



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

# The Mission Gateway

## President's Message



Marilee Wood

Greetings, AAUW members, during this critical election season! We must continue to advance Gender Equity and Get Out the Vote!

Women's Equality Day... Never heard of it? It simply meant that all women had won the "right" to vote in 1920 after the long, hard-fought battle to overcome the most massive voter suppression effort ever mounted.

Just because we had the right to vote doesn't mean many of us had access to the vote. Winning the vote for women was not easy, anywhere, at any time. The U.S. campaign for the women's vote started in 1848; they finally achieved it 72 years later.

More than 100 years after some women gained the right to vote, people in the United States are still not constitutionally guaranteed equality on the basis of sex. The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) will update the US Constitution to protect the equality of rights under the law regardless of sex. Equity for women and girls requires continual action.

"I learned to be brave, not perfect." September proved enlightening and uplifting as our Tech Trekkers shared their personal stories of their science and math camp experience this past summer. The girls were well spoken and well prepared to speak thanks to the rehearsal and preparation by our Tech Trek Chairs, Jane Krause and Rozanne

*continued on Page 2*

## Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch AAUW

### OCTOBER PROGRAM

Monday, October 21, 2024

7:00 PM, Via Zoom

#### Vote as if the Future Depends on It - IT DOES!!!!

To help us make heads or tails of the State, County and Los Angeles City propositions, Nancy Mahr will give us the scoop. Nancy is a long-time member of the League of Women Voters, AAUW Palos Verdes Branch, and an active member of the California Public Policy Committee and was at one time the California Director in charge of Public Policy. She is knowledgeable, easy to listen to, and it is a genuine treat to have her as our speaker.

County Registrars will begin mailing ballots on October 7<sup>th</sup>. There are 10 state measures. These measures run a gamut of issues: school bonds, establishing a right to marry law, easing requirements to pass bond measures, creating affordable housing, prohibiting slavery in any form, repealing the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act, restrictions on how health-care providers can spend revenues, taxing managed care to fund Medi-Cal services, increasing the minimum wage and changes to Proposition 47.

Please use the attached Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83049826765?pwd=n4AW01neH9mv8ZFVIQo3ikyBU0KGP4.1>

Meeting ID: 830 4982 6765

Passcode: 899228

#### SPECIAL SURPRISE!!!!

Some of the Tech Trek girls that were unable to attend the luncheon will share their experiences at the beginning of the meeting.

Marilee Wood, President • Betty Morin, Secretary • Cyndy Ramos, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor  
Deanna Arthur and Lovey Sherman, Co-Program VP • Jane Anderson, 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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## President's Message...

Child, and their hardworking committees. Congratulations to our girls and thanks to our dedicated leaders who made this event happen. Special thanks to Jonae Fedors, Tech Trek Camp Director, Whittier College, who shared her experiences working as an engineer at Lockheed, working on military aircraft.

I would like to call your attention to our Propositions Presentation on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Nancy Mahr will join us from the League of Women Voters and AAUW-CA's Public Policy Committee. Be sure to join us for this informative meeting.

Also, a special DEI Panel Discussion, a bonus meeting, will take place on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 – location pending. This discussion is following the lead of the newly minted DEI Strategic Plan authored by AAUW-CA. You won't want to miss this event!

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Holiday Program on December 2, 2024 at 7 p.m. This will be held at FUMC-SG. It's always a fun event and it will be exciting to see what our Programs Chairs and committee has planned for us. More information will be forthcoming regarding the donations of new books for the La Casa Preschool Library.

The 24-25 Branch Electronic Directory is underway at this time. It will come to you from the persistent, diligent and generous work of Liz Tarnove. Keep in touch with Liz if your contact information changes.

If you are planning a contribution this year, please consider our AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Scholarship at East Los Angeles Community College. It's one way to pay forward the help we've all received in our lifetime. Importantly it supports a young woman on that STEM trajectory we so urgently need.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Propositions Presentation on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Best to you!

*Marilee*

### 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.

## Membership Corner

My initial thoughts when I became Membership Chair was that it was an easy undertaking. Last year we had at least 6 new members join. Hooray! This year, our devoted members have returned, we lost a few, but no new members.

When I became an AAUW member (and I will not lie, I never heard of AAUW prior to Deanna inviting me), I was surprisingly introduced to a community of active, intelligent and supportive women (and men). I have come to learn that AAUW is a wonderful global organization that allows individuals to come together and take actions that are an expression of our collective will to make this world a better place. AAUW and this branch, especially, with its strong leadership and activism inspired me take on the responsibility of becoming the Alhambra High School Parent Teacher Association President. Going into my second year, I face the same challenge that I face here, how do we mobilize and inspire a new generation to take up the mantle and fight for the cause.

Our members are our greatest strength, and membership matters. But our greatest strength is also our greatest challenge. Like a lot of organizations, we struggle with membership. How do we recruit new members, retain existing members?

I want to hear from you. Send me an email with ideas. I am open to suggestions.

*Veronica*

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

Hello, Branch Members,

I am new to this job. Please bear with me as I navigate the unknown waters! Thank you to our Fund donors for the 2023-24 year. More about this next month.

Don't forget, we are raising \$\$\$ for the Fund with chances to win a Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and Her Sister - check it out to the right!

*Jane A.*

## 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 10<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 19, 2025**. 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.



### FIND IN THIS MISSION GATEWAY ISSUE

Word Search  
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Fund  
Sunshine  
President  
ELAC

Books  
Policy  
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Crafters

Meetup  
Program  
October  
Gala



### 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](http://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

# OCTOBER 2024 PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko, Directors, Public Policy Committee Co-chairs, [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)

## 2024 Ballot Propositions - Support AAUW California Public Policy Priorities

This November, California voters will decide the fate of 10 statewide ballot propositions. While we encourage members to support additional propositions that may capture the spirit of AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities (PPPs), we suggest that four of the propositions on the ballot in 2024 deserve a YES vote from our members for their explicit alignment with AAUW California's PPPs.

**Proposition 2**, Public Education Facilities Bond Measure (2024), proposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of California's public education facilities. \$8.5 billion would be allocated to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion would support improvements at community colleges. Many school facilities are over 50 years old and require significant upgrades to meet current technological and education needs. Research shows that modernized school facilities correlate with better test scores, higher attendance, and improved teacher retention rates. The last time districts received state funding for infrastructure improvements was in 2016, when Prop 51 authorized \$9 billion in bonds. That money has now run out, and Prop 2 would help fund school projects totaling \$3.5 billion that have already been approved and are awaiting funding.

**AAUW California supports "Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including preschool and post-secondary", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 2.**

**Proposition 3**, Constitutional Right to Marriage, would amend the California Constitution to recognize the fundamental right to marry, and would remove the language banning same-sex marriage, passed by voters in 2008, from the state constitution. In practice, the ban has been nullified since a Supreme Court ruling in 2013 which allowed same-sex marriages to resume in California. Proposition 3 will enshrine the fundamental right to marry and protect against any potential future changes to federal marriage protections.

**AAUW California supports "Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 3.**

**Proposition 4**, Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure, would allocate the state to issue \$10 billion in bonds to fund various environmental, energy, and water projects. While there are a range of projects that ballot measure would fund that would benefit all Californians who are confronted with the impacts of sea-level rise, extreme heat, wildfire dangers, and air/water pollution, proposition 4 would also require that 40% of the bond revenue be used to fund activities that benefit communities with lower incomes or that are affected by environmental changes or disasters. Also, as AAUW California's Public Policy Committee has pointed out in the past, [addressing climate issues and advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability, and vice versa.](#)

**AAUW California supports "Social and racial justice for all members of society, including equal access to quality affordable healthcare, housing and a healthy environment," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 4.**

**Proposition 32**, Raises Minimum Wage, would raise California's current minimum wage of \$16 per hour. Employers with 26 or more employees would pay \$18 per hour beginning in 2025. Employers with 25 or fewer employees would pay \$17 per hour in 2025 and \$18 per hour in 2026. California has a high cost of living and our current \$16 minimum wage is well below the estimated living wage needed to support a household's basic needs. Women and communities of color bear the burden of low-wage jobs. The California Civil Rights Department (CRD) released data showing that in 2021, roughly half of all Latino, Black, and Native American workers earned \$32,329 or less - \$10,000 less than the state's per capita income. 54 percent of all workers in California earning \$32,239 or less were women. A minimum wage of \$18 will reduce income inequality and improve the standard of living for millions of California workers, especially women and people of color.

**AAUW California supports "Economic Security for All Women", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 32.**

For guidance on additional ballot measures that are adjacent to, but not directly within, the scope of AAUW California's PPPs, please see this excellent guide provided by [the League of Women Voters of California.](#)



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## THE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE INTRODUCES: **TWIG-ITEMS\***

Let's imagine that AAUW is our TREE.

Alhambra-San Gabriel & Surrounding Communities represent our BRANCH on this TREE.

Our Members symbolize the intricate networking of TWIGS on this BRANCH.

And the **TWIGS** on the BRANCH of the TREE are US: **WE** are all part of this Glorious **TREE**.

Introducing **TWIG-ITEMS**: Articles about matters that have to do with US, the Branch Members of AAUW! **TWIG-ITEMS** in issues of *Mission Gateway* will appear to inform each other of our Life Events and Updates.

It will only take One (1) Member—YOU—to share a **Life Event & Update**. Contact **Sunshine Chair Gerry Kreger** by phone, text or email. Call or text Gerry at 818-314-9191. Email her at [gerrykreger@gmail.com](mailto:gerrykreger@gmail.com)

**TWIG-ITEMS** are **Life Events & Updates** such as:

1. Acknowledgement of Life Transitions—the births, marriages and deaths among us
2. Members who are experiencing particular health issues, hospitalizations or convalescences
3. Announcement of a Personal or Family Achievement or Celebration
4. Notice of a Specific Personal or Family Need
5. Change of contact information, etc.

**PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TWIG-ITEMS!**

This month, the Sunshine Committee corresponded with Members:

- *Diane Askew* on her health journey
- *Lyda Chee* who is in the hospital again with a kidney infection
- *Bonnie Gonzalez* on the convalescence of her Husband *Charles "Chuck" Gonzalez*
- *Marian Hallin* on the convalescence of her husband *Jack Hallin*
- *Virginia Orenos* who is convalescing at home from accidentally displacing her shoulder
- *Elena Velarde & Joe Des Barres* are venturing a road trip to New Mexico

The Sunshine Committee also acknowledges long-serving member *Lilia Hall* whose delicate health sometimes prevents her from fully participating in Branch Activities—as is her devoted passion.

Connect as only you can with from time to time. Offer your love, gratitude and support.

And please pardon us if we have missed you. Our hope is that this coming year, we will all keep in touch and share our Life Events and Updates with one another as best we can. Please contribute **TWIG-ITEMS**.

The Sunshine Committee is now accepting Volunteers. Contact Gerry Kreger or Elena Velarde at 213-304-7403 if you are interested in service to our Branch Members (We **TWIGS**).

*Gerry & Elena*

\***TWIG-ITEMS** was coined by *Jane Anderson's* Mother—*Ms. Edna Clay*, Bacteriologist—in the 1980's

**TO: Alhambra-San Gabriel AAUW Branch Members**

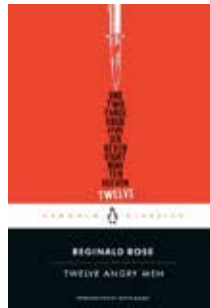
**FROM: Creative Crafters**

The Creative Crafters Interest Group has been invited to participate in a December Holiday Boutique hosted by Alhambra HS, of which Veronica Alvarez, our Membership VP is PTA President. Our group met recently and agreed that we would like to participate, knowing that the sale of all of our donated hand-crafted items, i.e. knitted, crocheted, cross stitch, needle point, sewing, etc. would come to the branch. If this project goes forward, we need no less than 50 items to sell.

If you are interested in participating in this Fund-Raising activity, please contact Jane Krause [jkbigdog517@gmail.com](mailto:jkbigdog517@gmail.com) no later than October 18 and let her know what (and approximate quantity) you intend to bring. And bring your hand-crafted items to the December 2, 2024 General Meeting.

# Drama

Drama will gather October 14th to read our first play of the year: Twelve Angry Men by Reginald Ross. The reading starts at 7 PM at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra.



A blistering character study and an examination of the American melting pot and the judicial system that keeps it in check, *Twelve Angry Men* holds at its core a deeply patriotic faith in the U.S. legal system. The play centers on Juror Eight, who is at first the sole holdout in an 11-1 guilty vote. Eight sets his sights not on proving the other jurors wrong but rather on getting them to look at the situation in a clear-eyed way not affected by their personal prejudices or biases. Reginald Rose deliberately and carefully peels away the layers of artifice from the men and allows a fuller picture to form of them—and of America, at its best and worst.



## Tech Trek Update

Tech Trek North and Tech Trek South sent 17 girls to either the residential or virtual camps this past summer. Of the 17 girls 12 went to camp at Whittier College and 5 girls attended the Virtual Camp.

We just finished our successful Tech Trek Luncheon on Saturday, September 21st at the First United Methodist Church of San Gabriel. It was well attended by the campers, families, friends, branch members, and liaisons from Montebello Unified School District and the Alhambra Unified School District. The campers had an opportunity to share their camp experiences, and to thank their parents, and the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch for providing the camperships for their Tech Trek experience. Thanks, TT South, for coordinating the Tech Trek Luncheon this year.

A special thanks to the Alhambra Day Nursery, Friends of the Montebello School District, Monterey Park Womens' Club, and individual donations from friends and branch members to support Tech Trek. If you wish to make a donation here are the specific instructions.

1. Checks made payable to AAUW CA SPF and on the memo line write Whittier Camp TTN or Whittier Camp TTS
2. TT North donation checks should be mailed to Joe Des Barres 4315 San Rafael Ave., LA, CA 90042.
3. TT South donation checks should be mailed to Sonia Tuma 1717 W. Clark Ave. Burbank, CA 91506

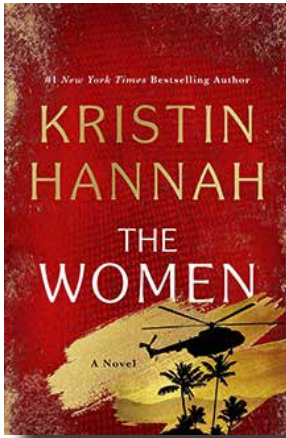
Thank you  
Rozanne Child  
Tech Trek North Branch Coordinator  
[rchild44@gmail.com](mailto:rchild44@gmail.com)  
626-429-0404



Tech Trek Campers at September meeting.

# BOOKS

**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review The Women by Kristin Hannah. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.



Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different

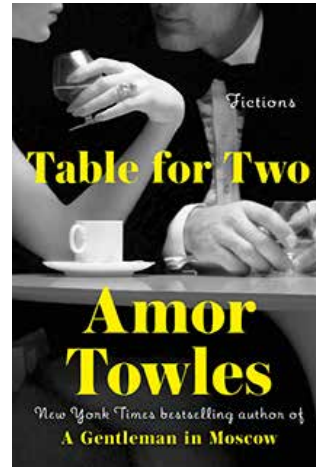
future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost.

But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, The Women is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.

**Evening Books** will gather October 28, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Delora Brown's home to discuss Table for Two by Amor Towles. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



The millions of readers of Amor Towles are in for a treat as he shares some of his shorter six stories set in New York City and a novella in Los Angeles. The New York stories, most of which are set around the turn of the millennium, take up everything from the death-defying acrobatics of the male ego, to the fateful consequences of brief encounters, and the delicate mechanics of compromise which operate at

the heart of modern marriages.

In Towles's novel, Rules of Civility, the indomitable Evelyn Ross leaves New York City in September, 1938, with the intention of returning home to Indiana. But as her train pulls into Chicago, where her parents are waiting, she instead extends her ticket to Los Angeles. Told from seven points of view, “Eve in Hollywood” describes how Eve crafts a new future for herself—and others—in the midst of Hollywood's golden age.

Throughout the stories, two characters often find themselves sitting across a table for two where the direction of their futures may hinge upon what they say to each other next.

Written with his signature wit, humor, and sophistication, Table for Two is another glittering addition to Towles's canon of stylish and transporting historical fiction.

# ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.  
Join Us!

**Board Meeting** November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM on Zoom.  
Socialize at 6:45 PM. Open to all members.

**Meetup** - at 6:00 PM on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at Limericks Tavern, 300 W. Main St., Alhambra. Details can be found on Meetup, or call Veronica or Deanna closer to the date.



**Day Books** will meet Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM at Kathleen Doty's home. Contact Kathleen Doty. Book information on page 7.

**Evening Books** will meet Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Delora Brown's home. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information. Book information on page 7.



**Every Member Event:** Hope to see you at the branch meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> 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 October 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for cold readings of the play for the month. The October play is Twelve Angry Men. For more information, see page 6 or contact Kathleen Doty.



**Professional Women Gourmets** will gather October 5, 2024 to determine the schedule for the year. Contact Jane Anderson for more information.

**Restaurant Gourmets** Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm. at Nick's Pasadena, 336 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Contact Deanna Arthur to RSVP.



**Creative Crafters** will gather via Zoom on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Upcoming dates are: October 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>, and December 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.



Vision

Equity for all.

Mission

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Values

Nonpartisan.  
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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.

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