

Month at a Glance

November 1, 7:30 p.m.

TTAG Committee meeting

- Contact: Rosaura Valle

November 2, 7:00 p.m.

International Book Group – IN PERSON

- Book: *The Piano Shop on the Left Bank* by Thad Earhart
- Location: 338 Ewing Terrace
- Hostess/RSVP: Paula Campbell

November 13, 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – via ZOOM

- Contact: Roli Wendorf

November 14, 7:00 p.m.

Talk by Dr. Tiffany Caesar – via ZOOM

- Topic- *Archiving Africana Women Stories: African Centered Education in South Africa and Detroit*

November 15, 12:00 p.m.

Lunch Bunch – IN PERSON

- Location: Dragon Beaux Dim Sum, 5700 Geary Blvd.
- Hostess/RSVP: Mary Suter

November 15, 7:00 p.m.

Tech Trek Committee Meeting – via ZOOM

November 16, 7:30 p.m.

Mystery/Adventure Book Group – via ZOOM

- Book: *The Final Case* by David Guterson
- Discussion Leader: Susanne M.
- RSVP: Elaine Butler

November 17, 1:30 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Book Group – IN PERSON

- Book: *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah
- Location: Paula Campbell's home, 338 Ewing Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94118
- Contact/Coordinator: Michelle Mammini

Co-President Message



Greetings from Mumbai!

I am in Mumbai to spend time with my sister and her family. It is a festive time of the year here. We celebrate the female aspect of divine energy or “Shakti” in the form of the goddess Durga. Maa Durga (Mother Durga) is associated with strength, protection, wars and motherhood. She rides a tiger and carries a variety of weapons in her eight arms.

According to Hindu mythology, the demon king Mahishasura felt invincible because he had received a boon that no man or god could kill him. He attacked the gods and chased them out of heaven. So the gods got together to pray to Shakti. The divine light that came out of them during this prayer created Durga. Durga fought Mahishasura for nine days and finally slayed him on the tenth day. The nine days of fighting are celebrated as Navaratri (nine nights) and the tenth day is celebrated as Vijaya Dashami, symbolizing the victory of good over evil. Maa Durga is a great female role model of strength.

Women's Professional Networking Group Event

We held our first event of the networking group on September 30th on Zoom. The event was attended by some of our younger members along with some board members – seven of us in all. It was an interactive session with a chance to hear about the interests and expectations of the attendees, along with an overview of the professional development resources already available at AAUW national.

Our next session will be held on Saturday, January 27 at 10:00 AM on Zoom. Our own Kelly Joseph will lead a discussion on AAUW Work Smart salary negotiation and building a professional network. We hope that participants will complete the online Work Smart workshop and watch the recording of a prior AAUW webinar on networking prior to the event. We will send another reminder as we get closer to the event.

Upcoming Events

Our new branch member, Dr. Tiffany Caesar, an Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at San Francisco State University will be giving a talk on some aspects of her thesis research on Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. Please see the article by Barbara in this issue for more details.

We will hold the next Tech Trek Committee meeting on Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM, and look forward to working with all committee members then.

Finally, we will hold an in-person Holiday celebration this year after a gap of several years. Mark your calendars for brunch on Saturday, December 9 at 10:30 at the Mission Rock Resort. We hope to see many of you there. Please RSVP to Barbara Spencer or aauwsbranch@gmail.com by December 6 if you'd like to attend. We will send an email reminder as well. Advance payment is not necessary. We will pay our share at our own tables after the brunch.

Roli Wendorf, Co-President

**AAUW Author Talk With Dr. Tiffany Caesar
Archiving Africana Women Stories: African Centered
Education in South Africa and Detroit
Tuesday, November 14, 7pm on Zoom**



In AAUW continued efforts to support women's leadership initiatives, diversity, and member's work - Dr. Tiffany Caesar previews her current book she is writing,

Archiving Africana Women Stories: African Centered Education in South Africa and Detroit, that explores various forms in which Africana women exhibit leadership roles in African Centered Education. With over 10 years of experience of studying, archiving, and writing about Africana women in leadership, with a focus on South Africa and Detroit - she amplifies voices of women in Africa and the African Diaspora that are commonly silenced or erased amongst dominant cultures' ideology of leadership. In addition, she provides the importance of archiving these women's stories and displaying how their work is an act of resistance, and cultural preservation against colonial institutions. Dr. Tiffany Caesar considers herself a Black Woman Archivist. A Black Woman's Archivist excavates and preserves the stories of black transnational women whose works create, impact, and contribute to multiple black radical movements.

A zoom invitation will be mailed to all members closer in time to the event on November 14 at 7:00pm.

Barbara Spencer, Co-President

Bette's Break-Through Idea



Bette was worried. She had dropped out of high school to attend a secretarial school. She had been very happy to land her first job as a secretary in a large Texas bank. However, using the latest new electric typewriters was a challenge. How could she rush to finish the plethora of perfectly typed documents required each day without making typos? If mistakes were made, the secretaries had to retype each page from scratch. Luckily for Bette, she was also a good artist. She came up with a unique solution while watching some painters at work. If they made a mistake, they just painted over it with the same white paint. After a period of trial and error experimenting with mixtures of paint and various chemical concoctions in an old kitchen blender, she finally came up with a product that was to revolutionize the lives of millions of office workers world wide. She called her new liquid "Mistake Out". Soon all the other bank secretaries were begging to use it. Today we know this mixture as "Liquid Paper". After quitting her day job, she soon founded her own company. By the late 1960s she was selling more than a million units a year of her remarkable product. Gillette later bought out her company for nearly \$48 million.

Bette Nesmith Graham would go on to use her new found wealth to establish two foundations. One foundation worked to give grants and other monetary support to women startup business ventures. The other foundation, The Gilhon Foundation, raised funds to support women in the arts. After Bette’s passing, her only son and heir Michael (Nesmith) took over the running of the foundations. When he was a teenager, he and some of his friends used to help Bette with preparing the product boxes for shipping out the product between their gigs as aspiring musicians. He and his musician pals later became famous in their own right as the well-known pop music group called “The Monkees”.

Michael was to continue his mother’s legacy through the Betty Clair McMurray Foundation which provided guidance for single mothers, shelter and counseling for battered women, and college scholarships for mature women.

- www.cnn.com
- www.lemeson-mit.edu
- www.women-inventors.com

Pat Camerena

November Birthdays



Sandra Martino	November 5
Alicia Hetman	November 7
Sherry Bridygham	November 8
Anna Yang	November 19
Roli Wendorf	November 19
Kathleen Cha	November 22
Aisha Sawatsky	November 25
Andrea Laudate	November 26
Rosaura Valle	November 28
Kelly Joseph	November 29

AAUWSF Board

Contact Us:

aauwsfbranch@gmail.com

Co-Presidents

Barbara Spencer
Roli Wendorf

Treasurer

Kelly Joseph

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Rosaura Valle

Membership Vice President

Mary Renner

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Roli Wendorf

Avanti Editors

Rosaura Valle and Caitlin Dainas

Silver Jubilee Fund Chair

Mary Suter

Voter Information

Sheila Bost

Tech Trek Coordinator

Barbara Spencer
Roli Wendorf

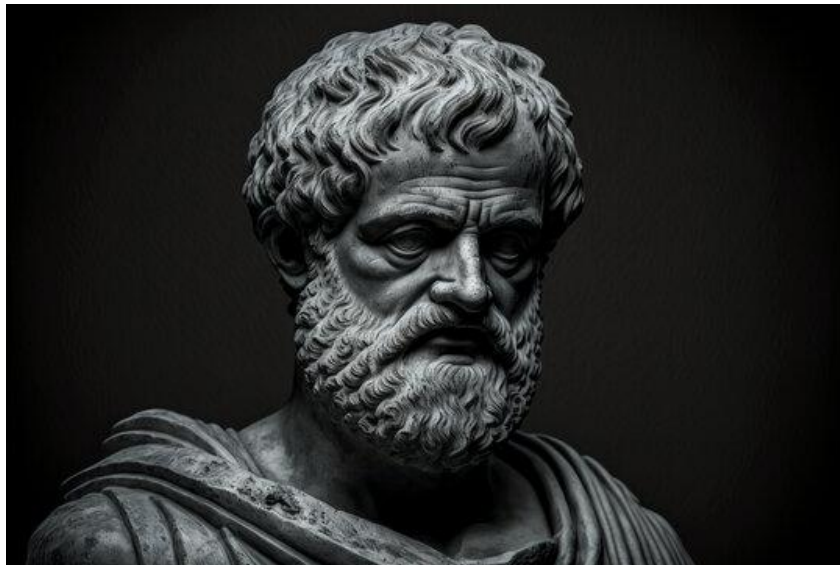
**Tech Trek Alumnae Group
(TTAG) Coordinator**

Rosaura Valle

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
(DEI) Coordinator:**

Kelly Joseph

It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light.



Aristotle

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.