



“One day our descendants will think it incredible that we paid so much attention to things like the amount of melanin in our skin or the shape of our eyes or our gender instead of the unique identities of each of us as complex human beings.”

—Franklin Thomas, first Black president and CEO of the Ford Foundation

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. Ms. ElWardi will share her important work in using somatic education to help mitigate the youth mental health crisis in our country.

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.

Somatic therapy focuses on using body movements as a means to improve mental health. This healing method dates back to the physical education movements of the 19th century which gave prominence to the practice of yoga, pilates, and judo. Ms. ElWardi will demonstrate how mindful and intentional exercises can help optimize physical and emotional well being by relieving mental stress and bodily distress.

Angela Davis — Seize the Time



A new exhibit on view now in the Great Hall at the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) at 1000 Oak St., at 10th Street in Oakland. OMCA is BARTable, conveniently located 1 block from the Lake Merritt station. Open Weds - Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Closed Mon & Tue.

Angela Davis — Seize the Time, examines the image, influence, and activism of the Oakland-based icon. Traveling to the West Coast after its debut at the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University, *Seize the Time* offers a deeper look into the life of Angela Davis through the lens of race, gender, economics, and policy.

With a focus on her arrest, incarceration, trial, and the national and international campaigns to free her, *Seize the Time* highlights Davis's legacy as well as her ongoing role as an important contemporary figure for artists and activists.

The exhibition features a range of powerful materials, including contemporary and historical artworks, media, literature, sketches, rare manuscripts of Davis's philosophical and activist writings, and a dedicated archive on Angela Davis drawn from the collection of Lisbet Tellefsen.

Using archival Angela Davis materials as both the heart of the exhibition and a source, visitors to *Angela Davis — Seize the Time* are given the opportunity to investigate how we remember, preserve, and activate radical Black history.

This exhibition is on view now through June 11, 2023. For tickets and more information click [HERE](#).

Interest Groups



Drama Reading Group

On **Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 1:00pm** the drama reading group will meet at Liz Bathgate's home at 22112 Queen Street in Castro Valley.

We are off to a great start for the new year. Our second play will be "**Sylvia**" by **A.R. Gurney**. In his 1995 play Gurney

threw a couple of curve balls at the theme of a man dealing with a mid-life crisis. Instead of the man threatening his marriage by falling in love with a younger woman, he falls in love with a dog, who is played onstage by a woman. I think it should be a pretty funny play.

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



Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on **Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 6:30 PM** on Zoom.

The group will be discussing Melissa Fu's first novel "**Peach Blossom Spring**". Chosen as the Castro Valley Reads book for 2023.

It is 1938 in China and, as a young wife, Meilin's future is bright. But with the Japanese army approaching, Meilin and her four-year-old son, Renshu, are forced to flee their home. Relying on little but their wits and a beautifully illustrated hand scroll, filled with ancient fables that offer solace and wisdom, they must travel through a ravaged country, seeking refuge.

Years later, Renshu has settled in America as Henry Dao. Though his daughter is desperate to understand her heritage, he refuses to talk about his childhood. How can he keep his family safe in this new land when the weight of his history threatens to drag them down? Yet how can Lily learn who she is if she can never know her family's story?

Spanning continents and generations, *Peach Blossom Spring* is a bold and moving look at the history of modern China, told through the story of one family. It's about the power of our past, the hope for a better future, and the haunting question: What would it mean to finally be home?

Please RSVP to slaterl@sbcglobal.net. The Zoom link will be sent out the week of the meeting.



Dining Out Event

Following the Roots of our Mothers: Part 2

The holidays and the rainy weather are behind us, so please come for lunch and listen how Castro Valley resident, Lucy Cronin, used genealogy records and the internet to locate and contact members of her deceased mother's Italian family. This search was so successful that strong relationships developed with regular visits over the recent decade.

Time: **Wednesday, January 25 at 12 noon**

Where: **De La Torre's Trattoria**

6025 West Las Positas Blvd., Pleasanton

Click [HERE](#) to visit the restaurant website.

This restaurant is a hidden gem in the Lucky strip mall. You will be amazed at the quality of Italian food.

Please send me an email if you will join us: patmacsata@gmail.com We can arrange carpools.

Pat Macsata

President's Message

Your Board

Linda Slater - President
slaterl@sbcglobal.net

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Liz Bathgate - Recording Secretary
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Nancy Turner - Social Media
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AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Branch board meetings occur on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM on Zoom. Contact Linda for Zoom information.

All branch members are encouraged to attend board meetings.

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

Happy New Year Everyone

The AAUW California Connection posted this in their newsletter. I am using it! No New Year's resolutions on your refrigerator door? They probably fell off. Allow me to help.

Resolution #1 - Say "Yes" whenever your branch asks for volunteers.

Resolution #2 - Read The Shareline. (We are not above shameless self-promotion.)

Resolution #3 - Read all the emails and newsletters from your branch leaders, AAUW California, the national office and your tax advisor. (Do not read communications from your hitherto unknown fourth cousin who has been kidnapped and needs \$1M in small bills, Target® gift cards, and airline miles).

You're welcome.

Women of the Black Panther Party Mini Museum

The City of Oakland has an abundance of opportunities to enjoy the rich Black history of our local area. One such opportunity is the Mini Museum @ The West Oakland Mural Project honoring the women of the Black Panther Party. Located at Center Street and Dr. Huey P. Newton Way, in Oakland. Jilchristina Vest, the homeowner and curator of The Women of The Black Panther Party Mural offers guided tours by special appointment. Text 646-306-7175.

Visit The West Oakland Mural Project



Public Policy

AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History for Black History Month, February 2023

Many Black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month we celebrate the achievements of but a few:

Sojourner Truth, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797-1883).

Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (age 15) helped initiate the Civil Rights movement by refusing to give up their seats to white men riding Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions inspired resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.

Dorothy Jean Dandridge was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Carmen Jones* (1954).

Katherine Johnson, a brilliant mathematician, was one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on the Space Shuttle. (1958-1986)

Madam C.J. Walker was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911-1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. She hired 40,000 "ambassadors" to sell her products.

Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first Black candidate to run for president in the 1972 race and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

Mae Jemison became the first Black woman to fly to space on the space shuttle Endeavour. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987.

Toni Morrison released her novel *Beloved* in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Oprah Winfrey, born into poverty in rural Mississippi to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and philanthropist, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only black billionaire.

Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

The African American Museum and Library at Oakland (AAMLO) is dedicated to the discovery, preservation, interpretation, and sharing of historical and cultural experiences of African Americans in California and the West for present and future generations.

The reference library at AAMLO is non-circulating. It is a unique jewel for researchers, students, and anyone interested in African American history. Its collection consists of approximately 12,000 volumes by or about African Americans. There are books on religion, the military, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcom X, and the Black Panther Party.

Located at 659 14th Street in Oakland, it is open Monday - Saturday.



Click [HERE](#) to visit the AAMLO

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

Member News

It is with sadness that I report the passing of **Joyce Irene Morrison on September 21, 2022**, age 91. Her son says she passed away peacefully with family. Joyce was a longtime AAUW member. She and husband Robert enjoyed many of the AAUW events together.

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.

AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley | PO Box 642, Hayward, CA 94543

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