



# Vantage

## A Local Pandemic Expert

*Herlinda Chico, Program Vice President*

The State of California has a total of 60 public health officials representing counties and cities. Of the 60, 22 are women and 38 are men. Prior to the pandemic, most Long Beach residents were not aware the City has its own Health Officer, but now many know her name, trust her and respect her. Dr. Anissa Davis, MD, MPH, has been front and center during the City of Long Beach's response to the COVID 19 crisis during a time when we, as a society, faced social uprisings, and demands to change systemic racism and racial and gender inequalities. These challenging times will be recorded in our history books and in honor of Women's History Month, we will hear from the woman helping to write that history.



Dr. Davis grew up in Long Beach and graduated from Poly High School in 1987. She obtained a BA in History at UCLA, then attended Stanford School of Medicine, graduating in 1998 with her MD. She returned to Long Beach to complete a residency in Family Medicine, from 1998-2001. She then completed a Master's in Public Health at UCLA in 2002 and worked for the LB Department of Health and Human Services (LBDHHS) as a public health physician specializing in biological bioterrorism agents. In 2005, she left the city to begin a career in Los Alamitos as a family physician, providing primary medical care to adults and children, which she did for eleven years. She returned to LBDHHS in September 2016 as the City Health Officer.

This pandemic has shown the inequity and the fear within communities of color but it has also shown how representation can positively influence outcomes. As a Black woman, Dr. Davis understands how important her role is as a member of a community terribly impacted by the pandemic and at the center of social change. She used her platform to speak honestly about the disparities in Black and Brown communities and received her vaccination publicly to help ease the anxiety experienced by so many in the community. In an article published in the LB Post, Dr. Davis says "When we're fighting racial injustice, we're also fighting COVID 19. They're interconnected and you can't simply disentangle them." [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Our meeting will be held on Saturday, March 6 and begins at 10:00 am with the program featuring Dr. Davis beginning at 11:00 am. Please register using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/648123456789>

### 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 Members,

This spring, you will have the opportunity to vote on an important proposal to amend the AAUW bylaws to open membership and eliminate the degree requirement. The national AAUW Board of Directors strongly supports this proposal as evidenced by its January 13, 2021 email:

*AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity, yet the requirement for membership explicitly denies access to membership to those without college degrees. AAUW does not promote equity for all women and girls if the organization maintains exclusionary membership requirements. The membership requirement is not fair, is not right, and is not equity. This is simply the right thing to do.*

If the proposal were to pass, eligibility for membership would be changed to read:

**An individual who supports the AAUW mission and pays annual AAUW dues shall be eligible to be an individual member with all rights and responsibilities of AAUW membership.** Source: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/2021-comment-bylaws/>

Language would also be added to give the AAUW Board of Directors explicit authority to set a dues rate of \$0 for students or any other category of membership the Board deems appropriate. We all believe in our mission to advance gender equity for women and girls. Let us ensure that it is for ALL women and girls.

More from an AAUW CA email: The national website is loaded with [material](#) explaining the AAUW Board of Directors' proposal and you can even watch a [recording](#) of a town hall on the topic. The open comment period is now over, but you can weigh in with your Yea or Nay on the national election ballot from April 7 – May 17.

As you prepare to vote, we urge you to consider [the rationale provided by AAUW California, AAUW Pennsylvania, and AAUW National](#) in support of open membership. We encourage you to read it in full via the link; and also two excerpts that are provided on page 3.

## Calendar Dates to Note

Sat., Mar. 6	Branch Meeting
Mon., Mar. 15	Branch Board Meeting
Thurs., April 8	Branch Meeting (eve)
Sat., April 24	Author Luncheon

## Contact Us

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

[LongBeach-ca.aauw.net](http://LongBeach-ca.aauw.net)

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

**For Vantage info: Rebecca Low**  
**[rlow1@hotmail.com](mailto:rlow1@hotmail.com)**

Haven't voted yet? Or having problems trying to vote for **AAUW's Art Contest**?

Tobi would appreciate your vote on her two art entries: "Thumbs Up" (from Tech Trek) and "Cuban Flower Market"

HOW to VOTE ..... Voting ends March 3rd.

Website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/art-contest/> and Click on Vote

If you have not created an account before, click on "Create an Account."

Enter your first & last name, zip code and last 4 of your phone number. You will also need to create a password.

If you already have an account, use your member number and password. (Member # is on the back of your Directory).

Need help? Contact Tobi Balma. Thank you!

## More from AAUW National

### Common Statements and Responses on the Elimination of an Educational Degree:

**Statement:** Our founding mothers instituted the degree requirement, we should abide by that. If we drop the degree requirement it says we don't care about getting an education anymore.

**Response:** AAUW will always care about promoting higher education for women and works tirelessly to support access to education, Title IX protections, STEM education, and a host of other education issues. AAUW also supports access to the equally important career and technical education (CTE) occupations where women also face barriers. Many of the CTE occupations are non-degree jobs, yet they offer women a chance to participate in these higher-paying nontraditional fields.

The support of women's access to education at whatever level and funding to support graduate women students through the Fellowship and Grant programs, will always be a part of AAUW regardless of the membership requirements. Members should bear in mind the context of the times when the degree requirement was set. When Marion Talbot and the other founding mothers began the Association of Collegiate Alumnae it was uncommon for women to have college degrees. These women formed the ACA to remove the roadblocks to getting an education and subsequent work for women of their generation and beyond. Today non-degree women are factory workers, construction workers, electricians, plumbers, realtors, saleswomen, corporate workers, industry workers, telephone company workers, health workers, mechanics, artists, police officers, and so many more, and often are single mothers, all of these women face inequities. If Marion Talbot formed AAUW today, it's hard to believe that she would prevent these women from fighting for equity. We are not honoring AAUW's legacy with this degree requirement, quite the opposite. We need to let non-degree holding women work for their own equity and their daughter's equity alongside the rest of us.

**Statement:** Dropping the degree requirement says that my hard work and sacrifice to earn a degree was a waste of time, demeans my degree, or dishonors my degree.

**Response:** AAUW supports the potential of all women. If a woman chooses to go on to higher education, that's terrific and AAUW will be there to support those efforts for all women. Those who have degrees can be proud of their hard work and reaching their goal. Working with women without degrees does not demean or dishonor your accomplishment.

AAUW equally supports the rights of women that decide not to attend an institution of higher education or who prefer to pursue non-degree career and technical education.

Do we want to be the organization that suggests that without a college education, a woman has nothing to add to AAUW and its mission?

## 2021-2022 Proposed Slate of Officers

The following is the proposed 2021-2022 slate of Officers. This slate will be voted on at the Annual meeting to be held on April 8, 2021. We will be taking nominations from the floor prior to the vote. You can also contact Deloris Mayuga, Ginny Baxter, Dawn Hass, Dee Dee Catalano, Denise Montoya, Julie Taboada or Linda Silver if you would like to nominate someone other than those listed here:

Co-Presidents:	Ginny Baxter & Charlotte Joseph
VP President—Elect:	VACANT
Co-Program VPs:	Herlinda Chico & Dee Dee Catalano
Membership VP:	Carol Clanton
Fund VP:	Linda Westman
Investments VP:	Linda Patten
Secretary:	Dawn Hass



## SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR AUTHOR'S DAY LUNCHEON



Can you help support the Long Beach Branch's fundraiser on April 24th? We are asking for auction donations of gift cards and gift certificates— from restaurants, interesting tours, theatre tickets and department stores. Don't be shy about asking for items from favorite stores you frequent. Other suggestions are gift items, elegant purses, wine and tech gadgets. Please mail gift cards and certificates to JoAnn Kuroda at 5991 E Belen Street, Long Beach, CA 90815 Please keep special donated items in your home until closer to the event date, but send a note to confirm your donation. JoAnn Kuroda, Author's Day Committee Member

## AAUW Fund Fellowships

**American Fellowships** support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations and scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave or for preparing completed research for publication. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. This month's Fellows, Abby Goode and Lizette Solorzano are receiving money from the Jean Aldrich and the Louise R. Arbogast endowments, respectively.

**Name:** [Abby Goode](#)

**Award Year:** 2020-21 **Award:** American Fellowship **Jean Aldrich**

**Institution:** Plymouth State University **Location:** Plymouth, New Hampshire

**Discipline:** Language and literature - American

**Degree and Specialization:** Publication Grant, Environmental Humanities, American Studies, Nineteenth-Century American Literature



**Name:** [Lizette Solorzano](#)

**Award Year:** 2020-21 **Award:** American Fellowship **Ruth Arbogast**

**Institution:** University of Southern California **Location:** Los Angeles, California

**Discipline:** Sociology

**Degree and Specialization:** Ph.D., Immigration and immigrant integration; Latino(a) immigrant youth

**Project Name:** DACA Status Precarity and the Incorporation Experiences of Latina(o) DACA Recipients in Los Angeles Before and During the Trump Era



We are pleased to announce that AAUW CA SPF has launched an online donation portal for the donors to projects using SPF as their non-profit (501c3) fiduciary agent. Our provider of this service is PayPal. This PayPal option for donors enables donations to be directly deposited into the AAUW CA SPF client's account.

The link is here: <https://specialprojectsfund-ca.aauw.net/donate/>. Donors can designate the project or program allocation of their donation by utilizing the drop down lists of projects and programs, and simply clicking on the appropriate program or project. It is critical that each donor utilize the project/program designation function to ensure funds are correctly allocated to a project/program. In addition, donors to Tech Trek Camps should note their branch in the "NOTE" field to ensure that the branch is credited for the donation.

If you have questions, please contact SPF at [spf-finance@aauw.net](mailto:spf-finance@aauw.net).



# 2021 Scholarship Fundraising Event



## A Most Curious Meeting

An American Association of University Women Long Beach Branch fundraiser. All proceeds pay for scholarships to LBCC and CSULB students.

Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021

Time: 11 AM

Place: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Cost: \$25 per person.

Plan to attend this interesting and fun-filled afternoon and help support scholarships for students attending LBCC and CSULB. Silent auction items will be available to entice you to bid.

Everyone who RSVPs will receive an email with meeting details and the Zoom link. We must have your email address to give you the information you need for the author's event.

## Featuring Bonnie MacBird



San Francisco native Bonnie MacBird attended Stanford University where she earned a BA in Music and an MA in Film. Her long Hollywood career includes four years as a feature film development exec at Universal, the original screenplay for the movie TRON, three Emmy Awards for documentary writing/producing, eleven Cine Golden Eagles for scripted and documentary work, numerous produced plays and musicals, and theatre credits as an actor and director.

*Art in the Blood*, her first novel, written in the style of Arthur Conan Doyle and featuring Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson, was published in 2015 by HarperCollins and released in 17 languages worldwide to critical acclaim. It is the first in her series and was followed by *Unquiet Spirits* in 2017 and *The Devil's Due* in 2020. *The Three Locks* is slated for release in 2021.

[www.macbird.com](http://www.macbird.com)

## A Most Curious Meeting

"Come at once if convenient—if inconvenient come all the same."

Complete and return this form to Deloris Mayuga, 6571 E El Roble St., Long Beach, CA 90815-4620 by April 16, 2021.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Make check payable to AAUW-Long Beach and mail with this form to:

Deloris Mayuga, 6571 E El Roble St., Long Beach, CA 90815-4620

\_\_\_\_ Pay via PayPal to [aauwlongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlongbeach@gmail.com). Select "Send to a Friend" so the branch isn't charged a fee.

\_\_\_\_ Pay By Zelle

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



## Branch Business

Board meeting motions on January 25, 2021

**Motion to update 2020-2021 Budget** – Patricia Ferrer: I move that the attached AAUW LB Proposed January 2021 Budget Update be approved by the Board of Directors.  
No second needed as submitted by committee. Motion passed 11—0—0

**Motion for the Branch to Submit Opposition Statement on National Dues Increase** – Terry Armstrong: I move that the LB Board of Directors submit a statement of opposition to National regarding the dues increase as it is in direct conflict with the branch's recent efforts and National's efforts to address Equity and Inclusion.

**Herlinda Chico seconded the motion. It passed 7—2— 2.**

## Public Policy

by Arnedra Jordan, Public Policy Director



The AAUW Long Beach Branch Public Policy Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month. A Zoom link will be sent out one week prior to meeting. For more information contact Arnedra Jordan at [ajordan6@my.keller.edu](mailto:ajordan6@my.keller.edu) or at (310) 722-6594.

## FYI from AAUW CA Board

**Lobby Day** - Thank you to all our CA members who signed up to join us on March 24th for our virtual Lobby Day. We had an incredible turnout by the January 8th deadline, which helped us establish a baseline for the number of legislators with whom we could meet. We will, however, continue to take registrations through February 28. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

**Training Webinar for Lobby Day** - All members who have signed up for Lobby Day must register for and attend the training webinar on March 22nd at 7:00 pm. Training will cover the bills we want members to talk about as well as the logistics for the day. Click [HERE](#) to register for the training.

**Equal Pay Day Correction** - Prior publications erroneously stated that Equal Pay Day for this year falls on March 31st. That is an error. The correct date is March 24th.

**More Than \$800,000 In Scholarships Awarded** – Based on a telephone survey conducted by C/U Committee Chair Donna Lilly, Seventy-four branches in California awarded over \$800,000 in scholarship funds to 442 scholars during the 2019-2020 academic year. These figures include 47 scholars who attended the May 2019 National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) in-person conference at the University of Maryland. Currently, 18 branches of those contacted do not award college scholarships. The good news is all branches raise funds for Tech Trekkers and even better news is that many Tech Trekkers are also honored to receive college scholarships from branches to pursue their STEM dreams.

**Membership Renewal – Renewals for 2021-2021 start on March 16<sup>th</sup>**. National dues will be \$62 (an increase of \$3) for the coming year, of which \$59 is tax-deductible. State dues remain the same at \$20 but are NOT tax-deductible. Students from AAUW C/U partner institutions do not pay state dues, but other students pay half (\$10). Any new members *joining after March 15th* will get the remainder of this year free along with next year's membership.

**Title IX Webinar Follow Up** - The video of the January 11<sup>th</sup> Title IX webinar is available online here: [HERE](#). The California Title IX Coalition has created a document to use when interviewing local schools regarding compliance with Title IX.

# 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. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities. To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President to be passed along to the Interest Group Coordinator. *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! Pending Zoom. Contact **Lamis Hashem**, 562-795-6605



**Cultural Adventures Group** plans trips to museums and other points of interest, usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923



**Great Decisions Groups** meet weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issues using Great Decisions materials. Contact **Rita Powell** at 562-685-2096.



**International Cuisine Group** dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. Car pooling optional and suggestions are welcome. Contact **Fay Denny** at 714-894-0416.



**Literary Ladies Group** We'll meet using Zoom for now. The selection for March is Victoria's Daughters by Jerrold Packard. Contact **Sharon Westafer** at 562-493-4749



**Public Policy** meetings explore, discuss, and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, underscoring our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. For the next meeting by Zoom, contact **Arnedra Jordan**



**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months **year round** from 10:00-11:30 am using Zoom (March, May) 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. Contact **Ellen Mathis** - [epmathis@verizon.net](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net) or Joan Gustafson — [jwg221@aol.com](mailto:jwg221@aol.com)



**Under the Umbrella Book Group** meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2:00 pm.—using Zoom —to read a variety of genres. Contact **Beverly Krivokapich** 562-596-1826



TRY MEETUP! Take a look and sign up to support our events.

Encourage friends to check it out!

<https://www.meetup.com/American-Association-of-University-Women-Long-Beach/>

Check out our branch website to find community events that align with our mission!

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

## Advertise in the Vantage!

Our AAUW Long Beach Vantage is now open for business card size advertisements. No political advertisements accepted. Low introductory rate of \$10 a month—5 months for \$45. Next fiscal year, 10 issues September to June will be \$100 for the year or \$15 a month. If interested, please send a check made payable to AAUW Long Beach and a .JPEG of the business card to me, Pat Ferrer, 365 Ultimo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814. Questions?

Please email me at [paferre@verizon.net](mailto:paferre@verizon.net).

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErdEqrzliGdQxSFqBVN23SKdVk1Cydhb7>

If you are unable to register through the link, please email [aauwlolongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlolongbeach@gmail.com)

RSVP as soon as you can to ensure that the Zoom link is sent to you in time.

### 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!

## AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, March 6, 2021

- 9:30 am Digital Mingle
- 10:00 am Branch Meeting
- 11:00 am Program & Speaker
- 12:00 pm End of Meeting

Place: Your Home via Zoom

Everyone who RSVPs will receive an email with meeting details and the Zoom link.

Feel free to share the RSVP link with friends—but *not the Zoom link*.

Guests will also receive a follow up email.



AAUW Long Beach Branch

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

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

