

Hayward/Castro Valley Branch
www.hcv-ca.aauw.net
Empowering women since 1881

February 2021



The Shareline

You Are Invited!

to the

AAUW Bi-Branch

Fellows (Virtual) Luncheon

presented by:

Hayward-Castro Valley and Fremont Branches of the AAUW

Saturday, February 6, 2021

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Our Speaker is Rachel (Zhuojun) Huang

reciepiant of the AAUW International Fellowship for 2020/21



Rachel (Zhuojun) Huang received her Bachelor of Science in materials science and engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2014. She is currently a Ph.D. student in materials science and engineering. Huang works with Zhenan Bao and Yi Cui on polymeric materials for next-generation energy-storage devices, and her goal is to become a professor at a research university.

Invite your tech trek girls, friends and family. Rachel promises to make it fun and informative.

Via Zoom

Registration Required. Click the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pc-2hpz4oGdUCAzEry03rS4605VctuTD7>

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



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

PROGRESS MADE by GOOD TROUBLE

What would you do if you won your US Supreme Court Pay Equity case?



Come hear Aileen Rizo's story of her 8-year fight for pay equity, and how she remains a passionate voice for equity, diversity, and inclusiveness.

THURSDAY • FEB 18 • 6:30 PM

Register in Advance

<https://tinyurl.com/AileenRizo>

After registering you will receive an email with instructions about joining the meeting.

Call (510) 435-6150. Admission is free but seating is limited. Event is open to the public.

Passionate Voice
for
EQUITY

Aileen was born in Phoenix, Arizona and embraces both her Native American and Mexican heritage. First in her family to finish college, she earned master's degrees in educational technology and Mathematics Education. Aileen spent 23 years working in mathematics education striving to close academic achievement gaps, and promoting groups underrepresented in STEM fields. In 2012, she began a fight, supported in part by AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, for pay equity and became an advocate for the economic security of women in our state and throughout the country. She is a wife and mother of three girls currently working as the Associate Director of The AIMS Center for Math and Science, plus pursuing a PhD in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Education.

Hosted by Alameda County Inter-Branch Council.



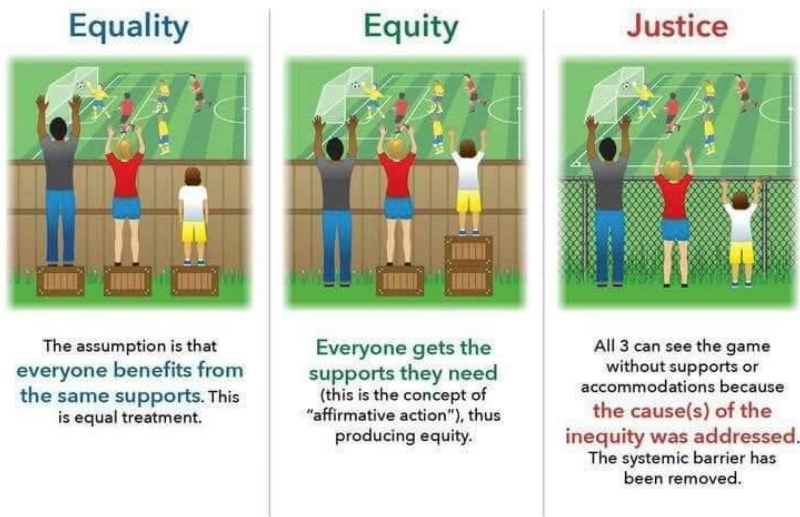
For information about donating to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, see <http://bit.ly/LADonateRizo>

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

President's Message

Welcome to February 2021. With a new Administration in office, the work of rebuilding our nation's trust, non-partisan coalitions, and resuming responsible and peaceful governance begins. I am hopeful that future policy of solid, achievable goals towards dismantling the barriers to equity AND equality will prevail. Leading, hopefully, to Justice for All.

Equity vs. Equality. Although these two words have the same root, they do not mean the same thing. They are often used interchangeably, even though they differ in meaning. Equality means everyone gets the same access to — or amount of — something. Equity, by contrast, is about everyone having equal access to what they need to be successful. And those needs can be quite different. Justice for all is about removing the existing systematic barriers, the cause of the inequity in the first place. The picture below illustrates the concept. Unfortunately, our nation still has many systematic barriers to achieving to justice for all: cultural, environmental, economic, and social.



In response to worldwide injustices, the United Nations adopted February 20th as World Day of Social Justice. In celebration they are hosting a special event "Closing the Inequities Gap to Social Justice". The event is 7 AM – 10 AM PST and is open to the public. Click this link to learn more and to register: [World Day of Social Justice | United Nations](#)

AAUW has always supported equity. Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the

barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

My own resolutions for 2021: expunge my own implicit biases, embrace my opportunities to create change, and take action in my community to address injustice.

Linda Slater, President Hayward/Castro Valley Branch

Upcoming events



Drama Reading

When: February 11, 2021

Time: 1 – 3 PM - Zoom Link: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84056211663?pwd=UHg3cnhkVlRRUGVHMW9NYWdKcDYzQT09>

Meeting ID: 840 5621 1663 / Passcode: 004321

We will be reading *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson. It is a play about Henrietta Leavitt who in the early 20th century worked at the Harvard College Observatory. Her job was to photograph and map the entire night sky. She made a stellar scientific breakthrough.

The plays can be picked up on my front porch starting on February 8th. Please sign your name when to take a book and cross off your name when you return it. Thanks. Liz Bathgate



Book Group

When: Monday, February 15, 2021

Time: 2 PM - Zoom Link: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89637437807?pwd=Y3M3ZFJiOVFsTW43OUUrN3FqSTISZz09>

Meeting ID: 896 3743 7807 / Passcode: 041689 / Dial by Phone +1 669 900 6833

The first meeting of the branch book group on Monday afternoon, January 18th, was a lively discussion of Jeanine Cummins' best seller *American Dirt*. Ruth Rymer gave a thoughtful, thorough review of the novel and members joined the discussion giving many thoughtful opinions and comments. The twelve members who were part of the Zoom meeting also worked on plans for the future.

The next meeting on Monday, February 15th, has been changed from the previously announced *The History Lesson* to a book made available by the Castro Valley Library, *Eat Joy: Comfort Food from 31 Celebrated Writers*. Members divided up the chapters to report and lead the discussion. The books were made available to Genie Lester and have been distributed to those who requested and picked them up. If you have any questions about this meeting, contact Genie. As all meetings this past year, this one will also be via Zoom. Linda Slater will send out information prior to February 15th.

The March meeting will be the science fiction, suspense thriller *The Need* by Helen Phillips. Details will be sent out later.

Please watch future issues of *The Shareline* for details about the spring meetings.

Thanks to all the members who are giving time and creativity to the book group during this pandemic year we're experiencing. We welcome all members of the branch to join our meetings.



Tech Trek for 2021 is going virtual. Our Board and Tech Trek Committee has decided to forgo participating in this year's Tech Trek virtual "camp". We felt that the girls are over wrought with virtual learning and virtual existing. They have not responded to the virtual programs we have forwarded to them. In addition, the teachers are overwhelmed by all of the online work they are required to do. We felt that if we added the online Tech Trek selection process their load was unwarranted and unnecessary. Our funds for 2020 and 2021 are safe in the Special Projects Fund.

The Board's "short-term solution was California's 2021 Tech Trek Virtual Camp, which will ensure our program does not go unfulfilled for two consecutive seasons. The virtual camp has a robust design and is another California-developed camp program that we can use in the future, if necessary. The California Tech Trek organization will have the capability and technical experience to pivot between residential and virtual camp delivery, as health and safety circumstances might require."

The State AAUW Board is looking forward to 2022 with the pandemic under control and resuming its residential Tech Trek Camp Program.

Tech Trek 2021 will be limited to approximately 300 students and will focus on Robotics classes run by Qualcomm.

I am sharing information on the Core Course:

- **Meets camp curriculum requirements**
 - BOTH computer science and engineering class
 - 15 hours instruction
- **Project-based, Individual Learning**
 - Daily immersive coaching
 - Coding and circuitry, plus arts
 - Campers get to KEEP project and re-apply in future
- **Showcase projects on Friday through videos**
 - Family and branch members can attend
 - Videos available for camper download and sharing
- **Certificate for course completion**
 - Campers and coaches

February is Black History Month



Her True-True Name Celebration/Conference

Thursday, February 18, 2021 10:00 am-6:00 pm
Online



Black History Month was first proposed by black educators and the Black United Students at Kent State University in February 1969. The first celebration of Black History Month took place at Kent State one year later. In 1976 President Ford officially dedicated February as Black History Month. For those of us who are not Black, you might ask why would we celebrate? Well....

It celebrates diversity. Black History Month brings awareness to the idea that though we are diverse, we all have something to contribute. In 2020, the University of Maryland Center for Literary and Comparative Studies began a year-long linked series of events “Antiracism: Research • Teaching • Public Engagement,” that contributes to the development of antiracist scholarship and offers public engagement in the service of promoting antiracism in all its forms. An Anthology of women’s writing from the Caribbean is offered February 18, 2021 from 10 am – 6 PM. Click to add event to your calendar. [Her True-True Name Celebration/Conference | Department of English \(umd.edu\)](#)

It takes us beyond the history books. Black history is everyone's history but, unfortunately, has been systemically left out of our history books and mainstream media. The History Channel is working to correct our perception. On February 19, 2021 at 10 PM they will air “Black Patriots: Heroes of the Revolution” featuring NBA legend, writer, and activist Kareem Abdul-Jabar. Click this link for more information about the show <https://www.history.com/specials/black-patriots-heroes-of-the-revolution>

It unites us. Black History Month is a great opportunity to celebrate the Black people in your life, find ways to give back to the Black community, support Black businesses, and most importantly to put in work on breaking down the privileges in your own life and to take action to break down the white supremacy around you.¹ In 2020, the online app YELP asked Black owned businesses in the East Bay if they would like to be included in a special listing. To find and support a Black owned business, click this link [♡ Black-Owned Businesses in the East Bay ♡ - Last Updated January 2021 - Yelp](#)



¹ 02/15/2019 Planned Parenthood Action Fund Blog by Brooke Baxa “Black History Month for White People”. [Black History Month for White People \(plannedparenthoodaction.org\)](#)

Public Policy

2069? 2369? 2451? WHEN WILL THE GENDER PAY GAP BE CLOSED?

By Ginny Hatfield, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

How long will it take? What can we do to make it happen sooner rather than later? These are questions that AAUW has been grappling with for decades. As we mark Equal Pay Day on March 31st, perhaps there is hope that we can make progress in decreasing the gender pay gap in 2021, given a new administration that is committed to social justice and leveling the growing disparity between the haves and have not. We also now have women in the highest echelons of national leadership; and as we all know, when women are in charge, things get done!



According to the 2020 update to AAUW's *The Simple Truth*, it will take white women until the year 2069 to achieve parity with men based on the projected earnings ratio compiled between 1988-2019. For women of color the numbers are even worse. Black women will have to wait until the year 2369 – 350 years – as their earnings ratio has only advanced a mere 7% from 1988-2019. And Latinas find themselves in the worse scenario as their earnings ratio has only increased 4% from 51% to 55% during this period of time, projecting their year of parity to 2451! (AAUW, *The Simple Truth* 2020 update)

The reasons for these disparities in the gender wage gap are known – and understanding what's causing the problem is the first step to meeting it head on. Members are urged to read the summary of *The Simple Truth* update on our National website which lays out the problem, its causes and solutions. https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2020/10/SimpleTruth_1.8.pdf

AAUW is leading the charge to effectuate change and you are part of the solution with the work your branches undertake on behalf of women and girls. The more we educate ourselves and others about the scope of this gender wage gap with programs like Start Smart, Work Smart, NCCWSL, etc., the more we chip away at the disparity. AAUW CA wants to know what is your branch doing to make a difference in the Gender Pay Gap. Let us know what creative ideas you have come up with to spread the word in these days of social distancing, we'll share them on the web (send to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org).

Good News!

On January 13, 2021 the *Circulating Collectible Coin Redesign Act of 2020* was passed into law. Introduced in March 2019 by Congresswoman Barbara Lee this bill requires the Department of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter-dollar coins in commemoration of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment granting women the right to vote. The design on the reverse of each coin shall be emblematic of the accomplishments and contributions of a prominent woman who was a resident of a state, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. territory. Such coins shall be issued in alphabetical order of the area represented, starting with the state of Alabama. Congresswoman Lee emphasizes that success was a long time coming.

“Women have played a critical role in shaping our country since its founding but for far too long have often been excluded or gone unrecognized. Suffragists like Ida B. Wells, Mary Church Terrell and other Black women and women of color fought not only for the right to vote, but also fought against sexism and racism. They led the way for future generations of women to lead and demand a seat at the table.

It’s important that we celebrate their contributions and ensure that they are properly recognized in our nation’s history. That’s why I introduced this legislation, which allows the Department of the Treasury and U.S. Mint to mint and issue new quarter-dollar coins recognizing the contributions of prominent American women.

The first series of quarters in this program commemorates the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment granting some women the right to vote. The design on the reverse of those quarters will represent prominent American women in a range of fields, including but not limited to suffrage, civil rights, abolition, government, and humanities.

This series will also include women from ethnically, racially, and geographically diverse backgrounds. Representation is critical. It is my hope that diverse American women will be chosen and depicted, celebrating our nation’s leaders, thinkers, and innovators.”

[Click here](#) to see my floor speech on this legislation from September.



“The Hill We Climb” by Amanda Gorman

When day comes, we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade? The loss we carry, a sea we must wade. We’ve braved the belly of the beast, we’ve learned that quiet isn’t always peace and the norms and notions of what just is, isn’t always justice. And yet the dawn is ours before we knew it, somehow we do it, somehow we’ve weathered and witnessed a nation that isn’t broken but simply unfinished.

We, the successors of a country and a time where a skinny black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother can dream of becoming president only to find herself reciting for one. And, yes, we are far from polished, far from pristine, but that doesn’t mean we are striving to form a union that is perfect, we are striving to forge a union with purpose, to compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters and conditions of man.

So we lift our gazes not to what stands between us, but what stands before us. We close the divide because we know to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside. We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another, we seek harm to none and harmony for all.

Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true: that even as we grieved, we grew, even as we hurt, we hoped, that even as we tired, we tried, that we’ll forever be tied together victorious, not because we will never again know defeat but because we will never again sow division.

Scripture tells us to envision that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree and no one should make them afraid. If we’re to live up to our own time, then victory won’t lie in the blade, but in in all of the bridges we’ve made.

That is the promise to glade, the hill we climb if only we dare it because being American is more than a pride we inherit, it’s the past we step into and how we repair it. We’ve seen a force that would shatter our nation rather than share it. That would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy, and this effort very nearly succeeded. But while democracy can periodically be delayed, but it can never be permanently defeated.

In this truth, in this faith, we trust, for while we have our eyes on the future, history has its eyes on us, this is the era of just redemption we feared in its inception we did not feel prepared to be the heirs of such a terrifying hour but within it we found the power to author a new chapter, to offer hope and laughter to ourselves, so while once we asked how can we possibly prevail over catastrophe, now we assert how could catastrophe possibly prevail over us.

We will not march back to what was but move to what shall be, a country that is bruised but whole, benevolent but bold, fierce and free, we will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation because we know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next generation, our blunders become their burden. But one thing is certain: if we merge mercy with might and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change our children's birthright.

So let us leave behind a country better than the one we were left, with every breath from my bronze, pounded chest, we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one, we will rise from the golden hills of the West, we will rise from the windswept Northeast where our forefathers first realized revolution, we will rise from the lake-rimmed cities of the Midwestern states, we will rise from the sunbaked South, we will rebuild, reconcile, and recover in every known nook of our nation in every corner called our country our people diverse and beautiful will emerge battered and beautiful, when the day comes we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid, the new dawn blooms as we free it, for there is always light if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it.



Amanda Gorman, 22, was already set to make history as the youngest inaugural poet to ever perform at a U.S. president's swearing-in ceremony.

But the Harvard graduate raised in Los Angeles punctuated the inauguration of President Joe Biden on Wednesday with a powerful rendition of her work, "The Hill We Climb," that is already being compared to the likes of masters like Maya Angelou and Robert Frost — who are also among the small circle of

inaugural poets. Her reading was a highlight of the historic inaugural ceremony.



Member News

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.