

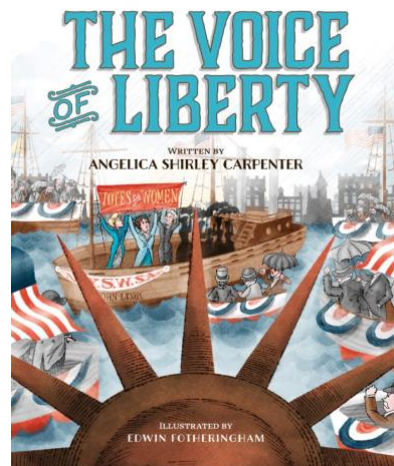
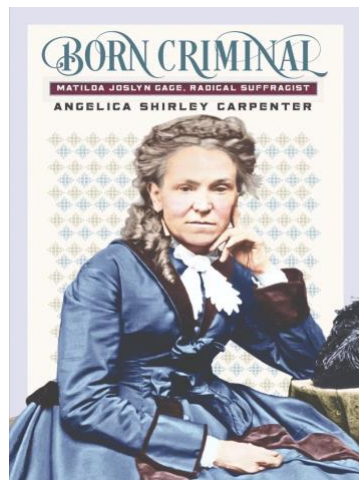
Hayward/Castro Valley Branch
www.hcv-ca.aauw.net

October 2020



Empowering women since 1881

The Shareline



AAUW HAYWARD-CASTRO VALLEY BRANCH PRESENTS

“VOICE OF LIBERTY” BY ANGELICA SHIRLEY CARPENTER

Wednesday, October 16, 2020 - 2:00 PM

Please join us for a special Zoom meeting with author, Angelica Shirley Carpenter. Angelica will talk to us about her book, *Born Criminal*, and her new children’s book, called *The Voice of Liberty*, which is launching September 19th. Both books focus on the life of Matilda Joslyn Gage, a radical suffragist, who worked as a scholar, speaker, and leader to gain women the right to vote in the 1880s. Registration is required. Register in advance [HERE](#).

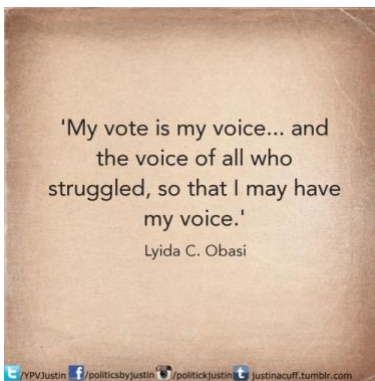
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Zoom meeting.

President's Message

Hello Branch members. I hope you are doing well, finding ways to accommodate the continuing issues with COVID-19 and dealing comfortably with the heat and the smoky fires. If you need any assistance, at all, please let me know.

As I write this message, we are just 49 days away from an important presidential election, but also from important local elections as well. Our Branch partnered with the League of Women Voters of the Eden Area (LWVEA) to coordinate virtual Candidate forums all focused on the Eden Area. I hope you were able to log on and watch. Forums included: City Councils, school districts, a water district, and the CA Assembly District 20. **Voters Edge**, <https://votersedge.org/en/ca> an online information resource, maintained by the League, offers voters information about candidates (if provided), and the facts about ballot measures. Check it out and pass it on.

There are **12 ballot measures** up for consideration. Voters Edge and the Easy Voter Guide <http://www.easyvoterguide.org/> also sponsored by the League, provide objective, fact based information on each ballot measure: who is supporting/opposing, the financial impacts to CA, and how your vote effects CA now and in the future. You can also prepare a sample ballot to use when completing your official Vote-by Mail ballot for submission. Review LWV Ballot recommendations at <https://tinyurl.com/Ballot-Recommend>



The important point, of course, with any of these tools, is for each of us to VOTE and encourage our family and friends to do the same. Watch your Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, SnapChat or NextDoor account for posts from LWVEA and AAUWHayCV. Since June 2020 our joint Social Media Project has posted a bi-weekly message across all platforms informing voters on topics related to voting rights, access, history, and information. Please like and share these posts to increase our branch visibility within the online community. It's Our Vote, Our Voice. Stay Informed!

Linda Slater, Administrative Officer



Tech Trek News

This year's "Tips for Change" fundraiser with Gianni's Italian Bistro was highly successful despite the challenges we faced. We made a total of \$3,275. Most of the money came from your amazing response to the flyer with the information on how to donate without attending. We had 20 people order dinners. The \$472 that this brought in is included in the grand total.

We have just learned that we will be receiving a \$1,000 donation from the Ohlone Audubon Society to send a girl to camp. The gift is part of a legacy left to the Society by Sara Jane Matthews, an East Bay resident, avid birder, former social worker, and world traveler. Many thanks to the Ohlone Audubon Society, and Sara, for their generosity.



Despite not being able to attend camp this year, the girls all received their Tech Trek T-shirts and teddy bears last month and were thrilled. As far as Tech Trek is concerned for next year, we are playing a waiting game. AAUW CA has issued the following statement:

Tech Trek will live on! The health and safety of branch members, school partners and young students must remain the number one priority. We know you're concerned about this beloved AAUW project in year two of the pandemic. We want you to know that the Tech Trek Committee is exploring ideas for alternative ways to select campers and has advised branches to postpone that process until January 2021. With the country still struggling with COVID-19 and K-12 schools closed to in-person contact throughout California, virtual contact or a paper process are the safest ways the 2021 selection and interview process can be managed.

This is Year Two, like no other in our history, but we are confident that CA Tech Trek will continue to provide rising middle school girls with a premier STEM experience!

Stay Tuned. Judy Harrison, Tech Trek Coordinator

AAUW CA FUND LUNCHEONS

Meet our 2020-21 AAUW California Fellows/Grant recipients at two (2) virtual "luncheons" which will showcase their studies and goals for the year! There is no lunch included this year and no charge to join the webinar.

If it is possible in your budget, we ask you to consider a donation to AAUW Fund, and note that it is "In honor of AAUW California Fund Luncheon." Click [HERE](#) to make a donation.

Northern California Fund Luncheon

Saturday, October 10, 2020. 1:00 PM

Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Southern California Fund Luncheon

Saturday, October 24, 2020, 1:00 PM

Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register.



Upcoming events



Drama Reading

Thursday, October 8, 2020

1:00 pm on Zoom

This month we will be meeting at an earlier time. Because of the mail slowup, we have been asked to move our time up a week. So, we will now be meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month which for October is the 8th. We will meet at 1pm via Zoom. Linda Slater will send out the information on how to go to the meeting.

The play we will be reading is “Skeleton Crew” by Dominique Morisseau. This is the third play in Dominique Morisseau’s cycle of plays called V Detroit Projects. His undertaking is to examine the sociopolitical history of Detroit. Skeleton Crew explores the effect that the Great Recession had on the people of Detroit. This play focuses on three workers, Faye, Shanita and Des and their fear of being laid off when there are rumors of their auto plant closing.

I will ask you to pick up the play on my porch the week of the reading and please return it by Monday the next week as I have to mail them on to the next branch. It will be fun to reconnect on Zoom and see how everyone is doing.

Liz



Branch Book Group

The branch book group is remaining alive by reinventing itself as we continue our lives in the time of pandemic. Thanks to Linda Slater leading us in Zoom, Pat Macsata, Rita Sklar and Genie Lester facilitating the zoom discussions, we will be meeting.

We have three Zoom meetings for the autumn set to go. Everyone read the first two books last spring for meetings we had to postpone. The first book discussed was, Delia Owens’ novel *Where the Crawdads Sing*, facilitated by Pat Macsata on Monday, September 21st.

Our second book discussion will be on **Monday, October 19th at 2 PM**. This is another holdover from last spring, Jon Carreyrou's *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies of a Silicon Valley Startup*. Rita Sklar will facilitate the discussion.

Genie Lester has suggested the perfect novel for the **November 16th** meeting, Albert Camus' *The Plague*. Written in 1948, it is certainly timely for 2020. Genie will facilitate the discussion.

Linda Slater will be in contact with everyone about the zooming details.

The book group does not meet during December but will from January through May. Please be thinking of ways we can keep the group together, reading and discussing, although it seems likely we'll not be able to meet in person for some time, if at all before next summer. Thanks to Linda, we do have Zoom, although some of us are unable to join in. Suggestions and new ideas are very welcome.

All branch members are welcome to join our meetings, which will begin at 2 p.m.

Take care, stay safe and well. We do look forward to the time when we can finally meet in person and enjoy our conversations again.



Virtual Lunch

Wednesday, October 21

12 noon

We are getting more comfortable with our Zooming activities, so we will continue our monthly informal lunch dates. Please join us on Zoom at 12 noon on October 21. It's fun to share news and visit.

Also, let's plan a review of the Author's Talk we held the week before on the book, *Born Criminal*. Let us know you are coming to lunch. Send an email to patmacsata@gmail.com

Are you a Hayward Resident?

Adopt a Block Needs your Help



Coronavirus is presenting new challenges to keeping Hayward safe, clean and green—but there’s a way to make a difference where you live. Community members are invited and encouraged to join volunteers from across the City by “adopting” an area and committing to help keep it litter free for a period of two years.

Adopt-a-Block volunteers play an important role in improving neighborhood appearance and attractiveness and all that goes along with it. By picking up litter and debris, they also help protect waterways and natural habitats.

Adopt-a-Block is a program of the Keep Hayward Clean and Green Task Force and the Hayward Maintenance Services Department, which provides everything volunteers need to get started, including trash bags, gloves and grabbers.

To learn more or join, go online [here](#) to the Adopt-a-Block program webpage on the City of Hayward website, email adoptablock@hayward-ca.gov or call (510) 881-774

Public Policy

The 2020 Election: Responsibilities and Opportunities

From Nancy Mahr, AAUW CA Public Policy Committee

Responsibility: Vote and help others vote.

First, you must be registered. You can check your registration status online at the CA Secretary of State's website at <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/> This is important if you move, or have a change in marital status.

Then Vote. All registered voters in California will receive a Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot in early October. When you check your registration status you can also set Vote-by-Mail alerts to be sent to your phone or email.

You have choices for using that ballot:

1) Complete it and mail it in – if you do this, mail early. It will require **two (2) first class stamps!** Ballots must be postmarked by Nov 3. They have 17 days after that date to reach the Registrar's office, but the postmark must be by Nov 3. If you put it in a mailbox on Nov 3 it will not be postmarked in time. Be early!

2) Complete the ballot and drop it in an official drop box. Your Registrar of Voters will post locations of drop boxes. **I know of two: one (1) by Hayward City Hall and one (1) at Castro Valley Library.** The Registrar regularly collects the ballots from the boxes.

3) Take your completed ballot to a Vote Center and hand it in.

You do not have to use the VBM ballot. You can vote in person and just hand in your unused ballot at a Vote Center.

Opportunity: Candidates - Black women and other women of color

This election gives all of us an opportunity to expand our thinking and vision by making a conscious commitment to AAUW's work for racial justice and societal change.

The coronavirus pandemic has disproportionately impacted Black Americans. We are seeing a call to address police brutality. In the face of these historic challenges, a record number of Black women are running for Congress, determined to work for change.

The Center of Women and Politics (CAWP) reports that black women are nearly 8% of the U.S. population, but 4.3% of Congress – only 22 out of 435 Representatives and 1 out of 100 Senators. They are underrepresented in statewide executive's jobs and among mayors and city councils.

This November, in addition to federal, state and county elections, local elections are on the ballot – cities, school districts, city councils and water districts. There may be black women or women of other ethnicities on the ballot in your area.

You can support women of color who are running for office in your community, state, and nation. Be aware. Create an environment of inclusion. Commend them for stepping up. Listen to their stories and their goals. Ensure they are included in election discussions and activities.

Try to meet and talk with these candidates. Be sure to attend the League of Women Voters of the Eden Area (LWVEA) virtual candidate forums for the local elections. Register at <https://my.lwv.org/california/eden-area>

AAUW has a long tradition of advocating for positive societal change and political activism. Change is underway, and AAUW can be a part of that.

- Read our statement on racism on the AAUW website <https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-california-statement-on-racism/>

Sources: The Washington Post, Reuters, Higher Heights for America

PLEASE NOTE:

You will soon have an opportunity to contribute to AAUW CA's Public Policy Priorities for 2021-23. All members will soon be receiving an online survey asking for your input. Please complete it by the deadline, October 15, so we can begin revising it for a member vote in April 2021.

Member News

Leona Nichandros' many branch friends wish her a good recovery at home following a recent fall.

If you have news about a member who needs to be congratulated on a special occasion or accomplishment, who needs to be encouraged during illness or difficult time, or to be reminded we are here for him/her, please contact your corresponding secretary Barbara Jones at 538.0516 or by email at bb_jones@pacbell.net.

This is especially important during these pandemic times when we are isolated from our branch friends and not enjoying our usual meetings. Let's show our friends know we care.



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