

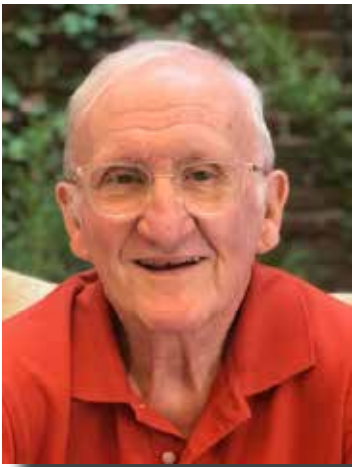


Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

The Mission Gateway

PRESIDENT'S

PUSH



Joe DesBarres

I hope this finds you well and thriving.

With the election of new officers at our Annual Meeting on April 15th, and an engaging, perhaps provocative presentation by Doña Oxford, we have nearly reached the end of our AAUW Branch Fiscal Year. But not quite!

The **Installation of the 2023-24 Elected Officers** will take place on Saturday, May 20th via Zoom. All Branch Members will receive an invitation to attend via an Email Blast.

Also, the Membership Committee will conduct a **New Member Orientation** on Saturday, June 10th at 1:30 PM at Kathleen Doty's home. New Members will receive invitations to attend.

The coming year presents us a challenge to step up our advocacy for women and girls. We are at a time in history that sees innumerable scenarios of discord, mistrust, conflict and the like. But AAUW through its Membership has never shied away from challenges, reaching back to 1881 when those brave, resilient women founded AAUW in Boston.

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2023-2024 INSTALLATION OF BRANCH OFFICERS

Come Greet and Meet our 2023-24 Board of Directors. Hear what they bring to us for next year!

At the Branch Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 15th, via Zoom, the 2023-24 Officers were elected unanimously by the attending Membership. We are fortunate to have a combination of new and experienced leadership this year!

- President: Joe DesBarres
- President-Elect: Marilee Wood
- Treasurer: Tiffany White
- Secretary: Marilee Wood
- VP Membership: Veronica Alvarez
- VP Fund: Deanna Arthur
- Co-VPs Program: Jacqueline Fisher & Suzanne Mantell

These Officers will be installed on Saturday, May 20th from 11:00 AM to Noon—via ZOOM.

An invitation can be found on page 4. The Zoom link will be sent to all Branch Members via Email Blast.

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...

This coming year will see an expansion of Tech Trek as our Branch develops and implements a program to stay in touch, encourage, motivate and mentor our Tech Trek Campers. These young girls, soon to be young women of high school and university age, are the future of AAUW. They are also the future of this country and the world. Their involvement, leadership and accomplishments in society present us the best hope for a world attuned to its own survival and to its increasing commitment to **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging** (DEIB).

The coming year also challenges us to let our elected representatives know what we individually and collectively believe. Writing our thoughts to legislators (local, state and national) includes us in the legislative mix of advocating DEIB for women and girls. Achieving equity will only occur when "we are all in."

Now is the time to let your voice ring out. Join with all those of AAUW's Membership.

"We may not have it all together [right now], but TOGETHER we [will] have it all."

Joe

Colorful Stories Wins State Activity of the Year!

Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch's project, Colorful Stories, was selected as *the* AAUW CA Activity of the Year. Twenty-eight branch activities were submitted for consideration and Alhambra-San Gabriel came out on top! The award comes with a monetary prize of \$200 – a welcome addition to the funds for future school years. Thank you to all who have contributed to this project.

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

Fellow AAUW members:

I was looking forward to our in-person annual membership meeting so that we all could finally meet our newest members. Fate had other plans.

We all joined AAUW as we believe in its mission statement – to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Whether we see each other in person or not, all that matters is that we remain active.

We will be having our "new" member orientation meeting (AAUW Basic Training) on June 10, 2023 from 1:30 – 4:00 pm at the home of Kathleen Doty. Newer members will receive an invitation. All are welcome to attend.

Veronica

Important news from the Treasurer

The Branch starts its new year, July 1 and **it's time to renew your dues!** The dues rate for 2023-24 is **\$113** (\$72 National, \$20 State and \$21 Branch).

National will be sending reminders starting April 24. The reminders will explain how to pay your dues on line or give you the options of sending your check for the \$113 to the Branch. If you elect the Branch option, please make the check out to AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel and mail the checks to the following address:

AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel
Care of: Cheryl Plotkin
Branch Treasurer
201 S. Golden West Ave
Arcadia, CA 91007

Thanks. If you have questions please contact me, 626-755-9065

Cheryl

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

It's Deanna filling in for Letty!

Just wanted to bring you up to date on the what's happening with the Fund. As many of you know, the processing company AAUW National uses for checks has been extremely slow and careless. If you wish to donate (hopefully you still do), please do it electronically. Make sure to enter our branch # CA-0001 so the branch gets the credit for the donation.

AAUW CA raised \$506,133.00 in 2022. Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch was #10 in per capita giving in California (out of 119 branches). I can't tell you how proud I am of our small and mighty Branch!

Have a great summer! We look forward to a great new AAUW year.

Deanna

Speech Trek 2023 Results

The results are in! We learned on Saturday, April 22nd, that Elizabeth Ma, Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch Speech Trek winner, took Second Place in the AAUW CA statewide competition! Of course, branch members who attended the AAUW CA Annual Meeting on Zoom thought she should have been first. Even so, we are extremely proud of Elizabeth and congratulate her on her success!



Elizabeth Ma



Tech Trek Update

I would like to begin this Update by saying thank you and congratulations to the Tech Trek Selection Committees for both the North and South. Many hours were spent reading the Tech Trek applications, teacher recommendations, essays and even more hours interviewing the girls and making the final selections to attend camp. In addition, congratulations to the girls selected to attend camp. They had a tough job too, getting teacher recommendations, writing the essay, interviewing with the selection committees, and navigating the CAMPDOC online program and submitting all the required documents. Job well done campers and parents!

Tech Trek South is sending eight campers to the Whittier residential camp and three to the Virtual Camp. TT South would like to thank three organizations for contributing to Tech Trek, the Eastside Optimist Club, Monterey Park Women's Club, Friends of MUSD Foundation (Montebello Unified School District and individual donors.

Tech Trek North is sending two girls to Whittier, two girls to Santa Barbara and two girls to the Virtual Camp. Tech Trek North would like to thank Ralph's Market and individual branch donors for their contributions.

In conclusion, we can all be proud of the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch and their continued support and commitment to Tech Trek.

Rozanne Child
Branch Coordinator Alhambra-San Gabriel North



Let's Welcome Our New Board
Via Zoom

INSTALLATION
AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel
2023-24 Branch Officers

Saturday – May 20, 2023

Social: 10:45 AM

Meeting: 11:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

RSVP your attendance to Joe Des Barres
<mailto:joedesbarres@gmail.com>



PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

FOR THE STATE PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE, MARCH DEFINITELY ROARED IN LIKE A LION!

This month has certainly kept the Public Policy Committee on our toes! As a result, AAUW California members now have 30 bills that are being advocated for in the state legislature. Members visited 57 legislative offices to advocate for the top three of those bills during Lobby Days. We will also have the chance to vote on 11 proposed changes that have been made to the Public Policy Priorities.

Our Bill Tracker chart has been posted on the Public Policy page of the AAUW California website and can be viewed [HERE](#).

Thanks to the 120 members from 56 branches who participated in Lobby Days. If you were a Team Leader, please be sure to get your Report Back form to the Public Policy Committee ASAP if you haven't done so already.

Finally, the committee wants to thank all the members who took the time to weigh in on updates to our Public Policy Priorities for 2023-25. The committee has reviewed all 466 comments and agreed on 11 modifications based on members' input. Not all suggestions were incorporated for a variety of reasons. Our three main criteria for edits were:

- Is it within our mission?
- Does it address a new issue germane to current circumstances?
- Would adding it inform the public as to an important AAUW California position, provide guidance for the Public Policy Committee on forming our Legislative Agenda, and/or provide guidance to our membership in shaping their branches' public policy positions and programs?

Many suggestions did not meet one or more of these criteria and were therefore not incorporated. The Board of Directors has approved the suggested changes and it is now up to members to vote yes or no.

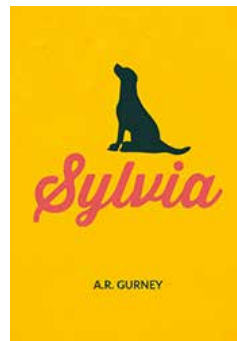
Elena

DRAMA

Drama will gather on the 8th of May at Kathleen Doty's home to read Anne of the Thousand Days by Maxwell Anderson. In June, Drama will meet on the 12th, also at Kathleen Doty's home to read Sylvia by A.R. Gurney.



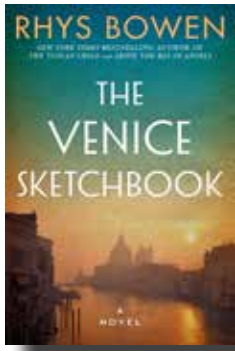
This beautiful presentation of the story of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn is played against the well-known historical background of the Court of Henry. Romantic Drama/11m,5f



Greg and Kate have moved to Manhattan after twenty-two years of child-raising in the suburbs. Greg's career as a financial trader is winding down, while Kate's career, as a public-school English teacher, is beginning to offer her more opportunities. Greg brings home a dog he found in the park or that has found him bearing only the name "Sylvia" on her name tag. A street-smart mixture of Lab and Poodle, Sylvia becomes a major bone of contention between husband and wife. She offers Greg an escape from the frustrations of this job and the unknowns of middle age. To Kate, Sylvia becomes a rival for affection. And Sylvia thinks Kate just doesn't understand the relationship between man and dog. The marriage is put in serious jeopardy until, after a series of hilarious and touching complications, Greg and Kate learn to compromise, and Sylvia becomes a valued part of their lives. Comedy/2m,2f

BOOKS

Day Books will meet Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. to review The Venice Sketchbook by Rhys Bowen and again on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 to review The Magnolia Palace by Fiona Davis.



Caroline Grant is struggling to accept the end of her marriage when she receives an unexpected bequest. Her beloved great-aunt Lettie leaves her a sketchbook, three keys, and a final whisper... Venice. Caroline's quest: to scatter Juliet "Lettie" Browning's ashes in the city she loved and to unlock the mysteries stored away for more than sixty years.

It's 1938 when art teacher Juliet Browning arrives in romantic Venice. For her students, it's a wealth of history, art, and beauty. For Juliet, it's poignant memories and a chance to reconnect with Leonardo Da Rossi, the man she loves whose future is already determined by his noble family. However star-crossed, nothing can come between them. Until the threat of war closes in on Venice and they're forced to fight, survive, and protect a secret that will bind them forever.

Key by key, Lettie's life of impossible love, loss, and courage unfolds. It's one that Caroline can now make right again as her own journey of self-discovery begins.



Eight months since losing her mother in the Spanish flu outbreak of 1919, twenty-one-year-old Lillian Carter's life has completely fallen apart. For the past six years, under the moniker Angelica, Lillian was one of the most sought-after artists' models in New York City, with statues based on her figure gracing landmarks from the Plaza Hotel to the Brooklyn Bridge.

But with her mother gone, a grieving Lillian is rudderless and desperate—the work has dried up and a looming scandal has left her entirely without a safe haven. So when she stumbles upon an employment opportunity at the Frick mansion—a building that, ironically, bears her own visage—Lillian jumps at the chance. But the longer she works as a private secretary to the imperious and demanding Helen Frick, the daughter and heiress of industrialist and art patron Henry Clay Frick, the more deeply her life gets intertwined with that of the family—pulling her into

a tangled web of romantic trysts, stolen jewels, and family drama that runs so deep, the stakes just may be life or death.

Nearly fifty years later, mod English model Veronica Weber has her own chance to make her career—and with it, earn the money she needs to support her family back home—within the walls of the former Frick residence, now converted into one of New York City's most impressive museums. But when she—along with a charming intern/budding art curator named Joshua—is dismissed from the Vogue shoot taking place at the Frick Collection, she chances upon a series of hidden messages in the museum: messages that will lead her and Joshua on a hunt that could not only solve Veronica's financial woes, but could finally reveal the truth behind a decades-old murder in the infamous Frick family.

Evening Books will gather Monday night, 7:00 p.m., May 22nd at Deanna Arthur's home to review The Bookish Life of Nina Hill by Abbi Waxman. In June the meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 26th. The book to be read and location of the meeting have yet to be determined.



The only child of a single mother, Nina has her life just as she wants it: a job in a bookstore, a kick-butt trivia team, a world-class planner and a cat named Phil. If she sometimes suspects there might be more to life than reading, she just shrugs and picks up a new book.

When the father Nina never knew existed suddenly dies, leaving behind innumerable sisters, brothers, nieces, and nephews, Nina is horrified. They all live close by! They're all—or mostly all—excited to meet her! She'll have to Speak. To. Strangers. It's a disaster! And as if that wasn't enough, Tom, her trivia nemesis, has turned out to be cute, funny, and deeply interested in getting to know her. Doesn't he realize what a terrible idea that is?

Nina considers her options.

1. Completely change her name and appearance. (Too drastic, plus she likes her hair.)
2. Flee to a deserted island. (Hard pass, see: coffee).
3. Hide in a corner of her apartment and rock back and forth. (Already doing it.)

It's time for Nina to come out of her comfortable shell, but she isn't convinced real life could ever live up to fiction. It's going to take a brand-new family, a persistent suitor, and the combined effects of ice cream and trivia to make her turn her own fresh page.

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Monday, May 1st 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 - Call Veronica or Deanna for information.



Day Books will meet Wednesday, May 17th and Wednesday, June 21st at 2:00 PM. Locations to be determined. See book information on page 6.

Evening Books will meet Monday, May 22nd and Monday June 26th at 7:00 PM. Locations to be determined. See book information on page 6.



Every Member Event: Hope to see you at the Installation on May 20th at 11:00 AM. Details on pages 1 and 4.

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 May 8th and June 12th at 7:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. See page 5 for information on the plays to be read.

Newer Member Orientation (Basic Training) Saturday, June 10th, 1:30-4:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra.

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 May 6th, 11:00 AM, Sahara Middle Eastern Cuisine. Bonnie Gonzalez, host-ess.



Restaurant Gourmets will gather May 27th and June 24th at 6 p.m. Locations are still being determined. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.

Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Next meetings, May 3rd and June 7th. 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](#)