories of why people joined and celebrate their successes in growing membership.

What I need to do: Send the Membership Committee personal stories from your members about why they joined AAUW.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, share the heartwarming story of the surprise guest and her reaction to AAUW.

YOU!! What are you doing in your branch that has made a difference in attracting new members?

Everyone has a story. Let us help celebrate the good things you are doing! We will shout them from the rooftop!

Send your stories to: membership@aauw-ca.org

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- At an upcoming branch meeting or event, ask members to share why they joined AAUW. Be sure to record these histories. For each person who shares, hand her a small token and celebrate!

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

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Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org

Submitted by Jane Niemeier

BE A FLY ON THE WALL

AAUW California will be holding an election from April 22 to May 13, 2023, for the following offices:

- President-Elect (three-year term 2023-2026)
- Chief Financial Officer (CFO) (two-year term 2023–2025)
- Four Directors (two-year term 2023-2025)

Perhaps you are interested but would like to see what goes on at the state board meetings before you fill out your candidate form. Well, you can do that! The state board has monthly check-in meetings that you can observe. Contact President Sandi Gabe (statepresident@aauw-ca.org) for the upcoming dates and Zoom links.

To help you prepare, please click [HERE](#) to learn about the process for running for a state office. Then click [HERE](#) for the nomination form. It asks for your personal information and your AAUW experience, and a 75-word goal statement, among other things. You can fill it out and save it for later if that suits you. You can also clear the form if you want to start over.

As a past board member, I can tell you that we got a lot of work done at our meetings, but we also had fun. And we made good friends from all over the state. You won't regret running for the state board!

What I need to know: Elections are coming up for several openings on the state board. To get a feel for what the board does, attend a monthly meeting.

What I need to do: Contact President Sandi Gabe for details on how to visit a board meeting.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members may want to consider serving at the state level and it would be helpful to read the information on the website and perhaps visit a board meeting.

PROGRAM

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Janice Lee, Program Committee Chair, program@aauw-ca.org

BRANCH BRAGGARTS, SHOW-OFF SISTERS, UNITE!

What I need to know: The Branch Activity of the Year Award recognizes novel programs that other

Branch Activity of the Year Award - Be a peacock and strut your stuff!

branches might want to emulate. The application deadline is March 15th.

The Branch Activity of the Year Award is the recognition of a signature branch activity presented during the period of one year ending on March 15, 2023. The program provides branches an opportunity to showcase and share an activity that is novel, inspirational, and reproducible, promotes AAUW's mission and image, and incorporates elements of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). The activity may be a one-off program or event or a sustained recurring project for which the branch is known.

What I need to do: Consider applying for this worthy recognition.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members may want to suggest programs to submit for the award.

Winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting on April 22, 2023.

Click [HERE](#) for details and the application.

Don't be modest; Remember to apply for the Branch Activity of the Year Award and show off your branch's proud, brilliant ideas.

I'm taking a moment to brag about my branch's (Alhambra-San Gabriel) 2022 original play about women who achieved great things, but were little known in "Brave, Resilient Women." Click [HERE](#) to see a short promotional clip that contains a contact email for more information.

PUBLIC POLICY

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Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

2021-22 LEGISLATIVE SESSION ENDS WITH BIG SUCCESSES FOR AAUW CALIFORNIA!

The 2021-22 Legislative Session officially came to a close at midnight on September 30th, the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. I'm excited to announce that 25 of our 36 bills for this year are now law – a 70% success rate! Of our six high-priority bills, five have become law. Here is a quick summary:

What I need to know: The California legislative session ended successfully with 70% of AAUW-supported bills becoming laws. The Voter Education social media campaign is underway.

What I need to do: Encourage your Public Policy chair to participate in the new Public Policy peer group.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, share the news of our legislative successes and provide the link to pledge to vote Yes on Proposition 1.

Economic Security bills
9 signed by Governor

Equal Access to Education bills
6 signed by Governor
1 approved (no signature required)

Social and Racial Justice bills
7 signed by Governor
1 approved (no signature required)
1 incorporated into Executive Order

Click [HERE](#) for a summary of each bill and its status. It can be found on the Public Policy webpage under "Legislative

Advocacy” [HERE](#) as well as our detailed Bill Tracker [HERE](#).

In other news:

Our Voter Education campaign is in full swing; be sure to look for our weekly social media (SM) messages.

- Post them on your branch and personal SM platforms.
- Sign the Pledge to Vote Yes on Proposition 1 [find it [HERE](#)].

We have added some resources on Reproductive Health to our webpage:

- A list of resources for forming alliances can be found [HERE](#).
- A PowerPoint presentation on Proposition 1 can be found [HERE](#).

Finally, we had our first Public Policy branch chairs peer group meeting on September 7th, with chairs from 33 branches. We will meet every other month on the 1st Wednesday at 2 pm. Our next meeting will be on November 2nd; we encourage all branch chairs to join us, to stay up to date on state and national issues, to share successes and challenges, and to learn from each other.

Be a part of the solution:

- Post SM Voter Education messages every Wednesday.
- Sign the Pledge to vote Yes on Prop 1.
- Join the Public Policy discussion on November 2nd.

Project News

GOV TREK

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Shauna Ruyle, Gov Trek Program Director, govtrek@aauw-ca.org

WANT MORE WOMEN IN POLITICAL POWER?

Men still vastly outnumber women in the halls of power. Let's close that gender gap!

Learn about the AAUW California program, Gov Trek, at the webinar for branch leaders and members on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7 pm.

This webinar will explain how AAUW branches can offer the free, virtual statewide program developed by AAUW California for junior and senior high school girls to expose them to careers in public service and elected office. Starting in January and conducted through four virtual two-hour sessions, the activities will be engaging, interactive, and inspirational. See how your branch can participate!

Click [HERE](#) to register today!_

What I need to know: A webinar introducing the AAUW California program Gov Trek, designed to expose high school girls to careers in public service, will be held on November 16th.

What I need to do: Register for the webinar to learn how your branch can participate and consider becoming a volunteer.

Should I include this in my branch newsletter? Yes, members may be interested in the program and learning how they can bring it to their branch

Gov Trek 2023 Volunteers Needed! Be a part of it! Learn how you can help us close the gender gap in politics. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about what volunteers can do and submit your name. and/or they may want to consider being a volunteer.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- Click [HERE](#) to see research on the paucity of women in political power positions vs men, justifying a program geared to encouraging young women to engage more in politics.

SPEECH TREK

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Marlene Cain, Speech Trek Program Director, spechtrek@aauw-ca.org

SPEECH TREK – NEWS AND REMINDERS

What's scarier than Halloween? Public speaking, according to many! Speech Trek can help direct all those nervous butterflies into a powerful formation!

NEWS: Speech Trek has three new items to report:

1. Connect with each other! We are happy to announce an inaugural email group (aka Peer Group) for Speech Trek Chairs where we can exchange information, ask questions, and share updates very quickly! If you are a Speech Trek Chair and have not yet received an invite, please let us know at spechtrek@aauw-ca.org and we will add you to our roster.
2. Customizable flyer – we are finalizing a generic flyer and will distribute to the Peer Group mentioned above.
3. We will be announcing an Info and Q&A Session via the Peer Group. This session will take place on Zoom.

What I need to know: There is a new Speech Trek peer group for sharing information via email and an upcoming Zoom session for live Q&A. The MOU form to participate is due November 18th.

What I need to do: Contact Speech Trek if your branch chair has not received an invitation to join the peer group.

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

REMINDERS:

1. Remember to submit your Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) found in your Branch Toolkit by November 18, 2022.
2. Click [HERE](#) for toolkits.

What's scarier than public speaking? Not speaking out! Give high school students the courage to find their voice on the 2023 Speech Trek question: *How can communities, organizations, and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?*

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- Speech Trek Chairs: Reach out (via the Principal) to the following teachers that may be interested in this year's topic: history, government, English, drama, speech, and whomever else the Principal might recommend.

TECH TREK

[Top](#)

Mary Isaac, Tech Trek Program Director, techtrek@aauw-ca.org

WHAT DO THE TECH TREK BRANCH SUPPORT PEER GROUP KICKOFF AND THANKSGIVING HAVE IN COMMON THIS YEAR?

While it doesn't have anything to do with turkey, they do both happen in

What I need to know: The Tech Trek Committee is launching a peer group for Branch Coordinators on November 14th to share plans for Tech Trek 2023.

November and involve people coming together to share food to fill your literal or STEMgagement appetites!

SAVE THE DATE and register [HERE](#) for Monday, November 14th, from 6:30-8 pm to hear more about what the Tech Trek Committee has on the menu!

With representation from camps, branches, and other stakeholders including Tech Trek Alumni, the 40+ committee members look forward to helping the 100+ branch support team deliver a STEM-mazing season in 2023!

The evening's menu, I mean agenda, will be shared in mid-October with the Branch Coordinators.

You can expect a variety of topics to satisfy most and to make sure that happens, please click [HERE](#) to help us prioritize our initial discussion areas for the 2022 kickoff of the Branch Coordinator peer group.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try

- Reach out to your Tech Trek alumnae for some help with branch tasks that are, well, easier for digital natives. Many need to satisfy service requirements in high school and would love to help! Contact techtrek@aauw-ca.org for more info.

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www.AAUW-CA.org

