



“It is not enough to be compassionate. You must act.”

The Dalai Lama.

[Visit our Website](#)

AAUWards - California Annual Meeting



Academy AAUWards Event Celebrates AAUW Stars

Saturday, April 22, 9 am – 2:00 pm.

Lights, camera, action! AAUW California will roll out the red carpet for its blockbuster Annual Event on Saturday, April 22nd at 9 am. The virtual Academy AAUWards will feature:

- Red carpet interviews with the famous actors and directors of AAUW California,
- Impressive speakers, and
- The suspenseful opening of secret envelopes to reveal the winner(s) of the Equity Champion award, the State Named Gift Honoree, and the Branch Activity of the Year awards.

You'll see screenings of the finalists for the **Speech Trek and Gov Trek competitions** and trailers for the Tech Trek program. Then join us for an after-party to mingle with other members and toast AAUW. Prepare to be star-struck.

[Click HERE to Register](#)

Interest Groups



Drama Reading Group

On **Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 1:00pm** the drama reading group will meet at Liz Bathgate's home at 22112 Queen Street in Castro Valley.

The play is "**The Nerd**". It is set in Terre Haute, Indiana in late 1979. The Nerd centers on the hilarious dilemma of a young architect who is visited by Rick Steadman, a fellow ex-GI whom he has never met but who saved his life after he was seriously wounded in Vietnam. Willum is delighted when Rick shows up unexpectedly at his apartment on the night of his thirty-fourth birthday party. However, Rick's awkward manner and inappropriate behavior throw the occasion into shambles. It turns out that Rick is a stupid nerd who overstates his welcome with a vengeance.

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



Book Group

The Book Group now meets in the afternoon.

We will meet next on **Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 3:30 PM** on Zoom. We will discuss "**The Last Nomad: Coming of Age in the Somali Desert**" by Shugri Said Sath. The book tells the story of Salh's life as a nomad in Somalia and how she survived life in the desert, being chased from her country by civil war, and defying her clan's expectations after she dared to fall in love with a man from the 'wrong' country. The book has been praised for its fascinating look at a disappearing culture and its stories of bravery and resilience.

Our May meeting is on **Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 3:30 PM** on Zoom. We will discuss "**Horse**" by Geraldine Brooks. Pulitzer winner Geraldine Brooks's latest book is a sweeping tale that uses the true story of a famous 19th-century racehorse to explore the roots and legacy of enslavement.

Everyone is welcome. We are a small, but mighty group.

[Click HERE to Join Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 848 8047 3710
Passcode: 918435

Hope to have you join us. Please RSVP to slaterl@sbcglobal.net.

Dining Out Event



Dear Branch members:

We are continuing the theme, "Following the Path of our Ancestors". I've invited Liz Bathgate to talk to us about her ancestry and how she came to California.

Please join us for a fun lunch **Wednesday, April 12, at noon.**

Chef's Experience China Bistro
22436 Foothill Blvd., Hayward

Please confirm you are coming by
emailing: patmacsata@gmail.com by April 10.

Pat Macsata

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. 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.



Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America

Keisha N. Blain, Ph.D.
2016-17 AAUW American Fellow

Award-winning historian and New York Times best-selling author Keisha N. Blain situates Fannie Lou Hamer as a key political thinker alongside leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and Rosa Parks. She demonstrates how Hamer's ideas remain salient for a new generation of activists committed to dismantling systems of oppression in the United States and across the globe.

A blend of social commentary, biography and intellectual history, *Until I Am Free* is a manifesto for anyone committed to social justice. The book challenges us to listen to a working-poor and disabled Black woman activist and intellectual of the civil rights movement as we grapple with contemporary concerns around race, inequality and social justice.

Watch AAUW CEO Gloria L. Blackwell discuss the book with Dr. Blain in the video below.

Gloria Blackwell in conversation with Alumna Dr. Keisha Bain



For all you theater fans. TheatreWorks of Silicon Valley Presents:

FANNIE
The Music and Life of Fannie Lou Hamer

March 8-April 2, 2023

By Cheryl L. West
Directed by Tim Bond
Featuring Greta Oglesby

“To hope is to vote!” Famed activist and civil rights hero Fannie Lou Hamer makes this impassioned rally cry, reminding us that change begins with just one voice.

[Buy TheatreWorks Tickets HERE](#)

Public Policy

AAUW California State Public Policy Committee Sets 2023-24 Legislative Agenda

The State Public Policy Committee, in conjunction with our Public Policy Advocate Kathy Von Osten (KVO), has completed their selection of the 30 bills that the committee and KVO will be working on this year. This year our bills fall into the following categories from the 3 pillars of our Public Policy Priorities:

- 8 “Economic Security” bills
- 11 “Public Education” bills
- 21 “Social Justice” bills
 - 8 “reproductive justice”
 - 5 “healthcare”
 - 5 “freedom from violence” including sex exploitation, DV, stalking
 - 1 “gender-identity protection”
 - 2 “voting rights”

The committee then selected our top 3 priority bills, including at least 1 bill which we will co-sponsor (“A” bills). KVO will spend most of her time working on these bills, including working with the authors’ offices, attending committing hearings, and writing letters of support. These are also the 3 bills members will advocate for in their Lobby Days visits. We then selected 3 next-level bills (“B” bills), which are important but not as resource intensive. The remaining 24 bills will be handled as “C” level bills. Here is a look at our top 3 bills:

AB1394 – This is our co-sponsored bill. It would allow victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking to sue a social media platform for between \$1 million and \$5 million if the victim can prove the platform design knowingly, recklessly or negligently facilitated the use of code words for sexual predators to describe the type of child and the type of sexual

activity that resulted in the act of exploitation.

SB287 - Would prohibit a social media platform from using a design, algorithm, or feature that the platform knows, or should know, causes child users to: purchase fentanyl; inflict harm on themselves or others; develop an eating disorder or engage in dangerous dieting; purposely take their own lives; and/or experience addiction to the social media platform. A victim of any of these consequences can sue the platform for up to \$250,000 for each violation.

AB549 - Requires all state agencies to conduct an evaluation of all their departments to ensure the state does not discriminate against women, and report their findings every 2 years.

Kathi Harper, AAUW California Public Policy Chair

Membership Matters



The Hayward-Castro Valley values you too much to lose you as a member. 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

Ursula Batz has moved to Piedmont Gardens in Oakland. Please note her new address:

Piedmont Gardens
110 41st Street. #1509
Oakland, CA 94611
510-206-7218

She will continue to be interested in the happenings of the branch and our members. And sometimes you might even see her entering discussions on ZOOM. She'd love to hear how you are doing. Drop her a line or give her a call (even better).

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.

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