



Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

# The Mission Gateway

## PRESIDENT'S

## PUSH



Joe DesBarres

I begin by thanking each and every one of our members who have made this year such a success for AAUW and our own Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch. And I extend a warm welcome to our new members who, in joining, become part of an organization that relentlessly advocates for equity for women and girls.

On the national scene, the Confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court is both momentous and overdue. Yet it highlights the fact that a highly qualified Black Woman under consideration for appointment is still subjected to nothing short of psychological abuse at the hands of senators whose names are all too familiar. It is now fully understandable how U.S. Attorney General Garland was refused even a Senate hearing by the political party in control at the time. But Ketanji Brown Jackson *nevertheless persisted* and will be the Court's First Black Female Associate Justice! Let that sink in—the Court's first Black Associate Justice and only its sixth woman. Couple this with the fact that of 114 Supreme Court Justices, only 6 were non-white men!

Locally, our Branch debuted *Brave Resilient Women* in Reader's Theater to a near capacity crowd of 90 people on

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### ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL BRANCH,

### AAUW

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022

11:00 AM to 12 PM

Our Special Installation Meeting will take place via Zoom. We are happy and pleased to welcome and induct our 2022 Board Members:

- Joe Des Barres, President
- Cheryl Plotkin, Treasurer
- Marilee Wood, Secretary
- Veronica Alvarez, Membership VP
- Deanna Arthur, Program VP
- Leticia Peralta, Fund VP

Our new and returning Officers represent you at the monthly Board Meetings. Get to know them and let them know what is on your mind: ideas, concerns, questions & comments.

Also on the program will be a special DEI—Diversity, Equity & Inclusion presentation by our own member Janice  
*continued on Page 2*

Joe Des Barres, President • Betty Morin, Secretary • Cheryl Plotkin, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor  
Deanna Arthur, AAUW Fund VP • Leticia Peralta, Membership VP • Jackie Fisher, Program Chair

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.

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## ***The President's PUSH...***

March 19<sup>th</sup>. This production garnered praise and thanks for illuminating women whose accomplishments were hardly recognized at the time. And it has educated our audience to the need to look for additional women who have fallen beneath the veil of recorded history, but whose perseverance deserves recognition, regardless of the belatedness of the accolades.

One thing that drives my involvement is a belief in the absolutely essential work helping those women and girls in our communities to prosper even though we may not see the heights they attain nor the societal gains they underpin. ***Younger generations that our values inspire will make the inroads we desire.***

Our *Creative Crafters and Branch Members* contributed 25 handmade blankets, along with a sizeable check for \$1100 to the La Casa Preschool.

Our *Tech Trek* and *Speech Trek* programs continue reaching young people in our community.

*Colorful Stories* fills a void in elementary school literature that has far too few stories with successful, diverse, ethnic protagonists with which our young students can identify.

The *Branch's East Los Angeles College (ELAC) Scholarship* puts our "Money where our mouths are" by providing the means for women to enter and continue their studies in fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). These essential career choices for societies' betterment and advancement have been far too long underrepresented with women. While half our population is female, we have but small percentages of women in STEM fields.

Breaking down barriers to full participation by women in our US society and economy does not come easily, nor quickly. It requires our continued vigilance and engagement in both ceiling-breaking and opportunity promotion.

We who enjoy the fruits of education are the best ambassadors for inclusive education, regardless of the field of study, for all women and girls no matter where they live. Our world is a global yet local one. And while we must think globally, we must act locally. What we don't choose to do slows our achievement of **Vision: Equity for ALL;** and **Mission: Advocacy for women and girls through**

**research, education and advocacy.**

We have the wind in our sails. Let's sail into in this upcoming program year building on all that we have initiated. Let's help one another to move forward in the direction of our dreams for Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive communities to whom All Belong.

*Joe*

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### ***Installation continued from Page 1***

Lee. Janice is co-chair of the state's DEI Committee. She will bring us up to date and lead us in discussion as to how our branch may further promote and model Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. We'll also discuss how we can integrate Belonging into the DEI Continuum.

### **Please join in this All-Branch Installation and Discussion!**

## ***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 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the intended month of publication.

# AAUW Fund

What a fantastic speaker for our Fund Event and Annual Meeting. Jasmeet Dhaliwal could not have been more engaging, informative, exactly what the doctor ordered for AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel. The work she does with 8<sup>th</sup> graders certainly fits in with our vision for the future.

Between donations and boxed dinner sales, we have earned over \$500.00 to date on this event. Additional donations have been promised. Thank you for your support for the Fund and for all our projects.

Your response to the “Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister” is also encouraging. Perhaps we are coming back to “normal” a little at a time.

The biggest news we have is the names of our Branch Named Gift Honorees for '21-22. The Fund committee is happy to announce that Elena Velarde and Betty Morin are our 2 winners.

Both of these accomplished women served as the past 2 presidents. In addition, both of these women were instrumental in the “Brave, Resilient Women” presentation that we saw at the March meeting. In addition, Betty is the first member from our branch to receive a Community Action Grant from AAUW CA. Congratulations to these wonderful women.

Have a beautiful summer and see you next year. It has been a privilege to serve as your Fund Vice President.

*Deanna*

# *Brave, Resilient Women*

## Readers' Theater Update:

Our March 19, 2022 Readers' Theater performance was very well received. Of the approximately 85 people who attended, we received 72 Feedback/Evaluation forms, and of those received, approximately 84% awarded us the highest possible rating of 5. Here are just a few of the comments they offered: *Outstanding production; I was impressed to learn of the diversity of the women as well as their accomplishments. Great ideas and presentations related to AAUW's vision; Very informative. Characters well portrayed and I appreciated the touch of humor; I so enjoyed the presentations, particularly [about] the women I know nothing about. What a learning, educational experience. A source of inspiration to us all... content, presentation, and delivery; This presentation was truly enlightening [and] beautifully done. I learned so much and enjoyed every minute. Bravo!; [This production] was so educational and enlightening! This made me proud to be a woman and want to work harder for women's rights! (10+!!!)*

Thank you for your support.

*Betty*



***A promotional clip of the March 19, 2022 performance will be available soon.***

The Cast of *Brave, Resilient Women*

(Row 1) Rozanne Child, Marian Hallin, Janice Lee, Imelda Valencia, Joe DesBarres

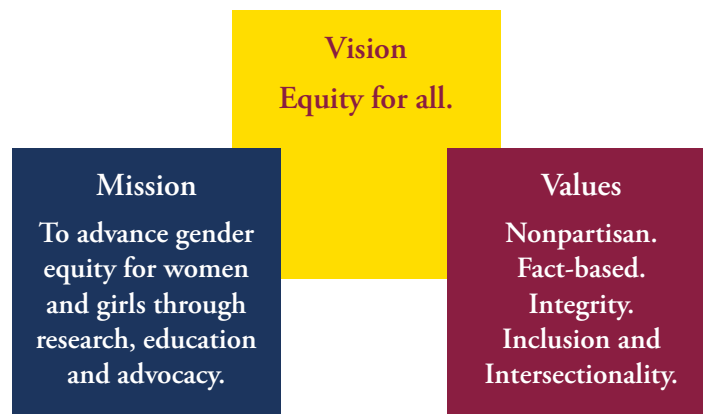
(Row 2) Elena Velarde, Kathleen Doty, Jane Krause, Donna Tucker, Jackie Fisher, Betty Morin

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are extremely gratified to officially welcome Veronica Alvarez, Diane Askew, Chuck Gonzalez, Carmen Gonzalez-Ball, Theresa Jolley, Gerry Krieger, Yuliana Maya, Dennisse Santana, Sonia Tuma and Marilee Wood to our Branch family. They bring new ideas and ways to accomplish our Vision and Mission through their wealth of life experiences, accomplishments and personal energy. We will only be better for their presence.

This summer at a convenient time, date and place (to be determined) our branch will hold a Welcome & Orientation for our new members. As we've not gathered in person due to COVID- 19, this will be an opportunity to get together sans computer screen to celebrate.

Watch your mailbox and email feed for the announcement. It will be a celebration and orientation as only the AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch can provide.



## Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister

### *Last Chance!!*



Let us prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends at Kathleen's home in Alhambra on May 7<sup>th</sup> (or as arranged). Raffle tickets are \$10 each – 3 for \$25. Please make checks payable to "AAUW Fund." Contact Kathleen at: Kathleen Doty, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra, CA 91801 or 626-284-0763 or dotyk@sbcglobal.net.

All money and ticket stubs must be returned by the drawing on **May 21, 2022**. 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.

### **Risk Averse?**

We also will prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends if you donate \$500 or more to AAUW Fund through Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister.





# PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs

Greetings AAUW Members,

Both Tech Trek North and Tech Trek South have submitted their camper list to the Tech Trek System for 2022 before the April 15th deadline. The entire process was online. It was a little challenging at times but Jane Kruse and I figured it out. Moving forward the Tech Trek System lets the girls know if they were selected or not and what camp, residential or virtual, they will attend. After April 15th Jane and I will email the campers and remind the girls to check their emails daily for next steps in the process.

Thanks to the selection committees for choosing the girls that will benefit most from the Tech Trek experience. Thanks to the members too, for their donations to Tech Trek. The branch is scheduling an Orientation to Camp scheduled for June 4th to be determined. The girls will all receive a gift bag including a Tech Trek pencil, Tech Trek teddy bear, a notebook, pen and eraser. The meeting will explain both the Virtual and Residential and will follow up with a Q&A.

Rozanne Child and Lilia Hall  
Tech Trek North Coordinators Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch

## AAUW CA SPONSORS CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION

Guided by our member-approved Public Policy Priorities for 2021-2023, the AAUW California Public Policy Committee has selected the bills that we will be supporting as they move through the 2022 Session of the California Legislature. Here are the six highest priority bills:

- **AB 92**—creates an equitable sliding scale for family fees to alleviate the burden on working families struggling to pay for childcare and early childhood education services. Co- sponsor
- **AB 1666**—enables persons to come from outside California for abortions and not be impacted by laws of other states. Co-sponsor
- **AB 1968**—mandates the creation of websites at CSU/UC campuses to assist sexual assault survivors.
- **AB 2881**—Student parents get priority enrollment, registration, and access to basic needs centers, enabling them to remain in California colleges.
- **SB 523**—Expands contraceptive coverage by requiring health plans to provide point-of-sale coverage without cost-sharing.
- **SB 1375**—updates statutes relating to abortion care to allow nurse practitioners to practice under standard protocols to provide first- trimester abortion care.

Within our Public Policy Priorities, six bills are related to Economic Security for All Women, seven are related to Equal Access to Public Education, and 18 are related to Social and Racial Justice for all Members of Society.

AAUW California is experiencing greater visibility among elected legislators by sponsoring/co-sponsoring bills.

The Public Policy Committee members spent many hours in March researching bills, and in discussions over two days, to select bills to support. AAUW members are working to improve the lives of women and children in California!

*Elena*

# BOOKS

**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom to review State of Terror by Hillary Rodham Clinton and Louise Penny.



*State of Terror* follows a novice Secretary of State who has joined the administration of her rival, a president inaugurated after four years of American leadership that shrank from the world stage. A series of terrorist attacks throws the global order into disarray, and the secretary is tasked with assembling a team to unravel the deadly conspiracy, a scheme carefully designed to take advantage of an American government

dangerously out of touch and out of power in the places where it counts the most.

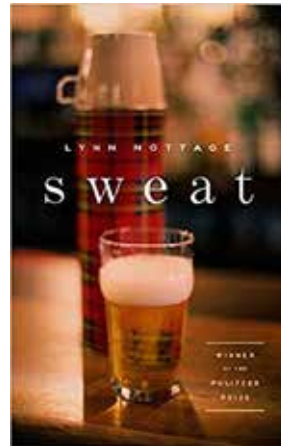
This high-stakes thriller of international intrigue features behind-the-scenes global drama informed by details only an insider could know.

In June, **Day Books** will meet Wednesday, June 15. The book has not yet been selected.

**Evening Books** will meet Monday, May 23, 2022 and Monday June 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Books have not yet been selected. Have one in mind that you think all will enjoy? Let Deanna know!

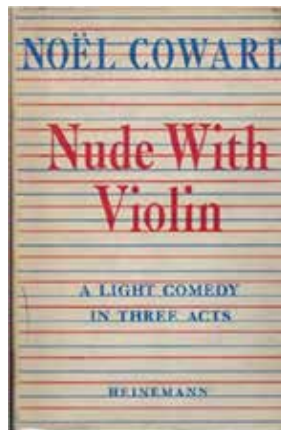
# Drama

Drama will meet May 9, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. over Zoom to read *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage, winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize (6M,3F) and on June 13, 2022 same time and place, to read *Nude with Violin* by Noel Coward (8M/6F)



In one of the poorest cities in America, Reading, Pennsylvania, a group of down-and-out factory workers struggles to keep their present lives in balance, ignorant of the financial devastation looming in their near futures. Set in 2008, the powerful crux of this new play is knowing the fate of the characters long before it's even in their sights.

Based on Nottage's extensive research and interviews with real residents of Reading, *Sweat* is a topical reflection of the present and poignant outcome of America's economic decline.



Noel Coward attempts to satirize modern art in a comedy about the death of an artist whose work was, in fact, painted by at least three others. It opened in 1956 and was slated by many critics but ran for a year in London.

# ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

**Board Meeting** Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> via Zoom at 7:00 PM. The host will open Zoom at 6:45 PM. Open to all members. Contact Joe DesBarres for access code.

**Meetup** - at 6:00 PM on Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday June 9<sup>th</sup> at Limericks Tavern, 300 W. Main St., Alhambra. There will be a link on Meetup, or call Leticia or Deanna closer to the date.



**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday June 15 at 2:00 PM on Zoom. See page 6 for the books. Contact Kathleen Doty for access code.

**Evening Books** will meet Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Monday June 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM on Zoom. Books to be determined. Contact Deanna Arthur for access code.



**Every Member Event:** Hope to see you at the AAUW Installation on May 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 AM on Zoom. Details on page 1.

**Scattergories!** How many "Things you can do online" beginning with the letter "S" can you list in 2 1/2 minutes? Scattergories meets for about an hour via Zoom at 3:00 PM every Thursday. Silly, serious, intellectually challenging. Contact Kathleen Doty for access code.



**Drama:** Join us Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday June 13<sup>th</sup> for cold readings of the plays described on page 6. Place: Zoom. Time: 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Kathleen Doty.

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.



**Professional Women Gourmets** will gather Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 11: AM at Mijares Mexican Restaurant, 145 Palmetto Dr., Pasadena. RSVP to Bonnie Gonzalez.

**Restaurant Gourmets** will gather May 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m., at Nano Cafe, 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. In June the gathering will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> at Chonito's, 2505 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra. Please call Deanna for more information.



**Creative Crafters** will gather via Zoom on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Upcoming dates are: May 4<sup>th</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, and August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Would you like to join us? For more information contact Jane Krause – jkbigdog517@gmail.com. Jane will be sending the Zoom link the day before the scheduled meeting.



## How to Zoom

Any device connected to the internet can be used to join a Zoom meeting, but you must have the Zoom application on that device. The basic version is free and can be installed from [Zoom](https://zoom.us) (zoom.us) or by clicking on the meeting link provided by the meeting host and following the prompts. Installation will take a few minutes, so if Zoom hasn't already been installed, link early. The Pasadena League of Women Voters has tips for mastering Zoom on their [website](https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWdVc6bo) (https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWdVc6bo.gmail)

Our branch email address is

[alhsangab44@gmail.com](mailto:alhsangab44@gmail.com)

Our branch website is

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