



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

The Mission Gateway

President's Message



Marilee Wood

Welcome to the beginning of our 2025-2026 New Year! It is essential that we move forward with our Programs to maintain and move closer to Equity for All.

We warmly welcome Liz Tarnove as our new President Elect. Liz and I will be working together and meeting throughout the year to prepare her for the Presidency

for next fall 2026. Liz brings a

rich background of experience and dedicated enthusiasm to our branch. We are pleased that she has stepped up to this engaging endeavor.

DEI and BRW, under the direction of Janice Lee and Betty Morin, will be presenting a new educational and enlightening program in October. This will be an eye-opening presentation as we gain understanding of Equity for All right under our own roof. Rozanne Child will be working with our TTAG (Tech Trek Alumnae Group) young women as they gain support and direction in their scientific and mathematical pursuits. Stay tuned for amazing results as they share their accomplishments.

Our Branch Programs continue with Author's Luncheon, Alhambra-San Gabriel/ELAC Scholarship, Colorful Stories and Tech Trek. We thank Jane Anderson for stepping up as our liaison with The La Casa Community Center.

continued on Page 2

AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch

Membership Meeting

September 20, 2025

Noon to 2:00 pm

Doors open at 11:30 am



Join us as we honor our 2025 Tech Trek Campers and hear about their experiences

Place: Alhambra First United Methodist Church
9 N. Almansor St.
Alhambra, CA 91801

Deadline to register: September 12th

Name: _____

Cost: \$15.00 [Subway box lunch]

☐ Check enclosed	sandwich choice:
☐ Will pay at the door	Turkey ☐
	Tuna ☐
	Vegetarian ☐

(Make checks payable to: **American Association of University Women**)

Send to: Cyndy Ramos

Email: ramoscindy12@gmail.com

Address: 1749 La Senda Pl.
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Marilee Wood, President • Liz Tarnove, President-Elect • Betty Morin, Secretary • Cyndy Ramos, Treasurer • Kathleen Doty, Newsletter Editor • Deanna Arthur & Lovey Sherman, Program VPs • Jane Anderson, 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

President's Message...

We have been bombarded with chaos and misinformation. AAUW CA offers the following recommendations to enable you to feel empowered on how to expend your energy into worthwhile pursuits. Check out Take Action Now under Public Policy. From there you will find Take Action to Fight Project 2025! There is a list of Quick Actionable items, Litigation & Legislation Trackers and Podcasts. The Issue-Areas are: Successful Collective Action Spotlight, Successes in Legal Challenges Spotlight and Call to Action Spotlight. This information will help you if you are feeling overwhelmed and unproductive.

Charmen Goehring, President of AAUW California, will be hosting a statewide book study this year with the book, *The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves* by Dr. Shawn Ginwright. If you attended the Annual Event in April, you were introduced to the Four Pivots. There will be a Zoom meeting for each pivot, open to all members. The dates will be available in September.

We can be proud of our programs that support AAUW CA and AAUW National in Washington, D.C. Our programs will grow with the ongoing donations from you, our members, and our community friends.

Be sure to stay current with your Mission Gateway. What catches your attention and where would you like to be involved?

Thank you for all you do on behalf of women and girls and Equity for All.

SAVE THE DATES!!!

Tech Trek General Membership Luncheon
September 20, 2025 – 12:00pm-2:00pm
Alhambra First United Methodist Church
9 North Almansor St.
Alhambra, CA 91801

Janice Lee (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and Betty Morin (Brave Resilient Women) will kick off this year's Branch's focus on DEI at our October 18, 2025 General Membership Meeting. Look for details in the October Newsletter.

Marilee

Membership Corner

We are back for another exciting year. For those of you who have already renewed your membership, thank you. AAUW appreciates your support. If you have not already done so, please renew your membership. Fees this year are as follows:

National Dues	\$74.00
Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch Dues	\$21.00
California State Dues	\$30.00

If you are having trouble logging into your account and need assistance, please email me at valvarez@lawyer.com and I will reach out to you as soon as possible.

Veronica

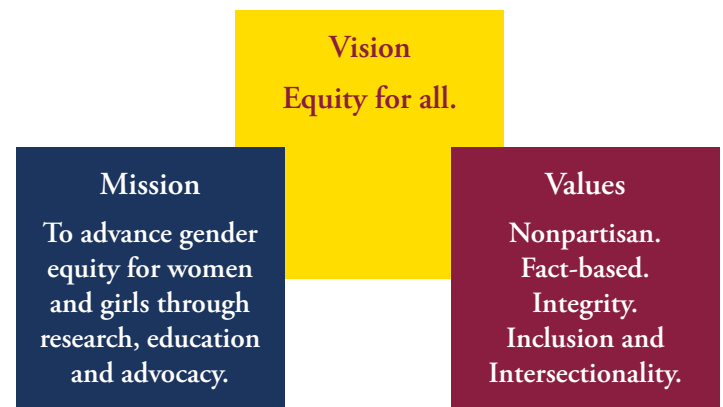
SEPTEMBER 2025 PUBLIC POLICY NEWS

The deadline for action on current legislation in the California legislature is September 12th. To find the status of the bills being followed by AAUW CA go to: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/> then click on the 2025 Bill Tracker "button."

The last day for the governor to sign or veto bills on his desk is October 12th. Look for a more complete report in the October Mission Gateway.

Liz Tarnove
Public Policy Chair

Liz



AAUW Fund

Look forward to information coming on opportunities to learn from AAUW Fellows studying in California. In the meantime, we will continue raising \$\$\$ for the Fund with chances to win a Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and Her Sister - check it out below!

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 9th (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 18, 2026**. 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.



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.

BOOKS

Day Books will meet Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review our summer reading and select books for the coming months. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.

Evening Books will gather September 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to discuss our summer reads and plan for the coming year. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.

Drama

Drama gatherings are be on the 2nd Monday of each month. Our first play will be October 13th. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.

Colorful Stories

Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch Colorful Stories Project was only able to connect with Alhambra Unified School District in the 2024-2025 school year. A total of 34 books were purchased for Emery Park Elementary School. Efforts will be made to connect with San Gabriel Unified School District and Montebello Unified School District again in addition to Alhambra for the 2025-2026 year.



Some of the books purchased for Emery Park Elementary School.

DELORA BROWN



TWIG-ITEMS FROM THE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

AAUW ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL BRANCH

ALSO SERVING: MONTEREY PARK, MONTEBELLO, SO PASADENA, ROSEMEAD, TEMPLE CITY & SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

It's the Sunshine Committee's pleasure to shine the spotlight on our **55-Year AAUW Life Member Delora Brown** who recently moved from Temple City to be near relatives in Reno, Nevada. This past August we were fortunate to speak with Delora to discover how she is settling in so far at her new home, ***Promenade on the River***. For us her Branch Friends, here is an account of our conversation.

Delora said that at first the hardest part of her transition was **not having her car**, as she had sold her house and car upon leaving Temple City. She was finding it difficult to drive, especially at night, due to poor vision. But fortunately, this did not remain an issue as she soon discovered that there are so many amenities on the premises of her independent living complex. Among them is a shuttle that takes residents to the mall, grocery shopping and to any types of appointments that are needed. You just sign up for the shuttle on a convenient sign-up sheet in the mailroom. She pays rent monthly and there are canes, walkers and caregivers available as needed.

Delora says she feels "spoiled" for the first time in her life. She receives three meals a day; housekeeping; and a washing machine and TV in her apartment. **She does not need to cook**. One niece, **Diana**, lives close and recently brought her fresh peaches and fruit. And meals at ***Promenade*** are varied every day. She may choose her lunch and dinner entrees and sides! In the dining room everyone may sit where they wish. Delora says that there are about 100 lovely people living at the facility and 81 rooms. Fifteen of her relatives live nearby and all get together on special occasions. A most wonderful benefit of her new life is that Delora is living with her niece **Michelle**. They have a good time together. Usually, they join relatives for Sunday Family Dinners at local restaurants and coffee shops. Delora has now mastered the art of UBER and can swiftly calls for drivers whenever she and Michelle wish to dine out.

Delora plays Bridge twice a week. There's a pool for swimming, stretching and exercise. She gets her hair done with the House Hair Stylist, as well as readily available manicures and pedicures. She joins an exercise class three times weekly and says, "I love it!" Another amenity is "Happy Hour Thursdays" followed by live entertainment! Did we mention that every Friday is Movie Night????!! The facility also offers excursions. One such trip was a Splendid Picnic in the Park at Bowers Mansion and Museum. The Bowers Family founded a silver and gold mining enterprise in Virginia City. Delora really loved that trip because of the rich history of the land where she now lives. The capper was a stop at a Chocolate Factory on the way back home! Tomorrow she is attending her high school reunion in Winnemucca!

EXTRA SPECIAL!!! A loving message that Delora wished to impart to us is: "I miss all of you."

And we miss you, too, D. Please know, Friends, she will always welcome your texts and phone calls whenever you wish to chat.



AAUW of California
In Honor Of
Delora Brown
Reflecting her dedication to
AAUW Alhambra – San Gabriel Branch/
East Los Angeles College STEM Scholarship
Spring 2025

SOMETHING NEW FROM THE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE! BRANCH BIRTHDAYS — SEPTEMBER!

Dear Members,

In honor of your BIRTHDAYS, the 2025-26 Sunshine Committee, Gerry Kreger, Betty Morín and Elena Velarde, will ignite a new tradition to cheerfully celebrate YOU throughout the year. **Birthday Greetings!**

We will announce birthdays in the Mission Gateway each month, and you will be sent an Exclusive E-card!!! SEPTEMBER is our first month of the Branch Program Year, therefore, if you were born this month, please be on the lookout for an email from your Friends and Well-Wishers Back at the Branch!

Please help us maintain accurate records. Please call or text us if you If you do not see your name listed during Your Birth Month. Our aim is to enhance your Special Day and let you know how much we appreciate YOU!

HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO OUR DEAR MEMBERS:

6th JANE KRAUSE
7th KIM TJONG
13th THERESA JOLLEY
15th JOE DES BARRES
19th DELORA BROWN

Gerry & Elena



Left to Right: Marilee Wood, President, Graciella Mullen, Scholarship Recipient, Christopher Mullen, Father

Branch Awards Scholarship to ELAC Student

East Los Angeles College (ELAC) graduate, Graciella Mullen, was awarded a one-thousand-dollar scholarship donated by AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel branch at the annual ELAC Foundation scholarship ceremony held in June of this year. The ELAC Foundation awarded scholarships to 225 commendable students through 49 different scholarship programs that included the Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch. In his keynote address, Dr. Monte E. Pérez, ELAC's Interim President, praised the recipients, saying they "...have overcome significant challenges to reach this moment."

Graciella found the Alhambra-San Gabriel Scholarship information in the ELAC Foundation Scholarship Guide along with the criteria. She completed all requirements including majoring in a STEM subject area, (Natural Sciences), completing 24 units with a 3.7 G.P.A. and writing a compelling 500-word essay titled, How My Education Will Enable me to Give Back to My Community. She was interviewed by the ELAC Foundation Committee, and they apprised our branch of their choice.

In her thank you letter to the branch Graciella explained the importance of the donation. "These scholarships take off a financial burden that I am constantly worrying about. For me, being lucky enough to receive scholarships gives me motivation to be the best student I can be." Graciella will transfer to Cal State Long Beach and major in Natural Sciences.

Attending medical school in Southern California and working in the field of Oncology are Graciella's long-range goals. Presently, she works in medical records and volunteers at Los Angeles General hospital in the oncology department. Research had been her primary goal. As she experienced the total dedication of the staff with their clients, she became interested in clinical practice and now sees the value of practicing clinically as well as contributing to research. Graciella also volunteers for the "Make a Wish" Foundation where she becomes acquainted with a child who has cancer or another life-long chronic disease, discovers the child's wish and works to have it fulfilled. So far, Graciella has helped make the wish of Disneyland come true for a child.

ELAC has the largest student body of the community colleges in Los Angeles and of any community college in California. The ELAC Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization whose mission includes philanthropic support of ELAC and empowering the communities ELAC serves through commitment to student success. Marissa Castro-Salvati, the foundation's president, congratulated the scholarship donors, saying, "This year's historic level of scholarship awards highlights the perseverance and excellence of our students, while reinforcing our mission to ensure higher education remains within reach for everyone."

The AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch ELAC Scholarship Committee was launched in September of 2021 with the support of inspired donors under the direction of Chairman, Joe Des Barres who stated, "I believe this scholarship project is an enduring legacy of Branch members' participation in local programs to advance gender equity for women and girls, our AAUW mission."



PIZZA WITH A PURPOSE

Show this flyer or mention the organization listed below on your visit, and California Pizza Kitchen will **DONATE 20% OF ALL FOOD & BEVERAGE SALES** on your check to the organization listed below. Purchases include dine-in, take-out, catering, and online orders at **CPK.com** when you enter **BACK20%** at checkout.

FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF:

AAUW TECH TREK NORTH

ORGANIZATION

OCTOBER 7TH, 2025

DATE

VALID AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION:

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

ARCADIA - SANTA ANITA FASHION MALL

CPK LOCATION

400 S BALDWIN AVE STE 115 ARCADIA, CA 91007

ADDRESS

Fundraiser valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location(s) identified on this flyer. Only 501c organizations and non-profit schools are eligible to participate in CPK's fundraiser program. CPK will donate 20% (twenty percent) of all food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gratuity, gift card and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Valid for dine-in, takeout, online, catering, curbside or delivery orders placed directly with CPK. Not valid for orders placed or fulfilled through third-party delivery. Void if flyer is distributed in or near restaurant. For more information about the 501c organization participating in the fundraiser, please contact the organization directly. Not valid at franchise locations in Guam, stadium, university, international, airport locations, or the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino.

SAVE THE DATE!



DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion) Spotlight!

The term DEI may be under fire in today's world, but at AAUW we continue to stand strong in our commitment to equity. AAUW California adopted a **new DEI Strategic Plan for 2024–2027**, and our local branch is excited to bring this vision to life!

Join us for a special **joint program** led by **Janice Lee, DEI Chair** and **Betty Morín, BRW (Brave Resilient Women) Chair**.

- ◇ Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025
- ◇ Time: 1:00 – 3:00 PM
- ◇ Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch General Meeting!

This time, we're keeping it simple and personal: **Bring Your Own Lunch (BYOL)** and your favorite “place setting.”

Bring a friend, bring family, and bring your curiosity. Let's share an afternoon of **camaraderie, insight, and inspiration**.

We can't wait to see you there!

Janice & Betty

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:00 PM at the home of Kathleen Doty, 1224 S 4th St, Alhambra. (Note *change of day* due to Labor Day Holiday.) Socialize at 6:45 PM. Open to all members.

Meetup - Contact Veronica or Deanna for details on Meetups this year.



Day Books will meet Wednesday, September 17th at 2:00 PM. Contact Kathleen Doty.

Evening Books will meet Monday, September 22nd. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



Every Member Event: Hope to see you at the branch meeting on September 20th at Noon. 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 the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Silly, serious, intellectually challenging. Contact Kathleen Doty for access code.



Drama: Join us on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. for cold readings of the play for the month. The first play will be October. For more information, contact Kathleen Doty.

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 September 13th at 11:00 AM. Contact Jane Anderson for more information.

Restaurant Gourmets Saturday, September 27th, 6:00 PM at Lunasia, 500 W Main St., Alhambra. Contact Deanna Arthur for breaking information and to RSVP.



Creative Crafters will gather via Zoom on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Upcoming dates are: September 3rd, October 1st, and November 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