

The City of Hayward is introducing a new participatory budgeting process through which residents will be able to submit and vote on proposals to increase community connections in their neighborhoods.

Through the new People's Budget pilot project to run from September 2021 through December 2022, the City will be divided up into six sectors and each sector will be allocated between \$50,000 to \$70,000 depending on population size and income level.

There are no restrictions on the types of proposals to be considered by residents for funding provided they connect neighbors and build community. The proposals receiving the highest number of resident votes will be funded.

To begin, residents are invited to sign-up during the month of October to serve as volunteer delegates. Delegates will receive orientation and training from City staff on how to involve neighbors, organize community meetings and draft resident proposals for potential funding.

The deadline to sign-up to become a People's Budget sector delegate is Oct. 31. To learn more, to see the People's Budget sectors map, or to use a special interactive map to suggest or like a proposal—go to the participatory budgeting project page HERE on the City of Hayward website.

# Upcoming events

### **Dining Out**



Let's Go: Thursday, November 11, 2021

Time: 12 noon

Location: Din Ding Dumpling House 1779 Decoto Road, Union City

You Gotta Try This!

Scratching my head for a fun venue for our November dining out lunch, Linda Slater asked if I had seen a recent TV review of Din Ding Dumpling house in

Union City. Coincidentally, I had, and yes, I was also intrigued. On October 20, I found myself in nearby Union City at lunch time and decided to give it a try. Clean and bright inside, Din Ding featured a window so you can watch four busy employees making the dumplings by hand. Of course, I had an order of dumplings and pot stickers for lunch. The experience was amazing. Inside each dumpling hot broth surrounded the filling. How does the chef do that? See my photo. Let's get together at a round table to share these dishes adding our choice of vegetables and other selections from the vast menu. We can arrange carpools. Let me know you are coming. Here is their website: <u>https://www.dindingdumplinghouses.com/</u>

Let me know you are coming, as I'd like to get a large communal table for us. Contact: patmacsata@gmail.com

### **Drama Reading**



Date: Thursday, November 18, 2021

Time: 12:30

Where: Liz's home

We will be meeting in person in November if this Delta variant is hopefully behind us. I have moved the date back one week because I will be out of town on the second Thursday of the month.

The play is "Dead Ringer" by Charles Ross. When the Prime Minister drops dead from an apparent heart attack on the eve of a general election, two cabinet ministers who fear they need his charisma to get reelected, hire an out of work actor to replace the deceased.

## President's Message

Hello Branch members. Welcome to November 2021 and the fall season. It's one of my favorite times of year because I can pull out my comfy sweaters, vests, and hats. Although I am missing face-to-face interaction and hugs, your Board is encouraging everyone to stay healthy and safe. We are hosting some in person dining out events, but only if they have a safe seating option. I am hopeful that 2022 will bring us all more flexibility.

As we end our year there are many programs coming up in November and December through our Evening Book Group, Dining Out Group, and the Drama Group. Check out the details in this Shareline.

Additionally, AAUW CA presents webinars in November and December to inform and train members about a variety of issues/programs. Check out the offerings <u>HERE</u>. I will be sending out Google Groups reminders, so you'll have ample opportunity to register and attend those on topics of interest to you.

AAUW National announced that Gloria L. Blackwell will be the new Chief Executive Officer of the organization, effective October 18, 2021. Gloria currently serves as AAUW's Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer and has extensive experience leading within the organization. Congratulations Gloria! Read more about Gloria in the enclosed article.



As we prepare for the holiday season, your Board is suggesting a change for this year's holiday plans. We reached out to the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO) to offer our assistance to families in need rather than having a party. We will be working with FESCO to determine what they need in the way of home goods; clothing; and school supplies for families.

The Board welcomes all who would like to help in the planning. Please email me at <u>slaterl@sbcglobal.net</u>. Learn more about FESCO<u>HERE</u>.

Hope to see you all virtually this month at an interest group, a dinner, or a webinar. Till then stay well, safe, and active.

## AAUW Names New Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

On behalf of the Board of Directors of AAUW, I'm thrilled to announce that Gloria L. Blackwell will be the new Chief Executive Officer of the organization, effective October 18, 2021.

Gloria currently serves as AAUW's Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer and has extensive experience leading within the organization. She's managed and expanded AAUW's esteemed fellowships and grants program—awarding more than \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and abroad. She's spearheaded innovative programs, including the award-winning salary negotiation workshops, which have reached more than 190,000 women nationwide.

Gloria initiated and built partnerships with major funders, local governments, and institutes of higher education. And she has significantly expanded the organization's outreach to girls and women of color. But most of all, Gloria has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to AAUW's vision of achieving equity for all.

Before joining AAUW 17 years ago, Gloria worked at the Institute of International Education (IIE) in Washington D.C., leading and managing girls' education programs in Africa and midcareer fellowships for global professionals. She began her career as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Cameroon and was the Country Desk Officer at the D.C. headquarters for five Sub-Saharan countries.

Talented, thoughtful and passionate about AAUW's mission, Gloria is the right leader at the right time. The Board has complete confidence in her ability to steer the organization through rapidly changing and challenging times in our country and to tackle new (and age old!) obstacles to gender equity.

We feel grateful and privileged that such an exceptional executive has accepted our invitation to lead our organization into the future. Please join us in congratulating and warmly welcoming Gloria Blackwell to her new role as AAUW CEO.



Thank you,

Julia T. Brown, Esq. Board Chair

### **Corresponding Secretary Needed**

We are looking for one of our members to step up to fill the Board role of corresponding secretary. Barbara Jones, our long-time corresponding secretary has stepped down. We thank her enthusiastically for her conscientious management over the years.

The role requires sending cards to members facing personal illnesses or deaths in their families; and thank you cards to businesses/branch members who provide a donation or service. As corresponding secretary, you will have a budget to work with and a start-up supply of greeting cards. Contact Linda Slater if you are willing to take on this essential position. Thank you.



### **HELP WANTED! TECH TREK COMMITTEE**



Our branch needs some committee members. You must be familiar with electronic communication and be comfortable working both in person and virtually with school personnel, parents, and the girls. I think most of the application process will be electronic for 2022.

Hopefully we will be able to interview the finalists in person in 2022. You might have to drive to the individual schools to get applications, etc. depending on where we are with the pandemic. If you like the thought of being around very smart, eager, and focused 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls this is the job for you! Our busy time is from January to April.

Contact Judy Harrison: jharrison663@comcast.net.

## Vote Forward



Vote Forward is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower grassroots volunteers to help voters from underrepresented communities, across the Country, and to encourage them to vote. Their strategy is to write letters to voters, and you can do it right from home!

To participate, click <u>HERE</u> to open the website, hit "I'm Ready to Write", and register for a Vote Forward account. Write as many letters as your time allows.

Choose a voter name and you will be given a nonpartisan template which encourages that recipient to vote and provides important election information.

Then you write **one to three personal sentences** expressing why you choose to vote. The language is to be objective and not to influence voting along party lines. (Vote Forward mentions that the voters are likely to be registered Democrats.)

You provide the envelopes, stamps, and blue or black pen. Sending a Vote Forward letter is <u>one of the easiest things you can do to increase election turnout</u>. It only takes about 15 minutes, per letter, and a stamp to meaningfully increase the odds that a fellow citizen will vote.

Please consider this opportunity. Vote Forward will answer most of your questions and I am available, too. Helene Victor 510-886-1640 or email her at <u>darrell.and.helene@gmail.com</u>.



# Updates from AAUW

### **California Public Policy Committee**

by Kathi Harper, Co-Chair

#### **Abortion Justice**

Although the constitutionally guaranteed right to an abortion has been systematically under attack for decades, it is currently in danger of disappearing altogether. As AAUW National recently noted," Every person should have the ability to make their own informed decisions regarding their reproductive life. It is beyond time for abortion to be secured legally, funded fully, and equitably available for all who need it, when they need it, without shame or stigma." With the recent refusal of the U.S. Supreme Court to intervene in the Texas case, it is clear that we can no longer count on the courts to protect this critical right. Congress must pass the Women's Health Protection Act.

Watch for Action Alerts from National, use them to keep pressure on your representatives, and sign-up now for the 2-Minute Activist if you haven't already done so by clicking here <u>https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/</u>.

Be sure to let us know if members from your branch participated in the Rally for Abortion Justice on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, along with Beach Cities, Palos Verdes, San Fernando Valley, Pasadena, Alameda, Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista, Los Altos-Mt. View, San Jose and Morgan Hill, and send pictures if you have them to <u>publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org</u>.

#### Legislative Updates

Our last five priority bills that were awaiting the Governor's signature have been acted on, here are the results:

SB 62 (requires fair pay, instead of "by the piece" payment, for garment workers) SIGNED

AB 367 (free menstrual products must be provided in girls/women's bathrooms in schools) **SIGNED** 

AB 887 (allows domestic violence restraining orders to be filed electronically) SIGNED

AB 123 (increases paid family leave benefits to 65 – 75% of regular pay) VETOED

AB 1074 (requires hotel and janitorial workers who have lost their jobs due the pandemic to be prioritized for hiring as businesses reopen) **VETOED** 

We started the year off with 39 bills we selected for varying degrees of support. We chose one bill to co-sponsor, AB 92, with four additional bills for top-priority attention ("A" level bills), five bills for "important" status ("B" level bills), twenty-two bills for low-("C") level attention, and seven bills to "watch."

Over-all, 28 of our 39 bills have been designated "2-year" bills, which means they are dead for this year and likely will be taken up again in 2022. Our advocate, Kathy Van Osten, has explained that this is because Senate and Assembly leadership set a limit of just 12 bills that a member could move to the second house, so members had to pick and choose what would they wanted to move forward.

Some of our bills did not make the cut. Four of our five "A" bills, along with our co-sponsored bill, and four of our five "B" bills, did not make it through. These include AB 22, AB 92, AB 737, AB 966, AB 1361, and SB 245. However, several of them were converted into the Budget and Budget "trailer bills," which will provide funding for childcare.

Although we were not entirely successful in getting AB 92 passed (establishing a sliding scale for family fees for childcare through 2023), the state budget includes \$60 million for one year of relief for all families using subsidized childcare, increased reimbursement rates for childcare providers, and funding for 206,000 new childcare slots.



### **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 our interim corresponding secretary, Linda Slater, by email at <u>slaterl@sbcglobal.net</u>.

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.



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

