



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

The Mission Gateway

PRESIDENT'S PUSH



Joe DesBarres

Having just participated in our Branch's Tech Trek Luncheon on Saturday, I am upbeat. It was an event that honored the value and long-term effects of our brief yet bountiful journey with seventh grade Tech Trek girls. Listening to these articulate young women gives one great hope for the future.

Tech Trek provides the initial spark for many of these students to consider a life career in STEM, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Commendations to our Branch for having provided girls for decades such indelible educational experiences.

Will you as a Branch Member become part of designing our next Tech Trek phase? How? By serving on an ad hoc committee to develop the proposal for a Tech Trek Alumni Group. This is an opportunity to lend your knowledge, experience and values to further support and sustain this esteemed AAUW program. Come join us: <mailto:joedesbarres@gmail.com>

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“We Celebrate Together”

Monday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
201 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel
Fellowship Hall

Members of the Athena Women's Chorus of the Los Angeles Athletic Club will provide holiday music for our December meeting. The Athena Women's Chorus, directed by Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch, AAUW member Theresa Jolley, is a diverse group of professional women who join together to share their common interest in singing. They will share a variety of holiday music, including Go Tell It on the Mountain, A Holly Jolly Christmas, Santa Baby, Hine ma tov, some carol sing-alongs, and more. This is a great way to get into the holiday spirit. Friends and family are also invited to attend.

Members please bring some of your holiday favorites to share with the group.

Joe Des Barres, President • Marilee Wood, Secretary • Cheryl Plotkin, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor
Deanna Arthur, Program VP • Leticia Peralta, AAUW Fund VP • Veronica Alvarez, Membership 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.

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The President's PUSH...

Upcoming is our Annual Holiday Celebration on Monday, December 5th. Please Mark your Calendar now. Let us “gather together” in gratitude for all that we have and all we can share with our neighbors. We are advocates for our community and for them we shine a light.

And I would be remiss if I did not encourage all of us to vote on or before November 8th.

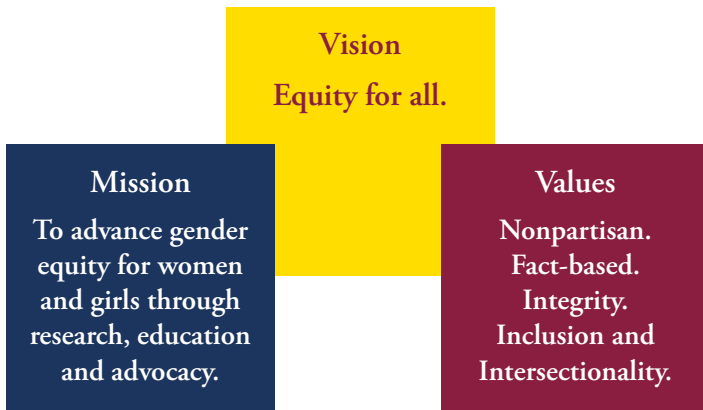
Voting is ... (please fill in your personal reason for never failing to vote).

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving on November 24th. We have so much to be thankful for!

Thank you...for all you do for AAUW and our Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch.

Think of it this way: You are the “U” in AAUW!

Joe



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.

Membership Corner

With open arms, we welcome Suzanne Mantell and Tina Vartanian to our AAUW family.



Dr. Tina M. Vartanian is the Principal of LACHSA (Los Angeles County High School for the Arts), the premiere preforming Art School. Tina is modest and humble, so I am taking the liberty of sharing her accolades. Tina holds a doctorate from USC, Thornton School of Music.

She has directed award-winning music ensembles in her 18 years of public school teaching, followed by Arts Coordinator positions in Beverly Hills Unified and then as LACOE's VAPA Coordinator. Tina is also an adjunct professor with the USC Rossier school MAT program. Tina's dear friend, Lovey Sherman, suggested that she join and she did without hesitation. Tina is honored to be a member!!!

Suzanne Mantell is originally from New York, but now loves California as much as the Big Apple. She is in the collectible book business and enjoys scouting for interesting books and finding people who want to buy them. Prior to opening her own business, she was an arts editor for magazines, weekly newspapers and a freelance writer for many years. When she discovered the goals of AAUW, she was so impressed that she signed up to be a part of this amazing group with such worthy goals. In her spare time, she loves gardening



Hope to see them both at our next event.

We will be venturing out of Alhambra for our next meet up which will take place on November 10th at 6:00 p.m. at Magnolia House, 492 S. Lake Avenue, Pasadena. Please come join us and be among friends for amazing food, cocktails and stimulating conversations – did I mention the cocktails?

Veronica

AAUW Fund

As I say in my elevator speech: “Did you know AAUW killed Madame Curie?” Many of you know, but for those of you that don’t, the AAUW Fund paid for one (1) gram of radium for Madame Curie’s research. The radioactivity ultimately led to her demise. AAUW Fund programs give young women opportunities that may lead them to be the next Madame Curie in their fields! Please consider the incredible impact your donation will make as you donate generously to AAUW Fund programs. And, as this is our last newsletter of the 2022 year, I encourage you to make your year-end donations to the Fund in enough time for National to process them for 2022 rather than 2023.

Please note, there is 1 more opportunity to hear some of this year’s AAUW Fellows on November 12th. Go aauw-ca.org then go to the Fund page and click register for the event. Hope to see some of your names on zoom.

Hope you are all safe and healthy and enjoy your family and friends over the holidays! Our next Fund Event has been scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2023.

Letty

Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and Her Sister



Let us prepare a semi-formal dinner for you and three of your friends at Kathleen’s home in Alhambra on May 13th (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@sbc-global.net.

All money and ticket stubs must be returned by the drawing on **April 22, 2023**. 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.



BRW SPECIAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

The committee met via Zoom and finalized plans for our next few projects. We invite all branch members to **donate new books**, in English or Spanish to the ten (10) preschoolers at *La Casa de San Gabriel* to hand out at their annual Christmas party. In addition, we have purchased fleece fabric to make simple **neck scarves for the adults**. You are also invited to donate your time to work with members of the Creative Crafters to make the scarves. (*They are REALLY easy! No knotting, just cutting.*) Here are two ways you can get the books to us:

1. The easiest way for you to donate books is to do it through Amazon or other on-line business that delivers. If you order them that way, ask that the book(s) be delivered to me, Betty Morín at 1280 Crest Vista Dr., Monterey Park, 91754.
2. Deliver to Kathleen Doty’s house by December 1, 2022.
3. Bring the book(s) to the December 5, 2022 Holiday meeting.

We have plans for two additional projects:

1. **JANUARY: “Socks for the Homeless”**: members will be asked to donate a package of warm socks to be donated to *Friends In Deed*, an agency that assists homeless men and women in the Western San Gabriel Valley.
2. **FEBRUARY: “Valentine’s Day Scarves and cards”**: scarves, and cards written by our committee and other branch members who might want to help. They will go to seniors living in Retirement/Convalescent/ Senior Citizen Communities.

We are off to a good start. If you have ideas for additional one-time community projects for us to consider, please share them with me at meromo44@gmail.com. Thank you,

Betty

2021-22 Legislative Session Closes with Big Wins for AAUW California

Kathi Harper, Chair
AAUW California Public Policy Committee

At the stroke of midnight on September 30, 2022, the 2021-22 legislative session officially came to a close as it marked the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. The AAUW California Public Policy committee is pleased to announce that we achieved a 70% success rate on the bills on our legislative agenda, and 25 of our 36 bills are now law, including 7 of our 8 top priority bills. The following is a brief synopsis, by each pillar of our Public Policy Priorities:

Economic Security for All Women

8 of our bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, and 1 died in the legislature. The most significant bill under this pillar was AB (Assembly Bill) 92, which we co-sponsored. AB 92 was introduced in 2020, and became a 2-year bill, which is why it remained on this year's agenda. This bill originally sought a 1-year waiver of supplemental child-care fees for low-income families, with a request for a sliding scale to be applied thereafter. In his 2021 budget, Governor Newsom included \$120 million for 2-years' worth of waivers. The bill was then amended to request an additional year of waivers through October 2024, with a sliding scale to then be implemented. Unfortunately, the amended bill was vetoed; however, we are still proud of the work we did to get those 2 years of waivers in the budget, so we still consider it a win!

Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students

6 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was approved by the legislature (no signature required) and 2 died in the legislature. Of particular note under this pillar are 3 of our top priority bills: AB 1968, which requires campuses to develop and post uniform guidelines for reporting sexual assault; AB 2881 which provides additional support for college students with dependent children; and AJR 23 (Assembly Joint Resolution), a Title IX 50th Anniversary Proclamation.

Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society

8 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was incorporated by the Governor into an Executive Order, 1 was approved by and 2 died in the legislature. We saw success on all 4 of our top priority bills in this area: AB 1666, which provides protection for those from other states seeking abortions in California, as well as for those providing services here, from the enforcement of a related civil judgment from their home state; SB (Senate Bill) 523, which requires insurance coverage for over-the-counter contraceptive products; SB 1375, which allows certified nurse-practitioners to perform some early-term abortions; and SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) 10. SCA 10 was introduced in the Senate as a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to enshrine in the California constitution the right to an abortion and to contraception. When this measure passed in the Senate, it became Proposition 1.

To see the results of all the bills on our 2021-22 legislative agenda, check out our webpage for a full agenda summary, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/results-of-2021-22-legislative-session.pdf/>, or to view our Bill Tracker, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/bill-tracking.pdf/>.

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE PLEDGE TO VOTE "YES" ON PROPOSITION 1!**

Elena



Update from Tech Trek

The October membership meeting was held October 15th and the 2022 Tech Trek campers gave a report about their experiences. There were 17 girls from the AAUW San Gabriel branch that attended this year. The week before we gathered the campers at the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library for a training session. We divided into two groups: those that attended Whittier College for the residential program and those that participated in the virtual program. Both programs stressed STEM curriculum. We had about 70 people attend, including most of the Tech Trek North and South campers and families.

Jane Krause

Tech Trek South Program Coordinator

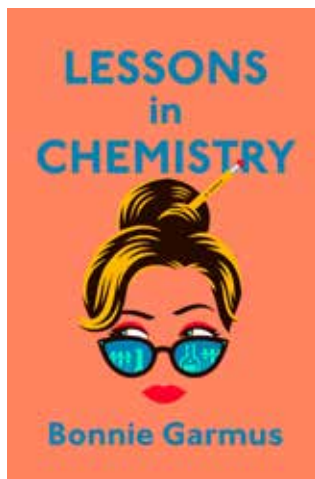


2022 Tech Trek Campers

Back Row: Keira (Jefferson Middle School), Tu (Ynez School), Ava (Repetto School),
Izabella (Macy I), Estefania (Eastmont I).
Middle Row: Nevaeh (La Merced I), Isabella (Brightwood School), Emily (Rosewood Park School).
Front Row: Nadine (Jefferson Middle School), Karen (Park School), Liani (Fremont School),
Kayla and Hannah (Monterey Highlands School).
Absent: Adriana (Suva I), Cameron & Marlee (Granada School), Mia (Park School),
Ritisha (Macy I).

BOOKS

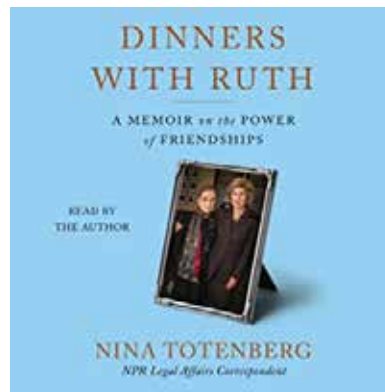
Day Books will meet Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. In December the meeting will be Wednesday, December 21, at 2:00 p.m., location to be determined, to review Dinners With Ruth; A Memoir on the Power of Friendships by Nina Totenberg.



Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.



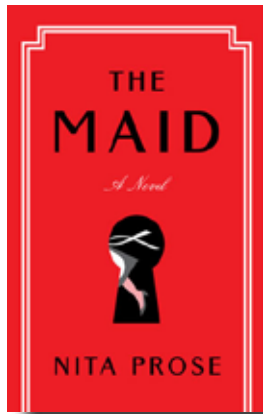
Four years before Nina Totenberg was hired at NPR, where she cemented her legacy as a prizewinning reporter, and nearly twenty-two years before Ruth Bader Ginsburg was appointed to the Supreme Court, Nina called Ruth. A reporter for *The National*

Observer, Nina was curious about Ruth's legal brief, asking the Supreme Court to do something revolutionary: declare a law that discriminated "on the basis of sex" to be unconstitutional. In a time when women were fired for becoming pregnant, often could not apply for credit cards or get a mortgage in their own names, Ruth patiently explained her argument. That call launched a remarkable, nearly fifty-year friendship.

Dinners with Ruth is an extraordinary account of two women who paved the way for future generations by tearing down professional and legal barriers. It is also an **intimate** memoir of the power of friendships as women began to pry open career doors and transform the workplace. At the story's heart is one, special relationship: Ruth and Nina saw each other not only through personal joys, but also illness, loss, and widowhood. During the devastating illness and eventual death of Nina's first husband, Ruth drew her out of grief; twelve years later, Nina would reciprocate when Ruth's beloved husband died. They shared not only a love of opera, but also of shopping, as they instinctively understood that clothes were armor for women who wanted to be taken seriously in a workplace dominated by men. During Ruth's last year, they shared so many small dinners that Saturdays were "reserved for Ruth" in Nina's house.

Dinners with Ruth also weaves together compelling, personal portraits of other fascinating women and men from Nina's life, including her cherished NPR colleagues Cokie Roberts and Linda Wertheimer; her beloved husbands; her friendships with multiple Supreme Court Justices, including Lewis Powell, William Brennan, and Antonin Scalia, and Nina's own family—her father, the legendary violinist Roman Totenberg, and her "best friends," her sisters. Inspiring and revelatory, *Dinners with Ruth* is a moving story of the joy and true meaning of friendship.

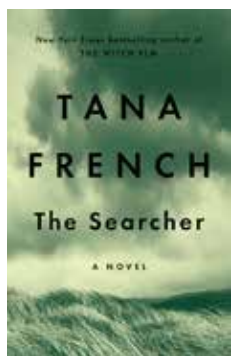
Evening Books will gather Monday night, 7:00 p.m., November 28th at Kathleen Doty's home to review The Maid by Nita Prose. The date for the December meeting is not yet set, but the book to review is The Searcher by Tana French.



Molly Gray is not like everyone else. She struggles with social skills and misreads the intentions of others. Her gran used to interpret the world for her, codifying it into simple rules that Molly could live by.

Since Gran died a few months ago, twenty-five-year-old Molly has been navigating life's complexities all by herself. No matter—she throws herself with gusto into her work as a hotel maid. Her unique character, along with her obsessive love of cleaning and proper etiquette, make her an ideal fit for the job. She delights in donning her crisp uniform each morning, stocking her cart with miniature soaps and bottles, and returning guest rooms at the Regency Grand Hotel to a state of perfection.

But Molly's orderly life is upended the day she enters the suite of the infamous and wealthy Charles Black, only to find it in a state of disarray and Mr. Black himself dead in his bed. Before she knows what's happening, Molly's unusual demeanor has the police targeting her as their lead suspect. She quickly finds herself caught in a web of deception, one she has no idea how to untangle. Fortunately for Molly, friends she never knew she had unite with her in a search for clues to what really happened to Mr. Black—but will they be able to find the real killer before it's too late?



Retired detective Cal Hooper moves to a remote village in rural Ireland. His plans are to fix up the dilapidated cottage he's bought, to walk the mountains, to put his old police instincts to bed forever.

Then a local boy appeals to him for help. His brother is missing, and no one in the village, least of all the police, seems to care. And once again, Cal feels that restless itch.

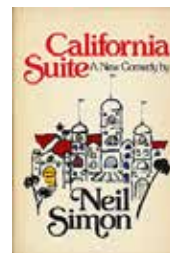
Something is wrong in this community, and he must find out what, even if it brings trouble to his door.

DRAMA

Drama will gather on the 14th of November at Kathleen Doty's home to read The Nerd by Larry Shue. In December, Drama will meet on the 12th, also at Kathleen's to read California Suite by Neil Simon.



Now an aspiring young architect in Terre Haute, Indiana, ex-GI Willum Cubbert has often told his friends about the debt he owes to Rick Steadman, a fellow ex-GI whom he has never met but who saved his life after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. He has written to Rick to say that, as long as he is alive, "you will have somebody on Earth who will do anything for you," so Willum is delighted when Rick shows up unexpectedly at his apartment on the night of his thirty-fourth birthday party. But his delight soon fades as it becomes apparent that Rick is a hopeless "nerd," a bumbling oaf with no social sense, little intelligence, and even less tact. Rick stays on and on, his continued presence among Willum and his friends leading to one uproarious incident after another, until the normally placid Willum finds himself contemplating violence, a dire development which, happily, is staved off by the surprising "twist" ending of the play.



A humorous confection divided into four parts: In "Visitor from New York", Hannah Warren is a Manhattan workaholic who flies to Los Angeles to retrieve her teenage daughter Jenny after she leaves home to live with her successful screenwriter father William. The bickering, divorced couple is forced to decide what living arrangements are best for the girl.

Conservative, middle-aged businessman Marvin Michaels is the "Visitor from Philadelphia", who awakens to discover a prostitute named Bunny unconscious in his bed after consuming a bottle of vodka. With his wife Millie on her way up to the suite, he must find a way to conceal all traces of his uncharacteristic indiscretion.

The "Visitors from London" are British actress Diana Nichols, a first-time nominee for the Academy Award for Best Actress, and her husband Sidney, a once-closeted antique dealer who increasingly has become indiscreet about his sexual orientation. The Oscar is an honor that could revive her faltering career, but Diana knows she doesn't have a chance of winning. She is in deep denial about the true nature of her marriage of convenience, and as she prepares for her moment in the spotlight, her mood fluctuates from hope to panic to despair.

The "Visitors from Chicago" are two affluent couples who are best friends. Stu Franklyn and his wife Gert and Mort Hollender and his wife Beth are taking a much-needed vacation together. Things begin to unravel quickly when Beth is hurt during a tennis match, and Mort accuses Stu of causing her injury.

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Monday, November 7th 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, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. at Magnolia House, 492 S. Lake Avenue, Pasadena. Details can be found on Meetup, or call Veronica or Deanna closer to the date.



Day Books will meet Wednesday, November 16th at 3:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. And, Wednesday, December 21st at 2:00 PM, location TBD. See

book information on page 6.

Evening Books will meet Monday, November 28th and December 26th. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information. See book information on page 7.



Every Member Event: Hope to see you at the branch meeting on December 5th at 7:00 PM. 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 on November 14th and December 12th at 7:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. See page 7 for information on the plays to be read.

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 November 5th at 11:00 AM at Kathleen Doty's home. Kathleen Doty, hostess.

Restaurant Gourmets will gather December 10th at 6 p.m., at Dolan's Uyghur Cuisine, 742 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, 91803. RSVP to Deanna Arthur.



Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. November 2nd is a bit different. We will meet at 2:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's house to work on scarves. See the BRW report on page 3 for more information. December 7th will be back to 3:00 PM. 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

Our branch website is

alhsangab-ca.aauw.net

Our MeetUp.com page is

[Am. Assoc. Univ. Women -- Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Pk](https://www.meetup.com/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)