

## San Diego Branch

February 2021

### MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

### DIVERSITY STATEMENT

In principle and practice AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization based on gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

### AAUW FUNDS MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW provides funds to advance education, research and self-development for women and to foster equity and positive societal change.

### AAUW VISION STATEMENT

By joining AAUW we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers, so all women have a fair chance.

### AAUW SAN DIEGO BRANCH

P.O. Box 262012

San Diego, CA 92196

<https://sandiego-ca.aauw.net/>

AAUW San Diego is a tax-exempt not-for-profit 501(C)3 organization.



EMPOWERING WOMEN SINCE 1881



# THE SPHERE

## President's Message

by Jane Niemeier

Dear Members,

I want to include a message from our wonderful CEO, Kim Churches, pertaining to the destruction at our U.S. Capitol building on January 6<sup>th</sup>. As AAUW members, we strive to break through barriers for women and girls regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation. We have shown this from the beginning of our fiscal year in September when our program was about combatting racism. Our speakers were Paulette McWilliams, an African-American woman, and Toni Lopez, a woman of Hispanic origin. We also collaborated with the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch when they presented the topic, "Just How Many Genders Are There?", given by our own member, Tristan Higgins. We want to continue our work of being welcoming and inclusive.

From Kim Churches:

*On Wednesday, January 6, our nation watched in horror as our democracy came under attack in an unlawful and violent invasion of the U.S. Capitol. As AAUW's National office is based in Washington, D.C., the personal safety of our staff and their families was at risk as armed insurgents took to the streets calling for violence toward our elected officials and the overthrow of a free and fair election.*

*The mob used hateful language and displayed symbols of white supremacy as they forced their way into the hallowed halls of Congress. We mourn the loss of the five individuals killed in the attack, including Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, and the many others hurt.*

*As scary and shocking as this was, it was sadly not surprising given the incendiary speech the President gave to the rioters prior to the attack and the divisive tone he has set for years. From calling the racist protestors in Charlottesville "very fine people" to telling the Proud Boys to "stand by" in a presidential debate, President Trump has given us many warning signs.*

*AAUW is proud to join in solidarity with leading gender justice and equity organizations in a [statement](#) demanding that President Trump and his enablers be held accountable for their actions. We hope this unified message will inspire those in power to action. If you feel comfortable contacting your elected officials, we encourage you to do so.*

## Officers

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President

Jane Niemeier

Finance VP / Treasurer

Cathy Burciaga

Funds VP

Donna Lilly

Membership VP

Rosemarie Mallory

Public Policy VP

Shauna Ruyle

Recording Secretary

Sherry Eberling

## Committee Chairs

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Branch Historian

Rosemarie Mallory

Communications

Shauna Ruyle

College & University

Donna Lilly

Scholarships

Lillian Payn

Tech Trek

Gillian Simcox

Technology Outreach

Lillian Payn

*And, as we collectively work to understand the roots of our nation's divisions, we ask you to actively engage in efforts to defeat white supremacy: Please review our new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion toolkit and plan to attend our town hall webinar on Tuesday, January 19 at 4 p.m. ET with AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown and the Racial and Social Justice Working Group.*

*As AAUW members, we all embrace our vision of equity for all, and we hold our values close to our hearts and minds. Thank you to everyone who has reached out to ensure your AAUW staff are safe in this uncertain time.*

*In solidarity,*

## Please join us to hear Maria Lupetini speak about “Artificial Intelligence and Amazon Alexa” February 27, at 2 pm on Zoom.

Maria Lupetini is a leader in developing enterprise advanced analytics solutions. She enables teams to build diverse machine learning applications. As a hands-on data scientist, she has created commercial solutions using artificial intelligence, statistics, and mathematical optimization methods.



Currently, Ms. Lupetini is an independent Data Science consultant and an Artificial Intelligence (AI) advisor. In her past, she was Senior Manager of Data Science at BD (Becton, Dickinson, and Company). There she led her teams to enhance AI solutions for healthcare providers. Prior to this role, she was Director of Engineering for a Machine Learning Group in Qualcomm Technologies. Earlier in her career, she was founder and CEO of InfoMaker Inc., an INC 500 company, providing advanced analytics consulting to Fortune 500 companies.

Ms. Lupetini was born in Chicago, Illinois to immigrant parents. She was the first generation in her family to attend college with the help scholarships and a fellowship. She earned an MS in Operations Research from the University of Minnesota, an MBA from the University of Chicago, and a BS in Mathematics from Loyola University of Chicago.

# World Day of Social Justice – February 20<sup>th</sup>

## CLOSING THE INEQUALITIES GAP TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL JUSTICE

### What is World Day of Social Justice?

The 20<sup>th</sup> of February is observed as [World Day of Social Justice](#) since 2009. An underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations is defined as Social Justice according to the official website of the United Nations Organization. The principles of Social Justice are upheld to promote gender equality or the rights of indigenous people and migrants. To promote development and human dignity through Social Justice is the core value of the UN. The UN website claims that the organization is committed to social justice and collective development as it is apparent in the adoption of the [Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization](#) (DSJFG) by the International Labour Organization (ILO). This declaration is focused upon guaranteeing fair and just outcomes for everyone through social protection, justice, employment, fundamental principles, social dialogue, and just rights at the workplace.



### Background and History of World Day of Social Justice

World Day of Social Justice is not a public holiday rather a global observance that is in effect since 2009. More than one hundred international political leaders held a World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1995, to fight against poverty and full employment and aspired that they would also strive to have stable, and safe societies. They reached an agreement to announce a declaration that is also called the [Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action for Social Development](#). The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action for Social Development were reviewed by the UN member states a decade later in New York in 2005. Finally, 20<sup>th</sup> February was declared as the annual World Day of Social Justice by the United Nations on November 26, 2007.

The [International Labour Organization](#) (ILO) is the first specialized agency of the United Nations that was formed on October 29, 1919. ILO is also credited with proposing the observance of February 20<sup>th</sup> as World Day of Social Justice adopting the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization in International Labour Conference on June 10, 2008. The Philadelphia Declaration of 1944 and the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work of 1998 are the guiding principles behind this declaration. The contemporary vision of the ILO's mandate in the era of globalization and the free-market economy is guided by the Declaration of 2008. Nevertheless, the leaders on the World Summit agreed that social development means social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within and among nations. Every country indeed takes social justice, equality, and equity as its fundamental values, but the governments are required to create solid frameworks to achieve "society for all" levels so the social justice will be promoted at local, national, regional, and global levels. Creating equal opportunities for job seekers, allowing equitable distribution of income, and offering greater access to resources via equality and equity became the flagship slogan of the world leaders.

### Purpose of World Social Justice Day

The purpose of the day is to raise your voice against social injustice and to promote social justice throughout the world. The objective of the day is to bring the various communities globally closer and together that can help to eliminate poverty, physical and gender discrimination, racism, religious discrimination, illiteracy, and biases, etc. If societies of the planet become pure from the mentioned curses, only then a diverse global culture can emerge where everyone has equal opportunities and everyone has acceptance for others.



## **CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH BY ZOOM, AT 10:00 AM**

**"TEA AT VILLA LEWARO",**

**REFLECTIONS ON THE LIFE OF MADAME CJ WALKER**

**PORTRAYED BY DIANNA THOMAS**

Madame CJ Walker, (born Sarah Breedlove), (1867-1919) a businesswoman, philanthropist, social and political activist, was the first self-made millionaires in the United States. Dianna is revising the role she portrayed as part of our branch's "Women in History" project.

Dianna is a California native, a graduate of SDSU and John Kennedy University in Orinda. After retiring from her career in the corporate and technology world in San Francisco, she returned to San Diego, opened a home and garden gift shop, and continues to design unique purses and travel bags. She embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of Madame Walker.

Members might enjoy the Netflix film, "Self-Made" about Madame Walker, starring Octavia Spencer. Feel free to bring a cup of tea to the Zoom meeting and imagine yourself having tea with the Madame in her mansion.

We will have some YouTube videos of San Diego's own Martin Luther King Jr.'s Community Choir as well. This choir donates the proceeds of their performances to scholarships in the visual and performing arts, for high school seniors.



CLICK [HERE](#) TO JOIN THE ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83902424996>

Meeting ID: 839 0242 4996

# Mark Your Calendars

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 6, 10 AM

AAUW La Mesa – El Cajon  
**Celebration of Black History Month**  
 "Tea At Villa Lewaro",  
 Reflections On The Life Of Madame CJ Walker  
 Portrayed By Dianna Thomas

### FEBRUARY 27, 2 PM

AAUW San Diego  
**Intro to artificial intelligence  
 (AI)/machine learning (ML)**

Presenter: Maria Lupetini, an AI/ML leader and data scientist consultant, with many years of professional experience at BD and Qualcomm!  
 More information to come.

**MARCH 6** Panel Second Wave of Feminism from the 60's and 70s

**APRIL** Equal Pay – Hie-Ock Kim

EDequity's Global Innovation Summit - April 14 & 17

**MAY** SD County Public Defender – Genevieve Jones-Wright

**JUNE** Annual Meeting – Former Scholars

YOU ARE STRONGER  
 THAN YOU KNOW

FEBRUARY  
 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



**Gladys Beit-Ishoo**  
**Sherry Ludwig**  
**Lee Marsolais**  
**Kelly Nilsson**

Calendar of webinars from the AAUW California website. **Local webinars are in red.**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>February 2021</p>		<p><a href="#">The Transformation of America: A Social and Economic History of the United States 10:00 am</a></p>		<p><a href="#">Mexican Immigration to the U.S.: A Bilateral Perspective, 1965 to the Present 10:00 am</a></p> <p><a href="#">The Napa County Branch Presents "Napa Author's Forum 2021" 11:00 am</a></p>		<p><b>"Tea at Villa Lewaro", Reflections on the Life of Madame CJ Walker Portrayed by Dianna Thomas 2PM</b></p>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		<p><a href="#">The Transformation of America: A Social and Economic History of the United States 10:00 am</a></p>		<p><a href="#">Mexican Immigration to the U.S.: A Bilateral Perspective, 1965 to the Present 10:00 am</a></p>		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<p><i>It's not how much we GIVE but how much LOVE we put into giving</i> <small>MOTHER TERESA</small></p>		<p><a href="#">The Transformation of America: A Social and Economic History of the United States 10:00 am</a></p>		<p><a href="#">Mexican Immigration to the U.S.: A Bilateral Perspective, 1965 to the Present 10:00 am</a></p> <p><a href="#">Alameda Co. IBC Presents – Aileen Rizo "Progress Made by Good Trouble" 6:30 pm</a></p>		<p><a href="#">World Day of Social Justice</a></p>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						<p><b>Maria Lupetini "Artificial Intelligence and Amazon Alexa" 2 PM</b></p>
28				<p><a href="#">Calendar - AAUW California (aauw-ca.org)</a></p>		

**Note:**

The AAUW calendar is posted to inform you of other webinars available. AAUW CA Healdsburg branch uses their webinars as a scholarship fundraiser with a ticket price of \$95. Click on the webinar title to receive further information.