



"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

[Visit our Website](#)

AAUW National



AAUW National Presents

Securing the Future: A Post-Election Conversation on Women's Economic Security

Zoom - Registration Required

Join us for an important post-election webinar exploring the path forward for women's economic security under the next U.S. President and the 119th Congress.

Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 12:00 pm PST

Expert panelists include:

Heather M. Boushey, Ph.D., 1997–98 AAUW American Fellow, economist and co-founder of the Washington Center for Equitable Growth

Jamila Taylor, Ph.D., President & CEO of the Institute for Women's Policy Research

Gloria L. Blackwell, CEO, AAUW

[Register NOW](#)



AAUW California Online Branch Presents

Project 2025 and How it Would Impact AAUW Public Policy Priorities

On Tuesday, October 22, 2024, the California Online Branch hosted a webinar presented by the Public Policy Committee entitled *Project 2025 and How it Would Impact AAUW Public Policy Priorities*. Amy Hom, co-chair of AAUW California Public Policy, gave a brief overview of where Project 2025 came from, who the Heritage Foundation is, and what the project is broadly attempting to do.

She then addressed specific parts of the project that would impact AAUW Public Policy Priorities, such as education, Title IX, reproductive health, and gender equity. Following the presentation, Missy Maceyko, co-chair of AAUW California Public Policy, led a Question and Answer (Q&A) session.

[Watch the Webinar on YouTube](#)

Interest Groups



Drama Reading Group

Drama Reading will take place on **Wednesday, November 13th at 1 PM** at Liz Bathgate's home. I will make a holiday treat for all of us to enjoy.

The November play is "**Don't Dress for Dinner**", a comedy by Marc Camoletti and has played in London and New York. Bernard is planning a romantic weekend with his chic Parisian mistress in his charming converted French farmhouse, whilst his wife, Jacqueline, is away. He has arranged for a cordon bleu cook to prepare gourmet delights, and has invited his best friend, Robert, along too to provide the alibi. It is fairly short play and should be a lot of fun.

The December play is "**Ruined**" by Lynn Nottage. The group will meet on **Wednesday, December 11th at 1 PM**. Ruined is a searing drama set in chaotic Congo that compels audiences to face the horror of wartime rape and brutality while still finding affirmation of like and hope amid hopelessness.

Please let me know if you can come by calling 510-581-0461.
Liz



Book Group

The Book Group met on **Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 3:30 PM** on Zoom. We discussed "**The General and Julia**" by Jon Clinch.

In December we will meet on **Thursday, December 12, 2024,**

at 3:30 PM on Zoom to discuss "**The Cemetery to Untold Stories**" by Julia Alvarez.

Alma Cruz, the writer at the heart of *The Cemetery of Untold Stories*, doesn't want to end up like her friend, a novelist who fought so long and hard to finish a book that it threatened her sanity. So, when Alma inherits a small plot of land in the Dominican Republic, her homeland, she has the idea of turning it into a place to bury her untold stories—literally.

Looking forward to 2025:

January - *Dinners with Ruth* by Nina Totenberg

February - *A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka* by Lev Golinkin

March - *Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride

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

Meeting ID: 837 5015 4983

Passcode: 219

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



Dining Out Group

The Dining Out Group will reconvene soon. Send your ideas for tasty local restaurants to Pat.

Hope to have you join us. Please RSVP to Pat Macsata at patmacsata@gmail.com.

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
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A Message from Charmen Goehring, AAUW CA President

Despite the current climate in our nation, I have faith that love, and compassion will ultimately win, and we will be OK. Change is tough, so give yourself some grace and kindness over the next few weeks.

Speaking of change and hard things, I want to pay tribute to Lilly Ledbetter, who passed away on October 12, 2024. Lilly worked courageously with then AAUW Public Policy Director Lisa Maatz to get legislation passed through Congress to ensure fair and equal pay for women. In January 2009, President Obama signed his first bill into law with Lilly and Lisa by his side— *the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act*. AAUW had a long-lasting, strong, and productive relationship with Lilly, and she

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.

never stopped advocating for gender pay equity. In her honor, AAUW vows to continue the fight, and so will we.

Another change on the horizon with a serious impact on many branches is the recent decision by AAUW to transfer the organization and administration of the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) to an outside group, NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. Despite the support received from branches, state affiliates, members, and colleges and universities, the cost has become unsustainable for AAUW. I know this will disappoint many members, and there will be lots of questions that we don't have answers for yet. Because of the unknowns, including whether branches can even send students to the new conference without violating IRS rules around giving money to other organizations, it might be advisable for branches to hold off on any fundraising specifically for NCCWSL at this time. We hope to have more information in the coming weeks.

One thing that has not changed is the commitment and passion of your state leadership team and our committees. They are hard at work producing informative webinars, advancing GOTV campaigns, assisting branch leaders with difficult issues, gearing up Fund recipient presentations, and so much more. I am thankful every day for this team that I am a part of.

Public Policy



A Successful 2024 Legislative Agenda

2024 has been an exciting year for AAUW California's Legislative Agenda. There were many excellent bills that were introduced in the legislature early in the year. The Public Policy Committee evaluated over 60 of these bills that were most closely aligned with our Public Policy Priorities. Our committee met virtually over a weekend in March to discuss and vote on the best bills to include in our 2024 Legislative Agenda, prioritizing them into A, B, C, and Watch categories. We selected 41 bills for our Legislative Agenda, not including the Watch bills, and from March through September we worked to educate about and advocate for these bills.

Thanks to the many AAUW members who participated in Lobby Days, to those who called or wrote to their legislators and the Governor through our Action Alert Network, and thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of Kathy Van Osten, our Legislative Advocate, 29 of the 41 bills on our Legislative Agenda made it to the Governor's desk, and 25 of them have been signed into law!

Excitingly, all three of our A priority bills were signed by the Governor:

- Our signature bill AB 2843 was authored and sponsored by AAUW California. The bill eliminates cost sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor seeking medical care following a rape. The bill was inspired when Kathi Harper, Public Policy Director, read an OpEd piece in the Los Angeles Times by Dr. Samuel Dickman, Chief Medical Officer at Planned Parenthood of Montana, describing the plight of countless rape survivors who do not seek medical care following their assault because of prohibitive costs. AB 2843 removes the cost barrier, ensuring that survivors can receive the care they need following a traumatic sexual attack.
- AB 2326, also sponsored by AAUW California, requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and the State Universities, and the President of the University of California, to provide an annual report of their schools' compliance with Title IX. The report will be publicly, orally presented to the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees on Education Finance.
- AB 2099 makes it possible for the District Attorney to pursue felony charges for the posting of information about reproductive health care patients or providers if the posting and subsequent actions result in bodily injury.

Two of our B priority bills were signed into law:

- AB 1790 requires the CSU system to report on the implementation of recommendations provided in the California State Auditor report, to ensure Title IX compliance and protections against sexual harassment.
- AB 1831 expands the law prohibiting the possession and distribution of material depicting minors performing sexual activities to include AI and computer-generated images.

And very significantly, AB 1955 was signed into law. This was a C priority bill only because it was added to our Legislative Agenda later in the process.

- AB 1955 prohibits public schools from notifying parents if their child uses a different name or pronouns or identifies as a different gender than assigned at birth. California is the first state in the nation to ban forced outing of transgender students.

For additional details on all the bills on the 2024 Legislative Agenda, see our bill tracking report [HERE](#).

And if you have not yet signed up for Action Alerts, and would like to be notified about opportunities to advocate for AAUW California's priority legislation in 2025, please sign-up [HERE](#).

Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko
Co-chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

[AAUW California Public Policy Newsletter November 2024](#)

Member News

It is with great sadness that I share the passing of **Leona Nichandros on November 1, 2024, at the age of 101**. In addition to being a long-term member of AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Branch she was also a member of the Diablo/Alameda Branch of the National League of American Pen Women (NLAPW), the Hayward Arts Council (HAC), A.R.T., Inc. and other civic groups in the Bay Area. She was also an accomplished potter. Our condolences to out to her family. Cards can be sent to her home at 17426 Columbia Drive, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

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.

November/December Community Events



Hayward Area Historical Society Presents

Lone Tree Cemetery Tour - Cemetery Iconography **Sunday, November 16, 2024** **10:30 AM**

Lone Tree Cemetery
24591 Fairview Ave., Hayward, CA

Ever wonder why there are so many urns on the tops of headstones? Have you noticed all those pointy obelisks and floral motifs that adorn burial markers? Seen a headstone resembling a tree trunk or a log? Each communicates a different sentiment, idea, or identity. Learn about cemetery iconography, symbolism, and the cultures that elevated them. Meet at Mausoleum 2, behind the cemetery office.

Space is limited and is given on a first come, first served basis.

[Register NOW](#)



The Eden Garden Club of Castro Valley Presents

Annual Holiday Bazaar **November 16, 2024** **9 AM - 1 PM**

Faith Lutheran Church
20800 Redwood Rd., Castro Valley, CA

Sponsored by Eden Garden Club featuring homemade treats, handicrafts and garden gifts. Proceeds benefit Garden Grants for CVUSD & HUSD Schools. Call (510) 427-5261 to donate.

[For More Information](#)



The Chanticleers Theatre Proudly Presents

Brian Copeland "The Jewelry Box"
November 23, 2024
7 PM

In this hilarious and heartwarming prequel to his hit show "Not a Genuine Black Man," beloved actor-playwright Brian Copeland recounts two memorable weeks in his youth when he took to the "mean streets" of Oakland to buy his mom the perfect Christmas gift. Rife with references to 1970s Oakland, "The Jewelry Box" follows six-year-old Brian's adventures as he scours the help-wanted ads, applies for jobs and collects bottles, inching his way toward the coveted present, a jewelry box at the Hegenberger White Front store.

[Buy Tickets HERE](#)



Mexico Danza Proudly Presents

Nutcracker Piñata
December 1, 2024
3 - 6 PM

San Leandro Center for the Performing Arts
2200 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, CA 94577

Nutcracker Piñata is a fusion of Holiday, and Mexican folklore. Come and join Clara as she takes a journey through regions of Mexico. Tickets start at \$39.19.

[Buy Tickets HERE](#)



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints presents

The 37th Annual Creche Exhibit
December 7 - 11, 2024 from 12:30 - 8:30 PM
3865 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto, CA

EXPLORE THE BEAUTY

Hundreds of nativities representing 30+ countries, rustic carvings to fine porcelains.

EXPERIENCE THE JOY

Hands-on activities for all ages, holiday music, artists in action including Rose Datoc Dall, J. Kirk Richards and other local artists.

GATHER AS A COMMUNITY

- Marionette shows
- Crèche history and stories
- Festive holiday concerts

The exhibit is **FREE** and open to the public.

[For More Information](#)



The Castro Valley Library Presents

Three (3) Musical Concerts

A Swingin' Holiday - Saturday, December 14, 2024, 2 - 3:30 PM

"In Full Swing" is a 20-piece band and vocalist performing holiday favorites.

A Holiday Concert - Sunday, December 15, 2024, 2 - 3:30 PM

Music the whole family can enjoy. Featuring Fun q.

A Winter Concert - Saturday, December 21, 2024, 2 - 4 PM

Hillside Woodwind Quintet & Montecito Brass Ensemble playing holiday classics & light classics.

Castro Valley Library
3600 Northbridge Ave., Castro Valley, CA

All of the concerts are FREE and open to the public. Come and enjoy there is something for everyone.

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 \$107; Life member \$15; Dual member \$15.

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

Questions? Send an email to elisabethbathgate@icloud.com

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