



Vantage

Celebrating Special Lives

Herlinda Chico, Program Vice President

The Long Beach/Signal Hill area is home to the largest Cambodian population outside of Southeast Asia. Many of our Cambodian neighbors settled in Long Beach as refugees after fleeing the genocide inflicted by the Khmer Rouge between 1975-1979. April 17th has been recognized by the State of California, the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Long Beach as Cambodian Genocide Remembrance Day. April also marks Cambodian New Year. There are many local events to remember the history and celebrate the future. This month, we have two incredible Cambodian-American women who will share their life experiences.

Dr. Suely Saro, the first Cambodian-American elected to the LB City Council, represents District 6. Councilwoman Saro, who was the first in her family to graduate from college, holds an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership from the University of La Verne, is an adjunct faculty member at the School of Social Work at CSULA.



Dedicated to alleviating poverty and empowering women with disabilities in Cambodia, Councilwoman Saro co-founded and is the board chair of Women for Women Foundation (WfWF) which is based in Cambodia. Since 2005, WfWF has helped over 700 women with disabilities increase their economic security by working in a social enterprise program. WfWF is a member of the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) allowing its fashionable accessories and products to be sold throughout the world. To read more about Councilwoman Saro, [click here](#) for a recent LA Times article.

Susana Sngiem is the first second-generation Cambodian-American woman to serve as United Cambodian Community's (UCC) Executive Director. Her family are Khmer Rouge survivors and refugees who immigrated to Long Beach in the early 1980's. Born and raised in central Long Beach, Sngiem attended UC Irvine and received a BA in psychology. After earning her master's degree in social work from USC in 2012, Sngiem began working at UCC. Through her leadership, UCC has doubled their staff and annual budget to promote health and provide youth development, community engagement, and economic development programs.



Sngiem was recognized by former Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal as one of "30 under 30" young women who have made a difference. She currently serves as a board member of Long Beach Community Action Partnership, APIA Professional Network, Midtown Business and Property Owners Association, and the Long Beach Homeless Services Advisory Committee.

Please remember to register for the April program using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEgcuqurTwpGNyl8EaWPW22dPbgEqM-o15X>

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.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (**SAAM**)—again. Here are some ways to educate, create awareness and connect with others, thanks to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NVRC):

- * Wear teal (the color of sexual assault awareness) on Tues. April 6th, the **SAAM** Action Day.
- * Know your local sexual assault resource center. Long Beach is within the service area of the YWCA Greater Los Angeles Sexual Assault Crisis Services Center; 24-hour hotline: **877-Y-HELPS-U** (877-943-5778); [Sexual Assault | YWCA Greater Los Angeles \(ywcagla.org\)](http://SexualAssault|YWCAGreaterLosAngeles(ywcagla.org))
- * Think about a statement of support you might say when a survivor shares their story with you. For instance, “I Believe You”.
- * Take a stand against victim blaming and wear blue jeans on Denim Day, April 28th; check out DenimDayInfo.org for information on this campaign.

No matter what the month, keeping tabs on what is happening with protecting and supporting survivors’ rights is important for AAUW members. You may recall that prior to the adoption of the new Title IX rules enacted under former U.S. Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, AAUW CEO Kimberly Churches wrote:

There is no other way to interpret them [the proposed new rules] other than they are intended to deter survivors from reporting issues, including:

- * Allowing universities to hold trial-style hearings where the survivor of sexual harassment or assault could be subjected to live cross-examinations by representatives of the accused.
- * Changing the definition of sexual assault and violence on campus from “unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature” to conduct that is “severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it denies a person access to the school’s program or activity.”
- * Letting universities choose the standard of proof to use – either “preponderance of the evidence” or a higher bar of “clear and convincing evidence.” Reference:
[Title IX Rollbacks: Has The #MeToo Backlash Begun? – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](http://TitleIXRollbacks:HasThe#MeTooBacklashBegun?–AAUW:EmpoweringWomenSince1881)

Now, President Biden has ordered a review of all Title IX policies. On March 8, 2021 he signed [Executive Order on Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free from Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity | The White House](http://ExecutiveOrderonGuaranteeinganEducationalEnvironmentFreefromDiscriminationontheBasisofSex,IncludingSexualOrientationorGenderIdentity|TheWhiteHouse). This order directs the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Attorney General, to conduct that review within 100 days and provide the findings to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

A survivor advocacy group, Know Your IX, which has been supported by AAUW, has called on the Biden administration to write a new rule, issue new guidance and conduct a listening tour as part of the Notice-and-Comment Process. [Sign up at their website](http://Signupattheirwebsite) today to receive updates about how you can support the national movement to end campus gender-based violence.

Calendar Dates to Note

Thurs., April 8	Branch Meeting (eve)
Sat., April 24	Author Luncheon
Mon., May 17	Both Boards Meeting
Sat., June 5	New Officer Installation

Contact Us

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For Vantage info: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com

When a woman is assaulted, one of the first questions people ask is, Did you say no? This question assumes that the answer was always yes, and that it is her job to revoke the agreement. To defuse the bomb she was given. But why are they allowed to touch us until we physically fight them off? Why is the door open until we have to slam it shut?

CHANEL MILLER

2021-2022 Proposed Slate of Officers

This slate of 2021-2022 officers 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.

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



CONNIE INSKEEP LEADERSHIP AWARD NOMINATION FORM

We will be honoring the Connie Inskeep Award winner at our June branch meeting and we need your help to identify a worthy nominee. Connie served as President or Co-President of the Branch three times. She was an outstanding leader who demonstrated her love for AAUW by serving in leadership positions at the Branch, Interbranch Council and State levels. Her dedication and commitment to AAUW were inspirational to all who knew her. Any of the criteria for selection listed below either solely or in combination is acceptable for nomination:

1. Demonstrates leadership in the Branch that is consistent with the mission of AAUW, i.e. advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research

2. Demonstrates leadership at the Los Angeles Interbranch Council (LACIC)

3. Demonstrates leadership at the AAUW California or National level

The previous recipients of this award (in order received) are: JoAnn Kuroda, Joyce Clark, Jean Aldrich, Judith Kaho, Fay Denny, Deloris Mayuga, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Betty Ann Rauch, Joan Gustafson, Barbara Gleason, Ellen Mathis, Norma Grady, Elaine Babbush, Julie Mills, Sharon Westafer, Helen Sebring, Patricia Ferrer, Linda Patten, Frances Rozner, Darlene Daclan, Dianne Bradfield, Cacilia Kim, Mary Lamo, and Flo Pickett.

Please submit your nomination by April 16, 2021 to one of the following members of the Connie Inskeep Award Selection Committee: Dianne Bradfield dvbradfield1945@gmail.com / Gail Morrison gail7go@gmail.com
Flo Pickett flopickett@gmail.com Thank you!

AAUW National, California and Long Beach Delivers Online Value

AAUW is a GuideStar Gold rating organization and recognized on Charity Navigator.

Visit [AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org) to read insightful articles which “**Explore the Issues**” with subtopics of Education, Work-place and Economic Equity, Leadership; “**Get Empowered**” with subtopics such as Work Smart & Start Smart, Book Your Career, AAUW Webinars; and “**Take Action**” with subtopics such as Nationally, In Your State, Two-Minute Activist. You can also read “**News & Insights**” with subtopics Press Releases, AAUW Weighs In: Policy Updates”

Visit [AAUW.org/membership](https://www.aauw.org/membership) to see the current “**Discounts & Perks**” offered with your membership. Rights and Social Justice for Diverse and Inclusive Society.

Take a look at [AAUW-CA.ORG](https://www.aauw-ca.org) for state information. Visit longbeach-ca.aauw.net to learn about local events.

The Value of Membership

Mary Lamo, Membership Treasurer

As Membership Treasurer I have been asked two questions: Why should I pay dues? What do I get for paying dues? I can easily give my response, but I wanted to know how National would answer these questions, and I found the following compelling reasons:

"Annual dues currently account for 13 percent of AAUW's annual budget. They help to sustain and grow AAUW's programs and work that advances equity for women and girls. We believe we can do great things together with your continued support. When you join AAUW, you invest in yourself and in the power of a community."

(source: AAUW website 02/25/2019). Today AAUW is 170,000 members strong with over 1,000 branches and 800 college/university members.

In April you received an email with the subject "**AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2022**" from AAUW National. The email contained specific information about your membership and included the two pieces of information you needed to renew your membership: an MSD (Member Services Database) link to renew online and how to pay by check. You can use the link to update your member record and contact information (except name changes contact connect@aauw.org), make a contribution, track your membership, and get history for tax purposes. You can view our branch's member roster and leader contacts.

2022 Membership Renewal is \$108, with \$62 (a \$3 increase from 2021) for National dues, \$20 for AAUW CA dues, and \$26 for LB Branch dues. The National Paid Life Member membership is a one-time tax-deductible amount of \$1,240.

Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in AAUW partner universities and colleges (which includes most of our local universities and colleges) benefit with FREE AAUW National and AAUW memberships. Undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in NON-AAUW partner universities or colleges will pay \$18.81 in annual National dues, plus \$10 AAUW CA dues. These students can then join our Branch for only \$13. The Long Beach Branch participates in "Shape the Future" campaigns, giving new members who join at a public event a 50% discount to National dues; and "Give a Grad a Gift" program which gives AAUW members the opportunity to gift one year of National dues to a recent college grad. **If you have any questions, please contact Mary Lamo.**

Branch Business

February Executive Committee Action

Motion to Update Audit Chair

I move the following update to the Audit Chair job description: Policies and Procedures, Section 16, Subsection b, Audit Chair, be replaced in its entirety with the wording below:

- b. Audit Chair will
 - i. Determine if the branch's financial records and reports were materially misstated due to error or malfeasance and recommend corrective action as necessary
 - ii. Perform these actions:
 - a. review branch policies and procedures to ensure that the treasurer duties were performed in accordance with requirement
 - b. review minutes of the executive committee, board of directors, and branch meetings to ensure that direction provided to the treasurer was performed as directed.
 - c. verify that all branch accounts were reconciled at least annually and the yearend balance in the accounts match that of the bank statement(s) and that reports provided at year end match those amounts.
 - d. verify that all transactions of \$2,000 or more were recorded accurately and processed in compliance with branch policies and procedures
 - e. select ten (10) percent of the transactions under \$2,000 to verify that they were recorded accurately and processed in compliance with branch policies and procedures
 - f. take additional measures deemed necessary
 - g. initiate the review after the treasurer has compiled the needed records for review, but no later than three months after fiscal year end. If circumstances warrant, reviews may be performed during the fiscal year.
 - h. issue a report to the outgoing President, incoming President, and treasurer. If there are findings that require corrective action, a draft report will be provided to the treasurer for review, comment, and action. If corrections are agreed upon and made, the audit chair will verify that the corrections were made, and new fiscal year end reports were prepared and distributed. If the corrections were not made, the final report will state the needed corrections and the reasons why they were not made. If no material misstatements or malfeasance were found in the review, the report will be issued without providing a draft report.

Branch Business continued

Motion to Move Certificate of Deposit – Linda Patten:

The Finance Committee moves to transfer the money from the Bank of America Building Fund #1 Certificate of Deposit no., 8544 at Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach to Citi Bank, located at 5523 Carson Street, Lakewood at the five (5) month rate of 0.25%. At the end of the five-month period, we hope interest rates are more advantageous to the Branch.

Motion approved by unanimous consent.

Public Policy

by Arnedra Jordan, Public Policy Director



The Public Policy Team meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 12:00 p.m. For any questions, please email Arnedra Jordan at ajordan6@my.keller.edu. Link is emailed the Sunday before the meeting.

The Future for Roe v Wade and Choice by Claire Noonan, California Public Policy committee

The times they are changing – a new president and vice-president who support pro-choice, but a sixth very conservative justice is added to the Supreme Court. Abortion rights activists stress state-by-state vigilance to be aware of how reproductive choice is now used as a political tool, says Ilyse Hogue, recently retired president of NARAL. New anti-choice bills are mainly introduced by the white male religious minority, except in Montana with six abortion-limiting bills introduced this year by conservative female legislators and one male.

For instance, extreme 2021 legislation in Tennessee will allow fathers to veto an abortion. A Texas bill will require a fetus to have a lawyer. Arizona's new bills propose to criminalize a woman who gets an abortion and the doctor who performs it. During a pandemic telemedicine is valuable to prescribe pills for medication abortions. In July 2020 the federal courts temporarily suspended the doctor's visit rule for the first pill, mifepristone, but in January 2021 SCOTUS reinstated the rule. Patients again must visit a doctor for the first pill and get a prescription to obtain the second, misoprostol.

These restrictions have a particularly significant impact on low-income communities, which often include women of color, which are stressed economically by the year-long and counting pandemic. Clinics especially in the South, like West Alabama Women's Center, are constantly searching for money sources to provide reproductive services as well as current needs for newborn assistance. The center focuses on providing financial assistance to the under-served, even when services are 'temporarily' deemed "non-essential". Despite efforts to provide full-spectrum reproductive health care access, dwindling numbers of clinics from the Sun Belt across the Deep South curb the availability of services. In the Navajo Nation, Covid infection is so high that patients need a doctor's note to leave the tribal area for a clinic appointment.

Consequently, vigilance means watching the power of the courts, encouraging reversal of the Hyde Amendment, and backing codification of the Roe v Wade decision. As you know, each woman in California can choose, but support for organizations that oversee the reproductive health rights of women in America are worth the effort.

FYI from AAUW CA Board

- The AAUW CA Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom for the second year. You will see the three Speech Trek Finalists, learn who our 2020 State Named Gift Honoree is, and see the first Equity Award given to former State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson. AAUW Board Chair, Julia Brown will join us, and we have a special event brought to us by past Co-President Cathy Foxhoven. Join us on April 17th at 9:30 am by registering [HERE](#). Registration is free!
- Branches estimate 750+ students will attend the 2021 Tech Trek Virtual Camp season. Three camp weeks are being planned to accommodate the branch estimates of selected 2020 and 2021 students. A fourth camp can be organized if needed. Branch volunteers are still needed, along with Tech Trek alumnae, to be camp coaches, instructors, assistant directors, and logistics coordinators. Work for more than one camp! Click [HERE](#) for applications.

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.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED FOR AUTHOR'S LUNCHEON

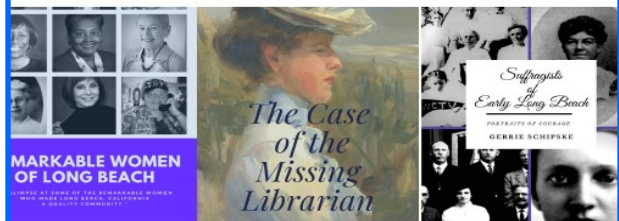
Thank you for all of the Silent Auction items that you have graciously donated. I appreciate your generosity. Additional suggestions to think about are: new books, wine, decorations, plants and flower arrangements. You can either email or call me about the items you will donate and give me a description and price of them. When you are ready with the item to donate, please call me and tell me when you will drop it off at my house. That would really help. Monitors are also needed to keep track of the bidding.

Please call me at 562-429-6923 if you would like to help. JoAnn Kuroda, Author's Luncheon Committee Member

Help Raise Consciences & Scholarship Money

March through June
10% OF BOOK SALES DONATED TO
AAUW SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*Just purchase one or all of the
latest books written by
Long Beach feminist and historian,
Gerrie Schipske*



www.longbeachhistory.com

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

7

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 are meeting using Zoom for now. No meeting scheduled for April. Keep reading! Contact **Sharon Westafer** at 562-493-4749



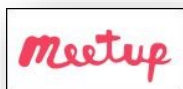
Public Policy meetings explore, discuss, and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, underscoring our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. For the next meeting by Zoom, contact **Arnedra Jordan**



Residential Rentals Discussion Group meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months **year round** from 10:00-11:30 am using Zoom (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 or Joan Gustafson — 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 patferrer@verizon.net.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEgcuqurTwpGNyl8EaWPW22dPbgEqM-o15X>

Important COVID-19 Reminder

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!

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Place: Your Home via Zoom

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



Mark your calendar!

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

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

