

San Diego Branch

February 2022

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

February is Black History Month. Many of us grew up learning history as it was written by white men, so now it's time to learn the history of women of all races. Lately Ida B. Wells has been in the news, because Mattel is coming out with a new Barbie doll based on her, but Ida B. Wells is a very important woman to learn about because of her history, not because she is now a Barbie doll.



Ida B. Wells was born into slavery in 1862 but was freed by the Emancipation Proclamation. She worked for a while as a teacher, but she soon found her calling as a journalist. As co-owner of the "Memphis Free Speech and Headlight" newspaper, she wrote about racial inequality and particularly worked hard to expose the lynching of Black people.

She was one of the co-founders of the NAACP, and she also worked to help women obtain suffrage. This is a woman who made a difference in the lives of other women and in the lives of Black people.



AKA Sorority

Please join the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch for a very special meeting featuring the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority led by Joyce Suber and our own Carol Patrick.

In honor of Black History Month, Joyce and Carol will lead a discussion about the sorority's history, community service and philanthropic activities. We will look at what our organizations can learn and benefit from each other.

Please join us Saturday, February 12. Social time begins at 9:30 am, and the meeting begins at 10 am at King Hall at the Foothills United Methodist Church, 4031 Avocado Blvd, La Mesa.

Officers

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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

Branch Historian

Rosemarie Mallory

Communications

Shauna Ruyle

College & University

Donna Lilly

Scholarships

Lillian Payn

Tech Trek

Gillian Simcox

Technology Outreach

Shauna Ruyle

Public Policy Zoom Meeting

The Public Policy Committee of the La Mesa-El Cajon Branch of AAUW is happy to invite the San Diego Branch of AAUW to a Zoom discussion featuring Genevieve Jones Wright. Ms. Wright was a public defender from 2006 – 2019 in San Diego County. She is now the legal director for the Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans, an immigrant rights organization.



The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 17, at 1:30 pm by Zoom. A link will be sent directly to your mailbox.

AAUW California Annual Event

WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE SNAKES??

Just kidding-no snakes will be found on this AAUW California adventure! What will be found is inspiration, adventure, and connections galore! Join us for our virtual Annual Event on April 30th to hear fabulous speakers like AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, Policy Rockstar Lisa Maatz, and the Dancing Rocket Scientist Jasmine Sadler! Get caught up on all the incredible work and successes of AAUW California branches from the past year. Hear our Speech Trek finalists. AND, there won't be a dull moment when we venture through a series of "open space" sessions in the afternoon, on a variety of topics covering all things AAUW, equity, women, and girls. More details and registration information will be coming soon.



NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org



NEW YEAR'S CHALLENGE

Was one of your new year's resolutions to take on a new challenge this year? Well, we have just the opportunity for you. AAUW California is looking for candidates to run for the AAUW California Board of Directors. Board members shape the policies and programs for the state and provide support for branches. Your skills and experience will help the board accomplish our mission of achieving gender equity in California. We'll be electing:

- Secretary (two-year term 2022– 2024)
- Three Directors (one-year term 2022–2023)
- Four Directors (two-year term 2022– 2024)

Click [HERE](#) for the election process details and nomination form. Candidate information will be posted as it is received. Take the challenge and put your name out there!

TECH TREK

Karen Manelis, Tech Trek Program Director, techtrek@aauw-ca.org and
Susan Steckclair, Tech Trek Financial Liaison, techtrek-finance@aauw-ca.org



TECH TREK NEWS

The volatile times we live in require a lot of flexibility. We continue to plan for in-person camps, but at present have dates for only two sites (UCSB – July 10-16 & 17-23 and UC Davis—July 17-23). Fingers crossed that this current COVID surge abates quickly, and we can move forward.

The Tech Trek Committee continues to work on getting software in place to aid with camper registration. For 2022, implementation will be for family/camper registration. We will continue to add modules (for nomination and applications) in future years.

The Tech Trek Committee is also working on pulling together a "Tool Kit" for branches/IBCs to use to establish Tech Trek alumnae groups (TTAG). Think good thoughts, encourage vaccination protection from COVID-19 so Tech Trek can continue the impact on more young women (13,572 campers and counting!).

Tech Trek Camp Treasurers News

There is a new way to make a charitable donation to your favorite California Tech Trek camp as well as projects and branch scholarships managed by the California Special Project Fund (SPF). Click [HERE](#) to go to the SPF donate page, select your project, enter your donation amount, select the camp you want to support, and finally click PayPal or Debit/Credit Card. The payment process is via PayPal, but you do not have to create or have a PayPal account to use.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Elaine Johnson, Director and Janice Lee, DEI Committee Co-Chairs diversity@aauw-ca.org

MAKING DEI CENTRAL TO 2022 AAUW BRANCH RESOLUTIONS

Submitted by Lenore Gallin

This is the year that every branch in California should be resolved to have a designated diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) contact! Such a resolution will revitalize AAUW in a changing society and enrich the experience of our members. Designating a branch DEI contact and sharing that name with the state office at office@aauw@ca.org will assist the DEI Committee in its efforts to communicate through the inter-branch councils and with every branch in California.

Many of us find comfort in likeness and tend to hang out with folks like ourselves. This coming year brings many opportunities to move beyond that comfort zone and appreciate living in a multi-cultural society where differences between people are a valued asset.

Using common communication tools helps us understand each other. Click [HERE](#) for AAUW's published DEI glossary of terms with definitions that are useful for developing programs.

Click [HERE](#) to find several Plug and Play options in the DEI Toolkit. Each Plug and Play topic includes an explanation of the topic, guidelines for the facilitator(s), and discussion prompts to make the event and conversation as robust as possible. Many other topics are included in the DEI Toolkit.

Your DEI Committee has created a presentation that is first being used at Inter-Branch Council (IBC) meetings and can then be used at branch events. Within this presentation is a link to a video on inclusion. Click [HERE](#) to watch. Also, click [HERE](#) for a link to short surveys on implicit bias developed by a team of university researchers.

Implicit Bias? Anti-Racism? Intersectionality? Neurodiversity? Micro-Aggression? Stay tuned for the February B2B to learn about these commonly used DEI terms.

Let's see if we can make and keep our 2022 DEI resolutions! We can use our power to help expand the diversity of each branch—learning about diversity in our book clubs and film groups, making branch dinners an ethnically diverse culinary experience, seeking out diversity in community partnerships.



Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates, locations, and times are subject to change

Date	Time	Location	Topics
Saturday, February 12	10 am	Foothills United Methodist Church, La Mesa	Joint Program with La Mesa-El Cajon Branch - Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority,
Thursday, February 17	1:30 pm	Zoom	Joint Program with La Mesa-El Cajon Branch – Genevieve Jones Wright
Saturday, March 5	10 am	College-Rolando Library 6600 Montezuma Road San Diego	Panel of Organizations who work with immigrant women, facilitated by Anne Hoiberg
Saturday, April 9	10 am	TBA	Sandra Maas speaking about Women Trailblazers
Saturday, April 30	all day	Zoom	AAUW California state meeting
Saturday, May 14	10 am	TBA	Anne Hoiberg launches her new book!
Saturday, June 4	11:30 am	Casa Guadalajara	Luncheon and Installation - Scholarship winners will speak.
Saturday, June 25			rescheduled IBC Luncheon



January

Ginny Doughton
Jane Niemeier

February

Gladys Beit-Ishoo
Sherry Ludwig
Lee Marsolais
Kelly Nilsson