



Vantage

... With Justice For All

Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph, Co- Presidents

Our November Program will feature a talk on the Justice Scholars Program (JSP). It is a student support program housed within the Student Equity department at Long Beach City College. The Justice Scholars program is a part of The California Community Colleges Rising Scholars Network.

The mission of Long Beach City College's Justice Scholars Program is to create an inclusive, equitable, and just campus environment for Formerly Incarcerated and System Impacted Students. The organization is committed to providing educational, social, and professional tools needed to reduce recidivism and increase persistence. The goal is to support students from reentry to graduation and/or transfer.

Formerly incarcerated person refers to anyone who has been in a lock up setting and is now released. Systems impacted include those who have been incarcerated, those with arrests/convictions, but no incarceration, and those who have been directly impacted by a family member who has been incarcerated.

Join us to learn more about this unique program. The meeting on Saturday, November 6 will be hybrid style with members attending in person at LBCC or on Zoom. Please RSVP either way—see details on back page. Links and further information will be sent out before the meeting.



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

Greetings AAUW—LB Members,

First of all, I want to thank Co-President, Charlotte Joseph, for chairing the October meeting while I was leading a tour in Europe. I truly appreciate her willingness to lead the hybrid meeting experience. We will continue to only allow members who are vaccinated to attend in person. Charlotte is working on streamlining the process. Lauren Zale has been very helpful in liaising with the College personnel. We are working out some glitches but the positive response to a survey distributed after the meeting shows members like the flexibility which the hybrid meeting presents. We would like to see all of you in person but understand that child-care issues as well as health concerns prevent this.

I think you'll all agree that utilizing this format allowed choices for our members in which they could view the wonderful program planned by VP Dee Dee Catalano-Smith. I viewed the recording when I returned and want to thank member Alyce LaViolette and Nio for their participation in providing a greater understanding of the LGBTQA+ Community. I'm certain next month's program will be equally informative.

I also want to recognize JoAnn Kuroda and her Cultural Adventures Committee for an outstanding excursion to the Japanese Terminal Island Memorial. This committee is one of the many social opportunities which our branch affords. When I joined in 1993, although other commitments prevented me from participating, I thought, "These are the things I want to do when I retire." Charlotte and I are planning on highlighting the other interest groups in future issues of the Vantage.

I want to thank Tobi Balma for constantly upgrading our website. She welcomes suggestions, ideas, etc. to make the site more user friendly and also informative. Thanks in advance to Deloris Mayuga who has agreed to open her home for the annual Wassail, December 4.

Lastly, under the leadership of Public Policy Chair, Rita Powell, the city of Long Beach will finally have a Commission on the Status of Women. Thanks for all your hard work on this.

As most of you know, our author's luncheon featuring Naomi Hirahara will be on April 2. Proceeds benefit the scholarship program. We will once again have a silent auction so as you do your holiday shopping, think about what you can donate. I had a knitting lesson in Ireland on the Aran Island of Innisheer. I'm working on knitting a scarf!

We're looking forward to "seeing" you in person at LBCC or on Zoom on Saturday, November 6.

Calendar Dates to Note

Sat. Nov. 6	Branch meeting—Hybrid
November 21	Exec. Committee meeting
December 4	Wassail social meeting

Contact Us

aauwlongbeach@gmail.com
<https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/>
www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca

**For Vantage info: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com**

From the Co-Presidents

by Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph



Ginny Baxter and
Charlotte Joseph, Co-Presidents
2021-2022

NOTES for the meeting

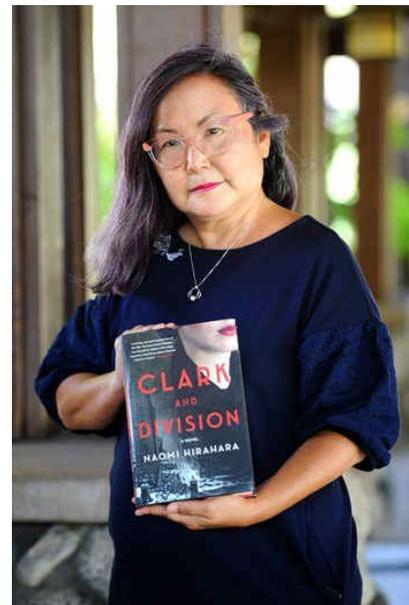
We will be gathering in person in **room T1046** starting at 9am... allowing time so that temperature checks can be made upon entering. All attending must bring their vaccination record (it can be on a phone or a paper copy).

Similar to the STEM conference arrangements, park on the first floor of the parking structure off of Clark Ave. For those who RSVP to attend in person, no citations have been arranged with LBCC Police. Look for the AAUW sign which Hospitality Chair will display between the parking structure and the T Building which is west of it.

Remember that only water is offered for now—bring your own refreshments as needed. Contact Ginny if you need the LBCC Map again.

SAVE THE DATE! April 2022

Mystery writer **Naomi Hirahara** has agreed to be our speaker for the annual **“Murder Most Deadly” Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon** on Saturday, April 2. Naomi has just published her latest mystery, **“Clark and Division”** about a Japanese American woman who is murdered in Chicago. Her family visits there to investigate her demise! She is the recipient of the Edgar Award for mystery writing and is also a journalist who covered Pasadena and Los Angeles. Watch for more information in the next Vantage!



YEAR BOOKS ARE HERE!

Thanks to Mary Lamo’s hard work and her team of writers, layout designers, delivery help and more.... You should either have a copy in hand or soon to be delivered by volunteers or US mail. Copies are available at the meeting too.

CULTURAL ADVENTURES

TERMINAL ISLAND FISHING VILLAGE MONUMENT AND SAN PEDRO MOSAIC HISTORY WALL

Under a beautiful Southern California sky several members of the branch traveled to the Terminal Island Fishing Village Monument to view the area where approximately 3,000 people lived before and briefly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Today, there is barely a trace of the Japanese settlement that once thrived at Fish Harbor. The historical facts told about life in the Village and how the people were abruptly uprooted from their friendly Japanese speaking community after December 7, 1941.

Following lunch at 22nd Street Landing Restaurant the members traveled to view the San Pedro Mosaic History Wall. The impressive work represents the history of the city and it covers 200 feet on a retaining wall on 25th Street. Over 500 volunteers helped make this wall come to life. The mosaic is made up of hand painted tiles, beads, mirrors, broken chips and decorative pins.

Thank you JoAnn and team for organizing such an educational tour.



Public Policy

by Rita Powell, Director of Public Policy

Thank you everyone who wrote a letter to their city council person regarding the Long Beach Women's Commission. The City Council voted unanimously to report back in 60 days with a plan to create a Commission on Women and Girls in the City of Long Beach. This report will return mid-November or early December. This Commission will provide a space for specific education, outreach and advocacy in our communities for a more thoughtful advancement of women and girls. This commission would create leadership roles for cis, trans, and all who identify as female, and would discuss women-specific issues, such as the wage gap and disproportionate domestic violence, among others. I'm excited that our city is finally moving ahead.



In 1923 the ERA was introduced into Congress. In 2020 Virginia ratified it, but currently the date of ratification needs to be extended. The House recently passed a bill to extend the deadline, but currently we must get the Senate approval to remove the deadline, as the former deadline was 1982. **CONTACT YOUR SENATORS NOW ABOUT EXTENDING THE DEADLINE.** Why is it important? Most people in the US think women are in the constitution, but I hope you know better.

Congress must pass the Women's Health Protection Act. We need to pressure your representatives to do so, as "every person should have the ability to make their own informed decisions regarding their reproductive life. It is beyond time for abortion to be secured legally, funded fully, and equitably available for all who need it, when they need it, without share or stigma."

Legislative updates: SB 62 passed requiring fair pay for garment workers, instead of by the piece. AB367 offers free menstrual products to be provided in girls/women's bathrooms in schools. AB887 allows domestic violence restraining orders to be filed electronically.

The AAUW Fund

by Linda Westman

I am happy that we have moved into Fall as it is my favorite season. And I am happy to announce that it is time for the **Fall AAUW Fund drive**. The Fund supports many programs including the Greatest Needs Fund, Education and Training Fund, Economic Security Fund, the Leadership Fund, and the Legal Advocacy Fund. The contributions to the Greatest Needs Fund helped our Long Beach Branch to earn the prestigious Five-Star Award last year.



Giving to the Greatest Needs Funds provides AAUW the ability to respond quickly, using the funds to carry out its mission to advance equity for women and girls. Those who attend the November meeting in person will find envelopes (and a Fall treat) addressed to me so you can mail a donation to me at your convenience or hand it to me before you leave. On the check memo line, you may indicate which fund you would like to direct your donation if you have a preference. Otherwise, please note "Greatest Needs".

For those of you attending the Zoom meeting, please go to the AAUW Notional website to make your donation. It is easy and quick. Of course, you can also mail a donation to me so I can add it to the Long Beach Branch donation. All donations made via me or on the website are tax deductible. I thank you in advance for your financial gift to promote the work of AAUW.

Membership Counts

by Carol Clanton

Telephone Tree

The Membership Committee would like to institute a modified **telephone tree** to keep members informed and strengthen member connections. This will help our branch meet its 90% retention goal. We are seeking 12 volunteers to call 10 members once a month to remind them of upcoming meetings and events. This is an enjoyable task that requires a small time commitment. It's a great way to introduce yourself or reconnect with your AAUW friends. Would you like to help out?

Social Hour- November 15th at 5:00 pm

Please come meet our new members and AAUW friends at our first **social hour** of the year. This will be held on zoom and is open to all members. Dee Dee Catalano, who memorized the 195 countries in the world is the inspiration behind the discussion topic:

What activities do you do to promote brain fitness?

Be ready to share tips and exercises you use to hone your mental sharpness.

The zoom link for this event will be sent by email.



Membership Requests

Please contact Carol Clanton at aauwlongbeach.membership@gmail.com to become an AAUW buddy, Telephone Tree Volunteer, or help manage an AAUW LinkedIn account.

AAUW-CA Update

Searching for new **Tech Trek leaders** is like waiting for the Great Pumpkin. Happily, we had better luck than Charlie Brown. We welcome Karen Manelis, a former AAUW California state president (all hail!), as the new state [Tech Trek Program Director](#). Susan Steckclair, a numbers-loving former branch president and treasurer of the Sierra Club, also joins us as the new [Financial Liaison](#). Remember how rapturous you were when you found a full-size candy bar in your Halloween hoard? Finding Karen and Susan was just as good.

Here's something to unwrap! Two important **AAUW-supported bills** were introduced at the federal level by California legislators. Yep, California! That's us! Keep an eye on the Women's Health Protection Act (H.R.3755) and Title IX: The Patsy Mink and Louise Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act (GEEA) (H.R.4097). This may be the most low-cal thing you do all month.

Don't fret if you missed the September 8th webinar with Sandi Gabe, President-Elect, *You are in Charge. Now what?* It is so full of information and tips that you might want to watch it twice. No matter if you are a new branch leader or a returning board member, you will learn something new. You can watch it [here](#).

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 in-person 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 November is *The Exiles* by Paulette Jiles. 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

aauw.lb.webmaster@gmail.com

Or Email Web page comments to Tobi Balma



We hope you will join us for this monthly branch meeting in person or via Zoom.

Please **RSVP** by email or phone call to Reservations **Chair Sharon Westafer** to let us know if you are Zooming or attending in person.

This will help us to manage the new HYBRID version of meetings.

You will receive the LBCC Zoom link from Darlene before the meeting.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, November 6, 2021

- 9:15 a.m. Check in and Digital Mingle
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. Program

Place: Long Beach City College OR
Your home using Zoom

Everyone will receive an email to clarify the meeting details. It will include the Zoom link, and a map of the LBCC campus location

Important COVID-19 Reminder

In-person meetings may be held with respect for local guidelines 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 as we are able.



AAUW Long Beach Branch

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

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

