

# BAY LEAVES

AAUW/San Mateo

http://sanmateo-ca.aauw.net

November 2022, Vol 93, Issue 3

# **Co-President's Message**Maureen and Stephen Buchner

November is the month we dedicate to gratitude for all our many blessings. Our ancestors celebrated their harvest with a lovely shared meal.

In this time of war and huge numbers of people displaced, we recently heard examples of local caring initiatives that combat our sense of futility. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is working all over the world to feed and rescue those displaced. Locally, Notre Dame de Namur University participates in the IRC through Every Campus a Refuge (ECAR). Surprisingly, NDNU is the only west coast site.

It is a hub for temporary life in an apartment while work permits are acquired and family can resume a bit of normalcy. They might stay 30 to 60 days before finding permanent housing.

Whether you laud the IRC's work, or choose to support local charities, this is often the time of year that we turn our thoughts to how lucky we really are. Happy Thanksgiving!

#### **AAUW Fellowships**

AAUW has a proud heritage of helping women pursue higher education, tracing back to a time when few women had that opportunity. It started after the U.S. Civil War. With more women looking to go to university, AAUW founder Marion Talbot gave the call to support a fund for women's graduate education. She and Fellowships chair Christine Ladd Franklin asked all members to contribute \$1 per year. The idea of a fellowship program for women took off like wildfire.

By the late 1890s, it wasn't unusual to see women on college campuses, and many women's colleges were also being formed. However, very few women went on to become professors, administrators, deans or college presidents. AAUW's focus on graduate funding was designed to push more women to take on those roles and other important leadership positions.

Years ago, our branch raised funds to support 2 fellowships. On November 12, we can Zoom to hear the progress of an amazing woman in California

higher education who received one of AAUW's Fellowships. How fabulous that we can follow her progress. See the article on AAUW Funds to register for this event. If you, or anyone you know, would like to apply for an AAUW fellowship or grant, you can apply on the AAUW website:

https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants. The application process opens in November.

# San Mateo Branch 2022 Calendar

Nov 12

Homelessness in San Mateo County Teri Chin will address the issue of homelessness in San Mateo County. Redwood Shores Public Library, 2:00 pm

## **Public Policy**

The Public Policy group welcomes Representative Jackie Speier. The meeting will be on Nov. 8 at 10:30 am at the San Mateo Senior Center, 2645 Alameda De Las Pulgas, San Mateo. Please join us to speak with our Representative on election day-after you have voted!

#### AAUW Fund-Hear Them Roar!

Karen Vanderwerken, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, <u>aauwfund@aauw-ca.org</u>

The AAUW Fund Events are where branch members can see the benefits of supporting the AAUW mission. It's the time to see and hear our California fellows and grantees discuss their projects.

The AAUW Fund Events are ongoing and the last one is November 12th from 10:00 to 12:00 pm. This event requires registration on the California AAUW website, <a href="https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-2022-fund-events/">www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-2022-fund-events/</a>. If you are having trouble finding this webpage, send a message to our branch email: <a href="mailto:sanmateoaauw@gmail.com">sanmateoaauw@gmail.com</a>.

#### Membership

We have included the AAUW membership application with this edition so you will be able to give it to anyone who would like to join our Branch. Please contact Mary Ann McKay, when it's completed. Thank you for letting your friends know about our great organization!

### Homelessness in San Mateo County:

How Redwood City is Working to Meet this Crisis

Our November 2022 general meeting, co-sponsored by the Mid-Peninsula Branch, will address homelessness in San Mateo County. Our speaker will be Teri Chin, Human Services Manager, Redwood City. The meeting is on Saturday, November 12, at the Redwood Shores Library, Community Room, at 2:00 pm, 399 Marine Parkway, Redwood City. The public is welcome.

According to a county-wide count in February 2022, homelessness rose by 21% in San Mateo County. While the pandemic has contributed to this situation, the county continues to work on implementing solutions to provide shelter and work for those who are homeless.

Teri Chin has been the Human Services Manager for Redwood City for over 20 years. Fluent in English and Spanish, Teri utilizes her multi-cultural experience to develop partnerships to address critical community concerns. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley.

Learn more about this crisis and how cities are working to create sustainable solutions to reach "functional zero" homelessness.

# Legislative Success in 2022!

The AAUW CA Public Policy Committee announced that we achieved a 70% success rate on the bills on our legislative agenda. Below is a brief synopsis:

#### **Economic Security for All Women**

Eight of our bills were signed by the Governor. The most significant bill was AB (Assembly Bill) 92, which we co-sponsored. This bill originally sought a one-year waiver of supplemental child-care fees for low-income families, with a request for a sliding scale thereafter. The Governor's 2021 budget included \$120 million for two-years' worth of waivers so he vetoed the bill; however, we are still proud of the work we did to get those two years of waivers in the budget, so we still consider it a win!

#### **Equal Access to Quality Public Education**

Six of these bills were signed by the Governor including three of our top priority bills: AB 1968, requires campuses to develop and post uniform guidelines for reporting sexual assault; AB 2881 provides additional support for college students with dependent children; and AJR 23, a Title IX 50th Anniversary Proclamation.

#### Social and Racial Justice for All

8 of these bills were signed by the Governor including all 4 of our top priority bills: AB 1666 provides protection for those from other states seeking abortions in California, including their providers, from prosecution by their home state; SB 523 requires

insurance coverage for over-the-counter contraceptive products; SB 1375 allows certified nurse-practitioners to perform some early-term abortions; and SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) 10, a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to protect the right to an abortion and to contraception. This measure became Proposition 1 on the November ballot.

# Scholarship

Jane Bradley

For over twenty-five years our Branch has awarded scholarships to San Mateo Community College students due to the bequest of member Ethel Gayman. The scholarship committee reviewed between 75 to 100 applications each spring. This year, we asked the Financial Aid Officers of each college to help us with the reading of these applications. Then each member of the committee reads the twelve final applications, four from each college. The committee chose eight candidates to interview, then narrowed the field to the five scholarship recipients. We awarded five \$5000.00 scholarships to the students portrayed below.

Most of the scholarships were awarded to Skyline college students. Skyline psychology major, Justyna Olczyk, immigrated by herself from Poland as a young adult nine years ago. She was admitted to UCLA and Berkeley. Theresa Calingasan completed Skyline College's difficult prenursing program on the Dean's list while holding down two jobs. She has been accepted to USF's nursing program. Skyline graduate Anny Gabrielly's goal is to obtain a cognitive science degree and become a senior UX researcher. She will attend UC Berkeley in the fall.

CSM recipient, Leila Tamale, will attend Stanford University in the fall. Leila's goal is to pursue a doctorate degree in service to her Pasifika community. She worked part time for the San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce while graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. The final recipient, Thien Kim Le, graduated from the Honors Transfer program at Cañada college as a Physics major and is enrolled at UC Berkeley for the fall. Thien Kim hopes to have a career in the space industry after college.

It was an honor to meet the eight students interviewed over Zoom. They were grateful to be selected as finalists and for the thoughtful questions by our scholarship committee members. Thank you to committee members Kathleen Wiblin, Gerhild Klein, Judy Winkelstein and Pat Fuetsch.

The scholarship committee will review applications and interview candidates from late March to about the third week of April next year. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact Branch Co-Presidents Maureen and Stephen Buchner.

# November 2022 Interest Sections Mary Ann McKay

Boggle (All Members Welcome)

Judy Steele

Wed. Nov 16, at 1:30 pm

Host: Judy Steele

Book Discussion I Elissa James

Thurs. Nov 17, at 10:00 am
The Meeting will be by Zoom
The Overstory, Richard Powers

Book Discussion II (wait list)

Karlyn Schneider

No Meeting in November

Book Discussion III (wait list)

Mary Ann McKay Pat Fuetsch

Thurs, Nov 17, at 1:30 pm

Host: Ginny Brooks

Lincoln Highway, Amor Towles

Bridge

Elissa James

Mon, Nov 21, at 1:00 pm

Host: Marge Denni

California Fact & Legend

Helen Hatchett

Tues, Nov 1, at 10:30 am

Host: Gayle Hardt

Testimonios: Early California through the Eyes of

Women, 1815-1848

Drama Reading Marjorie Kobe

Wed, Nov 9, at 9:00 am (Time Change)

The Regent, 1 Baldwin Ave. San Mateo

Foreign Affairs - Great Decisions

Margo King

Thurs, Nov 10, at 10:30 am

Host: Norma Tarrow

Biden Foreign Policy in an Age of Strategic

Competition

Lunch Bunch! Annette Delaney Fri. Nov 18 at 11:30 am

Pacific Catch, 243 S B St. San Mateo

Mah Jongg Helen Hatchett

Wed, Nov 9, at 1:30 pm Tues, Nov 22, at 1:30 pm Host: Helen Hatchett

Membership: New and Prospective

Mary Ann McKay

Movie Group Mary Ann McKay

Tues, Nov 15, time TBD

Watch for email from Mary Ann for information about

November movie.

Mystery Book Group

Mikki Coffino

Fri, Nov 4, at 1:30 pm (Date Change)

Host: Barb Schotzko

Where Memories Lie, Deborah Crombie

Public Policy/Current Events

Nancy Hobbs Diane Silven

Tues, Nov 8, at 10:30 am

Rep. Jackie Speier, San Mateo Senior Center, 2645 Alameda De Las Pulgas, San Mateo

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

Bobbi Benson

Mon, Nov 14,10:00 am Mon, Nov 28, 10:00 am

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 2022

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