

Month at a Glance

August 9, 7:30 p.m.

TTAG Committee Meeting: 2023-2024 Programming and Welcome Back Planning

August 16, 12:00 p.m.

Brunch Lunch— IN PERSON

- Location: Bursa/Mediterranean/Eastern, 60 West Portal Ave.
- Hostess/RSVP: Mary Suter

August 24, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery/Adventure Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: The Huntress by Kate Quinn
- Reviewer: Susan Peliks
- RSVP: Elaine Butler 415-305-2220
- The books for 10/23–8/24 will be chosen on September 28th beginning at 6:30 p.m.
 - Looking for mysteries, adventures, true crimes, and cozies!
 - Must be available in libraries
- New members are welcome to join at any time!

Meeting Cancelled!

International Book Group

- The next meeting will be September 18th
- September book: The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese
- Contact: Nancy Shapiro

Meeting Cancelled!

Friday Afternoon Book Group

- The next meeting will be on September 15th
- Please think of any book recommendations for the next meeting, when we will choose the books for the upcoming year

Co-President Message

Summer Greetings

Here's hoping you are all enjoying some sun and relaxation. We are now in a new fiscal year for AAUW, which means it is time to renew your membership if you have not already done so. Dues this year are \$93. Our new website (sanfrancisco-ca.aauw.net) has a link for renewing online from the national website (aauw.org). Please note that the branch website link is listed at the top of every page of the Avanti newsletter.

In June, we had brunch at Mission Rock Resort for our Annual Branch Meeting. We elected officers, met some of our 7 Silver Jubilee Scholarship awardees and several new members. The only change in officers is that Roli Wendorf is now Co-President and Kelly Joseph is now Treasurer. We have said goodbye to board member Corrine Sacks who spent many years as our newsletter editor and treasurer. She has served above and beyond!

A Little Bragging

Over the past year we kept things going mostly through the wonders of Zoom. We also had two in-person branch events — a holiday lunch and our annual meeting brunch. With Mary Renner's leadership, there have been two in-person meetings with new members. We hope to get them involved. We sent 15 girls to Tech Trek Camp and have an active TTAG (Tech Trek Alumnae Group) group for them to join.

Through the leadership of Rosaura Valle, TTAG has become a functioning group. While situated in Paris for most of the year, Rosaura managed to hold monthly meetings and present a number of workshops. With the branch's sponsorship, TTAG awarded \$4,000 college scholarships to 3 TTAG members.

Not to be outdone, our Silver Jubilee Scholarship Committee led by Mary Suter awarded 7 scholarships of \$3,000 each to deserving young women who are nearing completion of undergraduate or graduate programs.

Future Programs

The board met in July via Zoom to discuss goals and programs for this year. Our branch Welcome Back party will be on Sunday, September 10 at 3:00 pm at the Sports Basement on Bryant Street (1590 Bryant St.). In addition to meeting up in-person with branch members, we welcome back the girls we sent to Tech Trek Camp and hear from them about their experiences.

Presenting a film on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) is in the works. Kelly Joseph, our DEI Chair, will provide more information soon.

In November, we are planning to present a talk by Tiffany Caesar who is a new branch member. Tiffany is an assistant professor of Africana Studies at San Francisco State University. She will tell us about her background and her ongoing research on the preservation of transnational black women leaders and engagement with public history: Queen Mother Moore, Margaret Walker, and Phyllis Ntantala.

Tech Trek Donations

We have now exhausted the pandemic-related surplus funds for camper fees which run about \$1,000 each. Donations are needed for next summer's camps. **Please make checks payable to AAUW-CA SPF** and forward them to me. Your donations are tax-deductible. Our members have given generously in the past; we hope to again fund 15 campers next summer. To repeat, Tech Trek donations should be made payable to AAUW-CA SPF and sent to me to be forwarded to the Tech Trek Camp Treasurers.

Barbara Spencer, Co-President

DEI Documentary



We are very sorry to announce we are postponing the viewing of The Revolution Generation as it is not possible to stream it on Zoom.

Thank you to all who participated in selecting a date.
Sincerely,

Kelly Joseph, DEI Coordinator

Tech Trek

I have been involved with the Tech Trek Program for more than 15 years as the program's CoCoordinator. My first co-coordinator was Michelle Maminni, followed by Tech Trek moms Nora Lee and Leslie Yuan. We were supported by an amazing committee.

I am writing as our last two camps are winding down. This year, we sent six girls to CC Fresno State, five to Sonoma State 11, and four to Virtual Camp. It was a new process using the computer program, which made me realize that my computer

skills are not up to date. Our candidates and their families need a more computer literate person, so I am stepping back and will be an advisor and committee member moving forward.

Thank you for all the support I've received. You've been the best!

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator

AAUW Meet-Up: Trip to the Exploratorium in San Francisco

There are many ways to get involved in the AAUW in the Bay Area, and some of those activities involve exploring local activities. AAUW member Mary Renner organized a wonderful trip to the Exploratorium in San Francisco for all the natural lovers to see *The Great Animal Orchestra by Bernie Krause and United Visual Artists* on Sunday July 30. Participants witnessed a beautiful audiovisual art experience that included various animal sounds, real-time streaming spectrograms, and clips of Bernie Krause sharing his artistic concept.

Afterwards, new AAUW members in San Francisco, Maggy Keppler and Tiffany Caesar, joined Mary Renner for refreshments on the pier. They talked about the exhibit, their experience in the Bay Area, and movies they are looking forward to seeing soon. Maggy Keppler is a new Masters student at University of California San Francisco in the Genetic Counseling Program and Tiffany Caesar is an assistant professor of Africana Studies at San Francisco State University. It is always exciting to see our new members out! Just a friendly reminder there are multiple ways you can get involved in AAUW: policy groups, Tech Trek, book clubs, lunch gatherings, and more. We look forward to more meet-ups in San Francisco!



From left to right: Maggy, Mary and Tiffany on the pier
Tiffany Caesar

The Trumpetiste





method of self expression that could bring great joy. She was very influential in getting a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for her mentor, Dizzy Gillespie.

Clora lived to be 92. I'd say that this "trumpetiste", as she called herself, was clearly a success by any definition.

www.theguardian.com

www.namm.org

www.jazzempowers.org

Pat Camarena

How does one define "success"? Success can mean different things to different people. For some it can mean achieving a comfortable financial status. Others may put a higher value on having maintained a loving family and having good health throughout their lives. Sometimes success means achieving celebrity status. Positive reinforcement on social media might be enough to convince others that they have reached the pinnacle of success. Others feel successful. However, one's definition of personal success may have to be adjusted over time. Others reach their perceived goals sooner than others. Some of the most successful people only believe themselves as they look back later in life. There are no time limits on success.

Clora Bryant, a wonderful vocalist and trumpet player, stayed under the radar of the general American public for many years. She played in big jazz bands (sometimes all girl jazz bands) starting in the 40s. She was the only female trumpet player to play with Charlie Parker. Dizzy Gillespie became one of her mentors. Her peers thought very highly of her technical skills and thoughtful interpretations. However, when she decided to go out on her own, she faced racial and gender discrimination which held her back from getting the support of major record labels. She was often passed over for male trumpeters. (What? Who ever heard of a black girl trumpet player?) Recognition of the vast scope of her talents did not bring her much wealth in the long run. Love, friendship, and music were her riches. Clora persisted. In time she became a fixture of the LA modern jazz scene. In her later years she mentored younger musicians, made personal appearances to pass on the love of music as an important

August Birthdays



Maggy Kepler	August 5
Peg Jackson	August 10
Elizabeth Ray	August 15
Persis Ainey	August 23
Nancy Shapiro	August 25
Kathlyn Hart Alford	August 25

AAUWSF Board

Contact Us:
aauwsfbranch@gmail.com

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Barbara Spencer
Roli Wendorf

Treasurer
Kelly Joseph

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Website
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Silver Jubilee Fund Chair
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Tech Trek Coordinator
Elaine Butler
Leslie Yuan

Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) Coordinator
Rosaura Valle

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator:
Kelly Joseph

The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity.



Amelia Earhart

Avanti Editor

AAUW
 San Francisco Branch
 P.O. Box 31405
 San Francisco, CA 94131-0405
 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.