

## San Diego Branch

November 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.



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# THE SPHERE

## President's Message

by Jane Niemeier

Anne Hoiberg has written a play about women in California getting the vote, and she based it on the master's thesis of Marilyn Kneeland. Anne didn't realize at the time that Marilyn was a member of the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch and that I worked with her closely on the LMEC Branch Foundation.

When I first served on the La Mesa-El Cajon board, we had our planning meeting on July 14<sup>th</sup> one year. I was sitting near Marilyn, but I didn't know her very well, but she and I decided to sing "La Marseillaise" in honor of Bastille Day. Marilyn spoke fluent French and taught Social Studies and French for many years. During that meeting, she told me that she once played baseball on a women's team when she was a young woman. Her friends later told me that she was the Senior Champion on Jeopardy and defeated a number of Seniors to get the title. She was also an excellent bridge player and was very active in the Lions Club, helping women who had just gotten out of prison through a program called Second Chance.

This woman was a devoted feminist and an interesting person to know. Unfortunately, she passed away in December of 2019, but she would be thrilled that we are putting her thesis to good use.

Come and see your fellow branch members perform the play, [Women's Suffrage: A Victory for San Diego](#), at the central library on November 9, 2021, from 4 to 5 pm.



## Officers

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President

[Jane Niemeier](#)

Finance VP / Treasurer

[Cathy Burciaga](#)

Funds VP

[Donna Lilly](#)

Membership VP

[Lynne Batchelor](#)

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

[Shauna Ruyle](#)

## AAUW San Diego branch welcomes our new CEO Gloria L. Blackwell



“I stand in a unique place, and I plan to use my skills and expertise to build a new and stronger vision for AAUW. I vow to grow our impact across all communities and expand our commitment to infuse equity and inclusion in everything we do.”

### Gloria L. Blackwell

Blackwell, who currently serves as AAUW’s Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer, was chosen for the role because of her deep executive experience and her impressive record of innovative contributions to AAUW’s mission, according to AAUW Board President [Julia T. Brown](#).

“As AAUW proudly celebrates 140 years of advancing equity for women and girls this year, we know that Gloria is the right leader at the right time,” Brown said. “Her outstanding talents are unparalleled assets to AAUW. The Board and all our members are privileged to partner with Gloria to continue to uplift our mission and vision of equity for all.”

Blackwell, who is also AAUW’s main representative to the United Nations, brings more than 30 years of nonprofit, international and government experiences to her new position. Among her many accomplishments is her 17-year management of AAUW’s highly esteemed [fellowships and grants program](#)—awarding more than \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas.

Blackwell has also been the driving force behind AAUW’s signature programs, including its [salary negotiation trainings](#), which have reached nearly 190,000 nationwide. She has initiated and built partnerships with major funders, including [The Coca-Cola Foundation](#) and Arconic Foundation. She has worked on pay equity initiatives with public officials in [Washington D.C.](#), [New York City](#), Boston and [Pittsburgh](#), as well as with numerous other state and municipal partners. She also worked with the National Science Foundation to increase girls’ participation in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

At AAUW, Blackwell established the [Alumnae Recognition Award](#) to honor outstanding alumnae. She has represented the organization across the U.S and [globally](#), including in Dubai, Morocco, Tunisia, Sao Paulo and Rio, Brazil. Most notably, Blackwell has significantly expanded the AAUW’s outreach to girls and women of color.

“I am incredibly honored and grateful to the Board for valuing my commitment to global gender equity, my leadership at AAUW and the contributions of my high-performing teams,” said Blackwell, who is the second woman of color to lead AAUW in its 140-year history. “I stand in a unique place, and I plan to use my skills and

expertise to build a new and stronger vision for AAUW. I vow to grow our impact across *all* communities and expand our commitment to infuse equity and inclusion in everything we do.”

Prior to joining AAUW, Blackwell worked at the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington D.C., leading and managing girl’s education programs in Africa and mid-career fellowships for global professionals. Her lifelong desire to make a difference through international education and gender equity was inspired by her service as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon and the Country Desk Officer at the D.C. headquarters for five Sub-Saharan countries.

Blackwell is the recipient of multiple honors and awards and has led and served on numerous boards and advisory groups, including the UNA-USA Council of Organizations Executive Committee, the International Book Bank, Latina SciGirls and the Canadian Organization for Development Through Education (CODE). She holds a master’s degree education and human development from The George Washington University, and bachelor’s degree in foreign service from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. A fluent French speaker, she also studied at the American University in Paris, France.



#### OUR MISSION

## Gender Equity & Economic Security

We’ve led the fight for fair pay and economic opportunity for women — and the battle continues: Women still get just 83 cents for every dollar paid to a man, and men continue to dominate the top roles and highest-paying professions.

#### OUR VALUES

**Intersectional. Inclusive.  
Intergenerational.  
Empowering.**

Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state, and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.





### Do you know who invented daylight saving time?

Did you guess Benjamin Franklin? By the time he was a 78-year-old American envoy in Paris in 1784, the man who espoused the virtues of “early to bed and early to rise” was not practicing what he preached. After being unpleasantly stirred from sleep at 6 a.m. by the summer sun, the founding father penned a satirical essay in which he calculated that Parisians, simply by waking up at dawn, could save the modern-day equivalent of \$200 million through “the economy of using sunshine instead of candles.” As a result of this essay, Franklin is often erroneously given the honor of “inventing” daylight saving time, but he only proposed a change in sleep schedules—not the time itself.

Englishman William Willett led the first campaign to implement daylight saving time. In 1905, Willett had an epiphany that the United Kingdom should move its clocks forward by 80 minutes between April and October so that more people could enjoy the plentiful sunlight.

It took World War I for Willett’s dream to come true, but on April 30, 1916, Germany embraced daylight saving time to conserve electricity. (He may have been horrified to learn that Britain’s wartime enemy followed his recommendations before his homeland.) Weeks later, the United Kingdom followed suit and introduced “summer time.”

Don’t blame the farmers! They were against it.



## AAUW 2021 Fund Events

[Click HERE to register](#)

Black Holes? Rural women's health? Social classification? What incredible topics are the 37(!) AAUW-funded fellowship and grant recipients studying? Attend these live virtual events showcasing their personal stories and fascinating studies. But wait, there's more! This is a chance to see the great speakers who can be scheduled for branch programs!

Registration is required. November 7, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Inspired? Donate to AAUW Fund and note that it is "In honor of AAUW California Fund Event."

[Donate](#)

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### PUBLIC POLICY

KATHLEEN HARPER, Director, and SUE MILLER, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)

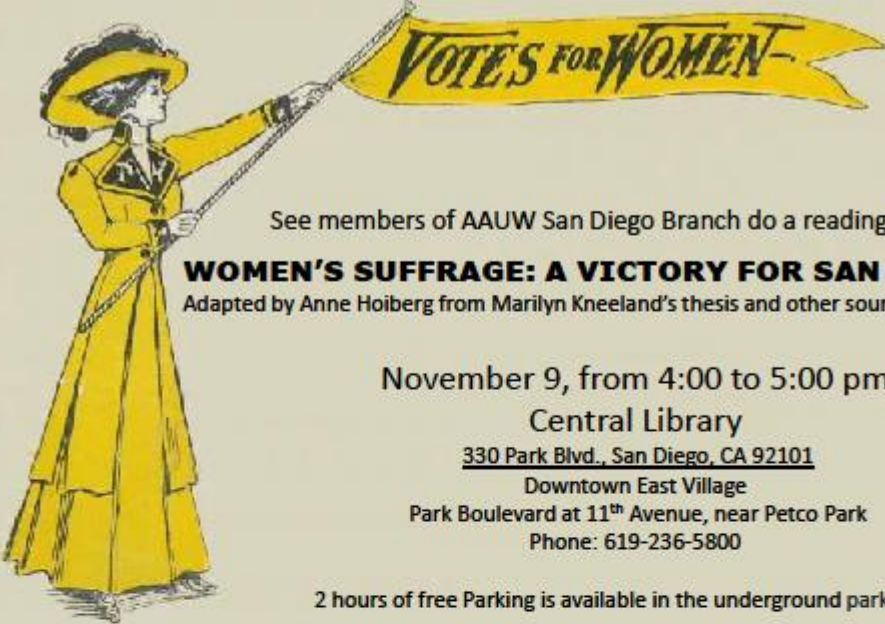
### AAUW WEIGHS IN AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL

AAUW is actively lobbying for major legislation in Congress. Two bills sponsored by California representatives are of special interest.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH:** Reproductive rights are at serious risk in our country now. The Women's Health Protection Act, (H.R.3755), sponsored by Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27), has passed the House and is on the Senate legislative calendar. This urgent bill would protect abortion access.

**TITLE IX:** The [Patsy Mink and Louise Slaughter Gender Equity in Education Act \(GEEA\)](#) (H.R.4097), sponsored by Rep. Doris Matsui (CA-6), includes provisions for more resources, training, and technical assistance to support full implementation of Title IX. Also, AAUW staff are in close contact with Miguel Cardona, the new Secretary of Education, to reverse egregious Title IX policy changes made by the previous Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Support AAUW's work at the national level. Urge your branch members to sign up for the Two-Minute Activist by clicking [here](#) or by texting "AAUW" to 21333 to get Action Alerts via text.



See members of AAUW San Diego Branch do a reading of:

**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE: A VICTORY FOR SAN DIEGO**  
Adapted by Anne Hoiberg from Marilyn Kneeland's thesis and other sources et al

November 9, from 4:00 to 5:00 pm  
Central Library  
330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101  
Downtown East Village  
Park Boulevard at 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, near Petco Park  
Phone: 619-236-5800

2 hours of free Parking is available in the underground parking lot.



**AAUW San Diego invites you to:  
Empowering Under-served Students at USD**

November 6, 2021 | 10 – Noon

**MISSION VALLEY LIBRARY**

**2123 FENTON PKWY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92108**

**Come and learn about the great work that we are doing!**

LEARN ABOUT THE STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM, HOW WE HELP STUDENTS FROM UNDER-SERVED COMMUNITIES AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THESE STUDENTS.



***OPHELIA AUGUSTINE***  
**Retention Specialist**  
Student Support Services  
University of San Diego



***SUSAN CRUZ, BBA***  
**Retention Specialist**  
Student Support Services  
University of San Diego



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# Mark Your Calendars

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates, locations, and times are subject to change

Date	Time	Location	Topics	Coordinator
Nov 6	10:00	Mission Valley Library	Empowering Under-served Students at USD	Donna /Anne H
Nov 7	1 pm	Virtual	Funds Luncheons – Registration required	Donna
Dec 4	11:30	Bay Club on Shelter Island	Red Sock Luncheon Fellows	Donna & Cathy Jane
Jan 29		IBC		
Feb 19	TBA	TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Un-tea mailings</li> <li>• Student Support with MANA</li> </ul>	
Mar 19	10 am	TBA	Women in the military	Jane
Apr 16	2 pm	TBA	Sandra Maas – Pay Equity	
May 14 or 21	10 am	TBA	Woman's Empowerment Panel	Anne H
Jun 18	11:30	Casa Guadalajara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of officers</li> <li>• Scholarships</li> <li>• Speaker</li> </ul>	Jane / Lillian



Ann McDonald  
Elizabeth Nolan