



Alhambra-San Gabriel (CA) Branch serving the cities of Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park and Montebello

The Mission Gateway

President's Message



Betty Morin

It has been my pleasure to serve as your president and I want to thank all of you who contributed in some way, large or small to the branch this year. And as I say Aloha to both the end of the 2019-20 and Aloha to 2020-21, I know that I speak for everyone when I say, we all look forward to a time in the near future when the world returns to

some sense of normalcy. It takes adversity to remind us that no matter our nationality, cultural heritage, religion or color of our skin, that we are all in this together. I will end with a quote by E.B. White:

Sailors have an expression about the weather: they say the weather is a great bluffer. I guess the same is true of our human society — things can look dark, then a break shows in the clouds, and all is changed.

Betty

Our branch website is
alhsangab-ca.aauw.net

Our MeetUp.com page is
 Am. Assoc. Univ. Women -- Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Pk

Our Facebook page is
[AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch)

Branch Election Results

The votes are in with 35 of our 55 members voting!

The slate of officers for 2020-2021 was elected unanimously:

- President Elena Velarde
- President-Elect Joseph DesBarres
- Fund Vice President Deanna Arthur
- Membership Vice President Leticia Peralta
- Program Co-Vice Presidents Janice Lee & Kathleen Doty
- Secretary Betty Morin
- Treasurer Cheryl Plotkin

The increase of branch membership dues from \$18.00 annually to \$21.00 annually beginning July 1, 2020 passed with only one dissention.

Kathleen

AAUW Fund

"The results of philanthropy are always beyond calculation."

Miriam Beard, 1938

How true this is. The gifts we give, whether to the AAUW Fund or any other cause, have an impact far beyond what we can measure. However, although we cannot measure the ultimate effect of what we gave, we can assess just how much we gave. AAUW CA sent a total of \$500,717.80 to the AAUW Fund in 2019 and

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Betty Morin, President • Delora Brown, Secretary • Joe Des Barres, Treasurer • Jim Doty, Newsletter Editor
Kathleen Doty, AAUW Fund VP • Deanna Arthur, Membership VP • Elena Velarde, Program VP

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.



One of Virginia Orenos's marvelous cards

Raffle!

Virginia Orenos has donated twelve of her beautiful hand-stamped cards for a raffle. Tickets will be sold for \$2.00 for one or three for \$5.00. All proceeds will be donated to the Branch general fund. The cards include Get Well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, Birthday, and General. Hope

you will participate in this Fundraiser to support the Branch.

Eleanor Stem Allen Memorial Speech Trek

As AAUW California Speech Trek ended its 15th season in 2021, we thanked the Gray Allen family, who for twelve years generously supported Speech Trek in honor of Eleanor Stem Allen, past president of Roseville Branch, award-winning educator, and loving wife and mother.

AAUW California congratulates this year's winners who spoke about whether men and women are truly equal in 2020:

- 1st Place – Olivia Berman, Lompoc-Vandenberg
- 2nd Place – Jackson Patten, Stockton
- 3rd Place – Carter Hill, Foothills of El Dorado County
- 4th Place – Namita Shyam, California Online
- 5th Place – Gelasia Tiwana, Morgan Hill

Their speeches can be viewed on the aauw-ca.org website.

Starting next year, Speech Trek will be underwritten by a new benefactor, who wishes to be anonymous. The 2021 topic will be "Has social media helped or hindered the breaking down of barriers for women and girls?"

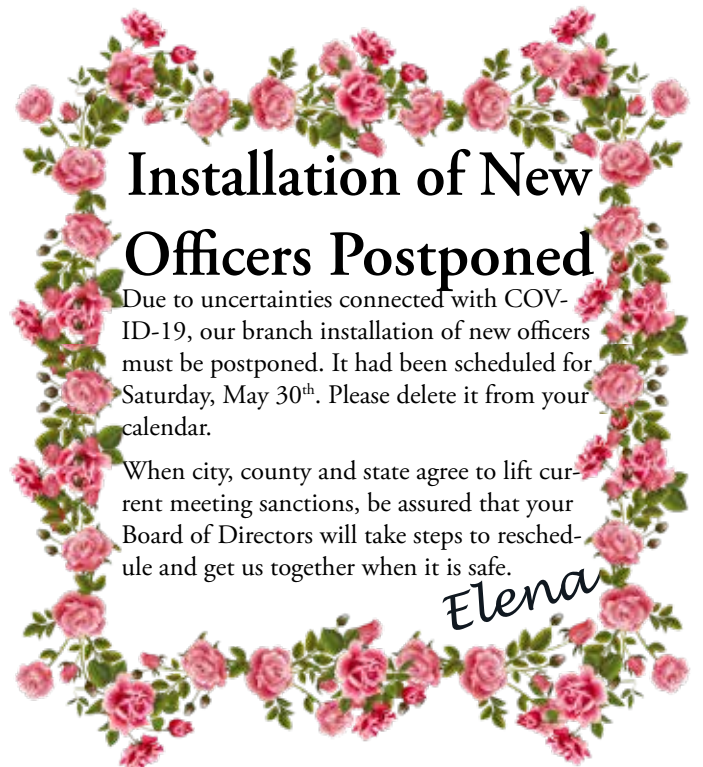
The 2020-2021 Branch Toolkit and the 2020-2021 Student Toolkit will be available late spring/early summer. For more information, please email Marlene Cain, AAUW CA Speech Trek Coordinator at spechtrek@aauw-ca.org.



She-roses

National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2020

This month's She-roses (and Heroes) are our American nurses who are on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Nurses Association (ANA) had been aggressively pushing Congress and the Administration to do something about the lack of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and legislation in response to the virus provides \$1.5 billion to States for the equipment and other public health preparedness and response activities. However as of this date, nurses are protesting that PPEs are still in short supply, putting their lives and those of patients and family members at risk. What will you do to show your support for nurses during National Nurses' Week?



Updates From AAUW-CA Public Policy Team

By Kathi Harper, Public Policy Committee Co-Chair

With the coronavirus starting to show itself in California (but before the Governor's shelter-in-place orders), the AAUW California public policy team decided to exercise caution and improvised our annual legislative meeting with our advocate in Sacramento. Instead of a large meeting, only Co-Chairs Kathi Harper and Sue Miller, along with AAUW California President Jane Neimeier, met with advocate Magaly Zaval at her office on March 13th. We communicated with all other committee members via serial e-mails throughout the day.

Although challenging, the meeting was productive. We reviewed 44 bills with the following resolutions:

- Co-Sponsor 1 bill (SB973)
- Support 26 bills in the following categories:
 - Product Regulation – 3 bills
 - Family Planning – 5 bills
 - Education – 6 bills
 - Labor/Wages – 2 bills
 - Gender Equity/Discrimination – 4 bills
 - Family Protection – 3 bills
 - Sexual Assault and Sex Education – 2 bills
- 8 bills will be “watched” for further developments
- 10 bills were dropped

For more information on these bills, [CLICK HERE](#).

We have also learned that the Legislature will not reconvene until May 4th. We are not sure what impact that will have on this legislative session, as we are advised that their focus is going to be on coronavirus bills, housing and wildfires. The state budget must be approved by June 15th, so this too will be an area of focus. We will keep members updated as we learn more.

Finally, we have learned that our long-time advocate Shannon Smith-Crowley is still healing from the concussion she sustained in an accident last year, please keep her in your thoughts for a successful recovery.

AAUW California supports the following bills:

- AB 31 Sales and use taxes: exemption: menstrual hygiene products.
- AB 66 Sales and use taxes: exemption: diapers.
- AB 376 Student loan servicing.
- AB 732 County jails: prisons: incarcerated pregnant persons.
- AB 1906 Pregnant correctional officers: duty assignment policy.
- AB 1927 Witness testimony in sexual assault cases: inadmissibility in a separate prosecution.
- AB 1965 Family Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment (Family PACT) Program.
- AB 1973 Health care coverage: abortion services: cost sharing.
- AB 2003 Community college: restrooms: feminine hygiene products.
- AB 2023 Educational equity: student records: name and gender changes.
- AB 2035 Foster youth: sexual and reproductive education.
- AB 2228 Public health: postsecondary education: sexual assault kits.
- AB 2335 Community colleges: student equity plans.
- AB 2416 Postsecondary education: student financial aid: satisfactory academic progress.
- AB 2781 Health care coverage: treatment for infertility.
- AB 2881 Discrimination: Fair Play in Community Sports Act.
- AB 3052 Forced or Involuntary Sterilization Compensation Program.
- AB 3218 Homeless children and youths: reporting.
- SB 850 Work hours: scheduling.
- SB 873 Gender: discrimination: pricing.
- SB 973 Employers: annual report: pay data.
- SB 1073 Medi-Cal: California Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.
- SB 1257 Domestic service employees: employment safety standards.
- SB 1308 Educational equity: government instruction conferences: Sacramento.
- SCR 85 Women and Girls in STEM Week.
- SR 79 Relative to Women's History Month.

The following bills are on AAUW California's Watch List

- AB 1989 Menstrual Products Right to Know Act of 2020.
- AB 2762 Cosmetics: safety.
- AB 2947 Discrimination: employee complaint: standard of proof.
- AB 3092 Sexual assault and other sexual misconduct: statutes of limitations on civil actions.
- AB 3140 Reproductive health services providers: confidentiality of personal information.
- AB 3175 Entertainment industry: age-eligible minors: training.
- SB 1142 Corporations: board of directors.
- SB 1241 Discrimination in employment: employment tests and selection procedures.



Membership News

2020, a year like no other. We have heard this term used a lot about Tech Trek. The term could apply to all our activities for the year.

Our branch is like a family and at the moment it is under siege. We are all sheltering in place. The demographics of our group render us more vulnerable to the virus. We are touched by the events of the last two months. One thing has not changed. We continue to be a branch of committed members. Our group has remained strong. We even managed to have a net growth of 5.77%.

We all have a new normal and even when the quarantine is lifted members may be unwilling to be out in public. We need to take this into consideration.

Let's embrace or at least try the virtual meetings to keep us together while we are apart.

We have had an amazing year and I know we have another opportunity to do it again next year. We offer much to our members and the community.

Please stay safe, wash your hands, treasure your AAUW relationships and continue the good fight for education and equity for women and girls.

Jane & Lilia

Deanna

In April, California Tech Trek canceled the 2020 program at all California colleges and universities. However, prior to that, on March 26th Tech Trek South and Tech Trek North decided that it was not appropriate for us to interview candidates, and, after the committees discussed it, asked our branch president, Betty Morín to inform Tech Trek CA that we would not be participating this year. This has been truly an unprecedented year and we are hoping that in the fall we will begin the 2021 recruitment of campers for the Tech Trek program.

At the present time Jane and Lilia are working with the incoming branch president in the hope to produce a creative September luncheon. Of course, it will not have the Tech Trek campers to share about their experiences. More information will be forthcoming.

We hope that our branch members are staying safe and finding things to keep busy at their homes.



Bonnie & Lilia will contact our staffers to reschedule shifts when they receive information from Showcase.

AAUW Fund

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I am proud to let you know that Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch contributed \$5,029.00 of that. Thank you to all who purchased Dining with the Dotys tickets and who gave in other ways!!

Speaking of Dining with the Dotys, tickets for the 2020 meal are still available! Just send your check to me. I will fill out your ticket(s), drop the stub(s) in the drawing and return the ticket(s) to you. Although there will be only 6 people attending the prize meal, we will plan and hold it once the Safer At Home directives have eased.

Stay safe and healthy and don't forget the heart of AAUW, the Fund.

Kathleen

ACTIVITIES

Where the Fun will be in May and June

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Monday, May 4th via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.
Open to all members. Contact Betty for access code.

Any branch member may bring a proposal in writing [including email] to the board for discussion and action at its regular meeting by requesting the president to include the proposal as an agenda item at least seven days before agenda is published or may request to speak to the proposal at board meeting.

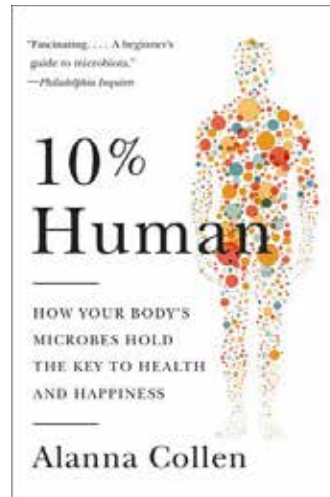
Drama Group will read *A Dolls House Part 2* by Lucas Hnath at 7:30 PM on Monday, May 11th. Contact Kathleen Doty for details.

Meetup - at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, May 13th. Get your favorite beverage and munchie and call into Zoom for quality bonding time. Reservations are necessary - please call Deanna Arthur so a code can be sent for joining the meeting. Let's try it and see - we can be together while apart.

Books will discuss *10% Human* by Alana Collen via Zoom at 2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 20th. Contact Kathleen Doty for details.

Restaurant Gourmets will dine at 6:30 PM on Saturday, May 23rd. In keeping with the theme, order your favorite dinner to be delivered and dine with AAUW members via Zoom. Reservations are necessary so a meeting invitation can be sent. Looking forward to dining out with friends in the comfort of our own homes.

May 20 Books Group¹



You are 10% human. For every one of your cells, there are nine impostors hitching a ride. You are not just flesh and bone, but also bacteria and fungi. And you are more 'them' than you are 'you'.

Your gut alone hosts 100 trillion of them and until recently we thought that our microbes didn't matter.

This is all set to change as the latest scientific research tells a very different story, one where microbes run our bodies and being healthy is impossible without them.

In this ground-breaking book, biologist Alanna Collen reveals how our personal colony of microbes influence our weight, immune system, mental health and even our choice of partner. This is a new way of understanding modern diseases – obesity, autism, mental health problems, gut disorders, allergies, auto-immunity and even cancer – as she argues they have their root in our failure to cherish our most fundamental and enduring relationship: that with our microbes.

Illuminating many of the questions still unanswered by the human genome project *10% Human* completely changes our understanding of diet, modern disease and medicine. The good news is that unlike our human cells, we can change our microbes for the better and this book shows you how. A revelatory and indispensable guide: life – and your body – will never seem the same again.

Vision
Equity for all.

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy.

Values

Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

Mission Gateway

Articles relating to AAUW's mission or Branch activities are gladly accepted. Material for the *Mission Gateway* must be received no later than the 15th of the month prior to the intended month of publication.