



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

The Mission Gateway

Join Us



DEI Spotlight: Equity in Action

Equity has always been at the heart of AAUW's mission—and it's more important now than ever. In a time when DEI faces new challenges, our branch proudly continues to lead with purpose, courage, and community.

☀️ Join us for a special joint program led by Janice Lee, DEI Chair and Betty Morín, BRW (Brave Resilient Women) Chair. Together, we'll explore how we can strengthen our commitment to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and leave with new insights, inspiration, and meaningful connections.

📅 **Saturday, October 18, 2025**

🕒 **1:00 – 3:00 PM**

Alhambra First Methodist Church

9 N. Almansor St.

Alhambra 91801

Alhambra/San Gabriel Branch General Meeting

🍽️ This month we're keeping it simple and personal: **Bring Your Own Lunch (BYOL)**—and don't forget your favorite "place setting." We'll provide refreshing water!

Bring a friend, bring family, and be part of the conversation that keeps our AAUW spirit strong.

We can't wait to see you! ❤️

Janice & Betty

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.

President's Message



Marilee Wood

Welcome to October! I am delighted to share with you the following email I received on August 28th. It is from **Tremayne A. Parquet, Deputy Director of Advancement, AAUW National**.

"Thank you once again for taking part in the FY25 Annual Branch Survey. Your responses not only help AAUW understand and support the work happening at the branch level, but also ensure your efforts are recognized through the Five Star Program.

I'm delighted to share that the **Alhambra-San Gabriel (CA) Branch has earned a Governance & Sustainability, Communications & External Relations and Advancement Star** in the Five Star Program for FY25!

We are so grateful for the time and energy you and your fellow leaders devote to this work. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition and we look forward to celebrating your success further in the months ahead, including through future highlights in *Membership Matters* and on the AAUW website."

We also received acknowledgment from Dianne Owens, September 8th, congratulating us for earning **Three Stars**. She states, "AAUW's Advancement Committee is proud to recognize your branch and your members for your outstanding work in your branch and in your community."

Thank you for all you do to advance Gender Equity.

Charmen's Compass Callouts: A message from Charmen Goehring, AAUW California President

The California Compass (or CC for short), is a new publication to share relevant information with every member in our beautiful state. Each month, you will find pertinent news from our national organization; member-focused highlights from our state committees; mission-based book recommendations from our state leaders; links to information on either AAUW National or AAUW California websites that may surprise you; as well as a monthly trivia question about AAUW members through history. Answer the question on the simple Google form and be entered into a drawing for a fun prize!

We look forward to a special DEI/BRW presentation October 18th from 1:00pm – 3:00pm (Bring your own lunch.) Thank you, Janice Lee, Betty Morin and the DEI Committee, for your work and input into this special event.

In honor of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, I would like to share illuminating vignettes of those worthy of accolades under the DEI umbrella:

The Mercury 13,

also sometimes known as the "members of the First Lady Astronaut Trainees" (FLATS), were a group of women who participated in training to become astronauts for the country's first human spaceflight program in the early 1960's. FLATS was never an official NASA program and was unfortunately eventually discontinued. The commitment and determination of these women to get into space paved the way for later astronauts.

The ENIAC Programmers,

A group of six young women working on a secret project during WWII, programmed the first all-electronic programmable computer. When the project was eventually introduced to the public in 1946, the women were never introduced or credited for their hard work. Since then, the ENIAC Programmer Project has worked hard to preserve and tell the stories of these six women.

You've come a long way, baby! Soon, the 2025-26 Fellow and Grantees will begin their studies – stepping into classrooms, research labs, and leadership roles with courage – ready to break barriers and chart bold new futures. These extraordinary women are not only pursuing their dreams; they're shaping a future where equity, opportunity, and innovation thrive, and their journeys inspire us all.

SAVE THE DATES!

DEI/BRW Presentation on Saturday, October 18th, from 1:00pm – 3:00pm (Bring your own lunch.) Alhambra United Methodist Church, 9 N. Almansor St., Alhambra.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our Holiday Program on Monday, December 1st at 7:00pm. This will be held at Alhambra First United Methodist Church. It's always a fun event and it will be exciting to see what our Programs Chairs and committee has planned for us.

Best to you!

Marilee

AAUW Fund

Do something different and fun for October: Give your trick or treat money to the Fund! Bonnie Gonzalez has already given a check to Kathleen for 3 chances at the Gourmet Gala with Kathleen and her Sister. Rumor has it that Kathleen makes a very decadent layered chocolate cake. You can choose your menu if you win the drawing and have a fantastic meal prepared by Kathleen and her amazing sister Ruth! \$25 for 3 chances. Quite a steal these days.

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.

Membership Corner

A big heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you that helped our branch reach 100 percent renewal. We are a fortunate branch to have members like you who not only share a common goal, the advancement of women, but more importantly see each other as family. I am blessed to be a part of your group. Let's see if we can expand and bring in other like-minded folks into our family.

Veronica

Public Policy

Election season is upon us. Please pay attention to the following dates:

October 6: Vote-by-mail ballots are sent to all registered voters.

October 7: Ballot drop-off locations open.

October 20: Last day to register to vote or update your registration if you moved or changed names (e.g., got married).

October 25: Early voting begins at select vote centers.

November 1: All vote centers open.

November 4: ELECTION DAY: Polls open at 7:00 a.m., close at 8:00 p.m.

Good to know:

- You can vote at any vote center, or you can vote by mail.
- Missed the registration deadline? Starting October 21, conditional registration is available at the Registrar's Office or any open vote center. Register and vote on the same day!

Liz

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.



TWIG-ITEMS FROM THE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

AAUW ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL BRANCH

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

UPDATES FROM MARIAN HALLIN

September 12th

Hi Everyone:

Your offer to buy the sandwich for me or take-home sounds good. I really hope I can attend. Secondly here is the latest on Jack: He entered Royal Oaks Skilled Nursing facility, and we were informed he had Covid and pneumonia. Just after midnight I got a call that he had pulled out his feeding tube and was being taken to a hospital. He is currently at Glendora Presbyterian, and it turned out not to be as bad as they thought, but he is dehydrated, has hypertension, etc., so they admitted him to the Covid section. We spent about three hours with him, and it was mostly watching him sleep except for some answers when asked a direct question. Hopefully no more surprises. Day to day works best.

September 19th

As of today's date, Jack is in an acute skilled nursing facility.

*THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS TWIG-ITEM.
FROM OUR HEARTS AND SOULS, WE CONTINUE TO WISH MARIAN AND JACK
STRENGTH, ENERGY,
PEACE AND LOVE.*

WE ARE ALL HERE FOR YOU.

THE AAUW ALHAMBRA-SAN GABRIEL BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

RECENT TWIG-ITEM: CELEBRATED **SEPTEMBER 15TH!**

Gerry & Elena

CONGRATULATIONS TO TIFFANY WHITE, husband **Lu** and daughter **Fiona!**
WELCOME TO THE WORLD, DAMIEN!

"He's a little sweetie and we love him so much! 🥰❤️❤️❤️" ...Tiff





Jackie Fisher a Tech Trek South committee member writes articles for the local newspapers for our branch. When asked, she allowed me to use the following, a portion of her recent article.

Eighth grade girls from Alhambra, Monterey Park and Montebello shared highlights of their valuable experiences from virtual and Whittier College residential camps at the annual Membership Luncheon that was held last month. Several committee members from Tech Trek North and Tech Trek South worked with the girls before the luncheon. One member coached the girls in public speaking skills. The girls presented highlights of activities and experiments in the fields of Anatomy, Chemistry, Forensics, Neuroscience and Robotics.

Thank you letters to the AAUW Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch show meaningful the girls' learnings were. I told my committee, "They are a delight to read. After you take the time read them, you will know why we spend all this time working on Tech trek." Here are samples:

- My emotions were on a roller coaster ride with the fetus pig dissection. It was like having a deep gut fear of something, yet still being able to power through and push yourself to become a better version of who you are.
- We also dissected a cow eye and a sheep brain. I felt like I learned so much since I won the Jeopardy of Science."
- I got to learn chemistry, live in the dorms, make new friends and have an overall amazing experience."
- I loved going to the cadaver lab, attending lectures with the other campers, to be able to meet astronomers or women with their own architectural business and getting a chance present my own ideas with my dorm group."
- The virtual camper, studied online at home and said, "I was able to build connections, advance my development in STEM, and most importantly, had a lot of fun!"

Both TT South and TT North are beginning slowly to get ready for the 2026 recruitment process that will be in January. Fundraising is our goal at the moment. If you are interested in making an end of the year donation to either TT South or TT North – contact Jane Krause or Rozanne Child for details.

Happy Halloween to you and your families

Jane Krause
TT South coordinator



Alhambra-San Gabriel TechTrek Campers:

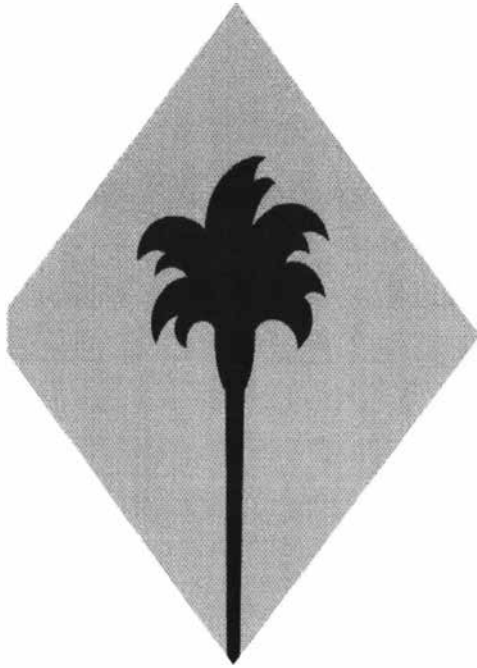
Back Row: Joyce M., San Gabriel HS; Vianca G., MOI; Margaret M., EAI; Leilani M., Rosewood Pk.; Isabella P., Ramona

Middle Row: Daniella P., Macy; Cici L., Ynez; Isabella C., Repetto; Priscilla M., Monterey Highlnds

Front Row: Mikayla G., LMI; Alisa S., Northrup; Ruth S., BGI; Madelyn O., Brightwood

The 2025-2026 Directory is coming!

An electronic version of this year's branch directory should be distributed by mid-October. As in the past few years, a hard-copy booklet version of the directory will also be available at a nominal cost. Please contact Kathleen Doty if you desire a hard-copy of the directory so an appropriate number can be printed.



california pizza kitchen

CPK IS HOSTING A FUNDRAISER FOR AAUW TECH TREK NORTH ON OCTOBER 7TH, 2025!!!

Show this flyer or mention the organization listed and California Pizza Kitchen will

DONATE 20% OF ALL FOOD & BEVERAGE SALES

to your organization. Purchases include Dine-in, Take-out, Catering and Online orders at

CPK.com when you enter BACK20% at checkout.

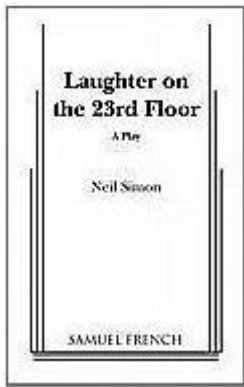
Offer valid at CPK Arcadia 400 S Baldwin ave ste 115 - Santa Anita Fashion Mall - The Shops at Santa Anita

Located inside the mall, 2nd floor, just in front of Macy's

Fundraiser valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location(s) identified on this flyer. Only 501(c)3 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.

Drama

Time for the first play of the year, Laughter on the 23rd Floor by Neil Simon. It will be October 13th, 7:00 PM, at Kathleen Doty's home, 1224 S. 4th St., Alhambra. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.



Set in 1953, Neil Simon's "flat-out funniest play in years" (Dennis Cunningham, CBS-TV) re-creates the mayhem, neuroses, nonstop gags, and constant one-upmanship of a team of brilliantly funny social misfits as they write The Max Prince Show, a weekly variety program. Among the crew are Milt, the insult artist; Ira, the hypochondriac whose dream is to have a virus named after him; and Val, a Russian emigre who

takes a Berlitz course so he can curse without an accent. They are devoted to their boss, Max, a comic genius, a tyrant, and a paranoiac with a heart of gold. But his penchant for tipping and popping too many pills is growing under the pressures of a rising McCarthyism, network executives, and sponsors who want him to cut back his "too-smart" show and staff so that they can chase after the Leave It to Beaver and Father Knows Best audience.

Looking for an Author for January

Many of our members have suggestions for an author for our January meeting. If you are one of them, please send me the name of the author and their contact information; pertinent material regarding why you want to hear them; potential cost and whatever else you want to share. The deadline for submissions is October 15th. The final selection of an author will be made by the program committee. I look forward to your recommendations!

Deanna

BOOKS

Day Books will meet Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Kathleen Doty's home to review The Things We Cannot Say by Kelly Rimmer. Contact Kathleen Doty for more information.



In 1942, Europe remains in the relentless grip of war. Just beyond the tents of the Russian refugee camp she calls home, a young woman speaks her wedding vows. It's a decision that will alter her destiny... and it's a lie that will remain buried until the next century.

Since she was nine years old, Alina Dziak knew she would marry her best friend, Tomasz. Now fifteen and engaged, Alina is unconcerned by reports of Nazi soldiers at the Polish border, believing her neighbors that they pose no real threat, and dreams instead of the day Tomasz returns from college in Warsaw so they can be married. But little by little, injustice by brutal injustice, the Nazi occupation takes hold, and Alina's tiny rural village, its families, are divided by fear and hate. Then, as the fabric of their lives is slowly picked apart, Tomasz disappears. Where Alina used to measure time between visits from her beloved, now she measures the spaces between hope and despair, waiting for word from Tomasz and avoiding the attentions of the soldiers who patrol her parents' farm. But for now, even deafening silence is preferable to grief.

Slipping between Nazi-occupied Poland and the frenetic pace of modern life, Kelly Rimmer creates an emotional and finely wrought narrative that weaves together two women's stories into a tapestry of perseverance, loyalty, love and honor. The Things We Cannot Say is an unshakable reminder of the devastation when truth is silenced... and how it can take a lifetime to find our voice before we learn to trust it.

Evening Books will gather October 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss our summer reads and plan for the coming year. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.

La Casa de San Gabriel Update for Alhambra-San Gabriel Branch AAUW Members

An historic act of restitution is currently underway in our midst. For what is believed to be the first time in California history, church property is being returned to tribal ownership: The Presbytery of San Gabriel has deeded the land previously occupied by La Casa de San Gabriel Community Center to the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians Gabrielino Tongva. Henceforth, the site will be known as the Gabrielino-Tongva Center at Siban'gna.

For nearly 80 years, La Casa de San Gabriel Community Center, launched in 1946 by First Presbyterian Church of San Gabriel, provided essential social services, health clinics and recreational activities for the surrounding low-income neighborhood. A pre-school operated on the premises, along with after school sports and club activities. Our own Cheryl Prentice faithfully served at La Casa for decades, including more than twenty years as Executive Director.

From the very beginning, members of the San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians Gabrielino Tongva were actively involved in the work and programs of La Casa. The Chief's wife (a Presbyterian) and sister worked at the pre-school, and generations of tribal children played on La Casa's sports teams. Meanwhile, thanks to Cheryl, a tribal office has existed on the premises for more than four decades, anchoring that community to the site even further.

As the time came to wrap up the work and close the doors of La Casa, the Presbytery prayerfully decided to return the land to its original owners and inhabitants, rather than sell to developers. A formal statement provides that: "The restitution of this site to the historic tribe of San Gabriel is an effort to redress, in some small part, the historic harm experienced by the Gabrielino-Tongva people by restoring to them the ownership of a portion of their ancestral land of which they were unjustly deprived."

The Tribal Center of Siban'gna is dedicated to education, cultural preservation and visibility, with multi-generational engagement. The tribe will continue to host a food bank and looks forward to developing interactive educational programming for school field trips. May we all pray blessings on their community and work, give thanks for the Presbytery's wisdom in providing this restitution, and continue discerning ways to support and encourage them. Amen!

Elizabeth A. Cheadle, B.A., J.D.,
Dean of Students, UCLA School of Law (Retired)

ACTIVITIES

Tap into the Fun!

New faces, and used ones, are always welcomed.

Join Us!

Board Meeting Monday, November 3rd at 7:00 PM on Zoom. 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, October 15th at 2:00 PM. Book info on page 7. Contact Kathleen Doty.

Evening Books will meet Monday, October 27th. Contact Deanna Arthur for more information.



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



Drama: Join us on October 13th, 7:00 PM, at Kathleen Doty's home. Play info on page 7. 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 met in September for brunch and organizing our year. Since our numbers have whittled down to a mere 8-9 ladies, we have decided to meet only every other month. We will be dark in October. Sandy Jelinek will be our host in November.

Restaurant Gourmets Mama Lu's, 910 E Main St., Alhambra, 6:00 PM. Date to be determined. 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: 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