



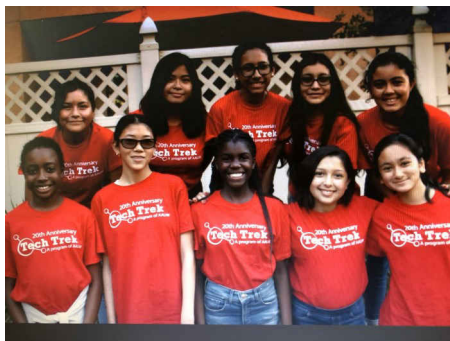
Vantage

Empowering Girls for Tech!

Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph, Co- Presidents

AAUW of California member Marie Wolbach founded Tech Trek in 1998 with the help of an [AAUW Community Action Grant](#). Today AAUW Tech Trek operates at 22 different sites around the nation. Through hands-on problem solving and encounters with women role models in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), AAUW Tech Trek helps girls see their futures while having nonstop fun. This one-week summer camp is backed by AAUW's research and designed to make STEM fields exciting and accessible to girls in middle school — the age when girls' participation in these fields statistically drops. For many girls, the week long camp sparks their curiosity and places them on a path toward success.

Learn more at the January branch meeting. Valerie Armstrong will offer a discussion on Tech Trek 2022. We'll hear from her and several TT grads who will share their impressions of this valuable AAUW, LB branch program. Join us in person or via Zoom on Saturday, January 8. See back page for details and RSVP information.



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

Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2022. May it be a “better” year than last.

Your AAUW Board is working harder than ever to plan and present topical programs. January is no different with Valerie Armstrong leading the discussion on Tech Trek 2022. We’ll hear from her and TT grads who will share their impressions of this valuable AAAUW, LB branch project.

As in the past we will offer a hybrid program of either in person or on Zoom.

If attending in person, we will meet in the same room: T1046. Parking is available in the parking structure off Clark. You must be vaccinated in order to attend.

Or tune in via Zoom on Saturday, January 8 at 9:30am to “see” what your fellow members are up to. Business meeting starts at 10:00 and Program begins at 11:00.

Those who wish may come to lunch with me following the meeting. We’ll be going to MOD Pizza near LBX. Be sure to RSVP and then Darlene will send the zoom link later in an email.

“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



Thanks to Deloris Mayuga who opened her beautiful home and garden to our members and potential members for the annual Wassail. Over 40 of us gathered to celebrate the start of the holiday season.

Good food and conversation were enjoyed as past presidents served the Wassail from Deloris’ recipe. Also in attendance was a cleanup crew who made light work of washing and storing the silver pieces. Thanks to all who helped and welcome new members, Jane Hansen and Harriet McDonald who brought their applications and dues checks.

Calendar Dates to Note

December 20	Exec. Committee meeting
January 8	Hybrid Meeting
January 17	Full Board Meeting
February 5	Hybrid Meeting

Contact Us

aauwlolongbeach@gmail.com

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

www.facebook.com/aauwlolongbeachca

For Vantage info: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com

No one can go back in time and make a brand new beginning, but anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

A Wassail Good Time



Daphne Ching-Jackson, DeeDee Catalano-Smith and new member Harriett McDonald



Karen Gustafson and Denise Montoya serve.



Rita Powell, Lewette Fitzgerald and Carol Clanton.
Hostess Deloris Mayuga and Rita are getting things ready!

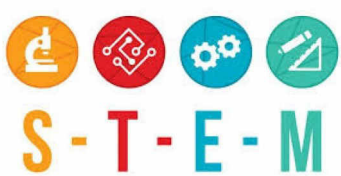


AAUW Annual Tradition

All Things STEM

by Deloris Mayuga and Pat Ferrer, Co-Chairs STEM Conference

Our 18th annual STEM Conference will be held on **Friday, February 25, 2022** at the new location, Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science located near CSULB and Bixby Hill. We will need many volunteers to help us put on the conference, including assembling folders, stuffing goody bags and food bags. Work during conference includes greeting students, assisting with registration, being a facilitator for our workshop presenters, and many more tasks.



We also are looking for assistant committee chairs to become familiar with the committee tasks. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Deloris or Pat at aauwlbstem@gmail.com.

The STEM Conference needs you! Help us make this a successful new conference!

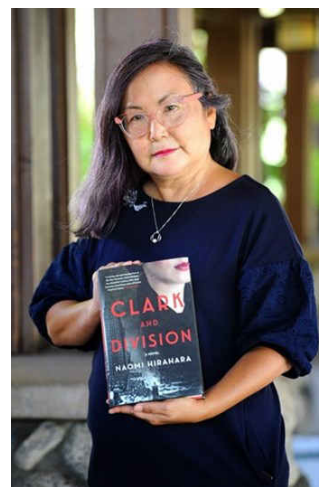
Program Planning

by Dee Dee Catalano

February Program – February 17 Meeting will be in the evening from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Plan to attend either in person or via Zoom this important Public Policy Program featuring several outstanding Long Beach leaders. Presented in conjunction with the National Council of Jewish Women, the program will feature a panel discussion on childcare and Financial Issues addressing women. Because we expect a large turnout, the event will take place in Building O-2, rooms 208-209. It is located south of Conant Street and west off Clark Avenue. The February business meeting will be held from 6-7pm followed by the panel.

Luncheon Most Deadly Update

Our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser is still scheduled for April 2, 2022. I want to call a committee meeting (Zoom) for January 11 to discuss whether it should be via Zoom like last year or in person as in the past. Our speaker, Naomi Hirahara, is willing to present either in person or virtually. If you would to join the committee, please contact Ginny Baxter.



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. Please email ideas/questions/comments to the Webmasters at

aauw.lb.webmaster@gmail.com

Or Email comments to Tobi Balma

Public Policy

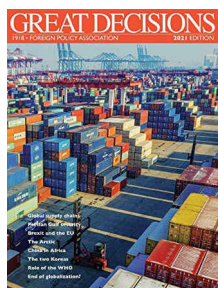
by Rita Powell, Director of Public Policy

One hundred and six state laws have been passed to restrict abortion in 2021. Activists, like AAUW, are bringing lawsuits before the Supreme Court regarding constitutionality of the Mississippi Law and Texas law.

Surveys show that 60-70% of Americans approve of abortion in all or most circumstances. Only 20% think it should be illegal in all circumstances. AAUW and AAUW California stand with the majority and the time to act is now. We must pressure the Senate to pass the Women's Protective Health Act. The legislation must become law in this session. Unfair changes in representation have occurred due to redistricting. Votes in the midterm election 2022 that would elect representatives who would vote for this bill could be suppressed.

Be the 2 minutes activist for AAUW now!

[Two-Minute Activist – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#)



Attention Great Decisions participants!

Any new book orders for Great Decisions, please contact Rita Powell by text 562 685 2096 or email at rriorita111@verizon.net Books previously ordered will arrive in January. See page 7 for meeting details.

A "NEW" AAUW LB AWARD!

by Tobi Balma

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!

The Executive Committee adopted a Named Gift Honoree Award policy at their November Meeting. Recipients for 2020-21 were Becky Low and Mary Lamo. Both will now be on the 2021-22 Named Gift Honoree Selection Committee, along with Sharon Westafer.

This award honors members who are, or have given extraordinary service to AAUW Long Beach. Historically, prior to the Connie Inskeep Award, our branch honored members years ago. We have been unable to find a list of prior branch honorees. If you are a past Honoree, please let Becky or Mary know.

Generally two members are honored yearly. We are reaching out to all members to let us know by February 15, 2022, who you believe has worked hard (including behind the scenes) to make our branch a success. The name(s) of the new honoree(s) will kept confidential and will be announced at the June, 2022 Installation. Contact Becky, Mary and Sharon for details.



Membership Counts

by Carol Clanton, Membership VP

Wassail

Thank you to members who invited guests to our festive Wassail holiday celebration. Two of our guests joined at the event and will be introduced during the January meeting. Welcome **Jane Hansen** and **Harriet McDonald!**

Please continue to tell your friends about AAUW. Invite your friends to join a national community of more than 170,000 women and men who are passionate about creating a more equitable future for women and girls. AAUW Long Beach is open to women (and men) who have attained an Associate's Degree or higher. Student affiliates are eligible if they are enrolled in a two-year or four-year program at a regionally accredited institution. Help us work toward our goal of promoting a diverse membership.

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 honorary life member Adele Brown died in April 2021. She was 92 years old. Adele's daughter, Liz Eagan, asked if you would help spread the word and let Adele's friends in California know that she has passed on from this life. While Adele was a member of the AAUW Long Beach Branch most recently, she had previously been a member of the Ontario-Upland-Rancho (CA) Branch for many years prior to 2006.

Here is her obituary:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/latimes/name/adele-brown-obituary?pid=198728828>

Board Business

by Anne Supple, Secretary

At the November Executive Board Meeting, Tobi Balma moved the following:

Named Gift Honoree Policy 12. AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree Award

- a. Criteria for Selection
 - i. Up to two AAUW branch members annually who demonstrate outstanding work in support of branch or state activities that in turn support the goals of the AAUW Fund and/or AAUW California and do not necessarily fall under the criteria of the Connie Inskeep Award.
 - ii. Honorees may be honored more than once.
- b. Selection Committee
 - i. The branch President will request three volunteers to be on the committee by the end of December. The volunteers will be active members who are past Named Gift Honorees.
 - ii. The committee will select a Chair. They may solicit outside recommendations and will decide among themselves who the recipient(s) will be for that fiscal year.
- c. Selection Process
 - i. The branch may select one Honoree for every \$750 that the branch donates to the AAUW Fund. The branch AAUW Fund Vice-President will provide confirmation to the selection committee in early January that the required donation to the AAUW Fund has been met.
 - ii. The selection will take place by mid-February. The names of the honorees will be kept secret until presentation.
 - iii. A committee member will fill out the online AAUW application at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/named-gifthonorees/>, prior to March 1.
 - iv. The Certificate of Appreciation, signed by the CEO of AAUW, will be mailed to the committee Chair.
 - v. The Certificate(s) will be presented at the branch June installation by the Chair of the selection committee.

Linda Westman seconded it.

The motion passed: 5 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention

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 or in person! 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 meets to discuss, share opinions and ideas on critical issues global issues. Groups will meet in February 2022. One group meets Friday afternoons and the other meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. Planning to participate? Contact your group leader or Rita Powell at 562 595 6042 to order your book or email 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 January is *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley. Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested—and keep reading even if we are alone.



Public Policy explores, discusses and supports the active legislative issues of AAUW at the local, state, national and global levels to empower women and girls. It initiates emails and uses the 2 minute activist to promote legislation protesting civil rights, economic injustice issues and equal access to education. An authorized member of the LA County InterBranch Council, AAUW may collaborate with approved partner organizations to work toward common local and state goals. 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, January 8, 2022

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

