



Vantage

Leading through Pandemic

Herlinda Chico, Program Vice President



Our November 7th program will feature State Senator Lena A. Gonzalez who will speak on the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls, especially from communities of color, as well as the resulting economic consequences. Her assignment as the legislature's chair of the Special Committee on Pandemic Emergency Response uniquely qualifies her to share key observations.

Senator Gonzalez was elected to represent the 33rd District in June of 2019. In the Senate, Gonzalez prioritizes creating economic opportunity for all families and children in SD 33. Gonzalez wants to create jobs, promote quality education, address the crisis in affordable housing and homelessness, protect our environment and attract innovation to SD 33.

Prior to being elected to the Senate, Gonzalez served on the Long Beach City Council from 2014-2019 and previously, worked in the private sector for Microsoft. Her focus then was on increasing diversity & inclusion in the STEM fields! She grew up in a working-class family where her father was a truck driver and her mother worked in aerospace.

We are proud to claim Senator Gonzalez as a Long Beach-based leader. She lives here with her husband Adam and their three sons. Gonzalez graduated with her B.A. in Political Science from California State University Long Beach and MBA from Loyola Marymount University.

Please join us for the November 7th program by using this link to RSVP:

<https://forms.gle/KKyGc6MQW8qXq5g87>

AAUW Mission :

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Vision:

Equity for all.

AAUW Values:

Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

AAUW Diversity Statement:

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of age, disability, gender, location, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.



From the Co-Presidents

by Stelet Kim & Jeane Relleve Caveness, Ph.D.

Dear Friends,

As we head into an election month in a year marking the centennial of women's suffrage, we have a lot to celebrate -- and a lot of work to do. To give us a snapshot of women's engagement as candidates for elected office, here are some key facts according to The Center for American Women & Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University:¹

- **a record number of women are running for the U.S. House and Senate this year, surpassing even the 2018 election which broke almost all records in for women's major-party candidacies.** The shattering of previous records was entirely due to Democratic women in 2018 House contests. In contrast, Republican women are responsible for the jump in women's House candidacies in 2020. Changes in the number of women congressional candidates were larger from 2016 to 2018 than they are between 2018 and 2020, though Republican women's House candidacies have seen the largest swing over the past two election cycles.

- **A record number of women of color are running for congressional office in 2020, and women of color are also a larger percentage of all women running for the U.S. House and U.S. Senate this year.** At least 248 women of color -- including women who identify as Asian or Pacific Islander (API), Black, Latina, Middle Eastern or North African (MENA), Native American, and/or multiracial -- are running for the U.S. House in 2020. Women of color are also a larger percentage of all women running for the U.S. House this year than in any other year since this data has been collected. At least 18 women of color are running for the U.S. Senate in 2020. This number is higher than any other year since CAWP collected comprehensive race data on Senate candidates in 2004. **Despite breaking records, women remain underrepresented among all candidates for elected office in 2020.** Women are more than 50% of the U.S. population, but remain less than a third of all major-party candidates for congressional and statewide executive offices in the 2020 election.

Why does it matter that women hold office? In 2015-2016 CAWP researchers interviewed 83 of the 108 women who served in the 114th Congress. The study yielded five key insights:²

1. Public service provides significant opportunities for women - including the opportunity to bring issues to policy agendas that would not otherwise be there.
2. Women also bring distinct and diverse perspectives to legislative debates, often rooted in their own experiences.
3. Women act as a voice for the voiceless, using their power as elected officials to advocate for those who are too often ignored in the halls of power.
4. Elected women change the face of political leadership and use their positions to encourage and empower other women.
5. Women get things done, even in today's polarized political environment.

Despite decades of investment by AAUW in women's leadership programs, progress in advancing women has stalled. AAUW is committed to closing the gender leadership gap once and for all. Exercise your power: vote!

Calendar Dates to Note

Sat Nov. 7	Branch meeting
Mon. Nov. 16	Executive Committee meeting
Sat. Dec. 5	Wassail event TBD
April 24, 2021	Author Luncheon!

Contact Us

aauwlongbeach@gmail.com

www.longbeach-ca.aauw.net

www.facebook.com/
aauwlongbeachca

For Vantage info: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com

¹ <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/election-analysis/record-numbers-women-candidates-2020>

² <https://cawp.rutgers.edu/footnotes/making-case-more-women-office-our-interviews-83-congresswomen-can-help>



New Member Buddy Program by Denise Montoya and Dee Dee Catalano

The Buddy Program was developed by the AAUW – Long Beach Branch Membership Committee in the summer of 2018. An idea found on the National website, it was a tool used to increase retention of new members. The idea is to assign a Buddy to a new member, so that they immediately feel a connection with the Branch and will feel welcome. It's especially important that we engage new members at this time, because we are unable to meet in person at Branch meetings and events. The earlier that new members feel connected to the Branch, the sooner they may feel comfortable committing to volunteering and supporting the Mission.

The Buddy's responsibilities are: introducing themselves to the new member and sharing their own history with the Branch, perhaps the activities they've enjoyed and the interests they have; asking the new member what they anticipate getting out of their experience with the Branch, and what level of commitment they feel early on; confirming the new member is receiving the Vantage and Branch-wide alerts via email; sharing the Branch website link and Facebook page with them; inviting the new member to meetings/programs, events, new member orientation, and social hours; finding out if an Interest Group or project would be a good match for them; introducing the new member to other members with similar experience and/or interests, and introducing them to leadership in the Branch, so they know who they and the Committee Chairs are. Contact may be made by phone, email, text or through the mail.

We hope you will volunteer to be a new member's Buddy. It's an opportunity to work with an interesting new member who may have similar commitments to the advancement of women and girls. A-n-d, you'll make a new AAUW friend! Lastly, your efforts will be contributing to the success of our "5 Star" qualification for membership retention of 95%!

Please contact Dee Dee Catalano, Membership VP; catalanosmith@yahoo.com, 562-310-5292 or Denise Montoya, Immediate Past-President; dgmontoya44@gmail.com, 206-437-7510 with any questions or to volunteer.



FYI from AAUW California Board

- Attend a webinar! Your state leaders are offering **15 more** webinars through May 2021 including "Work Smarter not Harder" on Nov. 18. To register or access recordings and materials for past webinars, go to: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2020-2021-webinars/>.
- AAUW CA Public Policy Committee has recommended support for seven out of 12 propositions on the November ballot <https://www.aauw-ca.org/proposition-update>
Branches do not need to officially support the seven measures, but they cannot oppose them. Individuals may not act as representatives of AAUW in supporting or opposing any propositions.
- AAUW California is hosting a competition for the branch with the most new Legacy Circle members. Deadline is November 30th. Contact LB Fund VP Barbara Vangness or access information here: <https://ww3.aauw.org/files/2013/08/Legacy-Circle-Brochure-nsa.pdf>

AAUW Fund

by Sharon Westafer & Barbara Vangsness

NON-EVENT FUNDRAISER FOR THE AAUW FUND



Join the AAUW Long Beach branch Fund committee as we work toward our goal of raising \$30 per member for the AAUW Fund. As many of you know, October or November had traditionally been the time we would raise money for the Fund by placing envelopes on the tables at the branch meeting. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will be enjoying the November meeting in the comfort of home. Just think, you don't need to get dressed up and you can eat whatever you would like for lunch.

We appreciate your support.

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE 2020-2021 FUND CAMPAIGN
IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORY/S:

American Fellowship \$ ____ Career Development Grants \$ ____

Community Action Grants \$ ____ Greatest Need \$ ____

International Fellowship Grants \$ ____ International Project Grants \$ ____

Legal Advocacy Fund \$ ____ Medicine and Science \$ ____

Research Publication Grants /Engineering \$ ____ Selected Professions Fellowship \$ ____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please mail your check, made payable to: AAUW Fund
c/o: Sharon Westafer,
6222 E. Marina Drive, Long Beach, CA 90803
by December 15

*All donations are 100% tax deductible and are directed to
National AAUW projects and funds.*

**WE MAKE A LIVING
BY WHAT WE GET
WE MAKE A LIFE
BY WHAT WE GIVE**

- Winston Churchill

Branch Business

There are no motions from the October meeting to report.

Public Policy

by Arnedra Jordan, Public Policy Director

Meetings are held virtually the third Tuesday of each month at 12:00 p.m. For the Zoom meeting invitation, contact Arnedra Jordan, (310)722-6594 or ajordan6@my.keller.edu

SB 973 Signed by the Governor!

By Kathi Harper, AAUW California Public Policy Co-Chair

In 2018, AAUW co-sponsored a bill requiring companies with more than 100 employees to collect and report to the Department of Fair Employment and Housing data on:

The number of employees by race, ethnicity, and sex for 10 job categories;

The number of employees by race, ethnicity, and sex, whose annual earnings fall within certain pay bands;

The total number of hours worked by each employee counted in each pay band during the reporting year.

The purpose of the bill is “to allow for designated state agencies to collect wage data to more efficiently identify wage patterns and allow for targeted enforcement of equal pay or discrimination laws.” The bill failed in 2019, and was re-introduced last year by the same author, Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara), and was signed by Governor Newsom on September 30th – the last day in the last hour!

Fifteen other AAUW California-supported bills were also signed by the Governor, including: improved medical care for incarcerated pregnant women (**AB732**); protection for women testifying in sexual assault cases from having their testimony of alcohol or drug use at the time of the assault used against them in a separate prosecution (**AB1927**); addition of “sexual harassment” as a form of prohibited sex discrimination in higher education (**SB493**); and expansion of the California Family Rights Act to require any employer with 5 or more employees to grant a request by an employee to take up to 12 workweeks of unpaid protected leave during any 12-month period to bond with a new child or to care for themselves or a family member. (**SB1383**).

Finally, as part of our “white allyship” posture, we supported six bills that were enacted to address racial injustice and/or to enhance opportunities for Black women: **AB979**, requiring corporations to include a specified number of members from underrepresented communities on their boards of directors; **AB1196 and AB1506**, regulating police use of force; **AB1460**, requiring ethnic studies as a graduation requirement in CSU schools; **AB3070**, addressing discriminatory use of peremptory challenges in jury selection; and **AB3121**, establishing a task force to study and develop reparation proposals.

Find additional information on these and all our 2019-20 bills on “Capitol Track” on our website.

 **DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR THE
“WHY PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS”
WEBINAR ON OCTOBER 28TH AT
7:00!**

Check out community events that align with our mission!

<https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/news/events/>

AAUW Work Smart Webinar

by M. Lamo, F. Rozner & S. Westafer

In alignment with the AAUW strategic goal of Economic Security, our AAUW Long Beach Branch is coordinating a FREE AAUW Work Smart webinar. **It will be zoomed by AAUW on Wednesday, October 21, noon to 1pm, and is sponsored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and Ginny's Getaways. Registration is available online at bit.ly/32Vqc6R.**



If you are new to AAUW Work Smart, it's a pay and benefits negotiation workshop designed to give women the skills and confidence to advocate for themselves in the workplace. Participants learn how to research competitive salaries and pay, articulate their skills, qualifications and experience, and effectively ask for—and get—the pay they deserve.

Please share this opportunity with your family and friends, so all can be empowered with the tools to negotiate for fair pay, and to become a part of the movement to close the gender pay gap. The gender pay gap is still at 18% — this gap widens for many when breaking the data down by race and ethnicity, age, disability status, motherhood, gender identity and sexual orientation. If unable to attend on October 21, the online move-at-your-own-pace AAUW Work Smart workshop can be found at salary.aauw.org. Thank you!



Why is **November 25th** United Nations' International Day for the Prevention of Violence Against Women?

- Violence against women is a human rights violation
- Violence against women is a consequence of discrimination against women, in law and also in practice, and of persisting inequalities between men and women
- Violence against women impacts on, and impedes, progress in many areas, including poverty eradication, combating HIV/AIDS, and peace and security
- Violence against women and girls is not inevitable. Prevention is possible and essential
- Violence against women continues to be a global pandemic.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday>

Great Decisions is coming!

I will be taking orders for the Great Decisions books from the Foreign Policy Association. "*American in the World 2020*" will cost \$30.00. Please send me a check for \$30.00 mailed to: Rita Powell, 3524 Brayton Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807. This will also give the Great Decisions groups an opportunity to meet again (maybe only on Zoom) and discuss this year's current topics in the world. Thank you.
Rita Powell



BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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 the Interest Group Coordinator, for help with implementation.

Reminder: All interest group participants MUST be AAUW Long Beach members. Guests may attend a branch meeting 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. (See COVID-19 statement from AAUW CA on page 8)



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



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—maybe by Zoom for now. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email sojoinlb@aol.com



Great Decisions Groups meet weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. To all Group Members: Great Decisions books will be available starting in October for 2021. Planning to participate? please contact your group leader or **Rita Powell** at 562 685 2096.



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. When we get back to normal dining...Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact **Fay Denny** at 714-894-0416 or email faydenny@yahoo.com.



Literary Ladies Group The Literary Ladies are planning to begin meeting at a park soon. The selection for November is *The Passenger* by Lisa Lutz. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested—and keep reading even if we are alone.



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 by Zoom, see info on page 5 - Contact **Arnedra Jordan**



Residential Rentals Discussion Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. We meet by way of ZOOM - it works very well. We are going to do that again for November 18th. Instructions will be sent out before the meeting. Want to join us ? (contact information below) Anyone with an interest (owner or not) 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.
Contact Co-Chairs **Ellen Mathis** - epmathis@verizon.net Joan Gustafson – jwg221@aol.com



Movie Mavens enjoy each others company at a movie and then chat about it over coffee afterwards. We are looking for a new leader for this group... **On hold for now.**



Under the Umbrella Book Group - This Book Club will try meeting the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2:00 PM - Zoom meetings pending. We will read a variety of genres. We have room for more members! Ask Beverly about the titles to be read. Contact **Beverly Krivokapich** 562-596-1826 or email bevkrivo@yahoo.com



Join and enjoy the Social Hour meetings....
<https://www.meetup.com/American-Association-of-University-Women-Long-Beach/>

We hope you will join us for this branch meeting. Please RSVP using this link:

<https://forms.gle/KKyGc6MQW8qXq5g87>

If you are unable to register through the link, please email aaulongbeach@gmail.com

RSVP's received after 5 pm on November 5th will not guarantee that you will receive the Zoom link in time to join the November 7 meeting.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, November 7, 2020

9:30 a.m. Digital Mingle
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. Program

Place: Your Home via Zoom

Everyone who RSVPs will receive an email to clarify the meeting details. It will include the Zoom link, and meeting information. Feel free to share the RSVP link with friends—but *not the Zoom link*. They will also receive a follow up email.

Important COVID-19 Reminder

AAUW CA does not sanction in-person meetings at this time nor for the foreseeable future. AAUW's guidance is in adherence with California mandates and in the best interests of all our members. Let's remain safe today and enjoy gatherings in the future!

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

- John Fitzgerald Kennedy.



AAUW Long Beach Branch

Send address changes for AAUW Vantage to P O Box 15023, Long Beach, CA 90815

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

