



Vantage

Ending and Beginning!

Dee Dee Catalano, Program Vice President

Another year closes on the AAUW calendar with the **Installation of Officers** for the 2022-2023 year.

- Co-Presidents: Denise Montoya & Sunny Zia
- Vice President (President-Elect): *vacant*
- Co-Program VPs: Ginny Baxter & Mary Ann Takemoto
- Co-Membership VPs: Jeane Caveness & Cacilia Kim
- Co-AAUW Fund VPs: Tobi Balma & Linda Westman
- Treasurer (2 year term): Pat Ferrer
- Investments VP: Linda Patten
- Secretary: Harriet McDonald & Anne Supple



The June 4th morning meeting will also include presentations of this year's special Awards. We look forward to installing this slate of elected officers at the last meeting before the summer break and hope that all members will join us in person at the

Long Beach City College meeting location. Join us for a light Brunch hosted by outgoing Co--Presidents, Ginny Baxter and Charlotte Joseph.

The Long Beach Branch, AAUW is part of the American Association of University Women, a national organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research. AAUW offers scholarships, action for gender equity, and support for personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendship. Members enjoy the opportunity to meet other professional women in regular meetings and gatherings for special interests. Monthly meetings feature speakers on current issues, women's issues, and other timely and interesting topics.

[www.https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/](https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/)



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

Wow, where has the time gone? This past month has seen a whirlwind of activity. Thank you Joann Kuroda for suggesting the Port of Long Beach Harbor Cruise on Tuesday, April 19. Our members enjoyed a beautiful morning on the water with a great commentary by Chris Berry from the Port. Lunch followed. If any of you see one of the Harbor Commissioners please thank them for the generous offer.

On May 4 AAUW, LB was honored at a reception at CSULB President Conoley's home for serving as members of the President's Commission on the Status of Women. Past Presidents Jeane Caveness, Stelet Kim, current President Ginny Baxter, future President, Denise Montoya and CSULB liaisons, Carol Menard and Dr. Beth Lesen attended.

We also want to thank all who attended the Garden Party on May 7. This event was very productive in recruiting new members, the life blood of any organization. Thank you to Carol Clanton who printed out information on the Branch and how to sign up online. Also thanks to Janice Furman. What a lovely, historic home, perfect for mingling because the outside was brought to the inside by large sliding glass doors. Mary Lamo took photos. Mary, Dee Dee Catalano Smith, Carol Clanton, Jeane Caveness, Linda Westman and Denise Montoya made work in the kitchen and set up fun.

On May 12, a busload of Members and friends traveled to the Motion Picture Museum courtesy of Supervisor Janice Hahn and coordinated by Joann Kuroda again. What a fun day we had, with none of the stress of driving. Joann and her committee are planning for trips and visits next year and would appreciate ideas and help.

Lastly, thank you Nominating chair, Frances Rozner and her committee for recruiting an outstanding board for next year. They will be installed at our June 4 meeting at Long Beach City College, 4900 E. Conant, Building 2, O-208. A light brunch will be served and student entertainment from LBCC will salute co-presidents Denise Montoya and Sunny Zia and their board as well as recognizing the outgoing board and announce the Connie Inskeep Award recipient. We will be gathering at 9:30, meeting begins at 10.



Reception at CSULB President Conoley's home

Calendar Dates to Note

May 23 Transition Board Meeting
June 4 Branch Meeting and
Installation of Officers

July Planning for 2022—2023

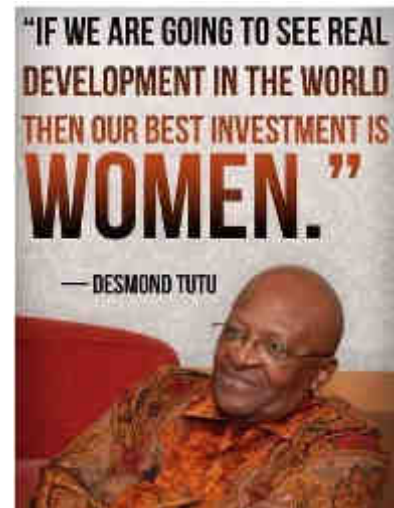
Contact Us

aauwlongbeach@gmail.com
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For Vantage info: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com

We mourn the passing of Bev Krivokapich, long time AAUW member. She played a large part in events and activities in the Branch. A lovely celebration of life was held Sunday, May 22. Many members attended. Our hearts go out to her husband, Glenn Ducat.

With the possible overturning of Roe v Wade, AAUW members took to the streets on Saturday, May 21 to fight for our reproductive rights. Choice is our right. We can make a difference. The Supreme Court is poised to end Roe vs. Wade and a majority of Americans support Roe. It is time to show our majority dissent. It is also true that racist attacks are running deep in this country and we must continue to demand systemic change. Indeed, we must keep fighting for justice, stand firm on how to inspire activism and hope for how we can get out of it together. Keep fighting for solidarity against sexism and racism. Let your anger become the catalyst and focus for your activism. In the words of Maya Angelou, “ You should be angry. You should not be bitter. During the dark times, it is up to up us to light the way forward.” We can make a difference.



Sexual Assault on College Campuses by Amy Hom, AAUW Public Policy Committee

College campuses should be safe spaces where students can study, learn, pursue academic goals and engage in social activities. Unfortunately college campuses have also long been places where students can face sexual violence. A 2019 study conducted by the Association of American Universities found the rate of undergraduates who experienced rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence, or incapacitation to be 26.4 percent for females, 23.1 percent for transgender, genderqueer, or nonconforming (TGQN) students, and 6.8 percent for males.

A crucial first step toward solving problems is accurate reporting and measurement. While numerous studies show that campus rape is common, an analysis by AAUW found that the vast majority (89%) of 11,000 American college and university campuses reported zero incidents of rape. This speaks to the inadequacy of reporting structures rather than the frequency of assaults. Only 1 in 5 female undergraduates report their sexual assault to authorities, with victims often reluctant to notify officials because they worry that they won't be believed or might face retaliation. Many schools make it difficult for students to come forward, and a majority fail to properly report incidents of sexual violence when they occur.

The AAUW CA Public Policy committee will be looking out for the Department 's new proposed Title IX revisions in the spring, and will provide updates as they become available.

Part 2 will be added to the next issue of the Vantage.



Tech Trek Update

by Valerie Armstrong, Tech Trek Branch Coordinator

Notes from CA AAUW **TECH TREK 2022: FULL SPEED AHEAD!**

Over 500 campers have been selected for residential camps and almost 200 for virtual camps. The CampSite platform for AAUW California Tech Trek implementation is ready for launch this month. Families will be receiving links to complete their camper's registration this week and camp directors will shortly be able to produce all reports necessary for a successful camp.



The AAUW Long Beach Tech Trek Committee has selected nine wonderful campers for 2022. Three are from Hamilton Middle School and six are from Muir Academy. This year there will be two locations for Tech Trek: Whittier College and UC Santa Barbara. Four students will attend camp at Whittier College and five will attend UC Santa Barbara.



We will need assistance with sorting t-shirts and other items for the campers at Whittier College. Tobi should receive the materials by the end of May, so we will plan a "sorting party" in early June. More details will come later. We hope you will join us!



Scholarship Success

FRANCES MAGARIAN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE



Denise tells us there is more to be proud about! The amount raised at the Author Event for Scholarships is actually \$6,730! It is well in excess of the \$5,000 goal set to fund our scholarships for future years for CSULB and LBCC! Thanks to all and good job committee!

Ginny wants to acknowledge those who donated additional funds for the scholarship fund raiser: Carolyn Eggleston, Karen Gustafson, Margaret Huebner, Anne Ingalls, Alyce LaViolette, Cathy Rokicki, Frances Rozner, Linda Silver, Julie Taboada, and Mary Ann Takemoto who made specific donations to either scholarship fund in the amount of \$100 or more.

A Note from Tobi and Linda Westman:
CONGRATULATIONS!!

At the 2022 AAUW-CA Annual Event on April 30, 2022, the Top 10 CA Branch Contributions to the AAUW Fund and Top 10 CA Branches Per Capita were announced.

The Long Beach Branch placed 4th for Branch Total Contributions with \$14,369.00. We tied for 10th Place with \$114.95 per member.

To borrow a phrase...GO BEACH!



Happenings with AAUW



The Garden Party was a great success. Beautiful weather, a lovely setting in Janice Furman's classic home. Delicious food brought a large turnout of AAUW members who were joined by new and prospective members. Thank you to the many who helped with reception, setup, serving and cleanup. (Mary Lamo, Ginny Baxter, Denise Montoya, Linda Westman, George Jackson, Janice Furman, Tobi Balma)



Frances Rozner, Jane Hansen, Carol Clanton, Joann Kuroda, Linda Westman, Denise Montoya, Mary Lamo, Ginny Baxter and Linda Silver. All enjoyed the LB Port Tour.



Membership Counts

by Carol Clanton, Membership VP

Highlighting Our 50-Year Honorary Members

This May, Tobi Balma and JoAnn (Hisaye) Kuroda have each been awarded the status AAUW Honorary Life Member. Congratulations to Tobi and JoAnn for their 50 years of exemplary service to AAUW! We wish to thank them for their commitment, diligence, and thoughtfulness in advancing the mission of AAUW. Their outstanding dedication and leadership have been valued by the entire organization. We wish to recognize their many accomplishments and appreciate what they continue to offer AAUW Long Beach!

Tobi Balma joined our branch in 2018 and continually demonstrates her commitment to the mission of AAUW at the branch, state, and national level. After joining AAUW in 1972, Tobi was instrumental in forming the Cerritos-La Palma Branch. There she served as President, Secretary, Program VP and AAUW Fund VP. She currently serves as their Co-Fund VP. Tobi believes in AAUW so strongly that she is a member of five branches! Tobi brings her endless energy, enthusiasm, and activism to each of these branches.



Tobi has served on both the AAUW CA and AAUW National Legal Advocacy Fund Committee. She also served on the AAUW CA Nominating Committee. She was on the AAUW CA SPF Board for two years and created their website. She has recruited hundreds of National AAUW members through the Give A Grad A Gift Program. For the second year, Tobi is assisting the Whittier Tech Trek Director with administrative functions and has been a Dorm Mom three times. Tobi is a member of the AAUW Legacy Circle and the Moonenee Leece Giving Circle. She has been honored several times as an AAUW Named Gift Honoree by two branches, and Nationally for her extraordinary dedication.

Our branch has greatly benefitted from Tobi's willingness to guide, mentor, and assist. She stepped up to be Zoom Manager, new-member Buddy, and STEM volunteer. Tobi mentors both branch officers and new members alike. She encourages new members to participate in some way without waiting to be asked. Tobi lends her technological expertise by updating and maintaining our website, and serving as Web Manager and Facebook Administrator. She also participates in Great Decisions and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Tobi still finds the time to regularly attend LACIC meetings and has served as their Newsletter Editor, Secretary, and Chair. After 50 years Tobi still feels passionately about AAUW. She comments, "There is still much that needs to be done. I stand on the shoulders of so many women before me, and women stand on my shoulders."

JoAnn Kuroda joined AAUW in 1972 after starting her family. She found the Long Beach branch to be filled with stimulating, gifted women, and the grassroots nature of AAUW National appealed to her. When she first became a member, a friend introduced her to the Recent Grads Interest Group. To this day, JoAnn feels strongly that joining an Interest Group helps a new member become more engaged in AAUW. JoAnn has been a steadfast member of the Long Beach Branch of AAUW. When she served as the AAUW CA District Director, she had the opportunity to visit many different branches. She concluded that Long Beach is one of the most organized and active branches with so much to offer. JoAnn treasures AAUW LB and credits it for helping her grow intellectually and develop leadership skills. JoAnn's deep belief in the mission of equity for women and girls attained through education combined with the fulfilling friendships she has formed has led to her 50 year relationship with AAUW.



JoAnn has held many leadership positions in the Long Beach Branch and is appreciated for her capable, collaborative leadership. She was LB Branch President in 1993 and Co-President in 2011. She considers her role as President to be a special honor. She especially enjoyed being Program VP and participated in a memorable member-panel program that discussed the pros and cons of nuclear energy. She also served as Fund VP and Community Advocate (Public Policy). She has been Budget Chair, Door Chair, Hospitality Chair, and Reservations Chair. She believes every job is equally important and holding a position enhances involvement in the branch.

When you think of JoAnn, you are reminded of her positive contributions to the Scholarship Committee. When the Frances Magarian bequest was initially made, JoAnn was instrumental in advocating its use for community scholarships. She has served on the Scholarship Committee since 2014 and is serving as the Scholarship Committee Chair for the second time. She feels passionately about the bright students she has the privilege to interview. JoAnn states, "The future is in good hands when represented by these young women who will do well in the community and their fields." JoAnn has been our enthusiastic Cultural Adventures Co-chair for the last 10 years and also participates in the International Cuisine Interest Group. She was involved in LACIC and has served as its Vice President. JoAnn holds the special distinction of being the 1st recipient of the Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award!

We are deeply grateful for the contributions of both of these talented, dedicated women. Congratulations on reaching this 50 year membership milestone! Please join us in celebrating their Honorary Lifetime Memberships at our June 4th Branch Meeting.

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

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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 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. 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 June is *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult. 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 **Carol Llewellyn** 562-430-4380

aauw.lb.webmaster@gmail.com

Or Email Web page comments to Tobi Balma



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Please **RSVP** by email or phone Reservations Chair **Sharon Westafer** to let us know if you will attend in person.

You will receive more details about the LBCC address and Brunch arrangements before the meeting.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, June 4, 2022

Time: 9:30 Social and Mingle
10:00 Meeting and Installation

Place: Long Beach City College
Building O 2 Room 208

Installation of Officers

Join us for a light Brunch at the meeting
hosted by Ginny and
Charlotte



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.

AAUW Long Beach Branch

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

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Note in your Yearbook!
The new AAUW CA address is
915 L Street, Suite C, Box 418
Sacramento 95814