

San Diego Branch

July/August 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

Thank You to Our Wonderful Board of Directors

The AAUW San Diego Board of Directors helped make this a wonderful year, even though we were stuck at home most of the time.

Our programs for the year were inspiring and full of important information. In September, we heard from Paulette McWilliams and Toni Lopez about "Racism in Our Society". They experienced not only racism but also sexual harassment. In October, we co-sponsored a Zoom meeting with the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch and learned from our own Tristan Higgins, "Just How Many Genders Are There?"

In November, Ellen Arcadi, a member of the California Senior Assembly, spoke to us about legislative issues that are important to senior citizens.

In December, we had a musical interlude from guitarist and vocalist, Lorraine Theresa, and we also heard from Tracy Quezada, an AAUW Fellow, who is making a film about sexual abuse of children.

The new year began with an IBC presentation about "Mental Health and Wellness During COVID-19". In February, Maria Lupetini took us through her presentation, "Artificial Intelligence and Amazon Alexa". Since March was Women's History Month, we were fortunate enough to hear from our own Anne Hoiberg about "The Women's Liberation Movement: The Second Wave".

In April, we focused on equity and featured Dr. Hei-ock Kim, whose topic was "Gender Equity – Let's Get There Faster". In May, we supported other branches by attending their author events. And in June, we featured our scholarship winners, plus we had our officers installed by Kathleen Doty, Past President of AAUW California.

Our branch members also gave generously to help with our mission of breaking through barriers for women and girls. We gave over \$6,000 to AAUW Fund, \$5,000 to local scholarships, and \$10,000 to the Global Amazon Alexa Skills Challenge, to be used for scholarships.

Let's make 2021-2022 another great year!

Officers

President

Jane Niemeier

Finance VP / Treasurer

Cathy Burciaga

Funds VP

Donna Lilly

Membership VP

Public Policy VP

Shauna Ruyle

Recording Secretary

Sherry Eberling

Committee Chairs

Branch Historian

Rosemarie Mallory

Communications

Shauna Ruyle

College & University

Donna Lilly

Scholarships

Lillian Payn

Tech Trek

Gillian Simcox

Technology Outreach

Shauna Ruyle



Planning Meeting 10 am on July 31 In Person!

Please bring your ideas and a dish to share to help plan the fall of 2021 programs and activities. We will be meeting at the home of Julie McKane

4221 Dakota Dr
San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 262-3330

Please RSVP to Jane Niemeier by July 28, 2021.

Email: jniemeie@hotmail.com. Phone: (619) 925-8451

2021/2021 Officers

Election results are as follows:

Officers		Chairs	
President	Jane Niemeier	AAUW Fund	Donna Lilly
Membership		Historian	Rosemarie Mallory
Finance	Cathy Burciaga	Communications	Shauna Ruyle
Public Policy	Shauna Ruyle	Corresponding Secretary	Dawna Bratten
Secretary / Sphere	Sherry Eberling	College & University	Donna Lilly
		Scholarships	Lillian Payn
		Tech Trek	Gillian Simcox
		Tech Outreach	Shauna Ruyle

Please lend your support to the team.

2021 5 Star Award

AAUW national bestowed the 5 Star Award to all 119 branches in California for completing the 5 Star competition. San Diego branch helped the state win this award due to our great programming this year and 7 new members and scholarships awarded as well as our contributions to AAUW Fund, joint branch program offerings, and Global EdEquity workshop offerings.





Scholarships Awarded

Congratulations to Melissa Cusa and Sofia Pantis who were each awarded \$2,500 scholarships at the AAUW San Diego Branch's Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 12. They were selected not only because of their academic accomplishments and outstanding leadership, but also for their resilience and tenacity overcoming their own personal challenges. Melissa will attend San Diego State University to study Criminal Justice, and Sofia will attend University of San Diego to study Behavioral Neuroscience. We also want to thank and honor our generous donors who made the scholarships possible. Donna Lilly introduced 20-21 Scholarship recipient, Caroline Soderstjerna, who told us about her studies, internship, and fascinating research into sperm whale and fish communication

made possible by our Branch's scholarship last year.

New Commissioner, Dr. Akilah Weber

The California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls welcomed the newest Commissioner, Dr. Akilah Weber in June. She represents California's 79th Assembly District that includes parts of Southeast San Diego, Bonita, Chula Vista, La Mesa, Lemon Grove and National City. Dr. Weber is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist and is the founder and past director of the Pediatric & Adolescent Gynecology Division at Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego.

Her long record of community activism includes serving on the boards of the La Mesa Conversations and the La Mesa-Foothills Democratic Club. Volunteering as the science coordinator for the Links to STEM program for children who are underrepresented in the STEM fields is personally rewarding to Dr. Weber. She lives with her husband and two sons in La Mesa.

For more information go to info@women.ca.gov



AAUW Member Benefits



AAUW member benefits can enhance your professional and personal life and will save you money along the way. Most important, every time you use one of your benefits, you are also supporting the vital work of AAUW, which makes AAUW one of the nation's most powerful voices on women's issues.

With each purchase, AAUW receives a royalty that supports equal-pay advocacy, community programs, leadership development tools, the student leadership conference and so much more!

AAUW makes no representation or warranties with respect to these products and/or services. Benefits, services, and programs are subject to change without notice.

Click [HERE](#) to check out the member discounts and perks page. It will save you money. In particular, be sure you are aware of the excellent discount given to AAUW branches for printing, copying, and other products from Office Depot/Office Max.

Nominations & Election

Janice Lee, **Nominations & Elections Chair**, nominating@aauw-ca.org

ANNUAL STATE ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the elected board members:

- President-Elect - Sandi Gabe
- CFO - Roli Wendorf
- Director - Carol Holzgrafe

Moving forward...

Bylaws changes

- The proposed bylaw change to eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW did not pass.
- Public Policy Priorities - Passed

Please click [here](#) for details on elected candidates, public policy priorities, and changes to the bylaws.

Thank you for voting; 24% of our members voted in this election which is a significant increase from the 15% who voted in the previous election.

Sign up for Work Smart.

Learn how to research your target salary, highlight your accomplishments, and find the right words — and the confidence — to negotiate for better benefits and pay. Go to salary.aauw.org.

Did you know?

70% of Work Smart participants report the workshop had a positive impact on their ability to negotiate for a fair salary.

Tuesday, July 6, 2021 | 12pm ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 | 12pm ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 | 12pm ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)

Tuesday, July 27, 2021 | 12pm ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 | 12pm ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)

Tuesday, August 10, 2021 | 12PM ET – [AAUW Work Smart](#)



AAUW San Diego is a proud sponsor of the We Connect the Dots 2021 Summer Creating STEAM Program!

For ages 13-18. Learn about 3D Modeling, 3D Printing, and the integration of medical imaging and tech this summer!

2021 SUMMER CREATINGSTEAM PROGRAM

10 DAY PROGRAM 100% VIRTUAL

JULY 19-23 AND JULY 26-30, 2021

OUR THEME FOR 2021 IS "BLENDING TECH WITH SCIENCE & HEALTHCARE"

All students will learn Office 365 and use Microsoft Teams to collaborate with their peers virtually.

Register today! Scholarships available for qualifying students. <https://www.we-connect-the-dots.org/creatingsteam>

Sponsored by @Microsoft Jovia Financial Credit Union Nebula Academy AAUW San Diego Branch



INNOVATING FOR OUR FUTURE

Our mission is to excite, inform and educate students about Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) careers. Through a collaboration with the community, education, government, and the technology industry, WCTD provides awareness and education of the 21st Century workforce skills, as well as the opportunities available to students embracing STEAM careers. Impacting students at a local, national and global level, our programs create a hunger for learning that empowers students to find their own paths to success.

These online training classes are a great opportunity for AAUW members to consider running for a political office and offer the opportunity to women and girls in their family and community. Persons under 18 years of age have specific registration requirements. Jane and Donna attend many of the events planned by Run Women Run.



GET READY TO RUN. WIN. LEAD.

Campaign Training Academy

With special guest speaker CA Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins

Save the Dates: July 10, 11, 24 & 25

Two week online Training Course

The RWR Academy is an opportunity to hear from experts in the field and learn all you need to know about running a successful campaign and running for office.

Become A RWR Certified Leader

Individuals who attend all eight sessions will receive an official RWR certificate of completion.



Information and Registration

www.runwomenrun.org/academy



Paid for by Run Women Run FPPC ID#1311775

The EQUITY Network

We are an
inclusive learning
community with
a single goal:
Equity for all



Are you interested in building your network, enhancing your professional development and working alongside others to advocate for change? The Equity Network is advancing the conversation and leading the charge to achieve equity for all. Connect with individuals who share your commitment to inclusion on our campuses, in our workplaces and in our communities—and who want to do something about it.

As an Equity Network Ambassador, you'll have access to:

Learning sessions on such topics as:

- Advocating for Policy Change
- Empower: A Path to Leadership
- Work Smart Salary Negotiation Skills
- Diversity and Inclusion

Discussion groups about issues like:

- Intentional Networking
- Having Difficult Workplace Conversations
- Refining Your Personal Brand
- Allyship for All Genders
- Embracing Intersectionality

**Our Equity Express
monthly newsletter**

**Priority registration
for AAUW events
and more!**

Be part of our community and learn about upcoming gatherings. An annual contribution of \$50 will support our programs and advance our mission to achieve equity for all.

Go to aauw.us/equitynetwork



Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 31

Planning Meeting at 10 am in person! At the home of

Julie McKane
4221 Dakota Dr
San Diego 92117.

Bring your ideas for the coming year. The meeting will be followed by a potluck lunch.
All attendees must be vaccinated.

*Enjoy
every
moment
of
Summer*



July

Linda Cronquist
Anne Hoiberg
Marie Skillman
Florence Young

August

Lynne Batchelor
Cathy Burciaga
Sherry Eberling
Rosemarie Mallory
Lily Payn