



What you can do this month:
** VOTE!
** Volunteer to help at an upcoming branch event
** Mark your calendar for the branch annual meeting on April 20

In this month's issue:

[Branch Program](#)
[Board Update](#)
[Local Scholarship](#)
[From AAUW California](#)

[Girls' Programs](#)
[From AAUW National](#)
[Celebrations](#)
[2023/24 Board](#)
[Branch Activities and Interest Groups](#)

PROGRAM

What's Happening in March

Planning for College



We are partnering with the Livermore Library and two local independent College Consultants to provide three College Planning workshops in March.

March 5 at 6 PM: WHERE TO BEGIN? Discover what students need to know as they begin to prepare for college admissions.

March 7 at 6 PM: WHAT DO COLLEGES WANT? Unravel the complexities of college applications, which school to choose, and what tests are needed.

March 13 at 6PM: HOW TO PAY FOR A COLLEGE EDUCATION? Learn about various financial aid options and resources.

All sessions will be held at the Livermore Library. Attendance is free, and no registration is required.. Visit the [branch website](#) for additional information.

More in March

STEM Day For 4th and 5th Grade Girls

AAUW-LPD, in collaboration with Sandia Laboratory and Las Positas College, is sponsoring a STEM Day for fourth and fifth grade girls on Saturday, March 9, 9:30 AM – 2 PM, at the Las Positas College Campus in Livermore. Participation is free, but registration is required. Visit the [branch website](#) for more information and to register.

Looking Ahead to April's Program (and beyond)

The branch annual meeting will be held on Saturday, April 20, 11:30 AM – 2 PM, at Vic's All Star Kitchen in Pleasanton. The meeting will feature a brunch buffet (with mimosas!). Speaker Ileana Maestas will give a presentation on California Native American Women and their role as cultural bearers, leaders and activists. Watch for the Evite with additional details.

Save the dates:

May 17—Author Helen Sorensen

June 7—Branch get together and installation



BOARD UPDATE

Bylaws Meeting and Vote

On Tuesday, February 3, the branch held an online meeting to vote on the proposed branch bylaw changes. A small committee led by Sandy Hansen did a thorough review and update of the bylaws. The changes not only incorporated required updates due to changes from AAUW national, but also a look at the way branches operate today. While the national updates required no vote, the 15 operating changes each required a discussion and vote. I am pleased to say the new bylaws were passed unanimously. Again, our thanks to Sandy for her understanding of the process, the national updates and her patience in getting us where we needed to be. Next up will be a review of our operating policies.

Anita Massey
AAUW LPD Branch President



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship Foundation Non-Event Fundraiser

Thanks to the donations received so far, we are on the way to our goal for local scholarships. These monies are given to young women in their junior or senior year of college. We have had some amazing recipients who are not only taking a full load, but also working and participating in campus clubs and activities, often in a significant role.

We thank the following donors: Mary Jane Casper, Naomi Siu, Pam Leong, Patty Rabada, PJ Wells, Bev Howell, Connie Squires, Harriet Lawrie, Joy Robinson, Chris Alesso, Gwen Locke, Vicki Dawn Rader, Nancy Rensink, Fern Corley, Carol Kinnard, Anne Dini, Marilyn Duman, Patricia Shannon, Carol Guarnarccia, Karen Richardson, Susan Wacek, Ron Wacek, Patricia Howell, Karen Cowan, Devon LaHar, Carolyn Kotch, Norma Foss, Sandy Hansen, Laurene Green, Pat Kohnen, Ginny Reineking, and Marti Silva. With your generosity, we will make a difference!

Vicki-Dawn Rader and Ginny Reineking, Fundraising Co-Chairs

Local Scholarship Foundation News

We have a recent update from our winners from last year!

Alejandra Quezada- She is actively participating in her classes at the University of San Francisco in Sacramento. She is a mentor- coordinator in the National Nursing Student Association where she pairs new nursing students with veteran nursing students. She also was an independent reader/evaluator for the study abroad program in which she participated in 2018.

Sangavi Kumar- She currently serves on the On Campus Housing Council as a representative for her housing building. She is also on the modeling committee of Forward Magazine at UCLA. She is enjoying her studies in Psychology with a minor in Statistics and Data Science.



Juliana Santiago- She wishes us all well! She is loving her year at UC Berkeley. She is part of the Cal's BARE Magazine which is a campus fashion and art publication. This gives her a creative outlet to escape from the stressors of upper division courses. She has joined the sorority Zeta Tau Alpha and enjoys being with her bright, compassionate and uplifting sorority sisters.

Again, thank you all for your donations so we can keep giving scholarships year after year to wonderful women as those above!!

Susan Wacek, Coordinator, Local Scholarship Foundation

FROM AAUW OF CALIFORNIA

AAUW California Family,

This April, we will have the opportunity to practice the inclusion that we value by voting to welcome any person who is passionate about equity for women into AAUW, whether they have a degree or not.

AAUW National is proposing a bylaws amendment to eliminate the degree requirement for membership. On January 20th, the AAUW California Board of Directors unanimously approved a statement of support for the bylaws change.

We'd like to share our reasoning with you.

Our organization was founded in 1881 to advance opportunities for women and to work toward equal treatment with men. While the early members focused on increasing the number of women going to college, they also worked to make employment of women and children safer and began the fight for pay equity. As AAUW evolved to meet women's needs, the organization and its impact grew. Our focus expanded to include advocating for the needs of people of color and individuals/communities in poverty. The efforts of AAUW earned us permanent United Nations (U.N.) observer status which in turn led to AAUW members expanding the fight for civil rights and an overall deeper understanding and appreciation of those who are marginalized.

Throughout the past 143 years, AAUW members never stopped advocating for education while expanding our focus to ensuring policies around maternity leave, reproduction rights, equal pay, and policies against sexual harassment and violence against women. Welcoming those without a degree will not change who we are and what we are working towards- it will enhance our efforts by including anyone who is as passionate as we are about equity for women and girls. AAUW and its eligibility requirements have changed substantially over the years and yet, we still work together and strive to make women's lives better and we will continue to do so for years to come. Treating each other fairly and supporting one another with compassion is the foundation of AAUW and serves as the catalyst for current and future efforts. As we enter a time of uncertainty in our nation, we need to band together and continue to advocate for a better future.

We encourage you to practice the inclusion our founding members worked for and vote "yes"- watch for your ballot in April.

Together in equity,

AAUW California State Board

GIRLS' PROGRAMS

Tech Trek

(from Anita Massey)

Thank you, LPD, for the fantastic support of our first Tech Trek fundraiser. Cori and Maryann Karlsen opened up their beautiful home for an afternoon of good food and beverages, as well as always interesting conversations. Some of us were lucky enough to get a taste of a first bottling from Nitu Shinde's vines, a wonderful wine I'd be pleased to purchase in the future.

Three lucky winners took home individual bottles of wine. Chris Alesso was the grand prize winner of the gift basket worth well over \$300. In her typical gracious style, Chris opened the basket, removed a few items then encouraged other non-winners to select an item. Best news of all--Tech Trek raised \$5,700 to support its ongoing camperships.

Thanks again to all who attended, contributed to the raffle and to our donors in attendance or virtual. If you missed this event, donations are always accepted with checks made out to LPD-AAUW Tech Trek Scholarship and sent to PO Box 661, Livermore 94550.

FROM AAUW NATIONAL

Voter Engagement Campaign

The AAUW Action Fund is launching our It's My Vote! 2024 Voter Engagement Campaign with a kickoff call on Wednesday, March 6, 7 PM ET, to learn how AAUW can support voter engagement work around the country. On the call, we will share the training, tools, and resources available to members to engage in this effort. Visit the [AAUW \(national\) website](#) for details.

CELEBRATIONS

Wine Enthusiasts at Del Valle Winery in January

(Next get-together is Friday, March 15, at JMC Cellars)



CELEBRATIONS (Continued)

Tech Trek Fundraiser

February 4 at the home of Maryann and Cori Karlsen

(See Girls' Programs for details)



Proposition 1 Discussion

February 8 at Vic's All Star Kitchen



YOUR 2023-2024 LPD BOARD

Branch Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Contact [Anita Massey](#) if you would like to attend. Meetings are either in person or via Zoom (or both).

Officers:

President/Administrator - Anita Massey

Program Chair - Gwen Locke

Finance - Pam Leong

Membership - Tina Amber

Directors:

AAUW Fund - PJ Wells

Interbranch Council Liaison - Charlene Grandfield

Communications Coordinator - Marilyn Duman

Publicity - Roz Wright

Secretary - Pam Leong

STEM Director - Anita Massey

BRANCH ACTIVITIES AND INTEREST GROUPS

Board Meeting

Branch Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome at board meetings, so please contact [Anita Massey](#) if you plan to attend.

Interest groups are open to active AAUW LPD branch members only.

Guests may attend a maximum of three times without becoming a member.

Wine Enthusiasts	03/15/24	JMC Cellars. See Evite for details.
International Lunch Group	02/28/24	Sozo in Pleasanton. Please RSVP to the Evite. Contact tmamber6@gmail.com with suggestions for future locations.
Monday Night Bridge	7 PM, 2 nd and 4 th Mondays	Various locations
Morning Book Group	9:30 AM, 4 th Monday	
Afternoon Book Group	1:30 PM, 2 nd Wednesday	
Mission Discussion Group	10 AM, 2 nd Thursday	
Cocktails & Conversation	5:30 PM, 1 st Thursday	

Newsletter edited by Myla Grasso. Articles or photos for consideration may be submitted to newsletter@aauw-lpd.org.