

# American Association of University Women

## Alhambra - San Gabriel Branch

[aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

[alhsangab-ca.aauw.net](http://alhsangab-ca.aauw.net)

[aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

March, 2018

## His Condom & Her Birth Control

### How Gender Shapes Pregnancy Prevention and Hurts Women's Health

AAUW American Fellowship Recipient

Dr. Krystale Littlejohn

11:45 a.m., Saturday, March 10, 2018

Joslyn Center in Story Park

210 N Chapel Ave, Alhambra



AAUW American Fellowship Recipient Dr. Krystale Littlejohn

Dr. Krystale Littlejohn, assistant professor of sociology at Occidental College, will be the guest speaker at the April meeting of AAUW's Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch. The title of her talk is, "His Condom & Her Birth Control--How Gender Shapes Pregnancy Prevention and Hurts Women's Health."

Dr. Littlejohn graduated *cum laude* from Occidental College with a B.A. in Sociology/Spanish Language and Culture. She then earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University and returned to Occidental College to teach and research. She teaches classes on the family, health & illness, and introductory Sociology.

Last year Dr. Littlejohn received an American Fellowship Research Publication Grant from AAUW for her first book, *His Condom and Her Birth Control*, which will examine how practices of sexual embodiment shape gendered patterns of birth control use and inequality in relationships.

Her talk on March 10 promises to be informative and eye opening. We encourage you to invite family and friends who will benefit from Dr. Littlejohn's research on this important topic of gender decisions affecting women's health. When you hear her presentation, you will appreciate why she was selected to be an AAUW American Fellowship recipient.

Reservations required. Please use the form provided on Page 2.

In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

# Last Month's Program: Speech Trek

## How Can We Stand Up To Sexism?

How can we stand up to sexism? What can individuals and organizations such as AAUW do to break down stereotypes and biases in school, at work, in the military, and in our communities? On Saturday, February 10, we heard from six brave, bright, eloquent high school students: three from Gabrielino High School (Sharon Liu, Annica Hu, and London Stephens) and three from Alhambra High School (Nicholas Andrian, Amanda Yuan and Queenie Lam).

The six students gave unique, insightful and stimulating speeches. Unfortunately, some of the speeches violated the time limit, automatically disqualifying those speakers from advancing. Judges Dr. Gay Toltl Kinman, Norm Stevens and Robert Sanders, after much, much deliberation, declared that Amanda Yuan did the best. A video of her speech, recorded by videographer Hector Baptista, can be viewed on Youtube (<https://youtu.be/nfOh06uu7-E>). Nicholas Andrian was awarded second place.

The state Speech Trek judges will view Amanda's video along with entries from branches throughout the state and will identify five finalists, two of whom will receive honorable mention. The judges will award the 4th place finalist with \$250 and the 5th place finalist with \$150. The top three finalists compete for cash prizes at the AAUW California state convention in Irvine on April 28, 2018. First place winner at the State contest will receive \$1500, second place will receive \$1000, and third place will receive \$500. Travel expenses, lodging, and meals for each finalist and a chaperone will be reimbursed by Speech Trek.

The first Speech Trek final competition was held at the April 2007 state convention. AAUW's Alhambra--San



Gabriel Branch branch has participated every year and has had finalists place among the top three on six occasions: Peggy Truong (3rd in 2007), Tiffany Chia (3rd in 2008), Alexandra Lossada (2nd in 2009), Pavin Trinh (1st in 2013), Sharon Lu (1st in 2016) and Sabrina Sy (3rd in 2017).

"Equality is not a concept. It's not something we should be striving for. It's a necessity. Equality is like gravity. We need it to stand on this earth as men and women, and the misogyny that is in every culture is not a true part of the human condition. It is life out of balance, and that imbalance is sucking something out of the soul of every man and woman who's confronted with it. We need equality. Kinda now."

Joss Whedon, American writer, director, producer and composer.

### *AAUW Fund Luncheon Reservation Form*

YES! I will be at the AAUW Fund Luncheon on Saturday, March 10, 2018 . Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ meals for me: \_\_\_\_\_ and my guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I have enclosed (\$15.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Make checks payable to Alhambra-San Gabriel AAUW. Return to Cheryl Plotkin by March 8.

201 S. Golden West Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91007

# State Lauds Our October Program

Our October program, "Obscure Feminism: Underappreciated Aspects of gender inequality" by League of Women Voters speaker Donovan Steutel is among the nine programs to receive "Program of the Quarter" recognition from the AAUW CA Program Committee. The state's "Program of the Quarter" recognizes outstanding mission based programs, which are designed to educate and inspire members and the community to implement the AAUW mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

## Ten Reasons to Attend the State Convention

AAUW California's biennial convention will be April 27-29, 2018 at the Irvine Marriott. The convention theme is "Educated. Reasoned. Active.". There has never been a time in which we have been more challenged to advance our mission, nor has there ever been a greater opportunity.

Here are 10 plus one reasons to attend Convention:

1. Receive a free tote bag! It's big enough to hold a notebook of great information or 10 pounds of chocolate – you decide!
2. Help complete our branch bingo card!
3. Brag about our small but active branch—cheer as we receive the Program of the Quarter award!
4. Meet state and national VIPs. They want to meet you!
5. Participate in revitalizing workshops
6. Discover keys to political power
7. Learn about women peacebuilders
8. Broaden your vision by learning about the "shackles" others have worn
9. Hear how we can stand up to sexism
10. Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Tech Trek--wear your green  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$ !

Bonus Reason to attend Convention:

11. Enjoy free breakfasts! There may be no such thing as a free lunch, but there IS free breakfast!

Additional details and registration materials are in the winter issue of the *California Perspective* and are on our state website ([aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)).

## President's Message

March is here. It is supposed to come in like a lion and go out like a lamb. I think, for our branch, the roar is going to continue through the end of the program year. The Fund luncheon promises to be very thought provoking. The slate of nominees for our



Kathleen Doty

branch is full! Our interest groups continue with wonderful activities. There are many opportunities to support the AAUW Fund (buy a ticket to win "Dining with the Dotys") and Tech Trek (volunteer to docent at Showcase House and/or buy some candy). The Alhambra-San Gabriel Annual Meeting in April should be a "must attend" for everyone and the AAUW CA State Convention is on the horizon at the end of April; register on the state website now to get the best rates. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in the coming weeks and months as we work toward education and equity for women and girls!

*Kathleen*

## Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee recommends the following members as officers for 2018-2019:

President	Kathleen Doty
President Elect	Betty Morin
Program Vice President	Elena Velarde
Membership Vice President	Deanna Arthur
AAUW Fund Vice Presidents	Janice Lee and Kacy Do
Treasurer	Joe des Barres
Recording Secretary	Delora Brown

Election of officers will be held at our General Meeting on April 16, 2018. Nominations may be made from the floor.

Nomination Committee members are Elena Velarde, Cheryl Plotkin, Betty Morin, Jackie Fisher and Delora Brown.

# AAUW NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENT VOTE 2018

The AAUW National Board of Directors has voted to put three proposals for bylaws amendments before the membership for a vote this spring. The board strongly supports the proposed amendments that we believe will help keep AAUW vital as an organization and enable us to increase our impact in advancing equity for women and girls.

The proposed amendments address creating three-year staggered board terms, opening board service to those outside of the AAUW membership, and eliminating the degree requirement for membership. While rationale and details for each proposed amendment can be found on the AAUW website, the overarching motivation for these changes at this time is to uphold and advance AAUW's mission and ensure optimal execution at the national board level.

The first two proposals would bring AAUW's board governance structure more in line with nationally accepted nonprofit best practices and the needs of the organization. The third proposal — to eliminate the degree requirement for membership — has come before the membership for vote a number of times. The board feels strongly that while the degree requirement made perfect sense at AAUW's inception, this requirement is now perceived by many as counter to our mission and limits our ability to build the capacity needed to increase our impact as an organization.

The board recognizes that we have not traditionally put proposals up for vote outside our AAUW National Election, but these proposed changes have been under consideration for several years by both the Governance Committee and the board, and we believe it is important to move forward without delay to position the organization for greater growth.

**Our Alhambra-San Gabriel  
Branch website is  
[alhsangab-ca.aauw.net](http://alhsangab-ca.aauw.net)**

Members can comment on the proposed amendments and submit their own proposals from February 22, 2018, through March 22, 2018, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Voting will open on April 25, 2018, and close June 9, 2018, at 9 p.m. ET.

We encourage you all to engage in respectful debate that has always been a hallmark of the AAUW community, exercise your vote, and encourage fellow members to do the same.

You can direct any questions or concerns to [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org).



**DEEPER  
IN DEBT**  
WOMEN AND STUDENT LOANS

## Deeper In Debt: Women and Student Loans

**Women take on more student debt than men,  
but are paid less after college.**

Between 1976 and 2014 the price of college attendance more than doubled, but household incomes barely budged. Today most students must bridge the gap between income and cost with student loans—followed by student debt. Women take on more loans and take longer to repay their debt, thus women hold almost two-thirds of the outstanding student loan debt in the United States.

Following graduation, women repay their loans more slowly than do men, in part because of the gender pay gap, and they are also more likely to struggle economically during repayment. This means that women may have to put off saving for retirement, buying a home, or starting a business.

Student debt is a systemic and national problem that

disproportionately impacts women. AAUW members can help make changes to reduce women's student loan debt burden:

1. Congress must protect and expand Pell Grants for low-income students to reduce the amount of student loan debt they must take on to complete a degree.
2. State and federal legislators should increase funding for public colleges and universities and support efforts to move toward tuition- and debt-free options for students.
3. The department of education and lawmakers should make it easier for students to enroll in income-driven repayment options to help mitigate some women's financial difficulties.
4. Institutions can address the academic and financial needs of traditional and nontraditional students, such as access to childcare. Learn more and take action at AAUW National.

Adapted by Michele St. Clair, Public Policy Director, AAUW Healdsburg Branch, from <https://www.aauw.org/resource/deeper-in-debt-one-pager/>



## People Join People

Our branch is among the smaller California branches, but we can leverage our membership (and maybe attract more members) by establishing and maintaining a strong presence in the social media. Our branch has a website, Facebook and Meetup sites. The success of the Facebook and Meetup relies in part on participation. Please join our meetup at [meetup.com](http://meetup.com) (Am-Assoc-Univ-Women-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Monterey-Pk) and like and share our Facebook posts.

# Summary of 2017 California Legislation

The California Legislature concluded its work by the September 15 deadline, and sent bills to Governor Brown's desk. Of the 16 bills on which AAUW CA took positions, the following were passed and signed by the governor:

- AB 23 Single Gender Schools in LA (AAUW CA opposed)
- AB 46 Equal Pay Laws cover Public Employees
- AB 168 Employer Cannot Request Prior Salary History from Job Applicant
- AB 273 Low Income Parents who are English learners or GED students eligible for subsidized child care
- AB 643 Provides for Instruction to grades 7-12 on Dealing with Abusive Relationships
- AB 1111 Programs to Remove Barriers to Employment
- AB 1615 Prohibits Gender-Based Pricing for Services
- SB 31 Prohibits Disclosure of Religious Affiliation by state agencies to federal government
- SB 63 Expands Parental Leave Benefits

These bills did not pass out of the Legislature and may be reconsidered in 2018:

- AB 227 Education Incentives for Cal WORKS
- AB 992 Baby Wellness Program for Cal WORKS Families
- SB 224 Personal Rights: Sexual Harassment
- SB 270 Human Trafficking: Recognition and Reporting
- SB 320 Medication Abortion in Campus Health Centers
- SB 436 STEM Professional Teaching Pathway

Governor Brown vetoed SB 169, which would have codified Title IX federal law and regulations into California law. This is of great concern to AAUW CA given the importance of Title IX in our organization, especially since Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has very recently systematically done away with many of the enforcement tools in the federal regulations. In his veto statement, Governor Brown commented, "I am not prepared to codify additional requirements in reaction to a shifting federal landscape." He further stated, "I strongly believe that additional reflection and investment of time in understanding what is happening ...will help us exercise due care in this complex arena, I intend to convene a group of knowledgeable persons who can help us chart the way forward." AAUW CA will be watching!

# Tech Trek South Fundraiser a Success!

Heartfelt thanks go out to members and friends who supported Tech Trek by 'Dining In' at Polly's Pies on February 21<sup>st</sup>. We raised \$99.95 for our first venture. Although this is not a large amount, we know dollars add up.

With the generous donations we received this year, Tech Trek South will be adding another girl to our roster. As a result of the combined efforts of Tech Trek North and South we will be sending 15 campers to Tech Trek Science and Math Camp at Whittier College, June 24<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Over the next three weeks Tech Trek South members will be reading Applications and Essays and interviewing approximately 40 girls at eight school sites in Monterey Park and the Montebello Unified School District. We will notify all applicants on the final outcome of the selection process the week of March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please see the April newsletter for more news about Tech Trek's Information Social for parents and campers. *Jackie*

## Tech Trek North

This is a busy month for Tech Trek. We will be finalizing shifts for the Showcase House, collecting See's candy orders on March 12<sup>th</sup> and selecting our Tech Trekkers for 2018.

The Committee would like to thank Rozanne Child for heading up the selection committee for Tech Trekkers. She has needed to secure permits, gather the applications and secure dates for interviews. She has made sure that the process for selection will be as successful as Sue Carr made it, as our former head.

Also special thanks to Bonnie Gonzalez for her work on Showcase and Sue Carr for handling the See's Candy sale. *Lilia*

## Tech Trek Fundraiser

# Sees Easter Candy!

This year Easter is on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We appreciate your efforts over the last couple of years and hope you'll be able to help us out again this year. Here are the details:

We distributed presell forms at the authors luncheon and a copy is included in this newsletter. If you need another form, call Sue or Lilia and we will send you one you can download. Collect the money when you take the order or at least before you turn in the order and money to Sue.

Sue will accept either cash or check. Make checks out to Sue Carr as this is not tax deductible.

The suggested selling prices on the flyer are the same as those in the retail stores. We earn the most profit (50%) by selling the following items:

Peanut Butter Egg	\$6.70
Chocolate Butter Egg	\$6.70
Bordeaux Egg	\$6.70
Marshmallow Eggs	\$6.70
Hoppy Easter Box	\$7.70

The following items earn us less profit, but you are welcome to sell them to people who want them.

Nuts and Chews	\$20.50
Assorted Chocolate	\$20.50
Assorted Lollipops	\$19.50
Gift certificates	\$20.50
(or \$22.30 Hawaii certificate)	

**Mail or deliver your order form and check to Sue by Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.**

Sue Carr  
617 E. Norwood Place  
Alhambra CA 91801

Sue will order and pick up the candy, sort it and store it at her house. You can arrange to pick up your order from Sue at her house by calling her at 626-808-5428.

Easter Day is Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>, so we want you to have the candy in time to distribute to your family and friends.

Thank you ... From the Tech Trek committee

*Lilia & Sue*

# See's CANDIES®

## 2018 Spring Fundraising



**Peanut Butter Egg**  
An irresistible treat.  
3 oz \$6.70 #9499



**Chocolate Butter Egg**  
Creamy and delicious.  
3 oz \$6.70 #9500



**Bordeaux™ Egg**  
A tasty classic.  
3 oz \$6.70 #9501



**Nuts & Chews**  
Yummy, crunchy and chewy.  
Delivered in seasonal wrap.  
1 lb \$20.50 #334



**Hoppy Easter Box**  
Full of See's favorites.  
4 oz \$7.70 #632



**Marshmallow & Scotchmallow® Eggs**  
One box, four yummy eggs.  
3.4 oz \$6.70 #9493



**Assorted Chocolates**  
Milk and dark decadence.  
Delivered in seasonal wrap.  
1 lb \$20.50 #318



**Assorted Lollipops**  
Vanilla, Butterscotch, Café Latte and Chocolate.  
Approximately 30 per box.  
1 lb 5 oz \$19.50 #296



**Gift Certificates**  
Redeemable at any See's Candies shop.  
1 lb \$20.50 #767 (redeemable continental U.S.)  
1 lb \$22.30 #769 (redeemable Hawaii)

## Pre-Sell Form

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Customer Name/Phone #

1.

2.

3.

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13.

14.

15.

Total Quantity of Each Item

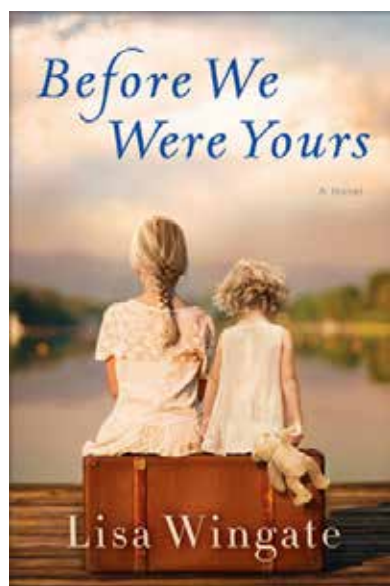
Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Due

	\$6.70	3 oz Peanut Butter Egg #9499
	\$6.70	3 oz Chocolate Butter Egg #9500
	\$6.70	3 oz Bordeaux™ Egg #9501
	\$20.50	1 lb Nuts & Chews #334
	\$7.70	4 oz Hoppy Easter Box #632
	\$6.70	3.4 oz Marshmallow & Scotchmallow® Eggs #9493
	\$20.50	1 lb Assorted Chocolates #318
	\$19.50	1 lb 5 oz Assorted Lollypops #296
	\$20.50	1 lb Gift Certificate (redeemable continental U.S.) #767
	\$22.30	1 lb Gift Certificate (redeemable Hawaii) #769
		TOTAL \$

	\$6.70	3 oz Peanut Butter Egg #9499
	\$6.70	3 oz Chocolate Butter Egg #9500
	\$6.70	3 oz Bordeaux™ Egg #9501
	\$20.50	1 lb Nuts & Chews #334
	\$7.70	4 oz Hoppy Easter Box #532
	\$6.70	3.4 oz Marshmallow & Scotchmallow® Eggs #9493
	\$20.50	1 lb Assorted Chocolates #318
	\$19.50	1 lb 5 oz Assorted Lollypops #296
	\$20.50	1 lb Gift Certificate (redeemable continental U.S.) #767
	\$22.30	1 lb Gift Certificate (redeemable Hawaii) #769
		<b>TOTAL \$</b>

# Before We Were Yours



Two families, generations apart, are forever changed by a heart-breaking injustice in this poignant novel, inspired by a true story, for readers of *Orphan Train* and *The Nightingale*.

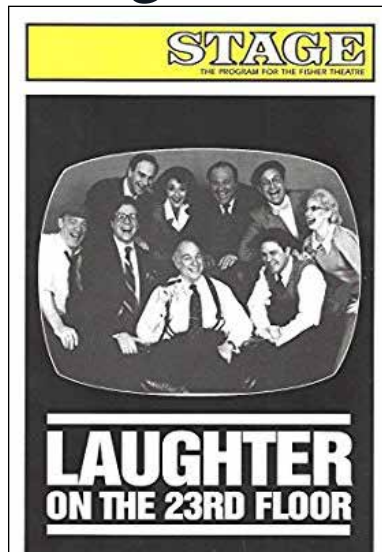
Memphis, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shantyboat.

But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge—until strangers arrive in force. Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents—but they quickly realize that the truth is much darker. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together—in a world of danger and uncertainty.

Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all: a successful career as a federal prosecutor, a handsome fiancé, and a lavish wedding on the horizon. But when Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions—and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history, on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or redemption.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong.

# Laughter on the 23rd Floor



*Laughter on the 23rd Floor* is a 1993 play by Neil Simon. It focuses on the star and writers of a TV comedy-variety show in the 1950s, inspired by Simon's own early career experience as a junior writer (along with his brother Danny) for *Your Show of Shows*.

The play focuses on Sid Caesar-like Max Prince, the star of a weekly comedy-variety show circa 1953, and his staff, including Simon's alter-ego Lucas Brickman, who maintains a running commentary on the writing, fighting, and wacky antics which take place in the writers' room. Max has an ongoing battle with NBC executives, who fear his humor is too sophisticated for Middle America. The play is notable not only for its insider's look at the personalities and processes of television comedy writing, but also for its reflection of the political and social undercurrents of its time, in particular the rise of Joseph McCarthy, relationships between various (European) American ethnicities, and attitudes toward women.

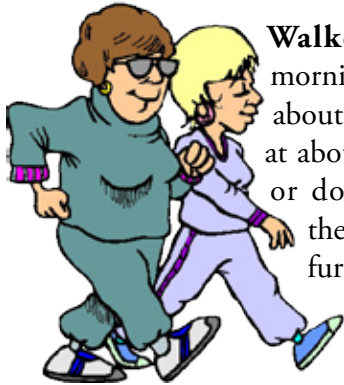
According to Simon, Sid Caesar's writers on the original *Your Show of Shows* (including Neil Simon and his older brother Danny Simon) held their script sessions at various times on the eleventh and the twelfth floors of an NBC-TV office building; Simon added those numbers together to put his fictional cast on the 23rd floor.

There are nine characters, providing an opportunity for additional readers. Whether you come to read or come to listen, you will start laughing within three minutes and will not stop laughing until the last page.

All books on the Evening Book Group's reading list are available at Vroman's Books in Pasadena for a reduced price. Go to the "Will Call" window on the second floor and tell them the name of the book and also that you are a member of "Alhambra San Gabriel AAUW."

# ACTIVITIES

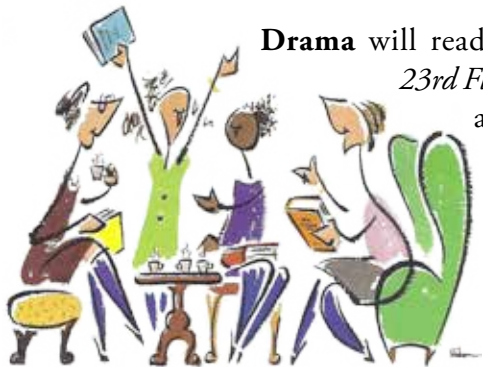
Where the Fun will be in March  
March Forward and Join Us!



**Walkettes** meets every Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. We walk for about one hour and have breakfast at about 8:30 a.m. In case of rainy or doubtful weather we meet at the restaurant at 8:00 a.m. For further information or directions, please call Mary Smeritschnig.

**Board Meeting** will be on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m. (socializing starts at 7:00 p.m.) in Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra.

**Professional Women Gourmets** will be hosted by Lyda Chee at Gold Hibachi Buffet, 2223 W. Commonwealth Ave. in Alhambra at 4:00 p.m. on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Call Lyda by March 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Drama** will read *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* by Neil Simon at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> in the Dotys' home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra.

**AAUW Fund recipient** Dr. Krystale Littlejohn, assistant professor of sociology at Occidental College will speak at 11:45 AM, Saturday, March 10, 2018. At the Joslyn Center in Story Park, 210 N. Chapel Ave. in Alhambra (see Page 1).



**Find us on Meetup.com**

Am. Assoc. Univ. Women -- Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Pk

**Restaurant Gourmets** will dine on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Nick's, 336 S. Lake Ave. in Pasadena. Hope to see you there. Let Deanna Arthur know by March 10<sup>th</sup> if you plan to attend.



**Evening Books** will get together at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate in the Doty's home, 633 E. California Blvd. #101 in Pasadena.

AAUW Fund Raffle

## Dining with the Dotys

Let us prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of



your friends in our home in Alhambra on May 12<sup>th</sup> (or as arranged). Raffle tickets are \$10 each – 3 for \$25. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Fund". All tickets and proceeds must be turned in by April 1, 2018 to the Dotys (1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra, CA. 91801). The winning ticket will be drawn on April

16, 2018. Ticket holders do not need to be present at the drawing to win.

One hundred percent of ticket proceeds will be donated to AAUW Fund to help complete unfinished AAUW California endowments. Questions? Call 626-284-0763