

Vantage

Let's Start 2021-2022 Right!

Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph, Co- Presidents



Join us as we kick off the new year of AAUW programs and Branch meetings! The Program and Scholarship Committees have planned an excellent program for us including an icebreaker - more details to come! The highlight will be hearing from our AAUW fund and scholarship recipients about the impact the funds have made on their lives. A bevy of speakers will attest to the value of AAUW's mission and generous contributions in the form of scholarships. See page 3 for previews!

What are we looking forward to this year? Attend the monthly meetings to learn about our mission and enjoy program topics. We will meet

on Zoom for now to learn about changes and needs for the year. Venture out after the meeting to see if in-person social time is something for you. Due to the ongoing virus and health concerns, September's meeting will be held via Zoom. Please make sure you RSVP early to help us know how many will be attending. Use the link below to RSVP and receive the Zoom information for the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZwvceCrqTIsH90MK2J289NDYDNPWBTQp3jC

Last year was very successful—let's keep the achievements coming!

Congratulations - AAUW Long Beach (CA) is a 5-star branch! Completing the Five

Star Program is a tremendous achievement made possible through your unwavering commitment to the future of you branch and AAUW's mission to achieve world where all women and girls can thrive.

Your branch will be recognized on the national website as a 5-star branch. We also look forward to featuring your branch success story in an upcoming Membership Matters. Your Five Star achievement badge is attached and I hope you'll proudly display it on your website and social media accounts.

Thank you for your participation in the Five Star National Recognition Program and all you do on behalf of women and girls.

All the best.

Nichia P. McFarlane

Engagement Associate, Advancement & Partnerships, AAUW

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 Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph

I am honored to be elected Co-President of AAUW, LB Branch. I joined our branch in 1993 at the suggestion of a friend because she knew I believed in the mission and vision of our organization. While I was working, I seldom attended Saturday meetings. When I retired, I decided to get more involved in two ways: I convinced my long-time friend, Charlotte Joseph, into joining and I became Program VP. Together we have developed meaningful and interesting programs. When I was asked by the nominating committee to consider serving as President, I called on Charlotte to serve with me. We had seen what a great relationship other co-presidents had and since I am still traveling with my business, I needed someone who I knew would be willing to take the reins.

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.

- Aristotle

The best laid plans, crumbled. Charlotte and I had decided to make some changes which were suggested by the member survey. The first was to offer hybrid meetings meaning they will take place both in person and via

zoom. Unfortunately, the Delta variant had other ideas. For the sake of ensuring our members stay healthy, we are postponing the hybrid meeting in September.

You may tune into zoom (after registering) to hear from our scholarship recipients and hopefully an AAUW Fund awardee. In October we hope to inaugurate the hybrid meetings which will allow many of our members who have small children to avoid the cost of child care plus those with mobility issues to remain in their homes. We are able to do this by calling on the expertise of Long Beach City College media professionals. Thus, on future Saturdays, we will be meeting at LBCC. We will begin checking those in person starting at 9am with COVID protocols such as temperature and vaccination checks to ensure the health and safety of all members. We will offer coffee, tea, water and something to nosh on during the social. A basket will be appropriately placed for those who partake to cover the cost. Following the program, instead of a catered lunch which required a great deal of angst to meet the minimum reservation, we will adjourn to a local restaurant to enjoy a non-hosted meal and offer more time for conviviality.

Calendar Dates to Note

Sat. Sept. 11 Branch meeting

Mon. Sept. 20 Exec. Committee meeting

Sat. Oct. 2 Branch meeting November 6 Branch meeting

Contact Us

aauwlongbeach@gmail.com www.aauw-longbeach.org

www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca

For Vantage info: Rebecca Low rlow1@hotmail.com

You have elected a great board and they have some wonderful and stimulating ideas. Feel free to contact me or Charlotte with any suggestions. It is your organization and we want to make it inclusive and thought provoking.



From the Co-Presidents

by Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph



Former scholarship recipient, Tarin Williams.



Sonia De La Torre, LBCC Dean of Student Equity on DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion)



Councilwoman Suely Saro

Three different speakers, from three diverse background will talk about their experiences with AAUW, LB or diversity in general.

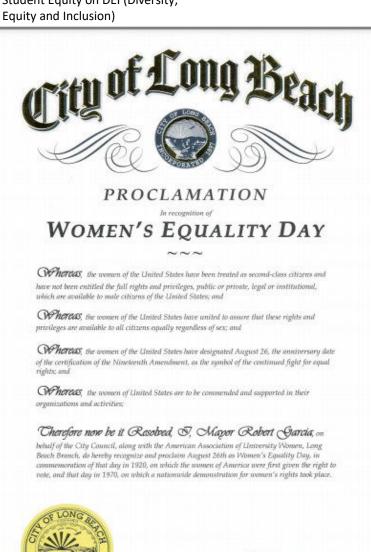
Councilwoman Saro received a scholarship several years ago. She is an adjunct professor at CSULA as well as an elected official representing District 6 on the Long Beach City Council.

Sonia De La Torre serves as Dean of Student Equity at LBCC. She will talk about the College's recent \$30 million gift from author Mackenzie Scott and the College's goals to improve student academic outcomes by addressing racial equity gaps. DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) are the hall marks of this approach.

Tarin received the Branch scholarship while attending both Long Beach City College and Cal State, Long Beach. She is a dynamo who has achieved both academic and personal success. She is starting in the Ph. D. program at UC, Irvine and has joined our branch as a student member.



Mayor Garcia makes a proclamation for Women's Equality Day on August 26



Dr. Robert Garcia

Mayor

August 26, 2021

AAUW Long Beach Frances Magarian Scholarship Recipients

Although the scholarship committee was unable to interview applicants from Long Beach City College due to college restrictions, we were very impressed with the applicants and had difficulty making our selections. Here are the recipients we chose:



Aneri Mody attends Long Beach City College, majoring in Computer Science. She attended college in India but had to discontinue there as she and her family immigrated to Long Beach. She was unable to transfer the units from India as she couldn't afford the transfer fees. Aneri is an embedded tutor for a computer science class, and she enjoys mentoring others in her class.

Nicole White-Singh is a second-year student at LBCC. She is a Computer Science and Engineering student with plans to transfer to UC Berkeley or Stanford University in 2022. She plans to eventually work as a civil servant software engineer at NASA. She is an Honors Student with a 4.0 GPA and currently works for NASA as a full-time software engineering intern. Nicole is a non-traditional student; she started studying again at the age of 25 and is a first-generation college student.

Both Aneri and Nicole work hard in school, help to support their families and have been on the Dean's List with great distinction.

Sharon Westafer

Meeting Program Speakers 2021-2022

Our AAUW Branch is looking forward to the coming year with its special challenges and hopes for our members and for the women and girls we support. We have worked to schedule topics and speakers to inspire you in your own lives and in the advocacy we do as AAUW members.

September's Program will feature our a short history of our Scholarship program as well as introductions of our 4 scholarship recipients for this year, two from Long Beach City College and two from CSULB. We are also proud to introduce one of our past grant recipients and a past scholarship recipient, Taryn Williams. Both women will talk about what how the financial support from AAUW Long Beach helped them in their paths to educational and career success.

October's Program will present a panel discussion with AAUW Long Beach member Alyce LaViolette serving as facilitator. Three speakers from the Long Beach LBGTQ+ community will discuss issues of concern to different generations.

November's Program will focus upon the incarceration of women.

In 2022, we will also feature programs on housing inadequacy for women, food insufficiency, the STEM Conference for middle school girls, the Author's luncheon, as well as social events such as the Wassail and Garden Party.

Mark your calendars and be sure to join us at meetings, hopefully in person in the future!

Public Policy

Where We Stand—from the AAUW national website www.aauw.org/

AAUW's policy work connects and rallies advocates at the local, state, national, and global levels to empower women and girls. AAUW uses lobbying and grassroots efforts to push forward policies that break through educational and economic barriers for women. Below we highlight our positions and advocacy on major issues.

Economic Security - AAUW advocates for all women to achieve economic self-sufficiency. Look for the QUICK FACTS on the AAUW website for background information on paycheck fairness, retirement security, paid leave, health care.

Education & Title IX - AAUW supports a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, including vigorous enforcement of Title IX. Read about focused positions on Higher Education, Elem and Secondary Ed Act, School vouchers, STEM Education, Sexual Harassment, Title IX

Civil Rights - AAUW advocates for equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society. We support Voting Rights, Equal Rights Amendment, Human Trafficking prevention, Reproductive Rights, LGBTQ Rights.

Take Action - There are lots of ways to get involved with AAUW's work to advance gender equity. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Become a Two-Minute Activist - sign up for an issue on the website. Around the country, AAUW activists are helping to advance legislation to protect women and ensure economic security for them and their families. Thank you for joining AAUW!

New Members: Did You Know? All branch members may: 1) observe meetings of the executive committee and board of directors (dates are posted on the branch website and in the Vantage newsletter), and 2) submit proposals for discussion and/or action at the meetings, via the Co-Presidents.

(Reference: Policies and Procedures, Section 13, Sub-Sections "e" and "f") For information and submission deadline, contact Ginny or Charlotte.

The next **Executive Committee meeting** is: Mon. September 21 at 6:15pm via Zoom. Members who wish to observe the meeting should contact the Co-Presidents at aauwlongbeach@gmail.com or by using their emails in the Yearbook, by September 18 in order to receive the Zoom meeting invitation.

Branch History

From the website:

AAUW Long Beach has a long and prestigious history.

We celebrated *100 Years* in 2020!!

Our history through 2005 as documented by Norma Grady is <u>available as a PDF</u> on the AAUW Long Beach website. You will need <u>Adobe Acrobat</u> to read the file. A brief synopsis is copied below. Is there anything more you can add!

1920 - 1940:

The small group of college-educated women who had formed the College Women's Club of Long Beach in 1911 became affiliated with the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, forbear of AAUW, in 1920. Given that this was the same year that the 20th Amendment extended voting rights to all American women, the Branch joined with the League of Women Voters to establish a school for voters. During these early years they also created a Toy Loan Library, an Inter-Club Legislature, a city-wide Creative Arts Festival, and a Community Arts Survey. The Branch's focus on education emerged early—in the 1920s members were holding Scholarship Teas and raising money for scholarships.

1941 - 1945:

During World War II, the Branch set up a Speakers Bureau in connection with consumer research, worked with the YWCA in finding rooms for defense workers, bought \$5000 in War Bonds, and, with American Women's Volunteer Service, established, helped furnish, and staffed a Servicewomen's Club.

1945 - 1970:

In the post-war years, AAUW-Long Beach conducted a survey of recreational facilities that resulted in supervised playgrounds, updated the Arts Survey of Long Beach, and did a study of juvenile problems in Lakewood, resulting in supervised recreation in Pan-American Park. Members began a Braille Transcribing Section that produced hundreds of books for blind students.

More next month!

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Branch Member Input Needed

Branch Website is Being Updated

We are looking to modernize and update the Website. The Website has two purposes: to keep members informed AND to attract potential members.

What would you want to see in it?
What can you add to the History or other pages
What do you think needs to be added/changed/deleted?

Please click **HERE** check out the Website.

Email comments to Tobi at MAIL TO

Branch Business from July 19 Board Meeting

Motion to change signatures at Bank of America Account: Pat Ferrer moved to change our Bank of America account (number ending in 3633) by removing past Co-President Jeanne Caveness and Secretary Linda Westman and replacing them with new Co-President Virginia Baxter and Secretary Anne Supple. Charlotte Joseph seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion to Approve Branch Membership to Authorize Funding for Frances Magarian Scholarship Program: JoAnn Kuroda moved, on behalf of the Scholarship Committee, the Board of Directors recommend to the Branch membership to authorize the following funding for the AAUW Long Beach Frances Magarian Scholarship Program for the next five years: Authorize the use of 100% of the net income from any Author's Day Event, and, if not sufficient, from the Reserve Fund, and, if not sufficient, from the principal of the Endowment Fund, not to exceed \$30,000 over a period of five years.

A friendly amendment was approved to add the following: 3. *If still not sufficient, from personal solicitation 4.* As a last resort from the principal of the Endowment Fund not to exceed \$30,000.

Charlotte Joseph moved to accept the motion as amended. The motion passed.

The motion as amended reads as follows:

The Board of Directors recommends to the Branch membership to authorize the following funding for the AAUW Long Beach Frances Magarian Scholarship Program for the next five years:

Authorize the use of 100% of the net income from any Author's Day Event,

If not sufficient, from the Reserve Fund,

If still not sufficient, from personal solicitation,

As a last resort, from the principal of the Endowment Fund, not to exceed \$30,000.

Motion to approve Tech Trek fundraiser at the January 2022 Branch Meeting: Valerie Armstrong moved, by direction of the Tech Trek Special Project Committee, that the Board approve the Tech Trek Committee's proposed fundraising amount of \$5,000, and that fundraising occur during January, 2022. The motion passed.

Motion to approve fundraising for 2021-22 STEM Conference: Deloris Mayuga moved, by direction of the STEM Conference Committee, that the committee be permitted to fundraise for the annual STEM Conference in February 2022. The motion passed.

Motion to strike Work Smart from Policies and Procedures: Frances Rozner moved that 18.d. i-iii (Branch Projects/AAUW Work Smart in Long Beach) be stricken from Policies and Procedures. Pat Ferrer seconded. The motion passed.

Motion to transfer Work Smart balance to the Reserve Fund: Frances Rozner moved that the remaining \$229.54 in the Branch's Work smart Fund be transferred to the branch's Reserve Fund. Pat Ferrer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Motion to approve expenses for Author's Luncheon: Ginny Baxter moved to approve expenditures for the Author's Luncheon prior to the Spring, 2022 event.

Charlotte Joseph seconded the motion. A friendly amendment was approved to include the words **not to exceed \$1,000**.

The amended motion to approve expenditures for the Author's Luncheon, not to exceed \$1,000, prior to the Spring, 2022 event passed.

Motion to authorize expenses and proceeds of the Author's Luncheon for scholarships. Ginny Baxter moved to approve using Author's Luncheon proceeds for scholarships for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Charlotte Joseph seconded. The motion passed.



STEM Career Conference – 2022 Update

We plan to hold our next STEM Career
Conference for 7th and 8th grade girls on
Friday, February 25, 2022 at Long Beach City
College. The Long Beach school district has
been requested to approve this activity. We expect an answer shortly after the district office



reopens on August 15, 2021. If approved, we will need help from our wonderful members to make this conference as successful as it has been in the past. Past committee chairs will be contacted first. Keep an eye out in the Vantage and your inbox for updates. An email just for STEM Career Conference communications has been set up—so don't be surprised to see information coming to you from

AAUWLBSTEM@gmail.com.

Deloris Mayuga & Patricia Ferrer, Co-Chairs

Dear AAUW LB members,

It is our pleasure to share with you that the STEM Career Conference, which so many of you over the years have supported with time, expertise and treasure, is truly effective. An AAUW LB research project, initiated in 2014, and entitled *Energizing Potential*, clearly outlines how the STEM Career Conference has impacted the girls who have attended. The details can be found in the full report at https://www.aauw-ca.org/energizing-potential/.

We hope you find the information within as re-affirming and heartwarming as we did. Our branch's members have truly made a significant difference in the lives of these young women.

Thank you, everyone. It has been quite an energizing journey. Mary Lamo, Frances Rozner and Raquel Sanchez Co-Chairs, AAUW STEM Career Conference Research

Virginia (Ginny) Baxter and Charlotte Joseph 2021-2022 Branch Co-Presidents



Tech Trek Update

by Valerie Armstrong

As a result of concerns regarding COVID-19 and the impact of directives from national, state and local leaders, AAUW California held a virtual Tech Trek program this summer.

AAUW Long Beach invited 18 students from Muir Academy and Hamilton Middle School to attend the virtual program. These students were recommended by their science or math teachers. The students from Muir Academy were selected for Tech Trek in 2020, but the camp was cancelled due to COVID-19. Of those 18 students, two students persevered through the online application process and attended the 5-day camp, which was conducted via Zoom.



The camp was centered on a morning project-based robotics/
engineering/coding class that met daily. After lunch, the campers heard from inspirational women for an hour, then participated in one or more 90-minute interactive science, technology, engineering, and math workshops. They had the option to return for evening workshops which in-

Genesis Hernandez, an 8th grader at Muir Academy in West Long Beach, enjoyed the virtual program. "I think my favorite thing about Tech Trek had to be the guest speakers. I loved how they talked

about their struggles and how they overcame them without giving up."

The Tech Trek committee has not yet received information regarding camp for the summer of 2022. We will provide updates when received from the AAUW California State Coordinators.

cluded social activities or parent sessions.

More about the History and Archives of AAUW Long Beach... from page 6
Historian position is still open - if this tempts you to take up the cause and help!

Acknowledgements

This sketch of Branch history rather just happened. Last fall we thought it would be fun to look for highlights of our 85 years, so we delved into the mysterious boxes at headquarters. We were stunned at the amount of material, particularly from the Branch's early days. It was just too good not to do something with. Given time constraints, statements have not been double-checked for accuracy. It's all based on the archives with additional comments that arise from our not-always-accurate memories.

It you find this interesting, thank the mostly long-gone Branch historians who put together the scrap-books and saved the yearbooks that provided the material. By the way, while there are almost complete sets of yearbooks from early years, too many are missing from recent years Does anyone keep their old yearbooks? They would make a great donation.

The Membership Committee is excited to welcome members to the start of a new year and would like to share with you a proposed goal, focused on retention of new members.

During the upcoming year, the branch will retain at least 90% of members (Five Star Program Advancement Goal) by providing new members with connections (ex. buddy program, orientation, social hours) and encouraging members to become involved in at least one branch activity (ex. branch assignment, branch project, interest group).

You can help us achieve this goal by volunteering to become a buddy for a new member. **The Buddy Program** developed by the AAUW-Long Beach Branch Membership Committee has been in effect since Sept. 2018. It is a strategy developed by AAUW National to increase retention of new members by using a Buddy to create a welcoming environment. The sooner the new member feels connected to the branch, the sooner she may become engaged in volunteer activities that support the mission of AAUW. We hope you will volunteer to be a new member's Buddy! Responsibilities are easy to fulfill:

- Share with the new member your own history with the branch and discuss what she/he hopes to contribute to the branch.
- Confirm the new member is receiving branch communication like the Vantage and email alerts; and can access the LB Branch website and Facebook page.
- Invite the new member to meetings, programs, events, new member orientation, and social hours.
- Discuss Branch Interest Groups and Projects and encourage the new member to join a group or volunteer in areas that match her interests.

Introduce the new member to Branch Officers, Committee Chairs, and members with similar interests.

This is an opportunity to work with a new member who may have similar interests as you and is committed to the advancement of women and girls.

Your efforts will contribute to the success of our "5 Star" qualification for membership retention of 90% and most importantly, help a new member feel connected!

Please contact Carol Clanton, Membership VP at r.ck.clan@verizon.net or 562) 882-0662 to become a buddy.



BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

Joining an interest group(s) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make new friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities. To start a new interest group, submit a description to the Co-Presidents. **Until further notice**, **however**, **AAUW CA does not sanction any inperson meetings or events in compliance with CA State mandates**. The Contact persons listed below can inform you if groups are meeting virtually or are on hold.



Book Chat Plus normally meets the first Tuesday from 10 am-noon at Lamis' home. Members present an interesting book they've recently read, a film they've recently seen or they share about a recent travel experience. Contact **Lamis Hashem** at 562-795-6605 / theHashemFamily@gmail.com



Cultural Adventures Group plans trips to museums and other points of interest several times a year. It is usually a mid-week tour with lunch scheduled. Join a group that checks out museums and other interesting locations-maybe by Zoom for now. Contact: **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-432-6973 / sojoinlb@aol.com.



Diversity and Inclusion holds monthly meetings to suggest how our branch may be more welcoming and cognizant of different ethnicities and points of view. Contact: **Mary Ann Takemoto** at 562-896-6825 / martakemoto@gmail.com



GovTrek is in its inaugural year; leaders will reach out to high school girls interested in learning more about politics, leadership and volunteering. They will meet 1/22, 2/12, 3/12, 4/2, 5/14 and 6/11/22. Contact: **Arnedra Jordan** at 310-722-6594 / ajordan6@my.keller.edu



Great Decisions Groups meet to discuss, share opinions and ideas on critical global issues. Because there are multiple groups, the frequency of meetings and the meeting times vary quite a bit. Some groups are on Zoom; some are on hold. Planning to participate? Great Decisions books will be available in December for 2021. Contact your group leader or **Rita Powell** at 562-595-6042 / riorita111@verizon.net



International Cuisine Group meets and dines at different ethnic restaurants in the local area. It is usually a dinner within an easy drive, scheduled every few months. Carpooling is an option... when we get back to driving and dining. Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact: Fay Denny at 714-894-0416 / faydenny@yahoo.com.



Literary Ladies Group meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction. The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. The book selection for September is *The Secret Keeper of Jaipur* by Alka Joshi. 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.

Contact **Rita Powell** at 562-595-6042 / riorita111@verizon.net



Residential Rentals Discussion Interest Group started in 2009 meeting for topics relating to residential rentals – things of interest/importance/concern. The group has averaged 9-15 people per meeting. It continues in odd months at 10 am on the 3rd Wednesday. Most often we meet at the dining room table at one of our homes, but COVID 19 has seen us on ZOOM for the last year. Contact us for the future meeting status.

RSVP to Co-Chairs **Ellen Mathis** epmathis@verizon.net or Joan Gustafson — jwg221@aol.com



Under the Umbrella Book Group - The "new" Book Club will meet 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



We hope you will join us for this monthly branch meeting. Please RSVP using this link before the meeting date

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/ tZwvceCrqTIsH90MK2J289NDYDNPWBT Qp3jC

If you are unable to register through the link please email Reservations Chair Sharon Westafer

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, September 11, 2021

9:30 a.m. Digital Mingle

10:00 a.m. Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. Program

Place: Your Home via Zoom

Everyone will receive an email to clarify the meeting details after Registering. It will include the Zoom link, and other connection information.

Important COVID-19 Reminder

AAUW CA does not recommend in-person meetings at this time.

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 Long Beach Branch

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

