

# The Grapevine

## December 2024



Be the change you wish to see  
What you can do this month:  
Attend the Holiday Dinner on December 11  
(Checks are due to Tina by November 30)  
Enjoy the holidays with family and friends!

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### **PROGRAM**

#### **HOLIDAY DINNER**

Buon Natale! Mele Kalikimaka! Happy Holidays!

Ho Ho Ho! It is time to celebrate together at our Annual Holiday Dinner on Wednesday evening, December 11, starting at 5:30 PM, at the Terra Mia Restaurant, 4040 East Avenue in Livermore.

**Reservations and payment are due by Saturday, November 30.** Cost for the evening is \$59 (which includes tax and tip), payable by check made out to AAUW-LPD and mailed to Tina Amber at 2704 Turnstone Drive, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

Help extend the cheer by contributing to the community via "gift cards on a tree". This year, Tri Valley Haven is the chosen non-profit. We suggest that you bring gift cards in \$20 amounts from either Safeway or Walmart.

Five beautiful gift baskets, donated by our members, will also be available for raffle to support Girl Programs. Please bring cash for the raffle.



Social time is from 5:30 to 6 PM. Enjoy a cocktail or glass of wine at the no host bar. The buffet will be served at 6 PM and will include a selection of main courses, coffee, and tiramisu for dessert.

A ukulele holiday sing along will follow dinner.

Questions? Call Gwen at 925 845-9136. Hope to see you on December 11!

## ***GIRL PROGRAMS***

### ***Tech Trek's First Annual Wine Night Fundraiser***

Thanks to all of you for helping to make our fundraiser, in partnership with Page Mill Winery, a huge success. The comments we received from attendees indicated an enjoyable evening was had by all.

Over the course of the evening, we had approximately 50 people flow through the event.

Tech Trek wants to give special thanks to Roz and Dave Wright and Marilyn Duman for donating raffle items. Our raffle winners were both branch members. Myla Grasso won the bonsai session, and Carolyn Kotch won the wreath. We also appreciate our vendors Patrica Burroughs, Myla Grasso and Nitu Shinde. A portion of their sales, as well as Page Mill's, will contribute to our Tech Trek Scholarships.

If any of you who were unable to attend still wish to donate, your checks can be sent to LPD-AAUW Tech Trek Scholarship at PO Box 661, Livermore, CA 94550.

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## ***LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP***

### **New Board Members**

We are excited to announce the new members of our foundation:

Philomena Rambo- President

Pam Leong- Treasurer

They join Laurene Green (Secretary), Roz Wright (Publicity), and Susan Wacek (Scholarship Coordinator). Ginny Reineking and Vicki-Dawn Radar will continue to coordinate our Non-Event Fundraiser.

Thank you ALL!!!

### **Updates on our previous winners**

Here is news from some of our recent scholarship winners:

Laura Rambo (2020)--Laura received an Economics degree from UC Berkeley and just got married this past September!! Congratulations!

Aruna Nannapaneni (2024)--This past September, Aruna spoke at a Conference on Regulatory & Systems Genomics in Wisconsin. Neurological disorders that she discussed were the autism spectrum and schizophrenia. Her research is about finding the location of their mutations on their genome using a machine learning model that her research team built. Nicely done!

Evelyn Arroyo (2024)--Evelyn is doing well in academia at UC Berkeley. She is ready to declare a minor in Environmental Economics and Policy and will be taking advantage of the career center on campus. She reiterated that she is so grateful for our scholarship!

Susan Wacek  
Local Scholarship Coordinator

## AAUW FUND

Great news from the AAUW Fund! All the recipients of the 2024/2025 AAUW Fund (scholarships, fellowships, grants) are finally posted and available to review. If you are curious about who these talented women are, you can take a peek via the link below.

Per AAUW California, the 2024-25 [Fellow List](#) is posted on the California website. The school, fields of study, and city of the 31 recipients who are currently living in California are listed on the website. They have contacted the fellows, and their photos, videos, and more will be posted as they are received. We are looking forward to an amazing year for the Fund. I know we've had a slow start, but it is all about the finish.

Exactly which California recipients are the beneficiaries of our branch's monies is still unknown, but it is worthwhile to look at all the women and all the exciting work that they are producing. And it is not too late to make an end-of-year donation. I love knowing that a dollar I donate may go to benefit a young woman's career, research, and study expertise. Who is to say that her research will not benefit me one day as well? It's a virtuous cycle.

Click below to make a donation of any size today. I just made an online donation myself, but I also received a paper mail solicitation to donate before year-end too. Whether you prefer online or paper mail transactions, please give a little encouragement to our sisters needing a financial boost so that they can continue to advance. Our donations should be labeled "IN HONOR OF AAUW CA FUND EVENT."



To donate online: <https://my.aauw.org/donation-product-detail> .

Checks may be made to AAUW and mailed to AAUW, PO Box 98045, Washington DC 20077-7023

Thank you so much for being a member!

PJ Wells  
AAUW Fund



## **FROM AAUW CALIFORNIA**

### **A SUCCESSFUL 2024 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Thanks to the many AAUW members who participated in Lobby Days, to those who called or wrote to their legislators and the Governor through our Action Alert Network, and thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of Kathy Van Osten, our Legislative Advocate, 29 of the 41 bills on our Legislative Agenda made it to the Governor's desk, and 25 of them have been signed into law! **This represents an 86.2% success rate!**

#### **All 3 of our A-priority bills were signed:**

- **AB 2843** - Authored and sponsored by AAUW California and carried by Assembly member Cottie Petrie-Norris, this bill eliminates cost sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape. Countless rape survivors do not seek medical care following their assault because of prohibitive costs. AB 2843 removes the cost barrier, ensuring that survivors can receive the care they need following a traumatic sexual attack.
- **AB 2326** - Sponsored by AAUW California and authored by Assembly member David Alvarez, this bill requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and the State Universities, and the President of the University of California, to provide an annual report, publicly and orally presented, of their schools' compliance with Title IX.
- **AB 2099** - Authored by Assembly members Rebecca Bauer-Kahan and Kevin McCarty, this bill makes it possible for the District Attorney to pursue felony charges for the posting of information about reproductive health care patients or providers if the posting and subsequent actions result in bodily injury.

#### **2 of our B-priority bills were signed:**

- **AB 1790** - Authored by Assembly member Damon Connolly, this bill requires the CSU system to report on the implementation of recommendations provided in the California State Auditor report, to ensure Title IX compliance and protections against sexual harassment.
- **AB 1831** - Authored by Assembly member Marc Berman, this bill expands the law prohibiting the possession and distribution of material depicting minors performing sexual activities to include AI and computer-generated images.

**And very significantly, AB 1955 was signed.** This was a C priority bill only because it was added to our Legislative Agenda later in the process.

- **AB 1955** - This bill, authored by Assembly member Chris Ward, prohibits public schools from notifying parents if their child uses a different name or pronouns or identifies as a different gender than assigned at birth. California is the first state in the nation to ban forced outing of transgender students.

## **CELEBRATIONS**

### **International Lunch at Andy and Yu's**



We would love to share photos of your interest groups!  
Email them to  
[newsletter@lpd-aauw.org](mailto:newsletter@lpd-aauw.org)

## **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

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## **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		Watch for info on next tasting
International Lunch Group		Watch for info on next lunch
Monday Night Bridge	7 PM, 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays	Check Friday update for December dates
Morning Book Group	9:30 AM, 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	Check Friday update for December dates
Afternoon Book Group	1:30 PM, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday	Check Friday update for December dates
Cocktails & Conversation	5:30 PM, 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday	Check Friday update for December dates

Newsletter edited by Myla Grasso. Articles or photos for consideration may be submitted to [newsletter@lpd-aauw.org](mailto:newsletter@lpd-aauw.org).

*season's greetings*