



Vantage

Invite to the Garden Party...and more

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

AAUW has been transforming women's lives for more than a century. Now that we've won the fight to give women equal access to education, we're taking on one of the most defining issues of our time: gender equity. But we can't do it alone. AAUW offers many opportunities to get involved with a local community of activists. By joining at the branch level, you can serve in leadership roles, sponsor community action projects, and lobby on priority issues like pay equity and Title IX reform. **By becoming a member, you're not only joining a community committed to our cause. You're also directly funding our work to Make a Difference.** (from the National AAUW website)



The Long Beach Branch annual Garden Party is a great opportunity to "mix and mingle" with current members and to invite friends or potential members to share time with us. It will be held at the Park Estates home of Janice Furman on Saturday, May 6 from 10-12noon.

A contribution of \$10 is requested. There is no charge for guests. Reservations must be made at aauwlongbeach.reservations@gmail.com so that we have an accurate count and sufficient food. A vegetarian option will be available. Payment may be made by check made payable to AAUW LB and sent to Amy La, or by Zelle payment sent to aauwlongbeach@gmail.com, or Pay Pal (select friends and family) to aauwlongbeach@gmail.com.

Ginny and team do need some volunteers to help with set up (at 9am) and clean up (at noon). They also need card tables and folding chairs. Last year Carol Clayton put together an excellent display on AAUW, LB and our mission, programs and interest groups. This is always a fun event. We hope many will attend so that members get to know newer members better. There will not be a Zoom option.



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 Sunny Zia, M.S.,P.E., Co-President

Attracting and Retaining Young Diverse Professionals

At the April Branch meeting election, our incoming Co-President Carolyn Eggleston mentioned that she wants to build partnerships with other key organizations and attract and retain young and diverse members. So how can we support that mission? As a woman of color and to the best of my knowledge, the first Persian Jewish woman co-president of the branch, I like to share my experience and may it be of service.

To say I am a work in progress and that it has been quite a year for me personally to be a Co-President, is a gross understatement! Early in my term, I went through a tragic family loss that only a couple branch members knew about, along with being at the receiving end of a very public political anathematizing campaign and dealing with severe family health crisis. It was one thing after another and a year of personal and professional tumult and arduous odyssey. What was significant in helping me survive it all, was the love, compassion, patience of my co-president, Denise Montoya, and many of my AAUW Long Beach branch members who gave me the warmth of their love, light and support.

Many young professional ladies' stories may align with mine. They may have two jobs like me, they may have child care issues, they may take care of their elder family members as main care givers, they may have experienced loss in their families, and alas may be just getting by to make ends meet for their families. Young professionals may not always be supplicants to rigor and as learned as some of the veteran members on process and protocol, but they truly need and yearn for organizations such as ours that can support them personally and professionally. If we want to support and foster a spirit of diversity, inclusion, and equity, we need to continue to exercise patience, pliability and pure compassion and meet working professionals where they are, akin to what was afforded to me by the loving kindness of so many in the branch.



Let us support our incoming Co-Presidents and Board by continuing to promote a loving and growing community focused on building a more accepting union for our members and our posterity. I submit that perhaps it's best to choose substance over form and to keep in mind the old adage that "perfect is the enemy of good" and a salient detractor that conjures resignation. And we hope to have fun and create joy while we are at it! I don't know about you but I am pretty excited for the year ahead. I look forward to helping our membership become more inclusive and diverse, while learning from the great insight and experience of so many of you who have been members for decades!

Thank you for the warmth of your love, the gift of your attention, and the opportunity to serve as your work - in-progress Co-President. It has been a true pleasure and privilege.

Calendar Dates to Note

May 6	Spring Garden Party
May 15	Full Board Meeting—Zoom
June 3	Meeting /Installation
June 10	Afternoon with Lisa See

Contact Us

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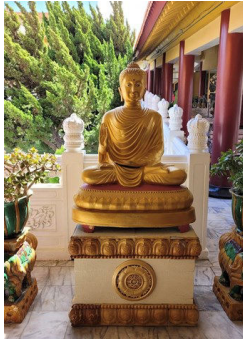
Past-President Recognition Invitation

Sunny Zia and I would love to invite all of our AAUW Past-Presidents to the June Installation meeting on **Saturday, June 3, 2023** at 10 a.m. An agenda, including the Zoom link, will be sent a week or so before the meeting. We are hoping that the majority of you are able to attend in person. Attendance via Zoom is perfectly okay as well. We understand that there will be entertainment and special treats to share that morning! ~ Denise Montoya

So... Save the Date! We'll look forward to seeing you at Long Beach City College, Building O-2, Rm 208 located at 4901 E Conant, Long Beach, CA

Cultural Adventures

by Joann Kuroda and Faye Alperin



HSI LAI BUDDHIST TEMPLE VISIT

Friday, May 12, 2023 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join us for a tour of the Temple in Hacienda Heights. Meet at the Los Altos Target Parking Lot, 2270 Bellflower Blvd. at 9:45am for the bus, which will depart at 10:00am. A vegetarian lunch will be offered. A gift shop, an art gallery and temple grounds are for you to explore.

Call JoAnn Kuroda for reservations at 562-429-6923 or email at sojoinlb@aol.com

Or contact Faye Alperin Cost: \$25.00 per person Deadline April 27, 2023.

25 Passengers minimum to go.

Board/Branch Business

Anne Supple & Harriet McDonald, Co-Secretaries

The following motion was presented and passed at the February 20, 2023 Executive Board Meeting:

Frances Rozner moved that the Executive Board recommend to the Branch the following change be made to:

1) Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award, Criteria for Selection, 11.a.ii. be changed FROM:

"Demonstrated leadership for the branch that is consistent with the mission of AAUW, i.e. promotes equity for women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change: and/or" TO: "Demonstrated leadership for the branch that is consistent with the mission of AAUW, i.e. advances equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy; and/or"

2) Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award, Selection Committee, 11.b.i. be changed FROM: "Will be appointed by the executive committee and shall consist of three members, one of whom shall be from the general membership." TO: In February, the Membership VP will appoint a past award recipient as the Chair, who will recruit two other past award recipients to complete a three-member committee."

3) Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award, Selection Process, 11.c.i. be changed FROM: "Nomination forms be distributed each year to all AAUW branch members in the April Vantage." TO: "Nomination forms to be distributed each year to all AAUW branch members."

4) Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award, Selection Process, 11.c.iii. be changed FROM: "Nomination forms may be returned at the branch meeting or submitted to the chair of the selection committee by April 15." TO: "Nomination forms shall be submitted to the Selection Committee by April 30."

5) Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award, Selection Process, 11.c.v. be changed FROM: "Award presented at the June installation meeting by the outgoing president and the previous year's awardee of the Connie Inskeep AAUW Leadership Award." TO: "Award presented at the June installation meeting by the Chair of the Selection Committee." Second is not required. Motion Passed.

The following motion was presented at the April 1, 2023 Branch meeting:

Carol Clanton presented the 2023-24 Slate of Officers:

- ◆ Elect/VP: vacant Program VP: Sharifa Batts
- ◆ Co-Membership VPs: Karen Gustafson & Lamis Hashem
- ◆ Co-AAUW Fund VPs: Tobi Balma & Linda Westman
- ◆ Co-Investments VPs: Virginia Baxter & Deloris Mayuga
- ◆ Treasurer (continuing term): Patricia Ferrer
- ◆ Co-Secretaries: Cacilia Kim & Harriet McDonald

Frances Rozner moved to elect the slate of officers in its entirety. Ginny Baxter seconded.

The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

* The Continuing Officers by succession are Co-Presidents Amy La & Carolyn Eggleston



Diversity & Inclusion

by AAUW National

Two Can't-Miss Inclusion & Equity Webinars

AAUW's national Inclusion & Equity Committee is pleased to offer two engaging and informative webinars this spring. On Monday, April 24, from 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET, we'll share information with local branches and states as they prepare for [Celebrate Diversity Month](#) in April and the World Day for Cultural Diversity on May 21. Then, on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 pm–9:00 pm ET, we'll provide a [hands-on learning opportunity](#) for AAUW members to explore aspects of diversity and intersectionality. Please join us!

Save the date – June 10, 2023

Annual Author Event for Scholarships.



Award winning author, Lisa See, will be the featured author for our annual event on Saturday, June 10 from 1-4pm at LBCC. The committee has met and we have decided to have a tea as well as silent auction, drawings, opportunity prizes and the famous money hat. Lisa will discuss her most recent book, *Lady Tan's Circle of Women*. There will be books for sale which can be autographed. The committee has met several times. If you would like to donate gift cards, a basket or other items please contact Ginny Baxter or bring to the May Garden Party. There will be a basket making party at Linda Silver's home on May 22. Funds raised provide two \$2500 scholarships for female students at CSULB and two \$1000 scholarships for female students at LBCC. A flyer which you can distribute to friends and book lovers will be available soon.

AAUW Fund

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

Career Development Grants



Name: Amal ElWardi
Award Year: 2022-23
Award: Career Development Grant
Institution: Saint Mary's College of California
Location: Moraga, California
Discipline: Education
Degree and Specialization: M.A.,
Somatic Arts and Education
Therapy

Amal ElWardi's focus on deconstructing codified pedagogy, and applying embodied pedagogy, assists in repatterning human mechanisms toward energy-efficient neuromuscular capabilities, thereby stimulating injury or trauma rehabilitation and regrowth through proprioceptive awareness. Ushering treatments and outcomes in health, education and social justice, her research through Dynamic Embodiment™ and Body-Mind Centering™ discourses biophysics of everyday activity to guide emergence of body consciousness and mental health, using the power of words to encourage authentic expression for underrepresented youths.

Sponsors:

4200 - San Mateo (CA) Branch 70th Anniversary
4212 - Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (CA) Branch/Emily Visser
4284 - Tustin (CA) Branch/Rowene Aguirre Medina
4289 - Long Beach (CA) Branch

Amal El Wardi is a Career Development Grant recipient funded in part from our Long Beach Branch, Inc. Research and Projects Endowment (#4289) which was established in 2005 and completed in 2008.

This grant provides \$2,000-\$20,000 funding to women who hold a BA and are preparing to advance or change careers or re-enter the workforce in education; health and medical sciences; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); or social sciences. Primary consideration is given to women of color and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in nontraditional fields. Funds are available for tuition, fees, books, supplies, local transportation and dependent care. Grants support course work beyond a bachelor's degree, including a master's degree, second bachelor's degree, certification program or specialized training in technical or professional fields. Course work must be taken at a college or university in the US or at a technical school accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. Funds are not available for doctorate-level work.

Tech Trek Update

by Valerie Armstrong, Tech Trek Branch Coordinator

Dorm Moms Needed for Tech Trek

Imagine spending a week on a beautiful college campus, eating as much delicious food as you want, and meeting bright, motivated women from many cities across Southern California. In addition, this wonderful experience is free!



As a first time Dorm Mom at Whittier College last summer, I thoroughly enjoyed engaging with motivated students and escorting them to and from their exciting classes and field trips. Yes, the hours are long. Dorm Moms are responsible for 8-10 middle school girls, ensuring that they are safe and supervised during the entire week. You make sure they are awake at 6:00 am and lined up for breakfast by 6:45. You walk with them to the cafeteria, where there is a wonderful array of food. During the day you escort them to their morning class, to lunch, to their afternoon activity, to dinner, and to their evening activity. Lights are out at 10:00 pm.

This may sound like a lot of work, but it's also a lot of fun. The students are wonderful and it's a joy to see how excited they are about learning. You have the opportunity to sit in on interesting classes and workshops taught by top-notch educators. You will meet many wonderful AAUW members from other branches who are serving as Dorm Moms, teachers, or camp administrators. Best of all, you will get to know your campers and a junior counselor. It's a joy to see their growth throughout the week.

If you are interested in being a Dorm Mom at Whittier College this summer and are available from June 17 – 24, please contact me and I will send you the link to the application. I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have.

My email is valeriebeth@verizon.net and my cell phone is 310-490-6670.

Full Board Meeting Info

by Denise Montoya, Co-President

Hello, incoming and outgoing Board Members!

The election at our April Branch meeting on April 1st was a confirmation of the enthusiastic leaders we have in AAUW Long Beach Branch! So happy you were able to attend in person or by Zoom.

Reminder - Save the Date* for the Full Board meeting on *5/15/23 at 6:15 p.m. via Zoom for the Incoming/Outgoing Officers. Here's the Zoom link invitations and information:

Topic: AAUW Long Beach Incoming/Outgoing Full Board Meeting

All 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Elected Board Members, Appointed Officers and Administrative Chairs are expected to attend)

Date: May 15, 2023 6:00 pm Digital Mingle/Log in 6:15 pm Meeting begins

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88162125250?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88162125250?pwd=WmkyUXBFWmdsckVQZGErckNzWEIQQT09)

[pwd=WmkyUXBFWmdsckVQZGErckNzWEIQQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88162125250?pwd=WmkyUXBFWmdsckVQZGErckNzWEIQQT09)

Meeting ID: 881 6212 5250 Passcode: 051523

One tap mobile +16694449171,,88162125250#,,, *051523# US

Look for an email sent from me containing attached copies of the Turnover Template and your job description. Both documents need to be updated this month. When those documents are completed, please schedule a date and time to meet with the person taking on your role to share this information. You don't need to wait until the meeting to share the documents. The goal is to share how the job is done, what the expectations are, and for you to give the incoming person "a leg up", so that they may start without delay. (The agenda will be sent separately.)

· Please review your job description, revise it to reflect what you are actually doing and responsible for. (Email finished copies to Denise Montoya and Darlene Daclan no later than April 28, 2023.)

· Go over both documents with the person(s) replacing you on the Board, so they may be familiar with the job and prepared to "accept the baton" from you!

The Installation is on **June 3, 2023**. (Information about the summer retreat will be shared with you by your incoming Co-Presidents, Amy La and Carolyn Eggleston, later this spring.) Thank you in advance for adequately preparing5 for this important Board meeting.

Member Spotlight

by Co-Membership VPs Jeane Relleve Caveness, Ph.D., Cacilia Kim

Getting to Know.... Alice Pitts and Farrah Farhang

How did you get connected with AAUW Long Beach?

Alice: Carolyn Eggleston invited me to a meeting

Farrah: I was a previous member. I attended a Cerritos Branch meeting to catch up with an old friend. Here I am now!



What is your current position or former position if retired?

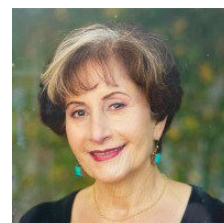
Alice: Project manager assistant, City of Long Beach (retired)

Farrah: Business systems analyst for PM HydraFacial in Long Beach

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

Alice: I love historical novels.

Farrah: I love traveling, learning about various cultures. I get a lot of satisfaction from helping others, especially children and seniors currently and volunteering to teach seniors technology and I am an AARP driving smart trainer-to-be.



What is your favorite ____ and why?

Alice: My favorite hobby is paper crafting.

Farrah: My favorite movies are *The Shawshank Redemption* and *The Green Mile*. I'm a hopelessly positive person and believe that good prevails over bad eventually.

Any other comments?

Farrah: Happy to be back networking again!

AAUW has changed the dues process for all new members so an annual membership will now align with a member's join date and not the AAUW fiscal year. For members who joined prior to April 2022, your membership will remain aligned with the AAUW fiscal year ending June 30. Another important change will be Membership dues reminders will be sent by National** and by our Branch. You can easily pay online, (the most efficient method) or you can send a check to the Branch.

** Note: "AAUW National dues for FY24 will be \$72 in accordance with the three-year increase implemented by the AAUW Board of Directors back in October 2020. This rate becomes effective in the system on April 1st." With this change our annual dues will be \$118 (National \$72, State \$20, Branch \$26) instead of \$113 paid in FY23.

Why do we pay dues and what do we get for our dues? We pay dues to support the mission and how we choose to participate in the mission through National, California and our Branch. Plus, as members there are [Membership Discounts & Perks](#). You can learn more about [AAUW National](#) activities in '2022 Year in Review' celebrating 140 years of action. Also, visit AAUW websites for specialized topics [News & Insights](#), [Fellowships & Grants](#), [Membership](#), [Explore the Issues](#), [Get Empowered](#), [Take Action](#), and [About AAUW](#).

Thank you,

~Mary, Jeane & Cacilia

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: **Faye Alperin** or **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 May is *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver. 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

Meet AAUW's History-Makers

Since 1881, AAUW members, fellows and awardees have made pioneering advances in virtually every field. Check out our "Faces of AAUW" online gallery of trailblazing women, which includes Marie Curie, the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in 1903; Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1969; current Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor; and so many more. It's the perfect way to reflect and remember AAUW's world-changing impact during Women's

NEW! Please RSVP by email to Reservations Chair Charlotte Joseph to let us know if you will attend. Use this email address !

aauwlongbeach.reservations@gmail.com

Deadline to RSVP is April 28th.

Please pay the \$10 donation also. You will receive an email reminder and details before the meeting.

No Zoom version this month!

The June 3 Branch meeting will feature the installation of the 2023-24 Board plus a recognition of past AAUW LB Presidents.

The business meeting will begin at 10 am. A light fare will be served as well as entertainment. The meeting will be held at LBCC in Building O-2, room 208. Again, reservations are a must. A Zoom link will be provided. There is no charge.

AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, May 6, 2023

10:00—12:00 pm Annual Garden Party
Guests / Potential Members are Welcome

Place: Park Estates Home of Janice Furman
(See the Directory)

Donation: \$10 to cover the food expenses

This annual springtime event allows members to chat and mingle and an opportunity to recruit new members to our Branch!



AAUW Long Beach Branch

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

PLEASE
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HERE

