



# Vantage

## Can History Be Gay?

*Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph, Co- Presidents*

October is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender+ (LGBT) History Month in the United States. In 1994, the month of October was chosen because it coincides with National Coming Out Day on October 11 and because it is the month of the first March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights in 1979.

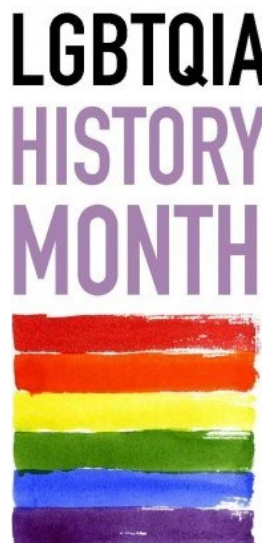


Our program for October features a panel of speakers including facilitator AAUW member Alyce La Violette and Nio Lavermon, Youth Services and Transition Coordinator at The Center. Nio Lavermon is a CSULB graduate in Film and Electronic Arts. He has worked with youth at The Center since 2017. The Center began in 1977 and has been providing a variety of health, social, advocacy, legal, and service programs to the LGBTQ community in the Greater Long Beach area for three



decades. Its mission closely aligns with that of AAUW. "The LGBTQ Center Long Beach advances equity for LGBTQ people through culturally responsive advocacy, education, programs, and services."

The meeting on Sat. Oct 2 will be hybrid style with members attending at LBCC or on Zoom. Please RSVP either way—see details on back page.



### 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

Charlotte and I have decided that we should try the first hybrid meeting on October 2. I know there are many other events that day and some will need to choose what works for them. DeeDee has planned a great program and we hope you will attend either in person or via zoom. We have worked with the professionals at LBCC who have suggested that we meet in the T Building. For those of you who have attended the STEM conference, this is the building where the classrooms have been. We are meeting in T1046 which is on the south side of the building. Lauren Zale has arranged for ticket free parking on the first floor of the parking structure which is located off Clark Avenue south of Carson Street, at the Liberal Arts Campus. See the emailed campus map. When you walk west of the structure there will be the familiar AAUW sign and greeter. Additional signs will lead you to the room which is equipped with cameras and 4 microphones.

Darlene will send the Zoom link to all members. There will be no registration, just a link to tune in. **Therefore, all people attending need to RSVP to reservation chair, Sharon Westafer**, whether you attend in person or on zoom. Those on zoom can access closed captioning. If you attend in person, please arrive between 9 and 9:30am as we will be doing temperature checks and validating vaccinations. Please bring your VAX card or phone with card on it. **No one may enter without being vaccinated.**

Water will be provided. If you wish to drive through your favorite purveyor and get a cuppa, or your beverage of choice, feel free to. Either in person or via zoom there will be mingling, and the business meeting will begin promptly at 10. Those attending on Zoom should stay on mute. If you wish to speak, raise your digital hand and the technician will notify us. We found out that because there are 4 mikes, comments to your neighbors are broadcast so please try to refrain.

Scholarship chair, Joann Kuroda will be selling opportunity tickets as a scholarship fund raiser. Those whose last names end in A-D should bring a nice prize. Gift cards are always welcome. If you attended the September meeting you know how deserving the recipients are. We will also vote on a motion proposed by the Scholarship Committee.



## Calendar Dates to Note

Sat. Oct. 2	Branch meeting—Hybrid
Mon. Oct 18	Board meeting
Sat. Nov. 6	Branch meeting—Hybrid
November 21	Exec. Committee meeting
December 4	Wassail social meeting

## Contact Us

[aauwlongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlongbeach@gmail.com)  
<https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/>  
[www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca](https://www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca)

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

Membership VP Carol Clanton will introduce new members at the meeting. She has been working really hard and needs all your help in promoting AAUW, LB. *Increasing and Maintaining* Membership this year is both a local, state and national goal. Rita Powell, chair of Public Policy and Deloris Mayuga, STEM co-chair will report among others. Mary Lamo, George Jackson and Becky Low have been so dedicated to getting the year book published. It may be available at the meeting for pick up. If not, we'll let the membership know the process.

I joined AAUW, LB in 1993 because I believe in its mission. Help me and our Board Members sustain impact in this community.

# From the Co-Presidents

by Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph



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

## NOTES for the meeting

Use the Map to find your way to the in-person meeting location on Saturday Oct. 2. 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 conf 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 should display between the parking structure and the T Building which is west of it.

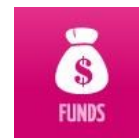
Signs should point the way to the **1046 room**. Be aware that only water is offered—bring your own refreshments as needed. We hope that this HYBRID meeting will be a successful start to a new way of being the AAUW-LB Branch this year!



# The AAUW Fund

by Linda Westman

As many of our members know, the AAUW Fund advances AAUW's mission by sustaining the important programs and activities that promote equity for women and girls, respond to challenges facing women and girls, as well as expand research, programs, and advocacy initiatives to meet these challenges.



Last year donations made by members of this Long Beach Branch contributed our success in earning Five Star status. But there are still challenges facing women and girls across the globe which means donations are vital to enable AAUW to counter them. Please consider donating to the fund, which is tax deductible. As AAUW Fund VP, I have received my first donation from Daphne and George Jackson. Thank you so much. There will be a formal request made at a Branch meeting this fall. And donations are accepted at any time.

## Did You Know?

### **AAUW – LB Branch Total Donations to the Fund was \$9,580.00 so far this year!**

AAUW Fund Report 2nd Quarter 2021

I am thrilled to announce that we have 37 Fellows/Grant Recipients studying in California this year. In order to allow each of them ample time to tell us about their lives and studies, we will hold three events. The events will occur on Saturday, October 23, Saturday, October 30 and Sunday, November 6. Each one will occur from 10 a.m.-- noon via Zoom. You are invited to register for one, two or all three of these events. Although the events are free, a tax-deductible contribution to AAUW Fund would be appreciated and would help your branch reach the \$750 in contributions necessary to have a branch named gift honoree. Instructions for how to register for the events and how to request a Fellow/Grant Recipient to speak at your branch will be sent to you at a later date.

I am looking forward to working with you this year in your successful campaign to raise money for AAUW Fund. [https://www.aauw-ca.org/calendar/cat\\_ids~30/](https://www.aauw-ca.org/calendar/cat_ids~30/)

Sincerely yours,

Lynne Batchelor, AAUW California Fund Chair [office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org)

In addition: AAUW (national) is providing nearly \$5 million in funding to more than 260 fellows and grantees in the 2021-22 award year. These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. Will you be next? Applications for the 2022-23 academic year are now open.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/>



# Public Policy

## 2020-21 Legislative Session Winding Down – How Did AAUW California-sponsored Bills Fare?

Kathi Harper, Co-Chair Public Policy, AAUW California

Not particularly well, as it turns out! We started the year off with 39 bills we selected for varying degrees of support. We chose one bill to co-sponsor, AB 92, with four additional bills for top-priority attention (“A” level bills), five bills for “important” status (“B” level bills), twenty-two bills for low- (“C”) level attention, and seven bills to “watch.”

Over-all, 28 of our 39 bills have been designated “2-year” bills, which means they are dead for this year and likely will be taken up again in 2022. Our advocate, Kathy Van Osten, has explained that this is because Senate and Assembly leadership set a limit of just 12 bills that a member could move to the second house, so members had to pick and choose what would they wanted to move forward.

Some of our bills did not make the cut. Four of our five “A” bills, along with our co-sponsored bill, and four of our five “B” bills, did not make it through. These include AB 22, AB 92, AB 737, AB 966, AB 1361, and SB 245. However, several of them were converted into the Budget and Budget “trailer bills,” which will provide funding for childcare. Although we were not entirely successful in getting AB 92 passed (establishing a sliding scale for family fees for childcare through 2023), the state budget includes \$60 million for one year of relief for all families using subsidized childcare, increased reimbursement rates for childcare providers, and funding for 206,000 new childcare slots.

We are pleased that several bills have passed and been sent to the Governor, and we are working hard to secure his signature on these bills: AB 62 and AB 367, as well as 3 of our “C” level bills: AB 123, AB 1074, and AB 1461.

Thanks again to all our members who participated in Lobby Day and/or weighed in at critical junctures on social media. For descriptions of each of these bills and/or more information on their status, visit our Bill Tracker on the AAUW California website, Public Policy/Legislative Advocacy/Bill Tracking.

**Isabel Wilkerson**, author of *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* (Random House), discusses the timeliness of her work, the historical foundations for her argument about caste in American society and the power of narrative nonfiction, with broadcaster, essayist and critic Bilal Qureshi. Bonus content: Historian Ryan Reft explores the language used in NAACP and Supreme Court Papers found in the Library’s Manuscript Division to understand the implementation of Brown vs. Board of Education. For transcript and more information, visit <https://www.loc.gov/item/webcast-9947>

You-tube: <https://youtu.be/r8tOyNX2zrl>

[Isabel Wilkerson: National Book Festival 2021](#)



# 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 [available as a PDF](#) on the AAUW Long Beach website. You will need [Adobe Acrobat](#) to read the file. A brief synopsis is copied below. Is there anything more you can add!

Continued from last month...

## 1970 – 1995:

In cooperation with other organizations, the Branch was instrumental in developing and presenting the first of the popular Literary Women's Conferences. Among other contributions to the local community, members published *Choosing Childcare: a Directory of Child Care Facilities in Long Beach*. The group successfully raised money for three named EF fellowships during these years.

## 1995 – 2005:

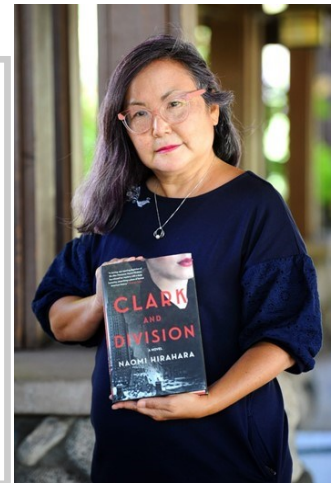
The past ten years have seen an explosion of new activities by the Branch: an outstanding program where members have mentored over fifty middle- and high-school girls at risk of not achieving their potential; support of Tech Trek scholarships for twenty-one local girls; provision of reading tutors for Constellation Middle School; and a Math-Science workshop for middle-school girls. At the same time, the Branch has completed another named fellowship and has consistently been one of the leading California donors to the Legal Advocacy Fund.

**Can you add on to this Archive for us? Looking for Historian for our Branch!**

## SAVE THE DATE! April 2022

Mystery writer **Naomi Hirahara** has agreed to be our speaker for the annual **"Murder Most Deadly" Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon** IF we move our date to 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 Vantage!



## ATTENTION MEMBERS!

### Branch Website Has Been Updated - Branch Member Input Needed

[Please Click HERE](#) check out the Website Send or give the link to your friends and prospective members. The Website is continually updated. It has two purposes: to keep members informed AND to attract potential members. Check out the New Membership Home, Fund and Scholarship pages. Please email ideas/questions/comments to the Webmasters

at [aauw.lb.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.lb.webmaster@gmail.com)

Or Email comments to Tobi Balma

## Branch Business for October Meeting

### **Motion to Authorize the Following Funding for the AAUW Long Beach Frances Magarian Scholarship Program**

JoAnn Kuroda presented the following motion at the September meeting for consideration by Branch members. It will be presented at the October meeting to be voted on.

The Board of Directors recommends the Branch membership 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 still not sufficient, the third funding from personal solicitation and as a last resort, from the principle of the Endowment Fund, not to exceed \$30,000 over a period of five years.

### **CULTURAL ADVENTURES**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021

*TERMINAL ISLAND JAPANESE FISHING VILLAGE MEMORIAL  
INTERNATIONAL GATEWAY BRIDGE  
(WHICH REPLACED THE GERALD DESMOND BRIDGE)  
SAN PEDRO MOSAIC HISTORY WALL WALK*

Please join us to visit the Terminal Island Japanese Fishing Village Memorial  
1124 Seaside Avenue, San Pedro 90721 AND  
the 200-foot San Pedro Mosaic History Wall, 25<sup>th</sup> Street at Patton Avenue,  
San Pedro. We will travel on the new Long Beach International Gateway Bridge  
(recently completed and which replaces the Gerald Desmond Bridge). Then, we  
will lunch at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Landing Restaurant, 141 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, San Pedro.

Directions: Carpooling suggested. We will meet at 10:30am at the Long  
Beach Exchange parking lot in front of Whole Foods Grocery Store in the far SW  
part of their parking lot. Enter from Lakewood Blvd and McGowen.

We will proceed to Terminal Island Japanese Fishing Village Memorial located  
between Long Beach and San Pedro.

Cost: Viewing the two memorials is free but lunch  
cost will be on your own. RSVP before October 18.

Text: Lewette Fitzgerald at 1-562-212-0070

Or call JoAnn Kuroda at 1- 562-429-6923



## 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. 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](mailto:AAUWLBSTEM@gmail.com).  
Deloris Mayuga & Patricia Ferrer, Co-Chairs

As seen in the September AAUW California Connection...

In the opinion of the fair judges (Oh look! A play on words!), the **Best of Show Award** will be presented to the Long Beach Branch for studying the long-term impact of its STEM Career Conference on underserved eighth-grade girls. By tracking the attendees into high school and comparing them with a similar group that did not participate, the report "*Energizing Potential*" concluded that the program, put simply, worked!

Read the [whole story](#). It was worth the wait to get this inspiring report.

Please contact Frances Rozner at [aauwlongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlongbeach@gmail.com) with any additional questions.





# Tech Trek Update

by Valerie Armstrong

Dr. Mary Isaac, 2021 CA Virtual Tech Trek Camp Director, hosted a Zoom meeting on September 17 to discuss the virtual camp with branch coordinators. Statewide, two-thirds of AAUW branches participated in the virtual camp. According to Dr. Isaac, we should know by the end of December if Tech Trek will be virtual or on campus in 2022. At this time, UC San Diego and UC Davis are considering onsite camps, but no final decision has been made.

Some of the challenges to the virtual camp include the online application process and the technology that the students have (or don't have). Students were not able to access the online application until the parents sent in the parent approval form. Some of the parents have language barriers or technology issues that may have been a stumbling block in the application process. School was not in session during the application process, so students did not have a teacher/coordinator to assist them with the application process. It was also reported that students with Chromebooks had issues during the virtual conference.



The students who were able to apply and attend the conference had a positive experience overall. Eighty-eight percent completed their projects and they learned valuable skills such as coding. They also heard inspirational presentations from women who are successful in STEM fields. Although students didn't have the experience of living in a dorm, they gained valuable skills through the virtual program. Dr. Isaac will stay in communication with branch coordinators regarding the status of Tech Trek in 2022.

"Tech Trek made me aware of all the possibilities in career choices. I realized how much of the world is dependent upon researchers and engineers."

—Former attendee



# Membership Counts

by Carol Clanton



## New Member Highlights!

The Membership Committee would like to spotlight new members who have joined the branch in 2021. New members are asked to share a little bit about themselves using a short questionnaire. This month, we are happy to introduce

**Lauren Zale**, our new Meetings Coordinator!

How did you get connected with AAUW Long Beach?

**Lauren:** I was referred by LBCC Board Trustee (and AAUW President) Dr. Ginny Baxter.

What is your current position?

**L:** Interim Executive Assistant to the Superintendent-President at LBCC.

What is something unique that you would like the branch to know about you?

**L:** Exercise is as important to me physically as it is mentally. I am a long-distance runner and swimmer, and enjoy torturous Pilates classes. Also, I never skip dessert and consider myself a connoisseur of Long Beach's bakeries!

What is your favorite time of year and why?

**L:** Fall is my favorite season. There is nothing like the spectacular fall colors in my hometown of Philadelphia. Equally important: fall is college football season – the most wonderful time of the year!



### Membership Updates:

We are seeking volunteers to join the **Buddy Program** to help our new members immediately feel welcome and connected with our LB Branch. We are also looking for someone to help manage a proposed **AAUW Long Beach LinkedIn** account to help market our branch to the community. Are you familiar with LinkedIn and would like to help manage a new AAUW account? Please contact Carol Clanton, Membership VP at our new AAUW LB Membership address: [aauwlolongbeach.membership@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlolongbeach.membership@gmail.com) or at (562) 882-0662 if you can help out in these two areas.

## New Member Orientation Zoom Meeting

**Wednesday, Oct. 20th at 6:30 pm**



New members please plan to attend this valuable meeting orientating you to branch structure, programs, interest groups, and more. You will receive upcoming details about registering for this zoom meeting. This meeting is also open to any member who wants to learn more about our branch or may have missed their orientation meeting.

Please contact Carol Clanton to receive an invitation for this event.

# 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 October is *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone. . 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](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net) or Joan Gustafson – [jwg221@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:bevkrivo@yahoo.com)



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 this week.

## AAUW BRANCH MEETING

**Saturday, October 2, 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

