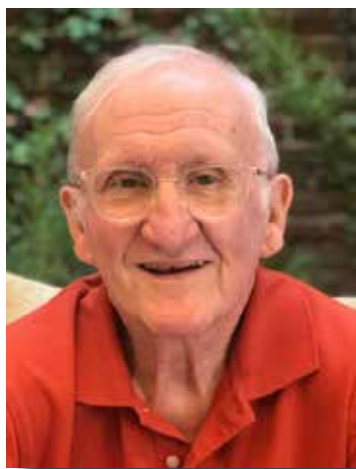




Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

# The Mission Gateway

## President's PUSH



Joe DesBarres

We find ourselves ending 2022...on the cusp of 2023!

A quote by Goethe describes our Branch nearly perfectly:

*"Knowing is not enough; We must apply. Willing is not enough; We must do."*

### In Our Branch:

- We educate ourselves on **California and National Public Policy**, and communicate with our elected officials;
- We know how underrepresented women are in STEM fields so we sponsor nearly 20 young women annually in our **Tech Trek** Program;
- We celebrate the importance of reading by honoring a published writer at our annual **Author's Luncheon**;
- We provide books through our **Colorful Stories** Project that are ethnically and culturally relevant to elementary school children in our community;

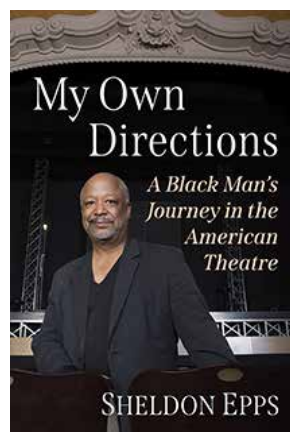
*continued on Page 2*

### TIME FOR A CELEBRATION!

Join us for the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch AAUW

## AUTHOR'S LUNCHEON

The Program Committee is pleased to announce that the speaker is: **Sheldon Epps!** Mr. Epps spent two decades at the Pasadena Playhouse as its artistic director and has recently published:



*"Sheldon Epps' journey in the American theatre has been amplified by his experience as a Black man who has frequently been "one of the few," "the first" or even "the only." The book details how he came into leadership at the Pasadena Playhouse."* Mr. Epps made diversity a priority onstage.

Please don't miss this opportunity to see a legend.

Saturday, January 21, 2023; 11:30 AM  
First United Methodist Church  
201 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel  
Fellowship Hall  
Cost: \$19.50

Reservation form and menu on page 4.

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.

continued from Page 1

## The President's PUSH...

- We sponsor **Speech Trek** every February to engage high school students in a creative public speaking competition on a substantive social issue;
- We offer an **AAUW scholarship at East Los Angeles College** to a student from one of our area's high schools who is transferring to a 4-year institution;
- We, via our **Brave Resilient Women Project (BRW)**, produced a live program & video highlighting women in history who pushed society's boundaries, making the world better. Our **BRW video** ensures that women's education and advocacy will continue;
- We donate to National **AAUW Fund** to further advocate for Women and Girls;
- We provided more than 100 books to preschoolers, as well as scarves for them and their parents, at **La Casa de San Gabriel Preschool** (December 2022)—under the auspices of BRW and our **Creative Crafters** Interest Group;
- We offer an organized array of **Interest Groups** available to all members for social, educational, creative pursuits.

These accomplishments will only continue with your encouragement and involvement because YOU are the WE in the above bullet points. As you can see, our Branch is powerfully and visibly “Knowing and Doing” in the communities we serve. And while we do much, there is much left to do. For example, initiating an organized Tech Trek Alumnae Group to expand our influence with our former campers so they may eventually become future AAUW STEM proponents and leaders.

As we begin 2023, I recall President John F Kennedy's oft-quoted challenge. Let's rephrase it as, “Ask not what your community can do for you; ask what you can do for your community.”

I wish you and your loved ones Peace, Joy and Happiness in this New Year!

Joe

## Membership Corner

Here is to 2023 bringing all our members a healthy and prosperous New Year. With open arms, let's welcome the newest member of our AAUW family.

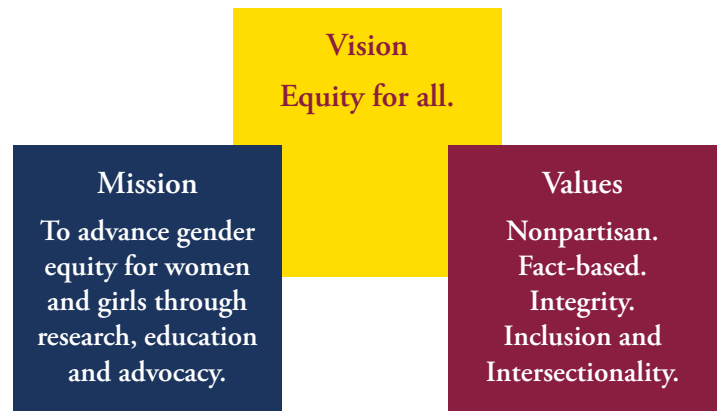


Joann Wong is the proud owner of Joann Wong Mortgage Group located in Monterey Park. She has two wonderful boys and enjoys hiking, playing pickleball or just simply enjoying some good wine with friends. She saw the information about AAUW in

the newspaper and believes she finally found a community where she can connect with other professionals to help a new generation of female entrepreneurs. Joann graduated school from China and currently holds multiple business certificates in the US.

Let's start 2023 with a BANG. Please join us at our meet up on January 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Vino's Back Alley, located at 10 N. 1st Street, Alhambra. Everyone is welcome to join us. Bring a friend.

Veronica



### 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

As we start the New Year, I would like to thank all our members who gave to the Fund in 2022. I will let you know the percentage of our members that supported the Fund later in the year as there is always a big influx in the 4th quarter. When you are making donations to the Fund, you get to decide where you want your Funds to be spent, you may choose the greatest needs fund (letting National decide where to spend the money depending on their greatest need) or you may choose to give it to unfinished fellowships. These are just two (2) of the options available, contact me for additional options. In addition to the Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister, we will be doing a branch fundraiser before the year is over. Stay tuned for more information.

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 13<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@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

## Children's Books Donation to *La Casa de San Gabriel* Preschoolers

Thank you for donating approximately 100 new books to fill each of the 12 students' handcrafted book bags with 9 books each. In addition to the new books, we also presented approximately 50 gently used books for use in the classroom library. Below are photos some of the branch's Special Community Outreach Projects committee members working on the last stages of the project and another of committee members delivering the books on Tuesday, December 13.



Our next project is *Socks for the Homeless*. We ask you to bring new, warm socks to the January 21, 2023 Author's Luncheon so that we can deliver them to Friends In Deed, an organization that assists San Gabriel Valley individuals who find themselves homeless.

Betty

**From Our AAUW CA Public Policy Committee**  
**Lobby Days are Here Again....**

Save the Dates .... **March 21<sup>st</sup> and March 22<sup>nd</sup>**, are the AAUW CA scheduled Lobby Days, so mark your calendars and be sure to sign up to participate when our Lobby Day registration arrives in your January mailbox.

Advocating for our top 3 priority bills is fundamental to achieving our legislative priorities by addressing economic security for all women, providing equal access to public education and insuring social and racial justice for all members of society. We need all members on board and will be counting on you to reach out to our elected officials in the CA legislature.

Our Public Policy Committee will make it easy for you to do so. This year instead of a full week, Lobby Day will consist of two days and will occur while the legislature is in session, not on break. Hopefully, more opportunity to actually speak with a member in lieu of a staffer. Our plans are to make it hybrid – virtual and in-person. Those branches in and around Sacramento would have the option of in-person meetings at the Capitol with the remaining branches meeting virtually or in-person with staffers in the district. So, a bit more flexibility this year as the committee feels it's beneficial to establish relationships with our elected leaders' local staff.

Our AAUW legislative Advocate will be scheduling meetings with the member offices willing to participate, and once you return your Lobby Day survey, the committee will begin to assemble branch participants and match them with Assembly and Senate districts in order to assign teams. We will provide you with material on the bills we are supporting and schedule a mandatory training webinar for March 20th, so you'll have the information at your fingertips. If you have participated in Lobby Day in the past, we would love to hear from you on what worked and what didn't, please send your comments to [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org).

Lobby Day is our chance to make a concerted impact on the priorities and values we, as AAUW members, hold dear. It brings out the "advocates" in all us for improving the economic and educational lives of women and girls. And goodness knows, we need that commitment now more than ever. So, mark those calendars and join us on Lobby Day/s.

*Elena*

**Yes, I want to attend the Author's Luncheon on January 21<sup>st</sup>!**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ lunches for me and my guests.

**Lunch includes:**

Meatballs in sauce                      Baked ziti with ricotta in marinara sauce  
Classic tossed green salad      Rolls/butter  
Assorted cookies

My name: \_\_\_\_\_, My guests' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$19.50 x # lunches)

Send to: Deanna Arthur  
1608 S. Atlantic Blvd.  
Alhambra, CA 91803



# TECH TREK



## TECH TREK NORTH AND SOUTH UPDATE 2023

Tech Trek 2023 is up and running, and both Jane Krause and Rozanne Child have been in contact with our schools with the information we know at this time. Did you know that Tech Trek is 25 years old? Dr. Mimi, State Tech Trek Director is encouraging branches to think about ways they could celebrate Tech Trek's 25th anniversary and what it has meant to the branches and the campers.

Tech Trek has a new logo created and submitted by McKenna Rose, a 2022 camper selected from the 5 Cities-Pismo Beach Branch. Congratulations McKenna on your brilliant design and passion.

Tech Trek is using a new online system called CAMPDOC which should be easier for schools, parents, campers and the Branch Coordinators to navigate. Jane Krause filled out a survey and sent it to AAUW CA with the number of campers our branch wants to send to Tech Trek. We will have to wait until after January 20th before we know the specific number of camp allocations for our branch and the new fees. Dr. Mimi will follow up with a formal email to confirm the branch allocations and cost.

In the meantime, thanks to all branch members for their continued commitment to and support of Tech Trek.

Rozanne Child  
Tech Trek Branch Coordinator North

## DRAMA

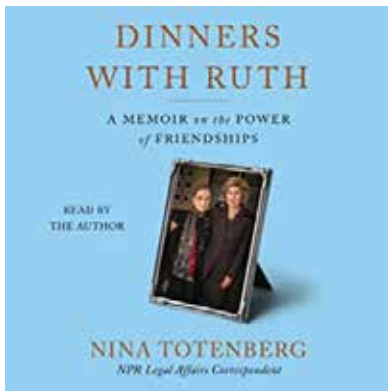
Drama will gather on the 9th of January at Kathleen Doty's home to read The Thirteenth Chair by Bayard Veiller



Helen O'Neill is engaged to wealthy Will Crosby. At a party at the Crosby home, an eccentric Irish medium has been invited to hold a séance. The woman is Helen's mother and she persuades Helen not to tell the group in order to spare Helen embarrassment. In the course of the séance, while all doors and windows to the room are locked, a man is killed. The police are unable to locate either murderer or weapon. Suspicion falls on Helen and her mother is worried. Many surprising developments ensue before the real criminal is unmasked by the clever medium. An unusual and thrilling play. First produced in 1916. (Mystery; 10 m., 7 f.)

# BOOKS

**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review [Dinners With Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships](#) by Nina Totenberg.



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 curi-

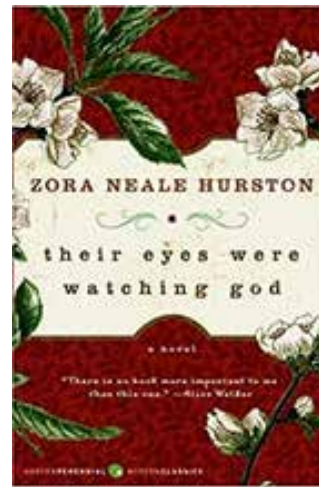
ous about Ruth's legal brief, asking the Supreme Court to do something revolutionary: declare a law that discriminated "on the basis of sex" to be unconstitutional. In a time when women were fired for becoming pregnant, often could not apply for credit cards or get a mortgage in their own names, Ruth 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, includ-

ing 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., January 23rd at Delora Brown's home to review [Their Eyes Were Watching God](#) by Zora Neale Hurston.



Fair and long-legged, independent and articulate, Janie Crawford sets out to be her own person—no mean feat for a black woman in the '30s. Janie's quest for identity takes her through three marriages and into a journey back to her roots.

# ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

**Board Meeting** Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</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, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Vino's Back Alley, 10 N 1<sup>st</sup> St., Alhambra. Details can be found on Meetup, or call Veronica or Deanna closer to the date.



**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. See book information on page 6.

**Evening Books** will meet Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Delora Brown's home at 7:00 PM. See book information on page 6.



**Every Member Event:** Hope to see you at the branch meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:30 AM. 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 January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. See page 5 for information on the play to be read.



**Professional Women Gourmets** will gather January 7th. Valerie Siegel, hostess.

**Restaurant Gourmets** will gather January 28th at 6 p.m., contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



**Creative Crafters** will gather via Zoom on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Next meeting, January 4<sup>th</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#.XzMUWd-Vc6bo.gmail) (https://my.lwv.org/california/pasadena/article/zoom-tips#.XzMUWd-Vc6bo.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](#)

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.