

The Grapevine

September 2024



Be the change you wish to see

What you can do this month:

Attend the annual kick-off on September 21

Visit a new-to-you interest group

Be sure your voter registration information is up-to-date

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PROGRAM

We're . . . back! It's the start of our AAUW year. AAUW-LPD will open the 2024-25 year with our annual Kickoff Meeting on Saturday, September 21, 12 noon to 2 PM. This year's event will be held at the Dublin Civic Center Bray Room, 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin (lots of parking available!).

Start off the afternoon chatting with new and old friends. You will have the opportunity to meet the 2024 Tech Trek girls and scholarship students and hear about their experiences. This year's events planned by the Branch will be highlighted. Interest groups and initiatives will have information tables for you to visit and sign up to participate. A buffet luncheon of salads and sandwiches will be served.

There will also be a raffle of gift baskets. Proceeds will support our Local Scholarship and Tech Trek programs. Tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. Bring your cash or checks!

Please come and enjoy a fun and informative afternoon and learn how to be the change you wish to see!

WELCOME BACK!

FROM OUR BRANCH PRESIDENT

Welcome Back

School has started and so has your branch. We recently held a program and membership planning session, and I am sure Gwen Locke, Nancy Hudson, Sheryl Morgan and Tina Amber will share more about that below. Just know we will have mission programs, fun programs, a shared program with other branches, and girl programs. Where possible we want these to support our continued membership growth.

We also have many interest groups, and any of those or a program are places you can help by inviting a friend who is potentially interested in AAUW to attend with you. Unsure of their interest? You'll never know if you do not ask.

Many of you have served on past boards and know that only with continued membership growth and new ideas can we continue to grow. With that in mind, the theme for our branch in 2024 is ***BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE.***

I'd like to close with sincere thanks to the 2024-25 board--Myla Grasso, Sandra Bauer, Gwen Locke, Nancy Hudson, PJ Wells, Tina Amber, Roz Write and Sheryl Morgan--for agreeing to lead the way. Additionally, I'd like to thank all of you for supporting them, as it really does take a branch to keep moving forward.

PLANNING FOR COLLEGE

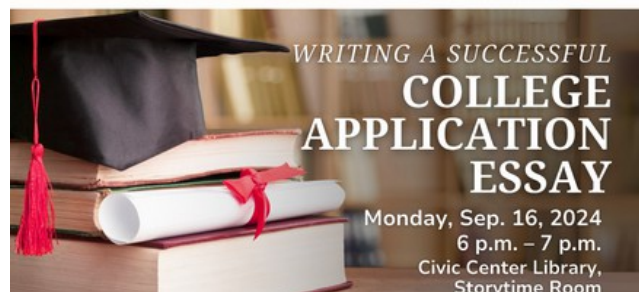
Our branch will be co-hosting a workshop on how to write a successful college application essay for high school seniors. Jackie Stamps, local independent college admissions advisor, will discuss the Common App essay and the UC Personal Insight Questions, as well as how to write an impactful supplemental essay.

When: Monday, September 16, 6 – 7 PM

Where: Livermore Civic Center Library

Please share this information with anyone who might be interested.

A WORKSHOP FOR HIGHSCHOOL SENIORS



MEMBERSHIP

Membership

Thank you to everyone who renewed their 2024-25 membership. I especially want to recognize the 60%+ of our members who renewed online. For those of you who have not opened an online account, we are here to assist you to convert to online account management.

Our branch is actively recruiting new members. We held two outreach events in late August and will hold others throughout the year. If you know anyone who might want to join our active branch, please send us their contact information.

We are also looking for current members to join our membership committee. Our goal is to create a mentorship program to assist new members and put together a new member welcome packet.

The September Kick Off meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet our new and newish members – Meghan Frey, Kelly Kimball and Lara Wiedemeier. Please take a moment to meet them and welcome them to our branch.

Tina Amber
Membership
Tmamber6@gmail.com

AAUW Branch Directory

We heard you! We will be printing a 2024-25 AAUW Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch Directory this fall.

How can you help us with this project? We need any updates – email, telephone number, address – sent to tmamber6@gmail.com by September 1. If no updates are submitted, we will pull the information from the AAUW membership database.

If you wish to update your “interests” you may also send that information.



LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP

Thanks to our generous donors, our branch was able to award four Local Scholarships at the beginning of summer. Please see below for more details about our wonderful winners.

Evelyn Arroyo

Evelyn is from Livermore and is enrolled at UC Berkeley. She is studying in Japan until August. Her Major is Political Economy with a concentration in East Asia, and she plans to enroll into a master's program for an economics degree. She has worked for the City of Livermore Housing and Human Services and as a manager for the Berkeley Student Cooperative. Click this link for a video message from Evelyn: <https://youtu.be/YiWwr0-bTw4>

Aatmi Mehta

Aatmi is from Dublin and is enrolled at UCLA. She is majoring in Public Health with the goal of becoming 'a compassionate and skilled medical professional'. She has made significant contributions to the UCLA public health community through her volunteer activities. A video from Aatmi can be viewed [HERE](#).

Aruna Nannapaneni

Aruna is from Pleasanton and is enrolled at UC Davis majoring in Molecular and Medical Microbiology. She is currently working on single cell genomics data regarding early development. Her goal is to pursue a PhD studying ways to research bacteria, viruses and parasites pertaining to infectious diseases.

Lara Wiedemeier

Lara is from Livermore and is enrolled at San Jose State University. She is majoring in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Microbiology and a Minor in Chemistry and Public Health. She is a member of our AAUW branch.

We have also heard from two previous winners:

Alejandra Queszada Sermeno

She has been busy this year in nursing school and in the Air Force (ROTC). Alejandra will soon be in her last year of nursing and will be graduating in December 2024. The photo is from her ROTC life. She thanked us again: "I just wanted to thank AAUW for all the support !! "



Sadie Eldredge

One of our 2022 Scholarship Winners, Sadie sent us an update. She has been very busy and productive. She attended CSU Northridge while training in several modalities at Northridge Hospital, Sepulveda and West LA VA, Holy Cross and the Children's Hospital Los Angeles. She has continued her volunteer work and received two awards: "Outstanding Didactic Award" and the "Outstanding Clinical Award". She recently passed her board exams and is now a certified Radiologic Technologist with additional licenses in MRI and CT. She ends her email thanking us and is so very grateful for being one of our recipients!!

AAUW FUND

As we come to summer's end, I can reflect on the mood of our chapter's well-being through their generous donations to the "Greatest Needs" AAUW Fund (and other more specific accounts as well). The state of our chapter is good! After COVID and the quarantine, our chapter was very generous with their gifting; perhaps a chance to give thanks that we found it safe to go out and about once again? Perhaps in gratitude that we were able to continue a productive life despite the epidemic? Whether attitude or gratitude, we gifted by the thousands of dollars in 2021/2022. Last year our gifting decreased to the hundreds of dollars (\$763.00 to be specific). This year we are off to a good start of \$610.00 for the time period of January through May. That's just half the year, so we can grow our contribution over the coming months.

Let's keep up the good work! Your dollars make a difference to the scholars and researchers who receive grants and pursue their dreams. When renewing your membership, it is easy to click on "donation" and add-on to your renewal. It's not only easy, but it's gratifying to virtually meet the beneficiaries once they are announced. My job is to keep patrolling the Fund website and look for this year's recipients (so that you know just where your monies are flowing). No sightings of the most recent batch of winners, but once they are published I will amplify their good works here in the Grapevine. Meanwhile, let's get ready to kick-off our new AAUW season in September. See you at the kick-off lunch!

PJ Wells
AAUW Fund

FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.
AAUW.org

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.
www.aauw-ca.org

CELEBRATIONS

June Old Board/New Board Celebration



2023/24 Outgoing Board



2024/25 Incoming Board

We would love to share photos of your interest groups!

Email them to

newsletter@lpd-aauw.org

CELEBRATIONS

Wine Enthusiasts at Rubino Estates Winery



The Duck Boat cruisers



Our guide, John



2024/25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President/Administrator - Anita Massey
Finance - Myla Grasso
Secretary- Sandra Bauer

Program Co-Chairs- Gwen Locke, Nancy Hudson
AAUW Fund - PJ Wells
Membership - Tina Amber
Publicity and Public Policy - Roz Wright
STEM Director - Sheryl Morgan

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

Watch the Friday updates for updated or additional information.

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		Next event in November
International Lunch Group		Next event in October
Monday Night Bridge	7 PM, 2 nd and 4 th Mondays	September 9 and 23; various locations
Morning Book Group	9:30 AM, 4 th Monday	September 23
Afternoon Book Group	1:30 PM, 2 nd Wednesday	September 11
Cocktails & Conversation	5:30 PM, 1 st Thursday	September 5

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

