



“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.”

— Oprah Winfrey

Visit our Website

## Save the Date for the Bi-Branch Luncheon

Our Speaker is Amal ElWardi  
Recipient of the Career Development  
Grant for 2022/23

Saturday, **February 4, 2023** 11:30am – 1:30 pm

Soup and Salad Lunch **\$15.00 per person**

Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose  
(Wellness Room in the Dominican Atrium)  
43326 Mission Boulevard Fremont, CA



Kindly RSVP by Friday, December 30th

Click [HERE](#) to register.

Born in Casablanca, Morocco, Amal ElWardi is currently an MFA candidate at Saint Mary's College of California, cultivating relative practice in somatic education. Somatic education is a simple process of neuromuscular re-education that allows you to regain voluntary control of all the muscles of your body so that optimal muscle function and comfort can be restored, and then maintained, for the long term. When we have full control of our muscles, they will not cause pain. Her goal is to deconstruct patriarchal, codified pedagogies, and implement the consciousness of direct experience for enhanced comprehension and creation of knowledge, specially within the frameworks of ideokinesis, an approach to improving posture, alignment, and fluency of movement through structured guided imagery, and somatization.

Thanks for YOUR Support!



## Thank You from the Luo Family

and the 2022 “*Donna’s Holiday Hope*” program.

Because of your generosity and holiday spirit over 40 families came out on Saturday, December 17, 2022, at the Hayward Area Senior Center and enjoyed a hot, nutritious and delicious breakfast, family photos with Santa and children picked a special toy for themselves from a room full of toys and then the families left with gifts specifically for their family.

Many of the families are experiencing difficult and challenging times and an event such as this gives them hope and joy. This was one of the best years in recent memory and we helped nearly double the families than in recent past, which would not have been possible if not for you and your giving spirit.

Click [HERE](#) to access a donation form for your reference.

Again, thank you so much for your participation. Happy Holidays and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

## Membership Matters



The Hayward-Castro Valley values you too much to lose you as a member December 31st (if you haven't already).

This vital organization, which advances equity for women and girls, is strongest when we all join together. Please renew online or make your dues check payable to **AAUW-HCV**:

Renew **BY CHECK**: Mail to Liz Bathgate, membership chair, at 22112 Queen St. Castro Valley, CA 94546. Regular member \$102; Life member \$15; Dual member \$15.

Renew **ONLINE**: Go to [Login - AAUW](#)

Questions? Send an email to [elisabethbathgate@icloud.com](mailto:elisabethbathgate@icloud.com)

## Interest Groups



## Drama Reading Group

On **Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 1:00pm** the drama reading group will meet at Liz Bathgate's home at 22112 Queen Street in Castro Valley.

We will be reading *n* in 2002, it is the story of a middle-aged older sister who returns to the family ***Anne of the Thousand Days***. King Henry VIII of England discards one wife, Catherine of Aragon, who has failed to produce a male heir, in favor of the young and beautiful Anne Boleyn.

The play is only 74 pages, but it has a variety of parts. If you have considered getting involved with drama reading this is a good one.

I will serve refreshments during intermission. We will meet inside, and you are welcome to wear a mask if you feel more comfortable.

Please let me know if you can come so I can plan the dessert. Liz 510-581-0461. Questions? Email Liz at [elisabethbathgate@icloud.com](mailto:elisabethbathgate@icloud.com)



## Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 6:30 PM** on Zoom.

The group will be discussing the banned graphic novel **MAUS by cartoonist Art Spiegelman**. Serialized from 1980 to 1991, It depicts Spiegelman interviewing his father about his experiences as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor.

The work employs postmodern techniques and represents Jews as mice and other Germans and Poles as cats and pigs. Critics have classified *Maus* as memoir, biography, history, fiction, autobiography, or a mix of genres.

In 1992 it became the first graphic novel to win a Pulitzer Prize. In 2015 Russia banned the graphic novel for use of a modified swastika on the cover and in 2022 the Tennessee school board banned the graphic novel due to inappropriate language and an illustration of a nude woman. Please RSVP to [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.net). The Zoom link will be sent out the week of the meeting.

## Holiday Dining Out Event

On December 18th, 10 branch members were honored to welcome special guest speaker, Elsa Valmidiano, to our Holiday lunch at Buen Appetito. Ms. Valmidiano is widely published author. She entertained us with readings from her new book, "We Are No Longer Babylon." The book is a collection of her lyrical essays.

Elsa is an alum of the DISQUIET International Literary Program in Lisbon and Summer Literary Seminars hosted in Tbilisi. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Mills College and a Juris Doctor from Syracuse University College of



Law. Although she embraces her legal education with pride, Elsa only allows her legal skills to enhance her literary career as an essayist, fiction writer, poet, and textual woman warrior.

Read more about Elsa on her interesting website [HERE](#).

## President's Message

### Your Board

**Linda Slater - President**  
slaterl@sbcglobal.net

**Helene Carr - Treasurer**  
helene.carr@yahoo.com

**Liz Bathgate - Recording Secretary**  
elisabethbathgate@icloud.com

**Judy Harrison - Tech Trek**  
jharrison663@comcast.net

**Pat Macsata - Dining Out**  
patmacsata@gmail.com

**Helene Victor - Tech Trek**  
darrell.and.helene@gmail.com

**Sandy Boswell - IBC**  
sandyboswell@rocketmail.com

**Nancy Turner - Social Media**  
hendry-turner@sbcglobal.net

AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Branch board meetings occur on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM on Zoom.

All branch members are encouraged to attend board meetings.

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

### AAUW California Quits Twitter

Winter temperatures are upon us and AAUW California turned a cold shoulder to Elon Musk. Immediately following his purchase of Twitter, the incidence of hate speech, disinformation, discriminatory, and misogynistic rhetoric increased demonstrably. The AAUW California Board of Directors voted to become a Twitter Quitter and canceled their account effective November 9th. We're pretty sure he didn't notice, but it was the right thing to do. Obviously, we were unable to tweet this message.

### AAUW California Updates Address

AAUW California has changed their address. Due to the closure of our local UPS facility, they have moved their mailing address to:

AAUW California  
PO Box 160067  
Sacramento, California 95816-0067

### Growing AAUW California! – Webinar

Our branch membership is declining. Moves, age, and new interests are causing our membership to drop. AAUW California is holding a webinar hosted by the state Membership Committee to learn about several fresh pilot projects to attract and retain members.

Discover how to use the power of our mission and make every member a recruitment ambassador for AAUW!

**Date: January 25, 2023 Time: 7 pm**

[Click HERE to Register](#)



## Elections Finally Over – How'd We Do in '22?

The election is finally over! In addition to an end to the non-stop requests for donations, AAUW members can be pretty happy with the results. Here are a few highlights:

- 1 woman each was added to the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate, bringing the numbers to 124 (H) and 25 (S)
- Of the total of 149, 54 are women of color
- We lost the most powerful woman in government (Nancy Pelosi) but still have a woman on the Minority leadership team, Minority Whip Katherine Clark
- Governors of 12 states are now women
- 23% of all mayors across the nation are women, including our brand new and first female mayor of Los Angeles, Karen Bass
- 20 women won new seats in the California Legislature and 30 female incumbents were re-elected, bringing the total to 50 – but still just 42%
- All executive positions in California except Governor are filled by women, including Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller, as well as the Senate Pro Tem
- Proposition 1 prevailed and women's right to control their own reproductive choices is now enshrined in our constitution.

And here are some fun facts:

- Only 3.2% of all members of Congress to date have been women
- California has sent more women to Congress than any other state – a total of 47 to date
- Vermont is the only state that has never sent a woman to either the House or the Senate

The State Public Policy committee thanks each and every AAUW California member who voted, who assisted in our Voter Education (VE) campaign by spreading our messages on social media, who took the pledge to vote for Prop 1 (we had 437 sign up!) and who worked within their branches to do their own VE events.

For a more detailed analysis of the election results, visit [GOT VOTER FATIGUE? - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](https://www.aauw-ca.org/gotvoterfatigue?)

Kathi Harper, Public Policy Chair AAUW California

## Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

Join AAUW California On **Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM**, for a webinar "The Kindness of Color" with guest author Janice Munemitsu.

The webinar depicts two families: one Japanese American and one Mexican American. Two true stories of their separate battles with racism, incarceration, and school segregation in the WWII era. Unexpectedly, their lives intersect, paving the way for a landmark court decision in California. Join descendant Janice Munemitsu for the intimate story of how the kindness of friends and strangers provided hope and strength to persevere against unjust treatment.



AAUW works to empower **women and girls** by promoting **gender** equity through research, education, and advocacy.

[Click HERE to Register](#)

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## 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 branch president, Linda Slater at [slaterl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slaterl@sbcglobal.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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AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley | PO Box 642, Hayward, CA 94543

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