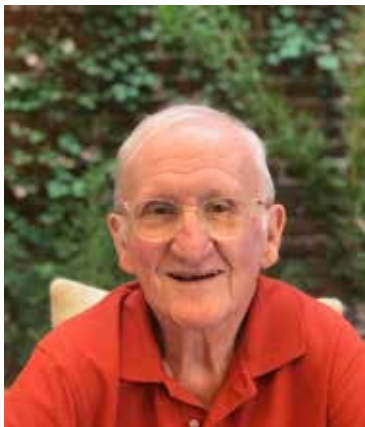




Serving Alhambra, San Gabriel, Monterey Park, Montebello, South Pasadena, Rosemead, Temple City, Arcadia and Surrounding Communities

The Mission Gateway

PRESIDENT'S PUSH



Joe DesBarres

...THE FINAL EDITION

As I write this on Tax Day, I eagerly await the results of AAUW's vote to end the education bar to membership. Voting ends, if you have not already voted, on May 15th. How ironic that such a vote must be taken, but also so courageous of AAUW to do the right thing.

The "I" of DEI is Inclusion, but an entire cohort of individuals has been excluded from AAUW membership. Ending this requirement does not, in any way, lessen the value of any other member's degree(s). **But it does open membership to a vast number of women (and some men) who support AAUW's Mission, Vision, and Values.**

We need to substantially increase the number of voices for Equity if we are ever going to achieve it. As has been said, the fight for equity will be indelibly marked by removing the degree requirement, positioning AAUW as a truly inclusive international organization.

Please vote by May 15th to open AAUW to millions without a degree, and who desire equity for women and girls.

In the spirit of Inclusion, I ask your ongoing engagement

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INSTALLATION OF BRANCH OFFICERS

Date: Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: 11:00 AM

**Place: Kathleen Doty's back yard
1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra, 91801**

On April 20, 2024 the following officers were elected:

- President: Marilee Wood
- Co-Treasurer: Tiffany White and Cyndy Ramos
- Secretary: Betty Morin
- VP Membership: Veronica Alvarez
- VP Fund: Jane Anderson
- Co-VP Program: Deanna Arthur and Lovey Sherman

Come connect with this new board of directors as they are installed into office for 2024-2025. Pastries and fruit will be served. While you are there, re-connect with old friends, make new connections, and learn how we will connect with the future. Hope to see you all May 11th!!

Joe Des Barres, President • Marilee Wood, Secretary • Tiffany White, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor
Jackie Fisher and Lavonne Sherman, Co-Program VP • Deanna Arthur, 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.

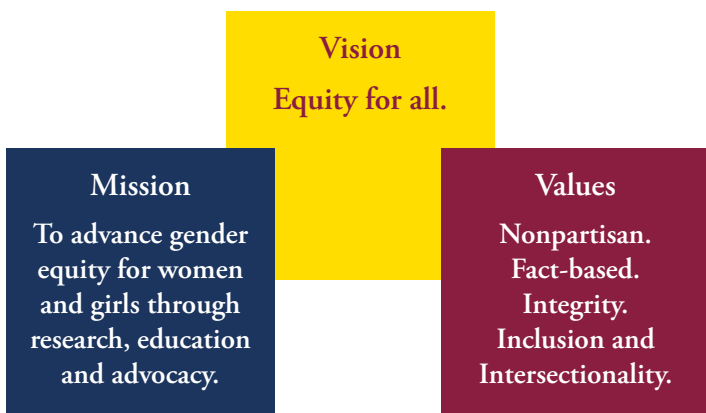
continued from Page 1

The President's PUSH...

in our Branch led by incoming **President, Marilee Wood**. I'm convinced her tenure will be distinguished by expanding Branch Accomplishments—as we **Act Locally while Thinking Globally**. Please join me on Saturday, May 11th at Kathleen Doty's Home for our Board Officers' Installation.

Ultimately, over the past three years of my presidency, I come away with an acute appreciation for the work that each of you do to bring about gender equity. I'm proud to be included in your ranks.

Joe



Thank You, Joe Des Barres

Thank you, Joe, for your outstanding leadership honoring women and girls as we worked together to realize equality for all. As I have mentioned before, it was empowering to have a man in the Presidency championing for the rights of women and the push to engage our young girls in the fields of Science and Math.

As your secretary, I was always able to contact you and get your immediate feedback on many questions regarding accurate representation for our branch and keeping a keen eye on day-to-day struggles facing ordinary women.

I am particularly touched by your empathetic recognition that the majority of single caretaker households are led by women, compounded by the disparities in income and opportunity and lack of access to universal health care, which creates a tremendous burden for women and their children.

You have always encouraged us with selective and appropriate quotes reminding us of how far we have come and how much further we have yet to go. As your Presidency comes to an end, I have a special quote just for you from Rachel Daly, British Soccer Star, newly retired...

“Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.”

And I am smiling on your behalf and paying homage to you for exemplifying strength and perseverance in fighting for justice and humanity.

Sincerely,

Marilee Wood
President Elect, 2024-2025

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

Fellow AAUW members:

I am looking forward to hearing from our membership about any membership ideas regarding what you would like to see going forward. I am open to suggestions, and I am a firm believer that change is good.

We all joined AAUW because we believe in its mission statement - the advancement of women. Whether we see each other frequently or not, all that matters is that we remain active.

We will adventure out to Pasadena for our May 9, 2024 Meet-Up to be held at Starleaf, 641 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101 (the former location of Roy's Hawaiian Fusion).

Please keep an open eye for our up-coming summer membership/orientation meeting. You will receive an email notification.

Veronica

AAUW Fund

Time just flies and we must fly with it.

Thanks to all of you that contributed to the success of the Fund this year. I am so hopeful for the future of the Fund and AAUW.

We had a beautiful "fun" Fund Event and there has been so much Interest and concern about the Fund. There is not much to talk about. You had one last chance to get a "Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her Sister" opportunity at the Annual meeting. This is an event not to be missed. Hope you got the lucky ticket. 3 friends and I were happy to be risk averse and paid \$125 each for a delightful evening. It was worth every penny. The company was amazing as was everything that we ate or drank.

We will no longer be collecting toner and ink cartridges. The company with which we worked changed their method of calculation and we would soon be owing them money instead of the other way around. Thanks to those of you that helped contribute. Delora Brown, Kathleen Doty and I kept hanging in there. Thanks to Kacy Do who sent them in for us. Change comes to everything in its own time.

No matter what job I hold in the branch, the AAUW Fund will always be close to my heart. We all have favorites -whether it is Tech Trek, Speech Trek, Colorful Stories, the ELAC scholarship, or Hope in a Suitcase. We can all make the world a better place if we work for the betterment of women and girls.

Deanna

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, June 1, 2024

BRANCH PLANNING MEETING

11:00AM TO 1:00 PM
Kathleen Doty's backyard
Pot Luck luncheon

Send proposals for 2024-2025 to Marilee Wood
prior to May 31, 2024.

BREAKING NEWS!!

- Veronica Alvarez held the winning ticket for the
- 2023-2024 Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her
- Sister. Congratulations, Veronica!!

PUBLIC POLICY

Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko, Directors, Public Policy Committee Co-chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE SETS 2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The Public Policy Committee met virtually over a weekend in early March to select the top (“A”) bills that we will advance as our 2024 Legislative Agenda.

All of the bills on the agenda fall under at least one of our four [Public Policy Priority](#) pillars; one bill - AB 2349 - falls under three.

Excitingly, our signature “A” priority bill AB 2843 “Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors” was authored by AAUW California. The bill is sponsored by AAUW California and falls under two of our Public Policy Priorities: “Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society” and “Economic Security for All Women.” The bill eliminates cost-sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape. (See the [Lobby Days Talking Points](#) and [Bill Text](#) for more details.)

Our second “A” priority bill, AB 2326 “Title IX Oversight and Compliance Act,” is also sponsored by AAUW California. This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar “Equal Access to Quality Education for All Students” and champions something that AAUW California has long supported: Title IX enforcement. AB 2326 requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and State Universities and the President of the University of California to provide an annual report of their compliance with Title IX, with the report to be presented publicly and orally to the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees on Higher Education Finance, a move to hold the systems, and their leaders, more publicly accountable.

Our third “A” priority bill is AB 2099, “Protecting Reproductive Health Clinics.” This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar “Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society.” The bill makes it possible for the D.A. to file a felony charge for sharing personal information or images of individuals such as reproductive health care providers or patients, with the intent of causing harm or violence against them, if the posting and subsequent action results in bodily injury. With [violence against abortion providers continuing to rise following the reversal of Roe](#), the protection of providers and patients is now more important than ever.

To see our full 2024 Legislative Agenda, please go to our [Bill Tracking Report](#). This report will continue to be updated as the bills move through the legislative process so you will always be able to see the latest status.

This spring the Public Policy Committee will be launching a social media education and action-centered program focused on priority legislation. Sign up for Legislative Action Alerts [HERE!](#) Share the sign-up link with anyone you think may be interested. AAUW members and non-members are welcome. Copy-and-paste shareable link: <https://forms.gle/zkxQM8gByqjGymTA>

Elena

Speech Trek News

Angelina Yip, Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch Speech Trek winner, placed 5th with an honorable mention in state competition. Although she did not place in the top 3 this year, she is eligible to participate again next year. Hoping to see her and many more contestants in the 2024-2025 competition.



Angelina Yip

**ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION
 AAUW-CA SCHOOL BOARD PROJECT PRESENTATION
 PARTICULARLY HANDS-ON OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS AWARD PRESENTATION**

The Branch Annual Meeting was held on April 20th with a full agenda and enthusiastic participants. As with each of our meetings at Fellowship Hall in San Gabriel, Delora Brown welcomed Program Co-Chairs Jackie Fisher and Lovey Sherman (in absentia) who designed and created the room set-up for the meeting. Cyndy Ramos and Tiffany White staffed the registration/check-in table. Guests walked into Fellowship Hall to a dazzling spring décor. Veronica Alvarez provided Strawberry Lemonade Mocktails for the occasion to fit the picnic theme. Music filled the air. Members and guests caught up with one another.

Each nominated Officer on the Nominating Committee's Slate presented a brief resume of her interests and experience. The Slate, as presented, was elected unanimously by the Membership. **Congratulations!!!**

Incoming Board Officers for the 2024-2025 program year:

Marilee Wood, *President*;
Betty Morín, *Secretary*; Tiffany White & Cyndy Ramos, *Co-Treasurers*
Veronica Alvarez, *Membership VP*; Jane Anderson, *AAUW Fund VP*;
Deanna Arthur & Lovey Sherman, *Co-Program VPs*

An informative Zoom orientation was presented by Kathi Harper, former AAUW-CA Public Policy Chair, on the ***School Board Project***. It focuses on book banning and curricula restrictions in our state.

Retiring President Joe Des Barres presented
 18 brave, resilient women of our Branch with his
Particularly Hands-On Outstanding Volunteer Awards

- Veronica Alvarez.....Membership Maven--increasing membership to sustain Branch Vitality
- Deanna Arthur.....AAUW Fund Proponent and Innovative Fund Meeting Coordinator
- Delora Brown.....Provides a Welcoming Program Venue for each meeting at Fellowship Hall
- Lyda CheeManaging Tech Trek North's See's Candy Fundraiser
- Rozanne ChildAssured a successful Tech Trek North STEM experience
- Kathleen Doty.....Mission Gateway Editor & Speech Trek Coordinator
- Jacqueline FisherExpert Program Facilitator/Designer and Publicist Extraordinaire
- Lilia Hall.....Tech Trek North Benefactor and Supporter
- Marian HallinLongtime Monterey Park Women's Club Liaison & Tech Trek South Supporter
- Jane KrauseAssured a successful Tech Trek South STEM experience
- Betty MorínOriginated, produced & directed 2 *Brave, Resilient Women* Productions
- Virginia Orenos.....Branch Support through her Handcrafted Gift Card creations & donations
- Dennisse SantanaDeveloped Productive Liaison between our Branch and La Casa Preschool
- Barbara Shannon.....Initiated and Completed Successful Restaurant Fundraiser for Tech Trek North
- Lovey Sherman.....Expert Program Facilitator/Designer & TT South MUSD Foundation Liaison
- Elena Velarde.....Supporting the Branch in numerous offices and me during my 3-year term
- Tiffany White.....Originated & facilitated a successful *Hope in a Suitcase* branch project
- Marilee WoodConceived & Arranged Authors Luncheon Speaker Dr. Gary Scott

Joe and Elena



TECH TREK NEWS

We are on the road – Both Tech South and Tech Trek North have selected our 2024 students. Interviewing went really well. Tech Trek South has 9 girls going to Whittier College and 3 attending virtual camp. Tech Trek North has 4 girls going to Whittier College and 1 attending virtual camp.

Interesting fact, families select which camp they want to go to – there are still families a little apprehensive in sending girls to a residential camp and prefer to have an at home on the computer experience for virtual camp. And of course, in today's age students are very familiar and comfortable with computer learning. The Tech Trek State Director is the virtual camp director and she is fabulous with the girls.

CampDoc continues to be the working computer program for Tech Trek, all the selected campers are now completing necessary camp documents on-line. This is a great relief to Jane and Rozanne – we can go to CampDoc and see who needs to complete what document and then encourage the families to the process. The school liaisons continue to help us, if needed.

It is never too late to contribute to the Tech Trek program – this year the cost is \$1200 per residential student and \$500 for the virtual student. Tech Trek is a 501c3 entity and is therefore tax deductible. Please make your check payable to AAUW CA SPF and write TT South or TT North on the memo line. Checks can be mailed to:

Sonia Tuma
TT South treasurer
1717 W. Clark Ave
Burbank, CA 91506

Joe Des Barres
TT North treasurer
4315 San Rafael Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90042

We thank you for all your support to this wonderful program to give 7th grade girls the opportunity to learn about the STEM fields.

Have a great summer.

Jane Krause
Tech Trek South Coordinator

DRAMA

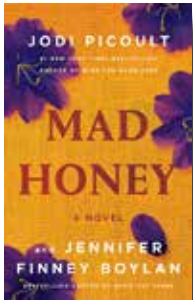
Drama group will meet Monday, May 13, 2024 Monday June 10, 2024 at 7:00 PM to read Marjorie Prime by Jordan Harrison and Morning's at Seven by Paul Osborn respectively.

Marjorie Prime - It's the age of artificial intelligence, but 86-year-old Marjorie is worried that her memory may be fading. That is until the appearance of Walter, a mysterious and charming young visitor programmed to help Marjorie uncover the intricacies of her own past. As Walter's true nature is revealed, new levels of complexity emerge, leading to profound questions about the limits of technology and whether memory might be a purely human invention.

Morning's at Seven - Its plot focuses on four aging sisters living in a small Midwestern town in 1928, and it deals with ramifications within the family when two of them begin to question their lives and decide to make some changes before it's too late.

BOOKS

Day Books will meet Wednesday, May 15, 2024, to review Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan and Wednesday, June 19, 2024, book to be determined. Both gatherings will start at 1:00 p.m.



Olivia McAfee knows what it feels like to start over. Her picture-perfect life—living in Boston, married to a brilliant cardiothoracic surgeon, raising a beautiful son, Asher—was upended when her husband revealed a darker side. She never imagined she would end up back in her sleepy New Hampshire hometown, living in the house she grew up in, and taking over her father's beekeeping business.

Lily Campanello is familiar with do-overs, too. When she and her mom relocate to Adams, New Hampshire, for her final year of high school, they both hope it will be a fresh start.

And for just a short while, these new beginnings are exactly what Olivia and Lily need. Their paths cross when Asher falls for the new girl in school, and Lily can't help but fall for him, too. With Ash, she feels happy for the first time. Yet at times, she wonders if she can she trust him completely . . .

Then one day, Olivia receives a phone call: Lily is dead, and Asher is being questioned by the police. Olivia is adamant that her son is innocent. But she would be lying if she didn't acknowledge the flashes of his father's temper in him, and as the case against him unfolds, she realizes he's hidden more than he's shared with her.

Evening Books will meet Monday, May 27, 2024 to review Ask Again, Yes by Mary Beth Keane and Monday June 24, 2024, to review Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. Both gatherings will convene at 7:00 pm.



Francis Gleeson and Brian Stanhope, two rookie cops in the NYPD, live next door to each other outside the city. What happens behind closed doors in both houses—the loneliness of Francis's wife, Lena, and the instability of Brian's wife, Anne—sets the stage for explosive events to come.

Ask Again, Yes is a moving novel about two families, the bond between their children, a tragedy that reverberates over four decades, the daily intimacies of marriage, and the power of forgiveness.



Set in the mountains of southern Appalachia, this is the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's good looks and copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. In a plot that never pauses for breath, relayed in his own unsparing voice, he braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses. Through all of it, he reckons with his own invisibility in a popular culture where even the superheroes have abandoned rural people in favor of cities.

Many generations ago, Charles Dickens wrote David Copperfield from his experience as a survivor of institutional poverty and its damages to children in his society. Those problems have yet to be solved in ours. Dickens is not a prerequisite for readers of this novel, but he provided its inspiration. In transposing a Victorian epic novel to the contemporary American South, Barbara Kingsolver enlists Dickens' anger and compassion, and above all, his faith in the transformative powers of a good story. Demon Copperhead speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can't imagine leaving behind.

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting - June 1, 2024 - planning. See info on page 3. Open to all members. Contact Marilee Wood for more information.

Meetup - May 9, 2024, Starleaf, 641 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91101 (the former location of Roy's Hawaiian Fusion). Call Veronica or Deanna for more information.



Day Books will meet May 15, and June 19, 2024 at 1:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's, 1224 S 4th ST, Alhambra. Book info on page 7. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.

Evening Books will meet May 27 at Kathleen Doty's, 1224 S 4th ST, Alhambra and June 24 location to be determined, at 7:00 PM. Book info on page 7. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



All Branch Members Event: Installation, May 11, 2024.
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 for a cold reading of the play of the month May 13 and June 10, 2024, 7:00 PM, Kathleen Doty's, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. Play info on page 7.

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 4, 2024. Hostess is Kathleen Doty.

Restaurant Gourmets will meet Saturday, May 25th and June 29th, 6:30 PM. Looking for restaurant suggestions. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information and to RSVP.



Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Upcoming dates are: May 1st and June 5th. 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.



Please donate to the Alhambra-San Gabriel-ELAC STEM Scholarship Fund.



East Los Angeles College Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is dedicated to the philanthropic support of the East Los Angeles College Communities and our student's success.

For more information and to donate online, please visit www.elacfoundation.com and indicate that your donation is earmarked for the AAUW Alhambra/San Gabriel Scholarship. **OR...**

Mail In Donations: Please make checks payable to East Los Angeles College Foundation. Write in the memo line "For AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch Scholarship" and mail the check to: East Los Angeles College Foundation, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, CA 91754

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](https://www.facebook.com/AAUW-Alhambra-San-Gabriel-Branch)