

DEI 2024-2025 Planning Summary

June 12, 2024

GOAL: Provide a variety of interest-based DEI programs, activities, resources, information, and opportunities to engage all members in one or more DEI experiences.

Coordinator Responsibilities: Pat Dudley (would welcome an understudy)

- Attend Branch Board Meetings
- Submit Board Reports
- Submit newsletter articles
 - Book for the GWA READS
 - Holidays/Celebrations calendar
 - Include article/present at branch meetings the significance in culture, history, traditions
 - Report on DEI state chats and webinars
- Initiate, facilitate or assist members in implementing DEI activities in 2024-2025
- Attend statewide zoom DEI peer chats/webinars and report to board and members as appropriate
- Conduct short DEI activity at some branch meetings
- Suggest DEI programs for Program committee to consider
- Strategic plan: provide to board at retreat, use in DEI planning session, inform members in newsletter and branch meeting as appropriate

DEI Planning

- Planning meetings with whole group or subcommittees will meet as needed throughout the year. Sub committees will report to coordinator
- To the extent possible we will continue to schedule group DEI sessions on the 4th Thursday of each month if needed to implement our plan.

Proposals for 2024-2025 WHAT, HOW, WHO?

GWA READS DEI:

- **The Last Chinese Chef** by Nicole Mones
 - **The Last Chinese Chef** is about a beloved cuisine that represents not merely a culture, but every aspect of a people: Its poetry, its people, its art, and its sense of community. It depicts one man's struggle with his identity (Chinese, American)
 - **Sub topic:** Chinese vs Chinese American cuisine
 - **Discussion Session: March 25, 2025 1:30** (Pat Dudley's or alternative venue if we have a huge response!)
 - **Chinese Restaurant experience** (Belen Duarte-Sousa)

- **Cultural Literacy Activities** (Writing prompts, quick writes) (Claire Koehler and Helen Jewell)
- **Newsletter/discussion questions** (Pat Dudley)

- **Culturally Diverse Outing** (Planned by Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes and Paula Ocampo)
 - Develop list of potential places/resources
 - Research places/topics
 - Select and plan an outing in 2024-2025
 - Address transportation issues (Coordination of ride sharing/carpooling?)
 - Report to Pat Dudley for communication of details as they evolve to DEI planning committee, board, and ultimately to members

- **Dining for Diversity**
 - Identify local ethnic food venues
 - Possible owner/manager give history/cultural influences of the food
 - Resource list to members (Maybe can get info on this from Chamber of Commerce members)
 - On your own or some group pop up activity
 - *Notes say Pat but I do not think I was doing this...any takers? Helpers?)*

- **Partner with the Library for REEL CLUB** (documentaries) (Paula Ocampo)
 - Investigate possibility of partnering with the library to co-sponsor an event.
 - Write a proposal for branch consideration

- **Holiday/ Calendar** (Pat Dudley and members)
 - Provide list of community activities that correlate with the Holiday/Calendar in the monthly newsletter
 - Opportunity for on-you- own or small group pop up activities
 - Idea is for members to make Pat aware of any venues, events related to the monthly calendar in the area. These can be posted in the newsletter monthly as a resource to members to participate individually, with family or friends, other AAUW members.
 - Cultural Literacy Resource: Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles
 - culture.lacity.gov
 - *Beginning resource list from Helen Jewell*
 - *April 27 Cherry Blossom Festival*
 - *Monterey Park*
 - *May 18 Heritage of Aloha Festival*
 - *Heritage Park, Sante Fe Spring*
 - *10-5*

- *May 18 Taiwanese American Heritage Week*
 - *Barnes Park*
 - *350 S. McPherrin*
 - *Monterey Park*
- *Process: I have started a file using the AAUW Calendar as a base. Members will be asked to submit events they learn of to add to each month's resource list for the newsletter...who knows, maybe someone would like to start a section for members wanting to go as a group!)*
- **Practices**
 - We touched on this topic when we discussed accessibility.
 - Hybrid meetings
 - Transportation coordination
 - I will use the handout of practices from other branches at the Retreat for the board to identify what we are already doing and what we might implement under each category to complete this area.

Preview of Coming Attractions:

We looked at starting with a “Soft Open” in Year One to engage more members, stimulate interest and then over the 3-year implementation we will aim for sustainability of what we have started and expand to more challenging topics/experiences to explore. We have a whole list of ideas: movies, podcasts, book titles, speakers, experiences to explore. There is a need to accommodate those who are ready to delve into issues and address the issues of DEI in our community and personal lives...a theme we started with the Dolly Chugh book. Some are not ready or may never be ready but that is okay.

I plan to read the book **James** and if anyone else reads it maybe join me in discussion, even prepare a panel presentation for next year to the members comparing the book by Twain and **James** as a kick off event to get more members to read it and hold a discussion session later in the year. (Concept of interest-based, action branch meetings)

There was interest in learning more about the LGBTQ Center in Whittier. Possibly hearing from the high school campuses on the ways they are forming groups to provide for safety and inclusion of the LGBTQ students and addressing bullying on campus.

I am sure there was more...feedback needed to finalize this draft for presentation to the Board at the Retreat.