



Vantage

Season's Greetings

Mary Ann Takemoto and Ginny Baxter, Co-Program Vice Presidents

What a fantastic November program! Thank you Branch member, Tobi Balma and Women Shelter's Nadia Parada for an informative insight into domestic violence. To learn more about the history of women in Long Beach, I encourage you to ...

* visit the Historical Society of Long Beach at 4260 Atlantic Ave. to view "A Woman's Place" which will be on display until the end of the year.

Their hours are Tues/Wed/Fri 1-5pm, Thurs 1-7pm and Sat 11am-5pm.

* visit the African American Cultural Center, nearby at 4321 Atlantic for a holiday open house on Friday, December 2 from 5-9pm. The event is free but reservations are required. <http://www.aacclb.org/>



Join fellow AAUW members and guests in kicking off the Holiday Season with a gathering at the home of Deloris Mayuga from 10 am—12 pm. Deloris graciously hosted this annual event last year and offered her home again on Saturday, December 3. To make catering easier, members are asked to contribute \$15 to cover purchased food and drink. In addition, past presidents sign up to serve the coffee and wassail (a Nordic drink customarily served during this season). Try some,

you'll like it! Contact Ginny to volunteer for 20-minute intervals. We also need volunteers to set up and clean up. Contact Ginny for that too. In addition to the traditional fare, we intend to serve foods that are vegetarian and vegan friendly. RSVP to Charlotte Joseph by December 1 (aauwlongbeach.reservations@gmail.com). Send in your \$15 via Zelle or Pay Pal to aauwlongbeach@gmail.com or snail mail to Amy La. Looking forward to seeing you and all potential new members.

The Saturday, January 7 meeting program will feature a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Tech Trek with a presentation by Valerie Armstrong. Mark your calendar for this inspiring program featuring past student recipients. We are working on a special venue and news of this will be sent later.

Visit our Website for more info: <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 Denise Montoya and Sunny Zia

US Supreme Court Heard Arguments – Affirmative Action

"I am a product of affirmative action. I am the perfect affirmative action baby. I am Puerto Rican, born and raised in the South Bronx. My test scores were not comparable to my colleagues at Princeton and Yale.

Not so far off so that I wasn't able to succeed at those institutions."

Sonia Sotomayor, Justice, US Supreme Court (first Latina, third woman appointed to the Court)

History: Affirmative Action was part of an Executive Order presented by President John Kennedy in 1961, and a policy put into place for the purpose of having federal contractors hire individuals from marginalized parts of American society, who had experienced discrimination in spite of Constitutional guarantees and civil rights laws written in the 1960's. Basically, affirmative action is **a policy in which an individual's color, race, sex, religion, or national origin are taken into account in a selection process** (See this link for further explanation:

[Affirmative Action History & Timeline \(Civil Rights Act, Supreme Court Cases, etc.\) \(infoplease.com\)](https://infoplease.com/ce6/us/summary/articles/affirmative-action-history-and-timeline-civil-rights-act-supreme-court-cases-etc.html)

Supreme Court Challenge, Fall 2022 The Supreme Court heard 5 hours of oral arguments on 10/31/22 related to the use of affirmative action in the cases cited - "Students for Fair Admissions v. University of NC" and the secondly - "Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College.

What happened when the Supreme Court heard oral arguments about this issue? Among other significant arguments, "US Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar, while defending the University of North Carolina affirmative action program, emphasized what gender disparities among attorneys who appear before the Supreme Court signify. She was addressing the questions from conservatives about what affirmative action defenders see as the end point that would allow for the use of race in admissions to end. Prelogar said that it was not about defining a precise quota but acknowledging extreme disparities and how they can "cause people to wonder whether the path to leadership is open." Prelogar was the only female attorney arguing Monday among the six lawyers who participated in the two cases' hearing." (See this link for additional information: [Live updates: Supreme Court affirmative action in college admissions arguments \(cnn.com\)](https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/31/supreme-court-affirmative-action/index.html)

Continued on next page....

**DECEMBER 3 ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY
FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS! RSVP PLEASE!**



Calendar Dates to Note

Nov. 21	Executive Board Meeting
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving
Dec. 3	Holiday Party
June 10	Author Event with Lisa See

Contact Us

aauwlongbeach@gmail.com
longbeach-ca.aauw.net/

www.facebook.com/aauwlongbeachca
For Vantage Editor: Rebecca Low
rlow1@hotmail.com

Saturday, June 10, 2023

Enjoy our "Afternoon with Lisa See"
from 2:00 -4:00 pm at a location yet to be
determined. All funds raised support
AAUW Long Beach Scholarships at
LBCC and CSULB.

All AAUW members will be invited to join
the planning committee. Volunteers are
needed for silent auction items and oppor-
tunity prizes. Contact Ginny Baxter for
more details.

More from the Co-Presidents

Arguments/questions asked by the jurists included the following: 1) how would a college or university know when to end affirmative action, or in other words – how would you know when the diversity goals had been met; 2) what are the educational benefits for the students who experience racial diversity; 3) by denying racial diversity, doesn't that deny equal protection under the Constitution; 4) will underrepresented groups decline nationally, as they have in 9 schools which don't utilize Affirmative Action; and lastly 5) the plaintiffs contend that Asians are discriminated against in the Harvard case. (See link on page 2 for additional information.)

Who are the Plaintiffs and why are they suing? The 20,000 members of the nonprofit, Students for Fair Admissions (SFFA), believe that it is unconstitutional to use racial and ethnic classifications for college/university admittance criteria. Most of the membership is Asian and Pacific Islander. (See the website at: <https://studentsforfairadmissions.org>.) SFFA is an offshoot of an earlier organization, Project on Fair Representation, whose director and sole member is Edward J. Blum. Blum ran against an unopposed candidate in his Texas congressional district, and lost, alleging that gerrymandering had been used to benefit a predominately African American district for the purpose of increasing their voting power. He, and others who joined the suit took their grievance (Bush v. Vera) to the Supreme Court and won, arguing that their Fourteenth Amendment rights had been violated. Blum recruits plaintiffs for Affirmative Action suits within the SFFA online site. (See these links to learn more about the organization and Blum [About | \(studentsforfairadmissions.org\)](#) and [Meet Edward Blum, the Man Who Wants to Kill Affirmative Action in Higher Education | News & Commentary | American Civil Liberties Union \(aclu.org\)](#))

When will the Court rule? It is likely that the ruling will come late in the spring, as this is a critical issue to colleges, universities, military academies, the military itself, even law firms who depend upon diverse employees, and the larger corporations who are looking to increase the diversity of talented graduates they hire.

What can you do to advance equity for women? Here's the AAUW.org webpage link for the Two Minute Activist - [Two-Minute Activist – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#)

Please consider writing to your congressional representatives and senators regarding: the Gender Equity in Education Act [Support the Gender Equity in Education Act – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#) , the Equal Rights Amendment [Ratify the Equal Rights Amendment – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#) , and ask them to pass the Equality Act [Pass the Equality Act – AAUW : Empowering Women Since 1881](#)

STEM Career Conference

Mary Lamo, Frances Rozner, Event Co-Chairs

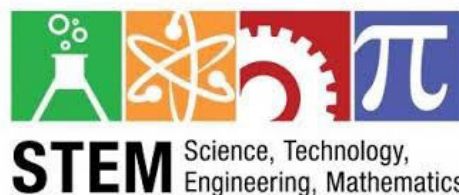
Seeking volunteers for the STEM Career Conference

Friday, February 24, 2023, from 2:15 pm to 7pm at Sato Academy. Assist us with a variety of interesting activities: photographing the event, assisting with school arrivals and departures, setting up signage, managing traffic flow and facilitating workshop speakers. We are also seeking volunteers to help with the pre-conference stuffing of folders and goodie bags.

This is our 19th Annual Conference and our second year at Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science, just east of the CSULB campus at Iroquois Ave.

and Anaheim Street. Come experience the volunteer camaradery and the excited energy of the 7th and 8th grade girls who attend. Contact Darlene Daclan

at Darlene_daclan@yahoo.com with your volunteer job preference (s). Thank you!



AAUW Fund

by Linda Westman and Tobi Balma, Co-AAUW Fund V.P.s

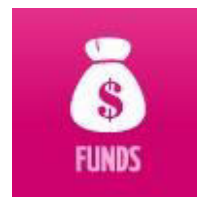


Go Long Beach!! Our November AAUW Fund Drive netted a contribution of **\$3700** from our Long Beach Branch. This is not counting any donations made via the website. This is a generous and passionate group! Donations were earmarked for Greatest Needs Fund as well as the Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle Special Project Fund, The Economic Security Fund, the Education & Training Fund, and the Legal Advocacy Fund.

In this year celebrating 50 years of Title IX, we want to highlight the work of the **Legal Advocacy Fund**. LAF was created in 1981 by AAUW members and has provided millions of dollars to bring justice and gender equity through the legal system. AAUW allocates \$100,000 annually to help fund landmark cases seeking legal redress issues involving Title IX, as well as those of equal pay, pregnancy discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual assault.

Two current cases include [Joseph v. Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia et al](#) and Paige v. USAID. In the first case, MaChelle Joseph successfully led the women's basketball team at Georgia Institute of Technology. The university's athletic department provided Coach Joseph and her team significantly fewer benefits and resources than it did to the men's team. After Coach Joseph filed a complaint about this discriminatory treatment, the university suspended and ultimately terminated her employment.

The second case involves three women who each worked for USAID for more than 27 years in overseas posts and achieved the highest rank in the Senior Foreign Service. But in 2016, each discovered that, despite their seniority and higher rank, they were paid considerably less than dozens of lower ranking and less experienced male Senior Foreign Service officers. To learn more about past and present cases, check out AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund on our website [HERE](#)



Selected Professions Fellowships



Name: [Kyndra Cleveland](#)
Award Year: 2022-23
Award: Selected Professions Fellowship
Institution: University of California-Berkeley (Berkeley-CA)
Location: Berkeley, California
Discipline: Law
Degree and Specialization: J.D., Law and Psychology

Kyndra Cleveland, a developmental psychologist, is currently pursuing her law degree at the University of California, Berkeley. She seeks to amplify the voices of parents and children navigating legal systems and to promote family well-being through research-to-policy translation. She also is dedicated to reforming policies surrounding access, promotion and opportunities for women and communities of color in higher education. She is pursuing her policy goals as a member of the Policy Advocacy Clinic at Berkeley.

Sponsors:

1114 - Marin County (CA) Branch/Vera L. Schultz

1887 - Arlene M. Black

4412 - Jean Aldrich American Fellowship (FY 2016)

Kyndra Cleveland is a Selected Professions Fellowship recipient funded in part by our 2016 branch **Jean Aldrich American Fellowship**. Since only the interest of the endowments are used, it takes several endowments to sponsor a fellow.

Selected Professions Fellowships (\$20,000) are awarded to women who intend to pursue a full-time course of study at accredited U.S. institutions during the fellowship year in one of the designated degree programs where women's participation traditionally has been low. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Changes to the Nominations process

Frances Rozner & Carol Clanton, immediate past and current Nominations Committee Chairs

Purpose of proposed changes: easing the responsibilities of the Branch President. Rather than appointing all the members of the Nominations Committee, the President will appoint the Nominations Committee Chair. The Chair will then recruit the Committee members.

Reason for this Vantage statement: The Bylaws motion requires approval of the branch membership. The Policies and Procedures motion requires Board approval. It is good policy to notify the voting parties in advance.

Bylaws: Article IX. Nominations and Elections; Section 1. Nominations; a.:

Currently: a. There shall be a nominating committee of at least five members, consisting of the Immediate Past President as Advisor with the remaining four members and a committee chair appointed by the President. The first meeting shall occur no later than October 1 each year.

Proposed: a. There shall be a nominations committee of at least five members, with a Committee Chair appointed by the President. The committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President as Advisor with the remaining four (or more) members recruited by the Committee Chair. The first meeting shall occur no later than October 1 each year.

Policies and Procedures: 13. Nominations Committee, a. and b.:

Currently: a. The President shall make appointments to the nominating committee by no later than August 1. The President shall appoint the committee Chair.

b. The immediate past Membership Vice President shall be one of the appointed members of the nominating committee.

Proposed: a. The President shall appoint the Nominations Committee Chair by no later than August 1.

b. The Immediate Past Membership Vice President shall be one of the members of the Nominations Committee.

Policies and Procedures: 15. Other Duties of Officers, a. President. ix.:

Currently: ix. Shall appoint members to the nominating committee.

Proposed: ix. Shall appoint the chair of the Nominations Committee.

Branch Business

by Harriett McDonald, Co-Secretary

Motions from the Board Meeting on October 17, 2022

1. Motion to move Building Funds to Citibank: Linda Patten moved that we deposit \$93,000.00 from the Building Fund to Citibank branch at 5535 E. Lakewood Blvd, Lakewood Ca 90713. An Investment of \$93,000.00 for a return of at least 2.75% would be adding approximately \$2500.00 to the Building Fund. The motion was seconded by Ginny Baxter. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Motion to approve Title IX event: Rita Powell moved as the chair of the AAUW Long Beach Title IX ad hoc committee, that the Board of Directors approve as presented the event to recognize Title IX and its Celebration of the Champions at the Billy Jean King Tennis Center in March 2023. Linda seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Motion for the Board to use Reserve Funds for Title IX event: Rita Powell moved that as chair of the AAUW Long Beach Title IX ad hoc Committee, that the Board of Directors recommend to Branch Membership that the Reserve Fund will provide funding not to exceed \$4000 for the Title IX event approved by the Board of Directors. Any funding received from outside donors of AAUW National (Community Action Grant) not spent, should be returned to the Reserve Fund. The motion was seconded by Mary Lamo. The motion was unanimously approved.

Member Spotlight

by Co-Membership V P Jeane Relleve Caveness, Ph.D.

Highlighted this month are two new members: **Marja Needham**, who joined in May, and **Laura Spiegel**, who became a national member in March and then joined the branch in August. Please welcome them!

How did you get connected with AAUW Long Beach?

Marja: I noticed the AAUW Garden party in the LBCC newsletter; I followed the listed instructions and contacted Carol Clanton. I noticed AAUW in other public events, but I never engaged until recently

Laura: I was recruited by Tobi Balma through my school, CSULB, to be the nurse for AAUW Whittier's Tech Trek. She then referred me to join the Long Beach branch since I live there.

What is your current position or former position if retired?

Marja: Full-time student, part-time tutor

Laura: My current position is a med-surg nurse at Southern California Hospital at Hollywood.

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

Marja: Studying spoken and sign languages is a passion. My extensive studies include American sign language, Japanese, and French.

Laura: Not only am I a nurse, but I also have a degree in Environmental Studies and worked in Hawaii in the clean energy field for a while before switching to the medical field.

What is your favorite activity or book?

Marja: Traveling is the best hobby because exposure to other cultures, new experiences and approaches to life enhances your own.

Laura: My favorite activity to do on nice days is to roller skate on the beach path near my apartment. I love visiting the beach and exercising there.

Any other comments?

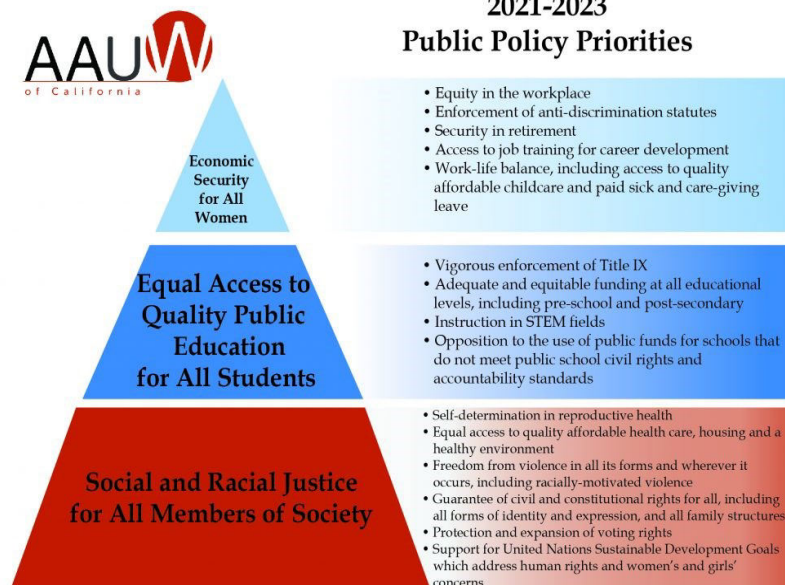
Marja: None.

Laura: So far, everyone in this branch has been very warm and welcoming, and I look forward to meeting with everyone!



Public Policy

by Rita Powell, Public Policy Director



The Great Decisions Group

participants are ordering their books now, to arrive by the end of January. The groups will be discussing global issues topics including Energy Geopolitics, War Crimes, China and the U.S., Economic Warfare, Politics in Latin America, Global Famine, Iran at the Crossroads and Climate Migration. The books are \$36.00 each. Please make checks out to me, Rita Powell, but mail your checks to Deloris Mayuga's address. Please contact me at rriorita111@verizon.net with any questions or for more information.

BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

Joining an interest group (or several) 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. The Contact persons listed below can inform you if groups are meeting virtually or are in person.



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. The group will meet monthly to plan activities. Contact: **Arnedra Jordan** at 310-722-6594 / ajordan6@my.keller.edu



Great Decisions Groups meet to discuss, share opinions and ideas on critical issues global issues. One group meets Friday afternoons and another meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm. Planning to participate in the Spring of 2023? Contact your group leader or **Rita Powell** 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: The **Executive committee as we are looking for Volunteers to lead this group!**



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 December is *Look Again* by Lisa Scottoline. We share this information so even if you aren't able to join us, you have reading suggestions. At this time, we are at capacity, however if you would like to be added to a waiting list, contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749.



Public Policy committee 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 562-685-2096 / riorita111@verizon.net



The **Residential Rentals group** started in 2009 with a monthly 3rd Wednesday 10 am gathering. It is a discussion group on topics relating to residential rentals – things of interest/importance/concern that keep each other informed. The group has averaged 10-13 people per meeting. It continues in odd months; most often meeting at the dining room table at one of our homes or on ZOOM. To be on the email list contact **Joan Gustafson** jwg221@aol.com or **Ellen Mathis** epmathis@verizon.net.



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 about the titles to be read. Contact **Carol Llewellyn** 562-430-4380

The branch website has been updated. Please click HERE <https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/> to see what is new! Contact Tobi Balma by email for web questions or suggestions aauwlongbeach.webmanager@gmail.com

NEW! Please RSVP by email to Reservations Chair Charlotte Joseph to let us know if you will attend in person, via Zoom or not at all. Use this email address from now on!

aauwlolongbeach.reservations@gmail.com

You will receive a reminder and more details about the meeting location before the December meeting.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING (better known as Holiday Party)

Saturday, December 3, 2022

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Place: Home of Deloris Mayuga

Look for Deloris Mayuga's address in the directory or contact Ginny Baxter. Street parking available.



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

