



empowering women since 1881

AVANTI

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January 2024

Month at a Glance

January 8 @ 7:30p.m.

TTAG Committee Meeting Via Zoom

Contact: Rosaura Valle

January 9, 7:00 PM, on Zoom:

Tech Trek Committee Meeting

Contact: [Roli Wendorf](#)

January 11, 10:00 AM, on Zoom:

Talk by Ayesha [Sawatsky](#)

Topic: On Pursuing Architecture - A Professional Journey

Contact: [Roli Wendorf](#)

January 16, @ 6:30 p.m.

Empowering Parents: Tips from Psychological Research for Supporting Your Adolescent's Well-being

SPEAKER: Laura Guzman, Ph.D.

Greater Good Science Center

University of California, Berkeley

Contact: Rosaura Valle

January 13, 7:00 PM, on Zoom: Branch Board Meeting

Contact: Barbara Spencer

January 17 @ 1:30p.m.

AAUW SF Friday Afternoon Book Club

Book – The Professor and the Madman by Simon Winchester

Coordinator: [Michelle Mammini](#)

January 23, 7:00 PM, on Zoom:

Tech Trek Teacher Information Session

Contact: [Roli Wendorf](#)

January 23 @ 7:30 pm

Venue: Zoom call

Book/Author: The Paris Novel by [Ruth Reichl](#)

Discussion Leader: [Susan Shwartz'](#)

Co-Presidents' Message

We hope you have had an enjoyable Holiday Season with your families and friends. We wish you the best in 2025. The new year starts on a note of uncertainty for us all, but let us stay focused on things where we can continue to make a positive difference, such as our various branch activities.

Holiday Luncheon and Branch Accolades

Our branch Holiday Luncheon at Balboa Café was lively and fun. 14 members attended, undeterred by the challenging hunt for parking. Rebecca Miller, a new member, also attended. Rebecca is enthusiastic about helping the branch as part of the board, and we look forward to her involvement. In other news, we received a very nice thankyou note from our CEO, Gloria Blackwell, for our branch donation to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund. We also received a message of congratulations from national for having achieved two stars in national's 2024 Five Star Program.

Talk on Professional Journey

The next meeting of the Women's Professional Networking Group will be held on Saturday, January 11, at 10:00 AM on Zoom. Our member, Aisha Sawatsky, will be giving a talk titled, "On Pursuing Architecture." Aisha is a designer and preservation specialist working on historic buildings throughout the Bay Area. She will talk about her academic and professional journey towards becoming a licensed architect and discuss the various forks and detours on that journey. A selection of historic preservation projects will be presented. We will send out the Zoom link to all branch members by email. We expect the talk will be fascinating.



Tech Trek

Tech Trek outreach to middle schools will begin in January, kicking off several months of work in recruiting the next set of campers. We look forward to camper nominations for the 2025 camps. The camps are free for the girls. If you wish to make a donation to this worthy cause, please check our **website HERE**.

Roli Wendorf, Co-President

Lizzie and Income Inequality

Inventor, feminist, and Georgist, Lizzie Magie developed a unique approach to informing Americans about income inequality and its effect on underrepresented Americans.

Magie invented a board game that involved the buying and selling of property. She named it "The Landlord's Game". She intended this game to help educate players concerning the hazards of too much property being in the hands of too few. There were originally two versions of her game with different rules. One, called "monopolist, had players attempting to dominate their opponents. In the other version players shared

wealth.

The game became popular in many other communities and on college campuses, where students often made their own copies. It was called such names as "Finance", "Business", and "Monopoly". In 1935, at the height of the Great Depression, Charles Darrow, an unemployed heating engineer, sold the game to Parker Brothers, claiming that he had invented the game in his basement.

Lizzie Magie had actually patented her game in 1904, way before women could even vote. In the 20s and '30s she had renewed the patent, as well as publishing a second edition of "The Landlord's Game", including both versions. Parker Brothers continued to give Darrow credit for Lizzie's game for many years until Ralph Anspach, creator of the Anti-Monopoly game, learned of Magie's 1904 patent, and discovered Lizzie's backstory.

Lizzie lived a long and fruitful life. She was a fervent anti-monopolist and feminist at a time when women held less than one percent of US patent. The many newspaper articles that she wrote helped to raise awareness of the need for economic and social change.

Today the game "Monopoly" remains exceedingly popular in many forms worldwide.

www.awomansthing.org

blogs.loc.gov/Library of Congress blog (2022)

Ruthless: Monopoly's Secret History (<https://www.pbs.org>)

Pat Camarena

January Birthdays

Wanda Holland Green

January 8

Jean Feeney

January 10





Avanti Editor

AAUW

San Francisco Branch

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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>

<p>AAUW-SF Board</p> <p>Contact Us: aauwsfbranch@gmail.com</p> <p>Co-Presidents Barbara Spencer Roli Wendorf</p> <p>Treasurer Kelly Joseph</p> <p>Treasurer's Assistants Barbara Spencer Roli Wendorf</p>	<p>Secretary Rosaura Valle</p> <p>Membership Vice President Mary Renner</p> <p>Website Roli Wendorf</p> <p>Avanti Editor Cyndi Bireley</p> <p>Silver Jubilee Fund Chair Barbara Spencer</p>	<p>Voter Information Sheila Bost</p> <p>Tech Trek Coordinators Barbara Spencer Roli Wendorf</p> <p>Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG) Chair Rosaura Valle</p> <p>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator Kelly Joseph</p>
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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research

<p>Marie Curie & AAUW</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 <i>Academie des Sciences</i> 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.</p>	<p>Pay Equity</p> <p>AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.</p> <p>AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.</p> <p>AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.</p>	<p>Legal Advocacy Fund</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.</p> <p>The Legal Advocacy Fund's annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes indicative and replicable college and university programs.</p>
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