

## AAUW Issues: Healthcare

Flo Pickett  
Public Policy /Program

Saturday, April 1, 2017



The American Association of University Women believes that everyone is entitled to high-quality, affordable, and accessible health care.

Health care security is intrinsically tied to economic security, and this relationship is particularly true for women who earn less than men on average and are therefore less able to afford insurance or care. Despite massive spending, health care outcomes in the United States continue to lag behind many other Western nations. But more Americans are now able to access affordable health insurance and the preventive care they need thanks to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which passed into law in 2010.



The Long Beach Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) invite members and the public to a community forum on the possible repeal of the Affordable Health Care Act and the impact such a repeal will have on women of all ages.

**- ACA has resulted in fewer women of reproductive age being uninsured.**

Uninsured women aged 15–44 has dropped 36 percent under the first two full years of ACA.

**- The practice of “gender rating” ended.** Insurance companies charged men and women different premiums for individually purchased health care plans. Under the ACA, gender rating was banned for plans offered in the individual /small group markets (organizations employing 100 or fewer persons) beginning in 2014. This discriminatory practice was costing women approximately \$1 billion more than men for health coverage.

**- Coverage of women's reproductive health services is required.** 67 percent more women have access to birth control without a co-pay. An increased use of contraception has led to a decline in the number of unplanned pregnancies.

**- The ACA ensured access to and coverage of preventive services and care.** The ACA has secured preventive services to women including contraception, breastfeeding support, and sexually transmitted infection and HIV screenings.

About 137 million Americans now have access to preventive services without cost sharing, including 55 million women. We need to understand what the ACA is and what it is not, and how its repeal could impact women. Additionally, the attack on Medicare and Medicaid is a threat to the healthcare of women who depend upon these systems for their care.

The AAUW forum includes: **Dr. Diana Bonta**, President and CEO of The Bontá Group, providing consulting services in health care, past director of LB Dept. Health & Human Services; **Gerrie Schipske**, Healthcare attorney and Registered Nurse Practitioner and CSULB-Health Care Administration faculty member, and **Cynthia Hanna**, RN, Lead Labor Rep., California Nurses Association.

The forum will be held at Skylinks Golf Course, 4800 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach. AAUW event begins at 9:30 am. Speakers forum will begin at 10:30 am. Lunch Reservations must be made by March 25th and paid for ahead of time. Meeting-only charge is \$5.00. (See website or back page)

**Plan to attend and bring your family and friends to the program and reserve for the luncheon.**

**AAUW's Mission Statement:** *AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.*

**AAUW's Value Promise:** *By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.*

# Branch News

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## **Courtesy** **Best wishes to** **April birthdays!**



1—April Fools Day

10—Passover

16—Easter Sunday

22—Earth Day

Our condolences to Judy Willis on the death of her mother.

*Beautiful young people are  
accidents of nature, but beautiful  
old people are works of art."*  
— Eleanor Roosevelt

## **CALENDAR EVENTS**

Meetings are the first Saturdays, except in Sept., January, March and May.

April 1 — May 6 \* — June 3

\* The May Garden Party, held in the afternoon, will be at a private home.

**AAUW-LONG BEACH website:**

[www.aauw-longbeach.org](http://www.aauw-longbeach.org)

**AAUW email address:**

[AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com](mailto:AAUWLongBeach@gmail.com)



**We're on Facebook!**

[www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca](http://www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca)

**Follow AAUW on**

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/AAUW-Long-Beach-CA-Branch-7001584/about>



Register now for the **AAUW National Convention!** Join us June 14–17 in Washington, D.C. to lobby Congress, hone your leadership skills, and network with AAUW leaders. After this unprecedented election, AAUW's voice is needed now more than ever.

**Join the chorus of AAUW leaders who will take Capitol Hill by storm on June 15 at the 2017 AAUW National Convention Congressional Lobby Day.**

Together, 1,000 AAUW members from across the country will speak truth to power on Capitol Hill and advocate for AAUW's policy priorities for women and girls. What's more, the convention will prepare you with the skills and training you need to keep fighting for equity back home.

**Make sure your voice is heard in the halls of power in June. [Register now!](#)**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time at 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. All meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church at Atherton and Bellflower Blvd. Room 2.  
Date: April 17

**FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**—All meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month, social time 6:30pm with meeting at 7:00pm. Meetings will be at the Unitarian Universalist church, Room 2. Date: March 20, May 15



Has any of your contact information changed? Phone? Email? Address? Help us to keep you informed in a timely manner. Send your changes to Database Coordinator George Jackson, at [georgeljackson@gmail.com](mailto:georgeljackson@gmail.com) or call 562-377-1670.

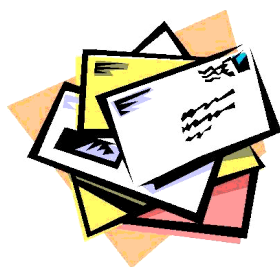
Send any Branch news or Courtesy items to Editor: Rebecca Low [rlow1@hotmail.com](mailto:rlow1@hotmail.com)

## President's Message



Thank you to Frances Rozner and Mary Lamo, the STEM committee, and the many volunteers for the wonderful STEM Career conference. We appreciate your hard work, dedication and energy, and look forward already to next year's event. The team did a wonderful job. Almost 250 young women students attended and they all seemed to be having a wonderful time.

At the March branch meeting, 20 past branch Presidents were honored for their service and commitment to AAUW. An organization is only as strong as its leaders and the Long Beach branch has had some wonderful ones.



Several members have written letters to the editor of the Press Telegram or opinion pieces regarding some of the editorials that appeared in the paper. See the Sunday, March 5 *Press Telegram* for a letter to the editor by Sharon Westafer. We feel strongly that letter writing and opinion pieces are an excellent way for members to be heard. We encourage branch members, as community members, to write to local newspapers on issues important to women. We also encourage you to make contact with your co-presidents if there are issues we should speak out on as a branch. Guidelines were requested from National AAUW as we must follow their policies regarding use of our name. These are the guidelines we were given:

“AAUW branch and state organizations are welcome to take a public stance on those positions included in the AAUW Public Policy Program, which includes our position on school vouchers. With regards to specific federal legislation or cabinet and judicial nominations, a branch may only speak out in support or opposition if AAUW national has already weighed in. The best way to stay apprised of AAUW federal policy positions is through our Action Network. While we don't have sample LTEs on all topics, a few can be found in our how-to guide for writing op-eds and LTEs. In addition, AAUW Quick Facts provide talking points you can repurpose.”

We hope to see you at the April branch meeting as it will be another informative and thought provoking program. We will also be honoring our newest 50-year life members at this meeting.

### BOARD BRIEFS

Regular board business was conducted at the February Executive Committee meeting. No motions were presented.

The following motion will be voted on at the April Branch meeting. It was previously published in the September Vantage but did not make it onto the September meeting agenda.

Motion by direction of the Scholarship Committee that the Board recommend to the Branch that AAUW Long Beach continue to fund the two (2) \$500 LBCC and two (2) \$2500 CSULB AAUW Long Beach Frances Magarian Scholarships for the next 5 years. The motion passed.

# Long Beach Branch STEM Career Conference

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Mary Lamo and Frances Rozner,  
Conference Co-Chairs

**February 24, 2017**

New LBCC Foundation Executive Director Liz McCann, and branch Co-President Cacilia Kim, welcomed 229 middle school girls to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Career Conference, held at Long Beach City College Liberal Arts campus. Keynote Speaker Luisa Cano, Natural Gas Liquids and Petroleum Coke Planner at the Tesoro Los Angeles Refinery, soon inspired the girls with her story. Luisa shared her challenges as a rebellious young woman and her eventual path to a college degree and a successful career. Her talk encouraged the girls to believe in themselves and in the wish so many of their mothers have for them to become independent, strong women who can take care of themselves, with education as the key.

After the keynote address, the girls each attended two 40-minute workshops led by women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers. The workshops, with fun hands-on activities, were presented by:

- Erin Adams and Donna Diaz, Pipeline Engineers, Crimson Pipeline, LLC
- Marchell Bailey, Registered Dietitian, Little Company of Mary
- Gabrielle Bullock, Architect, Perkins +Will
- Rhonda Gilyard, Chemical Engineer, TABC, Inc.
- Dr. Maggie Liu, Audiologist, Providence Speech & Hearing
- Fatima Martinez, Software Engineer, Laserfiche
- Inez Martinez, Coroner, Orange County Sheriff's Department
- Brianna Pagan, Environmental Scientist, Hydrology & Water Resources, UCLA
- Courtney Richards, Paleontologist, Paleo Solutions, Inc.
- Dr. Kim Vu and Dr. Thomas Strybel, Human Factors Researchers, CSULB



Partnering schools this year were Franklin Classical Middle School, Hamilton Middle School (with AAUW member William Feliciano as school Champion), Jackie Robinson Academy, Muir Academy, Powell Academy for Success and Washington Middle School.

Thank you to the 60+ volunteers who helped to make this year's STEM conference the most successful and smoothly run to date! Volunteers stuffed goody and snack bags, handled registration and distribution of materials, photographed the event, facilitated the speakers, acted as traffic monitors, fed the volunteers, and thoughtfully represented the branch in all their roles. Special thanks to the Committee Chairs who spent many hours overseeing the details: Darlene Daclan (Volunteers), Becky Low (Registration), Marie Kiss (Research), Karen Gustafson & Anne Supple (Facilities), Jessica Kober & Linda Patten (Food), Deloris Mayuga (Program) and Kimberly Johnson (LBUSD Liaison).

The Port of Long Beach and TABC, Inc. gave generous financial donations, underwriting a substantial portion of the conference expenses. Their support is very much appreciated. For the donation of goody bag contents and the discounted use of facilities, we wish to acknowledge Long Beach City College, California State University – Chancellor's Office, County of Los Angeles Sanitation Department, Crimson Pipeline, LLC, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Long Beach Library, Museum of Latin American Art, Port of Long Beach, Linda Silver and University of Kansas.

The conference is very much a collaborative effort, and as evidenced by the enthusiastic responses from the young women who attended, an inspiring and rewarding experience for all who participate. The evaluation form comments and thank-you notes written to speakers are testament to the value of this event. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to all participants who made this an impactful event for the girls. We look forward to another outstanding STEM Career Conference on February 23, 2018!

## Public Policy

Flo Pickett, Public Policy Chair



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*AAUW is committed to supporting “fairness in compensation, equitable access and advancement in employment, and vigorous enforcement of employment antidiscrimination statutes.”*

Equal Pay Day will be observed this year on April 4, 2017. The date symbolizes how far into 2017 women must work to earn what men earned in 2016. According to national Census statistics released in 2015, women working full-time, year round, make, on average, 78 cents for every dollar a male earns doing the same job. In California, women do slightly better, 85 cents on the dollar. We have arrived at another year, another wage gap for women and their families.

The pay gap is even worse for women of color; 80% for national, 86% for California, African American 63%, Hispanic 54%. And with our inactive Congress and still-troubling economy, women continue to feel the pinch of the wage gap. AAUW members and our partners can work to help close the pay gap.

Equal Pay Day has the objective of raising the awareness of the issue in our communities, with our members, and especially with young women who are under the false impression that pay inequity has been “taken care of”. While SB358 was enacted by the California Legislature in 2015, there is still much work to be done before it becomes a reality for all women. Next meeting is on March 25. Contact Flo.



## AAUW Work Smart

Mary Lamo, Frances Rozner &  
Sharon Westafer

Equal Pay Day is April 4. On April 5, AAUW Long Beach will hold its first non-pilot AAUW Work Smart workshop, thanks to the \$1000 sponsorship of County of Los Angeles Supervisor Janice Hahn. The workshop will be facilitated by Alex Bellenger and Espy Aceves and held 6:30pm-8:30pm in the new training room of the Port of Long Beach (thank you, Margaret Huebner and Elise Roberts). Registration is online at [salary.aauw.org/longbeach](http://salary.aauw.org/longbeach) and limited to 40 attendees. Please spread the word to any woman you know who could benefit – there are no geographical boundaries.

District 3 City Councilwoman, Suzie Price, will be sponsoring our second workshop – date to be determined. A very helpful meeting was held in January with the Chief of Staff and the Program Manager for District 5 Councilwoman Stacy Mungo. A meeting with District 9 Councilman and Vice Mayor Rex Richardson is being scheduled for March. Efforts continue to set up meetings with all the City Councilpersons. The Committee’s goal is to conduct one workshop a month in 2017, in different geographical areas throughout Long Beach.

Please contact the following if you, or friends of yours, want to be involved in this very effective project: Facilities (Daphne C.), Fundraising (Frances R.), Facilitators/Facilitating (Judy W.), Marketing & Promotion (Mary L.). *Advancing equity – it’s our AAUW mission.*



# Connie Inskeep Award

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Frances Rozner, Selection Committee Chair

Please nominate your candidate for the 2017 Connie Inskeep Award by April 15, 2017. Forms will be available at the April 1 meeting and/or sent to you by email in March. The criteria are demonstrated leadership that is consistent with the mission of AAUW, solely or in combination, at the Branch level, at the Los Angeles County Interbranch (LACIC), and/or at the California or National level.

We have many worthy women in our midst; with your thoughtful participation, we can identify and recognize the newest honoree at the June meeting. This is a once-in-a-lifetime award; prior recipients are listed on page 11 of your 2016-2017 Yearbook. Thank you!

## The Nominating Committee

is pleased to announce the list of nominees for the following board offices:

Co-Presidents:	Cacilia Kim and Sharon Westafer
Co-Program VP:	Lindsay San Miguel and Pam Rayburn
Co-Membership VP:	Denise Montoya and Carol Smith
AAUW Fund VP:	Lois Ledger
Investments VP:	Linda Patten
Secretary:	Anne Supple
President-Elect:	Vacant

Thank you to these members for accepting nominations and to those of you who helped with suggestions.

Committee members were: **Dianne Bradfield (chair)**, Elsa Karen Braden, Del Clark, Flo Pickett, Joyce Blasnek, Lindsay San Miguel, and Joan Gustafson

## AAUW CA LEADERSHIP DAY    Los Angeles 2017 REGISTER NOW!

Empower yourself to act on our mission and key issues! AAUW CA offers training for branch members from So. California. Leadership Days are for everyone – members, board officers, incoming board, any member considering taking a leadership position.



**WHEN:** March 25, 2017

**TIME:** 9:30 registration

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**COST:** \$25/person includes lunch

**WHERE:** Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital, Rms. A & B  
12401 Washington Blvd. Whittier

For more information: Sharon Westafer (sharwest1@hotmail.com)

[www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-california-leadership-days-2017](http://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-california-leadership-days-2017)

# BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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Joining an AAUW members-only interest group (or many) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities.

To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President and it will be passed along to Ellen Mathis, Interest Group Coordinator, for help with implementation.

*Reminder: All interest group participants MUST be AAUW Long Beach members. Guests may attend a meeting group or an interest group a maximum of three times before they are required to join AAUW. Interest groups are for the benefit of AAUW members.*



**Book Chat Plus Group** members present the most interesting book they have recently read, film they have seen or the most exciting travel experience they have had. If time allows, all three! Light refreshments are served along with the intriguing conversation. We meet the 1st Tuesday at 10 a.m. Contact **Betty Thompson**, 562 - 430 - 8438 or [bettythom@aol.com](mailto:bettythom@aol.com)



**Cultural Adventures Group** plans trips to museums and other points of interest. It is usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Join a group that enjoys checking out museums and other cultural interests. Contact **Joan Gustafson** at 562-439-3130 or **Fay Denny** [faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com) Ideas welcome for Spring.



**Great Decisions Group** meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. *To all Great Decisions Group members:* Great Decisions book information is available at the branch meetings. If you plan to participate, you may also contact a group coordinator or Contact **Julie Taboada** at 562-856-0709 or [jutaboada@verizon.net](mailto:jutaboada@verizon.net)



**International Cuisine Group** meets and dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. It is usually scheduled every few months on a Wednesday within an easy drive of LB. Car pooling is an option. Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email at [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com).



**Literary Ladies Group** meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. They meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 12:30 p.m. There is a maximum of 10 and a waiting list. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested. The book selection for April is *All the Old Knives* by Steinhauer.



**Public Policy** meetings, explore, discuss and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, which underscore our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The group passes on knowledge and information to all branch members and encourage them to become involved with AAUW issues.  
For the next meeting - Contact **Flo Pickett**



**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. Our next meeting in 2017 is being planned. Anyone with an interest in residential rental is welcome. We cover current landlord/tenant topics, share experiences and work to keep current in the housing industry all in an informal setting. Ellen Mathis and Joan Gustafson Co-Chair and invite you to check the group out.



Contact Ellen Mathis, 562-433-6509 or [emathis@verizon.net](mailto:emathis@verizon.net) to discuss ideas or details for meetings (what, where, time, etc.).

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## AAUW Long Beach Branch

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization, on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability

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### RESERVATION RETURN FORM

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Member Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (with MEAL) reservation for meeting / program

\_\_\_\_\_ (NO MEAL) reservation for meeting and  
program only is **\$5.00**

\_\_\_\_\_ special MEAL (Buffet—choose for yourself)

Use a PayPal account/ send \$ to [toaaauwlongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:toaaauwlongbeach@gmail.com)  
Select Family and Friends to avoid usage fee to the branch

### ***RESERVATION by March 25***

*A meal reservation is a financial commitment and  
refunds shall not be made.*

### AAUW BRANCH EVENT Saturday, April 1, 2017

9:30 am	Mix 'n Mingle
10:00-10:30 am	Business Meeting
10:30-11:30 am	Program/Speaker
11:30 am	Lunch

**Place: Skylinks Golf Course Clubhouse**  
4800 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach 90808

**Meal:** Croissant Sandwich Buffet includes:  
Garden Salad & dressing, Italian Pasta Salad  
Dessert: Fresh baked Cookies and Brownies  
Includes coffee, hot & ice tea, and water

**Price: \$25.00**

Questions about the location?

Daphne Ching-Jackson  
[dchingjackson@verizon.net](mailto:dchingjackson@verizon.net)  
or Pam Rayburn at  
[pam.rayburn@csulb.edu](mailto:pam.rayburn@csulb.edu)

