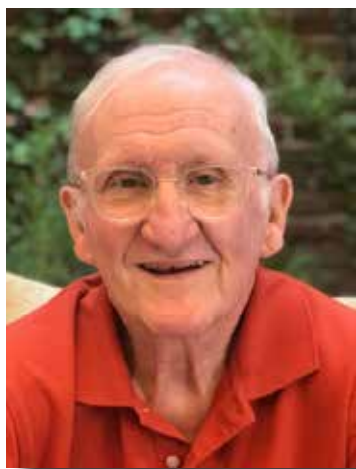




Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

The Mission Gateway

President's



Joe DesBarres

PUSH

Here we are finishing the first month of 2023.

Over the next few weeks, join your branch colleagues to sustain the leadership of the branch. The Nominating Committee is actively engaged in deriving a slate of officers for the Board of Directors election at our April

Annual Meeting. Seize this opportunity to continue the breadth and depth of our programs by adding your name to the slate. See the January Mission Gateway for a listing of our current programs.

And as many of us do when the new year begins, we want to live in a better world.

I envision and take to heart the words of Dr Jane Goodall:

"You cannot not be depressed if you look around at the problems of the world.

That's why the message is—

Don't think globally. Act locally.

Act locally first—

See that you can make a difference.

And when you see that—

You make a difference."

continued on Page 2



Join us

Saturday,

February 18, 2023

1:00 PM

Prado Room,

Joslyn Center, Story Park

210 N. Chapel Ave., Alhambra

to hear local high school students answer the following question:

How can communities, organizations and citizens of all ages help protect and expand voting rights?

The annual Speech Trek competition promises to be interesting and make us think! Hope to see all of you there!

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...

At this juncture, I thought it valuable to pose some questions for us to answer:

1. What additional opportunities exist for our branch to make a difference for women and girls in our local communities?
2. What would make our branch more attractive to you and potential new members?
3. Is there anything you feel we are not doing but could be doing?
4. Is there anything you feel we are doing but need not be doing?

Please take some time to let your dreams and ideas see the light of day!

You may send an email or contact me by US Mail. Please do so ASAP.

Thank you.

Joe

<mailto:joedesbarres@gmail.com>

Joe Des Barres
4315 San Rafael Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Membership Corner

2023 has brought us a new member. With open arms, let's welcome:



Tiffany White. Tiffany is currently a doctorate student of education at UCLA. She is originally from Buffalo, NY and moved to Los Angeles with her husband, daughter, and two cats in 2021. Tiffany is a former teacher of 6 years both in California and in New York. Supporting students and teachers through research and activism is her career aspiration. She became interested in AAUW when she discovered that the mission and values

of AAUW perfectly matches her own. She is excited to learn more about AAUW and our branch and hopes that she can contribute and grow with our community.

Please join us at our meet up on February 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at Limerick's Tavern, located at 300 W. Main Street, #110 in 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 15th of the month prior to the intended month of publication.

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.

AAUW Fund

In February I would like to remind you that the AAUW Fund is the heart of AAUW! Your donations and support of the Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her sister and other fund raisers go a long way to keeping the heart beating. So far, sales of raffle tickets for this year's Gourmet Gala are a bit slow. Get in on the action – contact Kathleen Doty to purchase your chance to win a spectacular dinner for you and your 3 best friends. Keep in mind that the AAUW Fund awards almost \$4,000,000 every year in scholarships, fellowships, and community action grants. The Fund also sponsors leadership opportunities such as the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders as well as working to close the pay gap through programs such as Start Smart and Work Smart. The Fund is fundamental to the mission of AAUW!

And a bit of AAUW Fund trivia: Did you know that Tech Trek was started with a Community Action Grant from the precursor of the Fund, the Educational Foundation?

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 Outreach Committee Update

Thank you to those who donated warm socks to homeless individuals in the San Gabriel Valley. With gratitude, *Friends in Deed* graciously received them and will distribute them as needed. We are now on to our next project which is to deliver Valentine's Day cards to the approximately 90 patients at the Monterey Park Convalescent Hospital. Along with a short message, they will be signed, *Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch, American Association of University Women*.

Betty

We Have a Nominating Committee!!!

It's a pleasure to announce the **2023-2024 Nominating Committee** has been elected by the Branch Membership at the January 21st Authors Luncheon Meeting.

The honor is ours to welcome aboard: **Rozanne Child, Virginia Orenos, Lovey Sherman, Theresa Jolley** and immediate past president **Elena Velarde** who will chair this critically important committee! Their task is to forge the slate of officers to helm the 2023-24 Alhambra-San Gabriel Board of Directors.

We thank them profusely and wish them great success in the weeks ahead. Their efforts will set the stage for the Election of New Officers at our Annual Meeting in April.

FEBRUARY 2023 PUBLIC POLICY FOCUS

AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History for Black History Month

Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Many Black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month we celebrate the achievements of but a few:

Sojourner Truth, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797-1883).

Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (age 15) helped initiate the Civil Rights movement by refusing to give up their seats to white men on Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions inspired and resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.

Dorothy Jean Dandridge was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Carmen Jones* (1954).

Katherine Johnson, a brilliant mathematician, was one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle. (1958-1986)

Madam C.J. Walker was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911-1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. She hired 40,000 "ambassadors" to sell her products.

Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first Black candidate to run for president in the 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

Mae Jemison became the first Black woman to fly to space on the space shuttle Endeavour. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987.

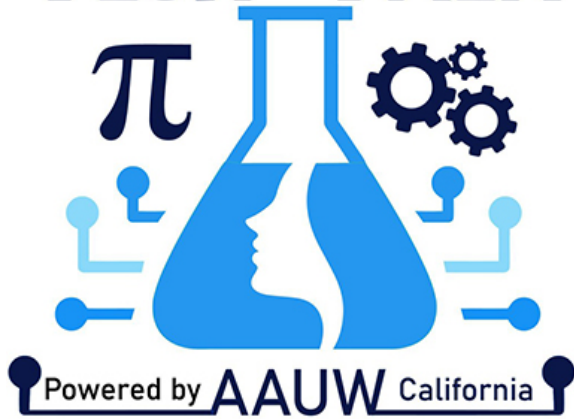
Toni Morrison released her novel *Beloved* in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Oprah Winfrey, born into poverty in rural Mississippi to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and philanthropist, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only black billionaire.

Wishes for a safe, healthy and joyous New Year!

Elena

TECH TREK



Update from Tech Trek

The 2023 Tech Trek program is moving forward. Our branch has submitted our MOU and requested a total of 17 campers: 11 residential and 6 virtual. We have received most of the necessary documents for the 2023 year. There is a new software system being used this year and it will hopefully be ready by the end of January. Both TT North and TT South will be contacting the schools the end of the January to begin the recruitment process. This process will be done totally on-line. If you would like to donate to our branch Tech Trek contact either Jane Krause or Rozanne Child.

Jane Krause
Tech Trek South Program Coordinator

DRAMA

Drama will gather on the 13th of February at Kathleen Doty's home to read The School for Wives by Molière.



Arnolphe is a rich man of 50 years who has delayed taking a wife for fear of being cuckolded, but now plans to wed the ward he has educated in convents and kept innocent of the ways of the world. But Agnes' innocence is his undoing. When a young man tips his hat to her on the street, she curtsies. One can meet a lot of swains that way. At length she and Horace fall in love, and Horace confides in Arnolphe how he is pulling the wool over the eyes of Agnes' guardian not knowing that Arnolphe is that man. With this information, Arnolphe should have been able to nip the romance in the bud, but Agnes' innocence and naivete always confound him. At length, Her father, thought dead, returns and announces his intention to wed her to the son of a friend and this happens to be Horace. Arnolphe is congratulated in the end for his pains in raising Agnes so well, and for his success in again avoiding matrimony. (Comedy, 6m./2f.)

BOOKS

Day Books will meet Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult.



Diana O'Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She's not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galápagos—days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time.

But then a virus that felt worlds away has appeared in the city, and on the eve of their departure, Finn breaks the news: It's all hands on deck at the hospital. He has to stay behind. You should still go, he assures her, since it would be a shame for all of their nonrefundable trip to go to waste. And so, reluctantly, she goes.

Almost immediately, Diana's dream vacation goes awry. The whole island is now under quarantine, and she is stranded until the borders reopen. Completely isolated, she must venture beyond her comfort zone. Slowly, she carves out a connection with a local family when a teenager with a secret opens up to Diana, despite her father's suspicion of outsiders.

Diana finds herself examining her relationships, her choices, and herself—and wondering if when she goes home, she too will have evolved into someone completely different.

Evening Books will gather Monday night, 7:00 p.m., February 27th, location to be determined, to review Finding Me by Viola Davis.



In my book, you will meet a little girl named Viola who ran from her past until she made a life-changing decision to stop running forever.

This is my story, from a crumbling apartment in Central Falls, Rhode Island, to the stage in New York City, and beyond. This is the path I took to finding my purpose but also my voice in a world that didn't always see me.

As I wrote *Finding Me*, my eyes were open to the truth of how our stories are often not given close examination. We are forced to reinvent them to fit into a crazy, competitive, judgmental world. So I wrote this for anyone running through life untethered, desperate and clawing their way through murky memories, trying to get to some form of self-love. For anyone who needs reminding that a life worth living can only be born from radical honesty and the courage to shed facades and be . . . you.

Finding Me is a deep reflection, a promise, and a love letter of sorts to self. My hope is that my story will inspire you to light up your own life with creative expression and rediscover who you were before the world put a label on you.

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Monday, February 6th 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, February 16th at 6:00 p.m. at Limerick's Tavern, 3000 W Main St., Alhambra. Details can be found on Meetup, or call Veronica or Deanna closer to the date.



Day Books will meet Wednesday, February 15th 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, February 27th, location TBD at 7:00 PM. See book information on page 6.



Every Member Event: Hope to see you at Speech Trek on February 18th at 1:00 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 February 13th 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 February 4th. Sandy Jelinek, hostess.

Restaurant Gourmets will gather February 25th at 6 p.m., at Don Ricardo's Grill, 200 E. Foothill Blvd., Arcadia. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Next meeting, February 1st. 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

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](#)

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.