



**Join AAUW-LPD for
a conversation with
Assemblymember
Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Wednesday 9/23/2020**

3:00-4:00PM

via Zoom

**Watch for your Evite and
for Friday Update information.**

The Assemblywoman will talk with us about highlights and challenges during her first two years in office, as well as her focus on key women's issues including reproductive health and education).

Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan was elected in 2018 to serve the 16th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Dublin, Lafayette, Livermore, Orinda, Pleasanton, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, Danville, Alamo and Moraga.

Rebecca is an accomplished attorney, environmental advocate, community volunteer, law professor and mother. A Bay Area native, she has dedicated her career and personal time to improving our community, solving complex problems, protecting civil rights and fighting to ensure everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

As an attorney, Rebecca specialized in ensuring major corporations complied with environmental laws and regulations by leading internal investigations to improve their environmental practices, while maintaining profitability. She also worked with major tech companies on intellectual property cases, involving topics including copyright, trademark and trade secret theft.

Rebecca oversaw and grew her office's pro bono program and, under her leadership, the office expanded their efforts to include civil rights, immigration, homelessness and domestic violence. She has also served on a number of boards and committees, helping attorneys throughout the Bay Area provide their services to those who desperately need them.

Rebecca is the granddaughter of refugees, who came to the United States to escape the Holocaust. Their experience has shaped Rebecca's perspective, inspiring her to help others in her own community, including coordinating the legal services effort at SFO to assist refugees and immigrants impacted by the Trump Administration's travel ban.

For the last several years, Rebecca has taught appellate law and legal research and writing at Santa Clara University and Golden Gate University. She is a product of Bay Area public schools and is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University Law Center. Rebecca and her husband, Darren, live in Orinda with their three young children.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Devon LaHar
president@aauw-lpd.org

Welcome to Fall 2020--and a sobering "new normal" which we may experience for months to come! "The COVID-19 pandemic is creating a seismic shift in our lives and in the U.S. economy," according to Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW. This pandemic is magnifying our country's economic gender inequities--which makes our AAUW mission even more critical. Women are disproportionately suffering from the pandemic's social and economic fallout compared with men (loss of jobs, decreased access to maternal health care, increased risk of domestic violence are examples).

We as a branch continue to meet virtually (some interest groups, other programming)--and we appreciate seeing familiar faces of our branch friends online. We want to help you get involved if you haven't yet connected, however.

Click on our [branch website calendar](#) (also the last page of this *Grapevine* issue) to join in activities.

Watch your email for Friday branch updates and Zoom addresses.

Get help using Zoom if you haven't been able to connect yet! Watch Friday updates for an upcoming Zoom training session. Call one of our board members for a quick one-to-one session--we do want to help you!

Installation of new branch board: We recognized our outgoing 2019-2020 branch board of directors and installed our elected 2020-2021 branch board (virtually of course) at our 8/05/2020 board meeting. Our incoming branch board has continuing board members, new board members, and a couple of members who have switched responsibilities. Thanks go to:

outgoing 2019-2020 board members for their constant and selfless work this year as leaders to guide our branch and begin adjusting to virtual programming

Carolyn Kotch (installing officer) and nominating committee members Dot Bishop, Gwen Locke, and Devon LaHar

Sandy Hansen for her recognition of our 2020 Named Gift Honorees (see the article in this *Grapevine* issue)

Thanks also go to Roz Wright for our Tribute to Excellence recipient and Susan Wacek for chairing our Local Scholarship selection committee!

Congratulations to our AAUW-LPD 2020-2021 Board Elected Officers

Elected Officers

President Devon LaHar
 Membership Tina Amber
 Program Maria Kennedy/Gwen Locke
 Finance Chris Alesso, Pam Leong
 Public Policy, Publicity Roz Wright

Elected Directors

Secretary Charlene Grandfield
 Communications Marilyn Duman
 AAUW Fund Sandy Hansen
 STEM Anita Massey
 At Large PJ Wells

IN THIS GRAPEVINE ISSUE

Conversation w/Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan (Wed. 9/23/20, 3-4 PM.) Watch for Evite.

Tribute to Excellence recipient AAUW-LPD Local Scholarship recipients

AAUW Fund Named Gift Honorees Voting Information for 11//03/20 national election

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NEXT L-P-D BOARD MEETING

on Zoom

September 2, 2020

COMMUNICATIONS Marilyn Duman
communications@ aauw-lpd.org

Hello Everyone, I'm changing hats and will now serve as the Communications Chair for our AAUW branch. One of my tasks is to send weekly Friday emails with information about upcoming programs and Zoom meetings. If you would like me to publicize your interest group or other branch event, please send the information by Thursday morning for a Friday update

If you are an interest group leader and have scheduled events, please send me the list. I will add items to the branch calendar and send them to Sheryl Morgan so that she can update the website.

AAUW California's new CALIFORNIA CONNECTION

By now you should have received an all-new digital publication, the *California Connection*! The publication was created by The AAUW California communications team and allows the AAUW California board to communicate directly to members. The *California Connection* will arrive before the 10th of each month and will contain information they hope members will find both helpful and entertaining!

With the advent of this new publication, they are placing the publication of the *California Perspective* on hiatus for the time being. AAUW California board hopes that by reaching members on a monthly basis, they will be able to provide you with information in a timelier manner.

**RECOGNIZING L-P-D'S
 TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE AWARD**

AAUW-LPD branch annually confers a Tribute to Excellence rewarding a young woman actively involved in community service with a good academic background and 90 units of college credit working toward a Bachelor's degree. The award (\$500 this year) began in 1990.

This year's recipient, Alina Verzi was chosen by the Las Positas Foundation and a college committee. Here are her comments:

I am incredibly thankful to be chosen to receive this scholarship.

To tell y'all a little bit about myself, my name is Alina Verzi. I was an integral part of several clubs as well as the Las Positas Student Government Vice President. Our Student Government had many projects, such as a student run food pantry open to the students as well as the surrounding community, we pushed for gender neutral restrooms as well as lactation stations in the remodel of LPC, as well as providing free testing materials to the students.

I have also been a youth group leader for my parish where we often volunteer at soup kitchens and fundraising events. I volunteer my time working with the high school youth providing them a safe space to learn and grow in their faith while giving back to the community.

At Las Positas Community College, I have double majored and received two Associate of Art degrees for both Psychology and Sociology. I applied to several UC's, and after a lengthy internal debate between accepting offers for UCLA and UC Berkeley--I decided on UC Berkeley. I am planning on double majoring there as well and currently gearing up to rush a sorority.

My future plans are to be involved in the Psychology field, hopefully a licensed Psychologist. Although, I am thinking about going to law school. The fields of Sociology and Psychology are very similar, and to be better about my future clients-it's best to understand the society as a whole.

Thank you, Alina

INTEREST GROUPS

Please note: some of these listed branch activities are cancelled during “shelter in place.” Other groups may be connecting on Zoom or by phone! Check with the group’s contact for more information. Marilyn’s weekly information will keep us up-to-date.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

CHAIR: Nancy Rensink, 846-5023
duplicatebridge@aauw-lpd.org

No games until further notice.

MONDAY NIGHT BRIDGE

CHAIR: Marti Silva, 462-1159
monbridsgenight@aauw-lpd.org

No games until further notice.

LADIES LUNCH ‘N MURDER

CHAIR: Maria Kennedy
 719-539-2057
mkenedy@aauw-lpd.org

Keep reading those murder/mysteries!

SOLO DINING

CHAIR: Sandie Brown
 999-8400
solodining@aauw-lpd.org

Nothing until further notice.

MAH JONGG, AMERICAN STYLE

Chair: JoAnn Houk, 223-8284
mahjongg@aauw-lpd.org

MISSION DISCUSSION GROUP

CHAIR : Chris Alesso, 484-3415
chris@aaup-lpd.org

Meets on 2nd Wednesday on Zoom

MORNING BOOKS

CHAIR: Bev Howell, 485-7812
ambooks@aauw-lpd.org

Thursday, Sep. 24 @ 9:30 am
 Via Zoom

BOOK: *The Dutch House*
 AUTHOR: Ann Patchett
 Reviewer: PJ Wells

AFTERNOON BOOKS

CHAIR: Mary Ann Karlsen, 454-1648
pmbooks1@aauw-lpd.org

No meetings until further notice.

EVENING BOOKS

CHAIR: Walter Morgan, 201-7619
pmbooks2@aauw-lpd.org

Fri. Sep. 4: cut off date for book suggestions

Mon. Sep.7: email voting to select 8 books for the year

Wed. Sep. 9: Zoom meeting to assign books/reviewers

All members submit book recommendations to Walt Morgan via email by September 4.

Voting by email will select eight books by September 7.

The calendar (assigning book titles and reviewer names to each month, October-June) will be developed at the September 9 Zoom meeting .

Scholarship Foundation News

Since we won't be able to have our Welcome Back Luncheon in September, the 3 Scholarship Winners for this year will be presenting their speeches via U-Tube.

Details will be in our Weekly Updates or the next Grapevine. Stay tuned.

Susan Wacek

THE IRONY OF A COVID DRESS CODE!!!

“No Pajama Pants Allowed While Learning From Home”.

The Springfield Illinois School District said it would require students to follow its dress code regardless of how classes are held.

Recognizing AAUW LPD 2020 Named Gift Honorees

Each year, branches of AAUW nominate one or more Named Gift Honorees. This honor gives special recognition to AAUW members who have done outstanding work to promote the programs and goals of the AAUW Fund and/or AAUW California. Each branch can nominate a gift honoree and contribute \$750 per honoree to the national AAUW Fund. Named Gift Honoree nomination is a high honor within the world of AAUW.

AAUW-Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin honors and congratulates the following three women for their outstanding branch and community service to promote educational and economic access for women.



Myla Grasso nominated for her work maintaining our branch website for the last few years.



Sara Palmer nominated for her work with our branch STEAM Divas program the past two years.



Charlene Grandfield nominated for her diligent work in documenting our board actions in the board minutes during the past few years.



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Title IX in Trouble

Last week, the Trump Administration implemented a harmful rule rolling back protections for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault. Despite this setback, we won't stop fighting for students' rights.

STEM DIRECTOR Anita Massey stem@aauw-lpd.org

STEM Programs

As we look ahead to the 2020-21 year we, like others, are looking for new ways to continue reaching out and encouraging young women's education. While Tech Trek has long been our flagship program, we are aware that due to Covid 19 issues and campus availability Tech Trek may be in jeopardy again this year. We will not know for certain for several months.

With that in mind we created a 12 person committee focused on Girl Programs comprised of many of our Tech Trek Committee plus several new faces we are so happy to see involved in this critical work. In developing our programming for this year we wanted to insure our programs would support the National 5 Star Program. The following programs will support AAUW's Strategic Plan where AAUW "takes an inclusive view of education — from preschool to postgraduate education, as well as traditional, vocational, lifelong learning, career development, and other forms of education..." We will also be contributing to the Economic Security, Goal B "Develop a blueprint for women to access careers, especially in high-paying fields."

The three programs we will be supporting in addition to Tech Trek if they are allowed will be:

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE: This will be the fourth year for this program led by Diane Keller. It will again offer 2 sessions. The 9th-10th grade session will be held on October 13th and the 11th grade program will be October 20th. Both sessions will be presented over Zoom.

A new program co-sponsored with **ABOUT FACE** will be for middle school girls. The session will help to "arm girls with the knowledge and tools to fight back against a culture that diminishes and disempowers them." About Face uses virtual programming to provide an interactive session. Sheryl Morgan will be leading this project.

The **second new program** under development will be presented virtually as either a panel discussion or a multi part program (2-3 speakers each session) for high school girls with the aim of introducing them to varied career opportunities. Often students aren't aware of what careers are available or what is needed to work in a specific field. PJ Wells will lead this work. She is reaching out to build a group of younger career women from a variety of disciplines. Thanks to all of you for providing names she can draw from.



Are you interested? This is available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i80Ppgrm_Yk. It is "Creativity and Persistence: Art That Fueled the Fight for Women's Suffrage"

VOTING INFORMATION US National Election 11/03/2020

Voting questions answered at [Alameda County Vote](#), [Rock the Vote](#), and [How to Vote](#).

Click here for a [List of Polling Locations](#) and [Vote-by-mail information](#).

Governor Gavin Newsom issued [Executive Order N-64-20](#) on 5/08/2020, which orders the 11/03/2020 [General Election](#) to be conducted as an all-mail ballot election.



All registered voters in California will receive a vote-by-mail ballot in the mail before the election.

In-person locations will still be available on Election Day. The State Legislature or the Governor (by Executive Order) will determine the number of in-person voting locations. Voters who don't want to mail in their ballots can drop their voted ballots off at:

Livermore City Hall 1052 S. Livermore Ave. Livermore, CA 94550	Pleasanton City Hall 123 Main St. Pleasanton, CA 94566	Dublin City Offices 100 Civic Plaza Dublin, CA 94568
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Voted ballots that are personally delivered to a ballot drop-off location must be delivered no later than the close of polls at 8:00 p.m. on 11/02 Election Day.

You can authorize someone to return your ballot on your behalf. Anyone may return your ballot for you, as long as they do not get paid on a per ballot basis. In order for your ballot to be counted, you must fill out the authorization section found on the outside of your ballot envelope.

CONVERSATION: CAN YOU TRUST THE POLLS?

9/20/2020 4:00 pm View on [Zoom](#) or on [YouTube](#). [Event details](#)

Where We Stand: Voting Rights

AAUW is committed to open and fair elections, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office and the expansion of voting rights.

Click on the title link to learn why we need the [Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2019](#).



SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION NEWS

Susan Wacek, Chair, scholarshipapp@aauw-lpd.org | lpd.org

LPD-AAUW awarded three scholarships in 2020 due to the generous donations from our members. Here are the bios of the three winners—they are fabulous young women!

Amelia Aarestad, Livermore



Amelia graduated from high school while living in Livermore, California, capping years of active 4-H club membership, leadership, and volunteer service. She then attended Las Positas College and graduated with several Associates in Liberal Arts degrees and Certificates of Achievement in Horticulture and Tutoring, all with Highest Honors. While at Las Positas she worked as a math tutor at the college’s tutoring center and during Math Jam events, both of which are free to students. She was active in several student clubs, including the Paper Engineers and the Horticulturalists of Today and Tomorrow, and in the Inter Club Council, part of the student government. She is currently attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, majoring in Landscape Architecture. Her goal is to design functional, beautiful, sustainable, regionally adapted landscapes with a special focus on California climate zones that are welcoming to people of all abilities.

Kelsey Bentley, Sunol



Kelsey graduated high school in 2009 from Foothill High School and began her college career in 2015. She is a re-entry, first-generation college student. At Las Positas College she found her passion for mathematics and is majoring in Industrial Engineering, where she will finish her undergrad as a student at the University of California, Berkeley. She has been involved in many on-campus clubs and activities at LPC. She participated in Math Club where she was able to travel and attend conferences, she became a volunteer math tutor in the Tutorial Center and for Math Jam. She became a Senator in Student Government which helped initiate free bus rides for students and The Market. She worked as a work-study student in counseling and then became an employee of the Veterans Resource Program where she soon became a veteran math tutor.

Laura Rambo, Livermore



Laura had the chance to continue her education almost a decade after graduating from high school and that has given her the opportunity to have a second chance at a first-class life. In May she earned her Associate’s Degree in Business as well as Economics; this fall, she will begin her junior year as an Economics major at UC Berkeley. Competing in college athletics and overcoming her fear of math (she earned A’s in Calculus) were her favorite parts of her Community College experience. At UC Berkeley, she looks forward to contributing to research that will help create lasting solutions for wealth disparities.

Congratulations to our branch members. Through your generosity, we achieved the goal of donating over \$30 per member to the AAUW Fund - Greatest Needs Fund FY 2019-2020 goal. Thanks so much! The FY 2020-21 goal is to increase our giving by 10%. We donated \$3620.19 - so our next goal is \$3982. These donations help present current programs such as Work Smart/Start Smart to targeted communities throughout the nation.

This is the list of donors; some have donated multiple times: Fern Corley, Karen Richardson, Pamela Copeland, Charlotte Severin, Helen Dourov, Nancy Cotton, Patricia Mann, Roxann Spilman, Suzanne Emberton, Barbara Edwards, Barbara Dewey, Marilyn Barbao, Pushpa Dalal, Patricia Mann, Barbara Hempill, Patricia Kohonen, Sandra Hansen, Jan Palajac, Charlene Grandfield, Tina Amber, Christine Alesso, Devon LaHar, Anita Massey.

Another piece of news - please share with your family members/acquaintances who are in college and the workplace - and ask that they share with friends. AAUW has awarded fellowships and grants to women since 1888 - **to women who go on to change the world**. Annually the window for applications opens August 15 - so NOW is the time to prepare and submit applications. Categories that are available to U.S. citizens/permanent residents include:

American Fellowships: full-time graduate study to complete dissertations, conduct research full-time, or prepare research for publication for 8 weeks. For U.S. citizens/permanent residents. \$6,000-\$30,000. Deadline Nov. 1

Selected Professions Fellowships. To pursue full-time study in a degree program where women's participation has traditionally been low. \$5,000-\$18,000. Deadline Dec. 1

Research Publication Grants: Engineering, Medicine, Science. For women conducting basic research in engineering, medicine, physical/biological sciences who have a Ph.D. to publish their research in a scholarly publication and be listed as a primary author. (Leads to promotions/tenure) \$10,000-\$35,000. Deadline Dec. 1

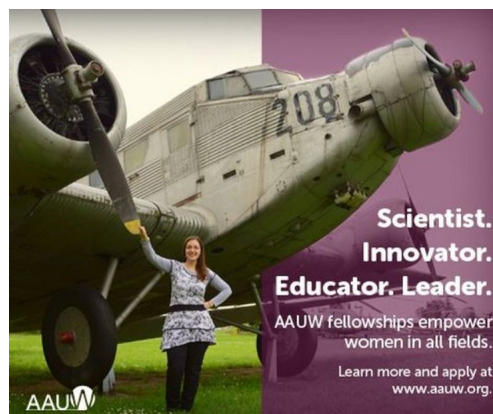
Career Development Grants: for women w/bachelor's degree, preparing to advance/change careers or re-enter the workforce in education, health/medical sciences or social sciences. \$2,000-\$12,000. Deadline Nov. 15

Community Action Grants: for individuals, AAUW branches, AAUW state organizations AND community-based non-profits for innovative programs encouraging STEM careers. \$3,000-\$10,000. Deadline Dec. 1

Let's do what we can to promote these opportunities. Maybe we'll have a recipient from our area. Particularly look at those grants - pass the info along. Find more information and applications at: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/>.

So far, only one recipient this year is supported by one our branch members: Anne Les American Fellowship. She is Constance Iloh. Her profile:

https://www3.aauw.org/aauw_check/fellowships_directory/#rid5666



AAUW California has challenged branches to double Legacy Circle membership (this is part of the 5-Star Program). It is a way for AAUW to have an idea of what funds will be coming to them when we die. There are a variety of ways that one can have AAUW as an estate beneficiary. Contact Sandy if you are interested.

Devon's Recommendations:

[Holding Space: Conversations on Race, Equity, and Inclusion](#)

(1-hour video: Dr. Jackson begins speaking 5 minutes into the video)

Dr. Taharee Jackson (certified trainer of diversity trainers and federal EEO counselor) is one of the best AAUW national presenters I've heard thus far...engaging and energetic, inspires you to act, and shares practical ideas via her [downloadable slideshow](#) (slide #17 is especially helpful). Moderator Gloria Blackwell is a very calm and measured counterpoint to Dr. Jackson's fast-paced, enthusiastic talk!

[Finish the Fight \(Heroes of the Suffrage Movement\)](#) (90-minute video)

Many thanks to Chris Alesso for recommending this world premiere! *Finish the Fight* brings lesser-known suffrage activists to life and into the here-and-now:

Mabel Ping-Hua Lee (Chinese suffragist)

Zitkála-Šá (Yankton Sioux writer, artist, educator, activist)

Jovita Idár (journalist and activist who fought on behalf of Mexican-Americans and women)

Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (abolitionist who helped to establish the National Association of Colored Women)

Mary McLeod Bethune (influential activist for women's rights and civil rights)

First-person drama, compelling actors, commissioned by the New York Times, adapted from the forthcoming book "[Finish the Fight!: The Brave and Revolutionary Women Who Fought for the Right to Vote,](#)"

Know your value opinion editorial by Kim Churches, AAUW CEO

[In commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment,](#)

[let's remember the battle for equality is far from over.](#)



The U.S. Census Bureau announced that it would end census operations on Sept. 30, 2020. Shortening the timeline to collect data and rushing operations during a national pandemic are intentional moves to sabotage the census and skew Congressional representation, redistricting and needed funding allotments for every state in the country. This is a direct assault on the low income and poor and people of color.

TELL CONGRESS TO PROTECT THE CENSUS IN THE NEXT

VERSION OF THE STIMULUS BILL.

If it's not too late by the time you receive this newsletter, call (202) 224-3121 and ask to be connected to your member of the House or Senate and make your opinion known!

DATES 2020

9/1/20	Cocktails & Conversation	5:30 pm	Zoom
9/02/20	Branch Board Meeting ,	1-3 PM	Zoom
9/03/20	Coffee “AND”	10 AM	Zoom
9/10/20	Mission Discussion	10 AM	Zoom
9/23/20	Conversation w/Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan	3-4 PM	Zoom
9/24/20	Morning Books, <i>The Dutch House</i> , PJ Wells Reviewer	9:30 AM	Zoom
9/09/20	Evening Books, Books, Hostesses, Reviewers Chosen,	7:30 PM	Zoom

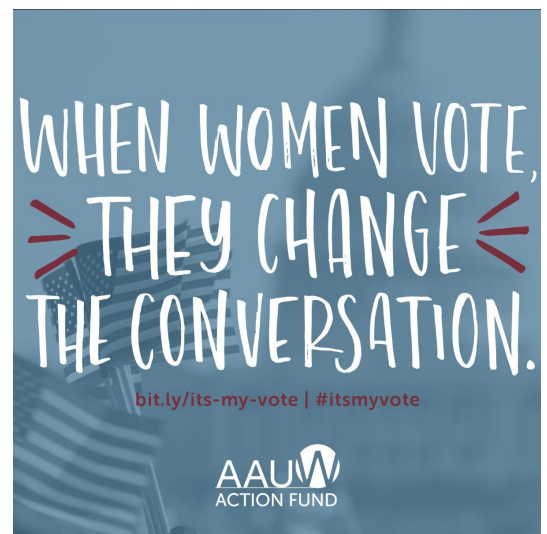
Watch for the Friday Branch Updates and notices from various others each week for more dates and Zoom addresses.

2020-2021 AAUW-LPD BOARD

PRESIDENT—Devon Lahar—president@aauw-lpd.org
 PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS—Maria Kennedy & Gwen Locke
program@aauw-lpd.org
 FINANCE OFFICER CO-CHAIRS—Chris Alesso & Pam Leong
finance@aauw-lpd.org
 MEMBERSHIP— Tina Amber—membership@aauw-lpd.org

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

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 STEM DIRECTOR —Anita Massey—stem@aauw-lpd.org
 PUBLICITY & PUBLIC POLICY - Roz Wright-
advocacy@aauw-lpd.org
 AT LARGE .- P.J. Wells



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

For 2021-2022

Dot Bishop	Carolyn Kotch
Gwen Locke	Devon LaHar
Bev Howell	



Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch
P.O. Box 661
Livermore, CA 94551-0661
Address Service Requested

AAUW Mission:

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

AAUW Values:

Nonpartisan. Fact-based.
Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

AAUW's Value

Promise:
Equity for All

AAUW EMPOWERS ALL
WOMEN AND GIRLS TO
REACH THEIR HIGHEST
POTENTIAL.

VISIT THE AAUW
WEBSITES
www.aauw.org
www.aauw-ca.org
www.aauw-lpd.org
[www.facebook.com/
aauwlpd](http://www.facebook.com/aauwlpd)

THE GRAPEVINE

A monthly newsletter of the AAUW

Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch

Ten issues are published yearly, September to June.

Newsletter Editor

Carol Guarnaccia

newsletter@aauw-lpd.org

Next deadline SEPTEMBER 18

Submit all articles (email or in writing (formatted) to
Carol for the next *Grapevine*