



# BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

<http://sanmateo-ca.aauw.net>

November 2021, Vol 92, Issue 3

## President's Message

Judy Steele

Autumn Greetings! I hope that you all have had a fun and relaxing summer and that you are now refreshed and ready to fully participate in the San Mateo Branch's AAUW activities.

However, be aware that AAUW California, per AAUW National, recently updated their guidelines for in-person meetings, stating a preference for continuing virtual meetings:

Given the myriad of state and local guidelines, AAUW cannot provide legal advice to state or branch affiliates, but here are some suggestions you may wish to consider before holding an in-person event: Observe all local and state guidelines: Require masking and observe social distancing for public indoor events.

San Mateo County says: current Health Orders require wearing a well-fitting mask indoors in public settings. Indoor settings, whether public or private, are higher risk for COVID-19 transmission, especially when you are with people you do not live with. In other words, be mindful that Interest Group in-person meetings are still considered to be high risk for Covid transmission, especially with people not from your immediate household.

I recently learned of an interesting and encouraging article in the *L.A. Times*: After more than five years of intense scrutiny and effort, California on Friday (Oct. 8th) became the first state to make ethnic studies a required class for high school graduation, to help students understand the past and present struggles and contributions of Black, Asian, Latino, Native/Indigenous Americans and other groups that have experienced racism and marginalization in America. Requiring ethnic studies in high schools is an integral part of cultivating a classroom environment that is accepting of diversity per a joint statement of the CA Legislatures. Although this is **not a hyperlink**, to read the entire article **copy and paste** the following link into your browser.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-10-08/california-first-state-require-ethnic-studies-high-school-graduation>.

And don't forget about the three **AAUW Fund Zoom Events** featuring the 37 AAUW fellowship and grant recipients on **October 23rd** (may have passed by the time this comes out), **October 30th** and **November 7<sup>th</sup>**. All require pre-registration at [www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-2021-fund-events/](http://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-2021-fund-events/) to obtain the Zoom link.

Your Board looks forward to seeing you at the various events noted in the Bay Leaves calendar, and want to wish you all a fun Halloween and a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

## San Mateo Branch 2021-2022 Calendar

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Oct 28 | Webinar by Nobel Laureate Dr. Jennifer A. Doudna, <i>CRISPR: Rewriting DNA and the Future of Humanity</i> , at 4:00 PM. Register in advance at: <a href="https://www.nyam.org/events/event/crispr-rewriting-dna-and-future-humanity/">https://www.nyam.org/events/event/crispr-rewriting-dna-and-future-humanity/</a> |
| Nov 6  | <i>How to Get More Women into Politics</i> , Carol Mayer Marshall, founder of Women Who Identify, Recruit and Elect (WIRE). Zoom meeting at 10:00 am.   |
| Jan 19 | <i>Japanese Emigration, Settlement and Internment in California</i> , Rosalyn Tonai, National Japanese-American Historical Society. Zoom meeting 1:00 pm.   |
| Feb 19 | <i>Women of Russia--It's Complicated</i> , Micki Carter, author and editor of the TRIAD, the Mid-Peninsula Newsletter. Zoom meeting at 10:00 am.  |
| Mar 16 | <i>The Art of Korea</i> , presentation by Asian Art Museum Docent Mary Mead. Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm.   |
| Apr 30 | <i>AAUW California Annual Meeting</i> . Zoom meeting.   |

## 2020-21 Legislative Session

### How Did AAUW California-sponsored Bills Fare?

Kathi Harper, Co-Chair Public Policy

Not particularly well, as it turns out! 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-bills), five bills for *important* status (B-bills), twenty-two bills for *low-level* attention (C-bills), and seven bills to *watch*.

Overall, 28 of our 39 bills have been designated “2-year” bills, they are *dead* for this year and likely will be taken up again in 2022. Our advocate, Kathy Van Osten, explained that Senate and Assembly leadership set a limit of 12 bills that a member could move to the second house, so members had to choose what 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.

We are pleased that several bills have passed and been sent to the Governor. The following bills have been acted upon:

SB 62 (requires fair pay, instead of “by the piece” payment, for garment workers) **Signed**

AB 367 (free menstrual products 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**

AB 1461 (requires employees of a food facility to obtain food handler cards if they work with unpackaged food) **Sent back to be reconsidered**

Thanks again to all our members who participated in Lobby Day and/or weighed in at critical junctures on social media. For descriptions of each of these bills and/or more information on their status, visit our Bill Tracker on the AAUW California website, Public Policy/Legislative Advocacy/Bill Tracking.

## AAUW Scholarships

Jane Bradley

In 1991, long-time member, Ethel Gayman, left a large bequest to our Branch restricting its use to scholarships. Over the years the Ethel Gayman endowment fund has enabled our Branch to distribute scholarships yearly to San Mateo County Community College students planning to transfer to four-year institutions. This year we awarded ten \$5000 scholarships, interviewing all candidates via Zoom.

Once again Skyline College students out-numbered the other two San Mateo Community College recipients. We awarded scholarships to the following Skyline students: Tanya Coreas, Michiko Nagatomo, Megan Chan, Noreen Singh, Camille Pangilinan, and Janelle Ann Pare. Tanya and Michiko both plan to enter the nursing field. Tanya, a bilingual student, translates for her single mother and works about 30 hours per weeks as a caregiver for the elderly. Michiko grew up in poverty in the Philippines and was a volunteer coordinator of education programs in her native country for two summers. Megan plans to major in mechanical engineering at UC Berkeley. Noreen’s goal is to be a child psychologist and will be transferring to Stanislaus State University. Camille and Janelle will both transfer to San Francisco State University, Camille to become a high school teacher and Janelle to study biology with the ultimate goal of becoming a clinical laboratory scientist.

Cañada scholarship recipient Wuendi Mendoza, who lives with her family of ten in East Palo Alto, will be attending UC Santa Cruz. Fellow Cañada recipient Anahi Tabares is passionate about avoiding the stigma around mental health and plans to study psychology at UC Berkeley. Kailey Latin, a CSM graduate, plans to study graphic communications at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and fellow CSM graduate, Nada Ali, who delivers food to families in need across the Bay Area, plans to major in psychology.

Thank you to the scholarship committee Judy Bloom, Gerhild Klein, Kathy Wiblin, Judy Winklestein, Pat Fuetsch and Sandy Shapiro. We always welcome new committee members to help with reading applications and interviewing candidates. It’s a joy to be able to help such deserving candidates. Please contact Jane Bradley if you are interested in serving on the committee.

“Originality is the essence of true scholarship. Creativity is the soul of the true scholar.”

Nnamdi Azikiwe, First President of Independent Nigeria

# November 2021 Interest Sections

Mary Ann McKay

## **Boggle (All Members Welcome)**

Judy Steele

Wed. Nov 17, at 1:30 pm (In-Person Meeting)

Host: Judy Steele

## **Book Discussion I**

Elissa James

Thurs. Nov 18, at 10:00 am

The meeting will be by Zoom.

*Bastard Brigade*, Sam Kean

## **Book Discussion II (wait list)**

Karlyn Schneider

Thurs, Dec 2, at 12:30 pm (Date Change)

The meeting will be by Zoom.

*Then She was Gone*, Lisa Jewell

## **Book Discussion III (wait list)**

Mary Ann McKay

Pat Fuetsch

Thurs, Nov 18, at 1:30 pm (Meeting held outside)

Host: Barb Schotzko

*The Plague*, Albert Camus

## **Bridge**

Elissa James

Mon, Nov 15, 1:00 pm

The meeting will be by Zoom.

## **California Fact & Legend**

Bobbi Benson

Tues, Nov 2, 10:10 am, (In-Person Meeting)

Host: Bobbi Benson

Video: *Chinese Whispers*

## **Drama Reading**

Marjorie Kobe

Wed, Nov 10, 9:30 am

The meeting will be by Zoom.

## **Ethnic Lunch**

Annette Delaney

No Meeting in November

## **Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions**

Margo King

No Meeting in November

## **Mah Jongg**

Helen Hatchett

Wed, Nov 10, at 1:00 pm (In-Person Meeting)

Tues, Nov 23, at 1:00 pm (In-Person Meeting)

Host: Helen Hatchett

## **Membership: New and Prospective**

Maureen Buchner

Mary Ann McKay

## **Monday Movie**

Mary Ann McKay

**No Monday Movie in November.**

## **Mystery Book Group**

Mikki Coffino

Fri, Nov 12, at 1:30 pm

The meeting will be by Zoom.

*The Body in the Castle Well*, Martin Walker

## **Public Policy/Current Events**

Betty Bernstein

Diane Silven

Tue, Nov 9, at 10:30 am

The meeting will be by Zoom.

## **Walking 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 10:00 am year round**

Bobbi Benson

Mon, Nov 8, 10:00 am, Downtown San Mateo Art Walk

Mon, Nov 22, 10:00 am, Redwood City Neighborhood

Contact Bobbi Benson for more information.

American Association of University Women  
P.O. Box 1465  
San Mateo, CA 94401-0816

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

By joining AAUW you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so all women have a fair chance.

**November 2021**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 CA Fact & Legend	3	4 AAUW Board Meeting	5	6 General Meeting
7	8 Walking	9 Public Policy	10 Drama Reading Mah Jongg	11 Book III	12 Mystery Book	13
14	15 Bridge	16	17 Boggle	18 Book I	19	20
21	22 Walking	23 Mah Jongg	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				