



AVANTI

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May 2023

Co-President Message

Month at a Glance

May 3, 7:30 p.m.

TTAG Committee Meeting

May 6, 3:00 p.m.

Tech Trek Send Off Party for Campers (information on page two)

- Location: Sports Basement 1590 Bryant St, 5th Floor SF
- RSVP: Elaine Butler

May 7, 2:00 p.m.

Workshop: Collège Application Essay – ONLINE (information on page three)

- Recommended for all TTAG and rising 12th graders
- Guest Speaker: Denise DeVenuto, AAUW Palos Verdes and South Bay L.A. TTAG Advisor

May 8, 7:00 p.m.

AAUW SF Board Meeting

- Contact: Barbara Spencer

May 15, 7:00 p.m.

International Book Group – via ZOOM and IN PERSON

- Book: Olga Sies Dreaming by Xochitl Gonzalez
- Location: 338 Ewing Terrace
- Hostess/RSVP: Paula Campbell

May 19, 1:30 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner
- Discussion Leader: Joanne Mandel
- RSVP: Michelle Mammini

May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery/Adventure Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: Moonlight and the Preacher's Daughter by Lizzie Pook
- Reviewer: Susanne Maraoka
- RSVP: Elaine Butler



It's hard to believe that a third of the year has gone by.

First, we had a wonderful AAUW California Academy AAUWards this past weekend. I loved the music and the keynote speaker, Eileen M. Velez Vega. Her balance of family, career and self-care is what we want as working women. She's truly inspirational as a woman of color in a male dominated industry. AAUW President, Gloria Blackwell spoke.

As part of the day, the Speech Trek presentations were shared. Tech Trek was celebrated for 25 years of having girls attend camp. If you missed it, check out this link:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/academy-aauwards-event-celebrates-aauw-stars/>

Please mark your calendars to attend our Tech Trek Send-Off Party. Leslie Yuan sent an email invitation on April 24th. It's 3 pm. On Saturday May 6th at the Sports Basement Bryant Street. We hope to see you there supporting our 15 young ladies!

Also on April 24, Katrina Bresse from National, sent an email to renew your AAUW membership. A one-year subscription to Ms.

Magazine is included! You are able to pay the National, State and San Francisco dues all in one swift transaction. It was seamless for me. It's greatly appreciated that you renew before 6/30/2023.

Happy Asian American and Pacific Islander Month! To celebrate there's a 5K run on May 27th:
<https://raceroster.com/events/2023/74090/aapi-5k-sf>

Check out this link to learn more about Asian American Pacific Islander heritage:
<https://www.nyxt.nyc/blog/asian-american-pacific-american-heritage-5-facts/>

Wishing all of you who are Moms or in parentis loco (of humans and pets), a wonderful Mother's Day!



Kelly Joseph, AAUW-SF Co-President

2023-2024 Board Slate

AAUW-San Francisco Branch Slate of Officers 2023-2024

- Co-Presidents [Barbara Spencer & Roli Wendorf](#)
- Treasurer [Kelly Joseph](#)
- Membership VP [Mary Renner](#)

Rosaura Valle, Secretary

Tech Trek

The Tech Trek Committee has chosen six campers going to CSU Fresno Campus. Another five will be attending the Sonoma StateCamp.. An additional five girls will be virtual campers performing hands-on experiments in their home.

We are hosting a Send Off Party, so everyone knows who is going to which camp. It is also a chance for AAUW members to meet our 2023 campers.

Date/Time: Saturday, May 6 at 3 pm
 Location: Sports Basement, 1590 Bryant St, 5 th Floor, SF
 RSVP: Elaine Butler

Elaine Butler

TTAG Scholarships

The Marie Curie TTAG Scholarship was established by the AAUW-SF Board in 2021 to offer Tech Trek Alumnae, who are active members of the Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG), a \$4,000 scholarship to support their college related expenses as they attend a 2- or 4-year college.

The scholarship was advertised in the December, January and February TTAG Newsletter issues, and application deadline was February 15, 2023. While no applications were received last year, the TTAG scholarship Review Committee, formed by Mary Renner, Susan Pollack and myself, was excited to receive not one but three applications this year!

The applications were reviewed and discussed at our monthly TTAG Committee Meeting in April. We were impressed at their quality and moved to ask the Board to possibly consider all three applicants. With fifteen students potentially applying in 2024, we will soon have to put our scoring system to good use!

In the meantime, we are glad to share Kimia Sattary's thank you note, as it is addressed not only to the Scholarship Review Committee but to all branch members who are making these scholarships possible.

Kimia has been participating in Tech Trek candidate selection interviews, Tech Trek Send Off and Welcome Back Parties ever since she returned from her Tech Trek experience in 2016. In addition, Kimia participated with enthusiasm to a TTAG college workshop in 2021, and to our most recent Tech Trek Alumnae online panel, just a few weeks ago. As Kimia stated at the panel, she has always known she wanted to do STEM: she is now on track as a candidate for BS in Mechanical Engineering at UC

Berkeley, interested in sustainable technology and energy efficiency. Congratulations, Kimia!

Rosaura Valle, TTAG Coordinator

Thank you so much for having faith in me and offering this opportunity. Tech Trek played a big role in making me who I am and continuing to be involved with the organization has brought me a lot of joy. It is surreal to think about my time at Tech Trek, when I was just a middle schooler who thought science was cool, when I am now in college looking at different careers in STEM. Being accepted into the camp was a dream, and receiving Tech Trek's support once again means a lot to me. Thank you again for this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Kimia Sattary

Workshop: Diversity and Intersectionality

The national Inclusion and Equity Committee invites all AAUW members to participate in a virtual workshop on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm ET in preparation for World Day for Cultural Diversity (observed on Sunday, May 21). This workshop provides a hands-on learning opportunity for AAUW members to explore aspects of diversity and intersectionality. Please join us on May 10!

[REGISTER ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE](#)

Reflections



Born almost a century apart, Louise and Amanda have something very important in common. They shared a love of poetry as an art form and as an expression of strong feelings. Both served in one of the most esteemed positions in our nation as our U.S. poet laureate.

Maine-born and a child of an unstable marriage, Louise Bogan was able to receive an adequate education with the assistance of a generous female mentor. She became a writer of lyric poetry, fiction, and literary criticism. She held the Library of Congress consultancy post from 1945 to 1946. She was the fourth poet, but the first woman chosen by the Library of Congress. Back then, the position was known as the consultantship in poetry in the English language. In 1985 just as Gwendolyn Brooks (our first Black American woman to hold that position) was about to end her tenure, the name was changed to U.S. Poet Laureate. In 1993, Rita Dove became the first female African American official poet laureate and also the youngest at the age of 41. Since then, approximately 8 women have been chosen, about half as many as men.

Recently, Amanda Gorman came on the literary scene. She is Los Angeles born and a Harvard graduate. In 2017 at the age of 19, she was named our nation's first National Youth Poet

Laureate. Every year in May there is a national competition to choose a promising youth poet to honor and help encourage the reflections of young American women poets. In 2021, Amanda became the youngest poet ever to read at President Biden's inaugural ceremony.

In her book, "The Hill We Climb", Amanda says: "For there is always light, if only we are brave enough to see it-if only we are brave enough to be it."

In Louise's words, "Innocence of heart and violence of feelings are necessary in any kind of superior achievement. The arts cannot exist without them."

Both Louise and Amanda had challenges to overcome but were spurred on by their desire to share their thoughts and reflections through poetry that we can all enjoy today.

www.poetryfoundation.org

www.brainyquotes.org

www.loc.gov/programs/poet-laureate

Pat Camarena

May Birthdays



Delores Schoen

May 8

Lisa Aquino

May 18

AAUWSF Board

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Champions keep playing until they get it right.



Billie Jean King

Avanti Editor

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 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation’s leading organization advocating equality for women and girls. It has a national membership of 150,000. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. Check out our website <https://sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net>



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

Marie Curie & AAUW

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. This was true even for one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking research had reached a virtual standstill.

Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

Pay Equity

AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.

AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

AAUW continues the fight for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act to ensure women have further equal pay protections. The pay gap is real.

AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.

Legal Advocacy Fund

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing indicative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund’s annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes indicative and replicable college and university programs.