



# BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

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

March 2022, Vol 92, Issue 7

## President's Message

Judy Steele

*The freedom to vote is not a political issue—it is a Constitutional right* per AAUW COO, Gloria Blackwell. Americans of all races, backgrounds, genders, and zip codes have the same right to vote. But state legislatures attacked this fundamental right in record numbers in 2021: at least **19 states passed 34 anti-voter bills**, with more than 440 introduced. These restrictive voting measures – like making it illegal to provide water to voters waiting in line, limiting drop boxes for absentee votes despite the ongoing pandemic, and restricting voting by mail – disproportionately impact Black, Brown, and Indigenous Voters.

It is past time for Congress to take a stand to protect ALL voters from discrimination at the ballot box – **urge your Senators to [support the Freedom to Vote: John R. Lewis Act now!](#)** Per the League of Women Voters (LWV): Some states have already passed laws restricting your right to vote. However, there are three things we can do right now to help fight voter suppression and defend our democracy: **donate** (to LWV in one of the anti-voter states), **get involved** (join/use AAUW's Action Network), and **know the facts--use Voter's Edge California**, <https://votersedge.org/en/ca>. It's LWV's nonpartisan source of election information that explains the facts in an easy-to-understand way. You can do several actions, even seeing what your personal ballot will look like! **Please** help us reach more voters - **share Voter's Edge** on your social media! **As Coretta Scott King said, Freedom is never really won. You earn it and win it in every generation.**

Another note from National: Thanks to all who were part of California's significant contribution to the National AAUW Fund of over \$494,000 in 2021. Our branch alone donated **over \$3,100!**

**EQUAL PAY DAY** continues to make progress (this year it is **March 15th**), but we still have a long way to go. When women get equal pay - and equal opportunity - they, their families and all of society will thrive. To get there, we all need to embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion. AAUW believes

achieving pay equity requires a multi-pronged approach:

- Strong state and federal laws. See AAUW's economic security [policy agenda](#).
- Employers committed to continuous improvement. Read how equal pay is good for business. <https://www.aauw.org/resources/research/simple-truth/>
- Women willing to advocate for themselves. Learn more about AAUW's program initiatives.

Stay engaged this year with AAUW's [Two-Minute Activist tool!](#) You can also check out their [letters, comments, testimony and legal briefs](#) to learn more about AAUW's positions and advocacy efforts on critical issues.

**Notes from AAUW-CA:** they have an exciting spring planned with their Speech Trek contest, their Public Policy Lobby **Week** on **April 11-15** (see their e-mail of Feb. 2nd for details), and their *Adventures in AAUWland* event (aka State Convention) on **April 30th**, just to name a few.

Most of the CA Tech Trek camps will be residential this summer along with a permanent virtual camp that will be offered twice, as determined by the Board of Directors in January. And there is a new *Lunch and Learn* series aimed at working-age women, which can be accessed, along with past webinars, through [2021-2022 Webinars Archives - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](#)

**And don't forget**, we are looking for volunteers to supplement our Board of Directors, so please think how you can best serve your Branch and AAUW! Please say "YES" if you are called!

## San Mateo Branch Calendar

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|--------|--|
| Mar 16 | <i>The Art of Korea</i> , presentation by Asian Art Museum Docent Mary Mead.<br>Zoom meeting at 1:00 pm.     |
| Apr 30 | <i>AAUW California Annual Meeting</i> .<br>Zoom meeting.   |
| May 6  | <i>San Mateo Branch Annual Meeting</i><br>Maria Delgado, <i>The Future of Getting into College</i> , 1:00 pm |

## Public Policy

The Public Policy Group will hear a presentation on Title IX of the *Federal Education Amendments Act of 1972* on Tuesday, March 9 at 10:30 am. The meeting will be by Zoom. The presentation is a Webinar produced by AAUW California.

Although Title IX applies to all activities and programs, it has received the most attention for its impacts on athletics, especially at the collegiate level. However, Title IX is also a powerful tool for students who want to combat sexual violence at school and on college campuses. Under Title IX, discrimination on the basis of sex can include sexual harassment, rape, and sexual assault. To read more about this issue, go to the AAUW website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/title-ix/> Please join us for this interesting discussion.

### Asian Art Museum: *The Art of Korea*

We're very excited to have Ginny Meyer present *The Art of Korea* on March 16, at 1:00 pm on Zoom. Ginny is a Docent at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Korea in 1969-1970. While there she developed a strong love of Korean art. The lecture will trace the development of the art of Korea from the earliest recorded information to the present day. As a storyteller at the Museum, Ginny works with Karlyn Schneider, a member of our branch.

## What are You Doing this Year to Mark Equal Pay Day?

Ginny Hatfield and Shelley Mitchell  
AAUW CA Public Policy Committee

AAUW believes that pay equity and equal employment opportunity are matters of simple fairness. We know that on the average, women earn about 80 cents for every dollar men earn. Started by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996, the goal of Equal Pay Day was to raise awareness about the gender wage gap.

Each year this date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. The date normally moves earlier each year as the wage gap closes, as women's average wages rise faster than men's. Equal Pay Day was traditionally a Tuesday in April, but happily, in 2021, the date was March 24, meaning that things had improved. And this year the news is even better - all women in the aggregate will reach parity with all white men on March 15, 2022. Better, but we're still not there.

On June 10, 2021, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which had passed the House of Representatives and

amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 by providing more effective remedies to victims of wage discrimination based on sex, was filibustered in the Senate on a 49-50 vote. Now is the time to let your elected officials know how you feel about this failure to codify pay equity.

AAUW Branches throughout the country have marked this day with activities that highlight the wage gap. Here are some suggestions for things your branch can do.

- Write your representatives in Congress to encourage them to support the Paycheck Fairness Act.
- Encourage your local city council or county board of supervisors to issue a proclamation in support of pay equity.
- Wear Red to symbolize that women's pay is "in the red" when compared to men.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local paper or offer to submit an op-ed.
- Share a timely post on social media to spread awareness.
- Hold an event on your local campus and offer cookies to women that are proportionately smaller than the ones you offer to men. Also invite participants to become student affiliate members of AAUW.
- Invite community members to an "unhappy hour."

Whatever you decide to do, start planning now. We can't wait for equal pay! You can get more information and samples of letters from the [National Committee on Pay Equity](https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/pay-gap-faqs/). You can find more on AAUW's website <https://www.aauw.org/resources/article/pay-gap-faqs/>.

## March is Women's History Month

The National Women's History Alliance designates a yearly theme for Women's History Month. The 2022 theme is *Women Providing Healing, Promoting Hope*. This theme is *both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and front-line workers during this ongoing pandemic and also a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history*. The members of AAUW celebrate women's accomplishments every day for which we should be very proud.

March 2022 Interest Sections  
Mary Ann McKay

**Boggle (All Members Welcome)**

Judy Steele

Date TBD, 1:30 pm

Host: Judy Steele

**Book Discussion I**

Elissa James

Thurs, Mar 17, at 10:00 am

Host: Anne Horgan

*The Lying Life of Adults*, Elena Ferante

**Book Discussion II (wait list)**

Karlyn Schneider

Thurs, Mar 24, at 12:30 pm

The meeting will be by Zoom.

*The Soul of an Octopus*, Sy Montgomery

**Book Discussion III (wait list)**

Mary Ann McKay

Pat Fuetsch

Thurs, Mar 17, at 1:30 pm

TBD whether it will be in person or on Zoom.

*The Girl You Left Behind*, JoJo Moyes

**Bridge**

Elissa James

Mon, Mar 21, 1:00 pm

Contact Elissa James for more information.

**California Fact & Legend**

Bobbi Benson

Tues, Mar 1, 10:10 am

The meeting will be by Zoom.

“Inez Burns, Abortionist” presentation by

Erika Abbott & Stephanie Katz

**Drama Reading**

Marjorie Kobe, 650-579-5650

maggieshaw@dkobe.com

Wed, Mar 9, 9:30 am

The meeting will be by Zoom.

**Ethnic Lunch**

Annette Delaney

No Meeting in March

**Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions**

Margo King

Thurs, Mar 10, at 10:00 am

TBD whether it will be in person or on Zoom.

*The Renewed Climate Change Agenda*

**Mah Jongg**

Helen Hatchett

Wed, Mar 9, at 1:00 pm

Tues, Mar 22, at 1:00 pm

Host: Helen Hatchett

**Membership: New and Prospective**

Maureen Buchner

Mary Ann McKay

**Movie Group-Discount Tuesdays**

Mary Ann McKay

Tues, Mar 15

Contact Mary Ann for more information

**Mystery Book Group**

Mikki Coffino

Fri, Mar 11, at 1:30 pm

The meeting will be by Zoom.

*The Perfect Girl*, Gilly MacMillan

**Public Policy/Current Events**

Betty Bernstein

Diane Silven

Tue, Mar 8, at 10:30 am

The meeting will be by Zoom

*Video on the impact of Title IX*

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

Bobbi Benson

Mon, Mar 14, 10:00 am

Mon, Mar 28, 10:00 am

Contact Bobbi for location of walks.

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.

**March 2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 CA Fact & Legend	2	3 AAUW Board Meeting	4	5
6	7	8 Public Policy	9 Drama Reading Mah Jongg	10 Foreign Affairs	11 Mystery Book	12
13	14 Walking	15 <i>Equal Pay Day</i> Movie Group	16 General Meeting <i>Art of Korea</i>	17 Book I Book III	18	19
20	21 Bridge	22 Mah Jongg	23	24 Book II	25	26
27	28 Walking	29	30	31		