



AAUW TORRANCE TELEGRAM

MARCH 2019

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AAUW Torrance Branch Presents

Kitty Felde, KPCC Journalist and Writer *Welcome to Washington, Fina Mendoza*

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Kitty Felde's first novel, "Welcome to Washington, Fina Mendoza," will be published on February 28 by Black Rose Writing. Kitty hosts the award-winning Book Club for Kids podcast – named one of the top 10 kid casts in the world by "The Times of London." She also writes plays that are performed worldwide. She fell in love with literature for young readers when she was a young reader, working at her local public library. Kitty looked for the Demon Cat while covering Congress for KPCC, Southern California Public Radio. She found the paw prints, but not the cat.

Saturday March 2, 2019

Torrance Airport Meeting Room
3301 Airport Drive, Torrance, CA 90505

9:30am – Networking and Light Refreshments
10:00am – Welcome and Introduction
10:15am – Guest Speaker
11:30am – Questions and Answers
12:00pm – Adjourn

RSVP: aauwtorrance@gmail.com

Guests are welcome to attend

March Message From President

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Dear Torrance Members,

March is always a celebratory month for women - Women's History Month and International Women's Day.

The topic for International Women's Day 2019 is "THINK EQUAL, BUILD SMART, INNOVATE FOR CHANGE." Find more information at www.unwomen.org.

The Torrance Branch will present Kitty Felde, award-winning KPCC journalist and writer on **March 2** to celebrate this notable month for women.

Every month we highlight a special area to on which to focus and learn more through the experiences of others. This past month on February 9, 2019, the AAUW Torrance monthly meeting highlighted the popular topic of Social Media. Students from local area schools participated in an excellent interactive presentation.

The Spring 2019 Start Smart workshop will be conducted on March 5 and March 7 by Michele Freck, Elle Oliver, Nancy Kenney and Karen Peters at CSUDH. Our members are doing remarkable work to spearhead this project and more volunteers are welcome.

The Torrance Branch will host a fundraising event on **May 4** at **Chado Tea House**. Please mark your calendar to attend the event.

The following link has the detailed information:

<https://torrance-ca.aauw.net/>

Thank you all for donating your volunteer hours to fulfill AAUW missions.

Regards,
Indrani

Social Media Discussion

The February 9 program showcased a Social Media discussion.

The students from the local area schools and colleges did an outstanding interactive presentation.

The Presenters are:

Victoria Lowe – RH Dana Middle School

Riyana Roy – Bert Lynn Middle School

Rohan Ghosh Choudhuri –
Mira Costa High

Christian Huang – Mira Costa High

Andrew Yang – Mira Costa High

Claudia Reyes- CSUDH

Tania Ramirez – CSUDH



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	Margot Sullivan
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AAUW Torrance Monthly Meeting Calendar

April, 2019

TBD

May 4, 2019

Afternoon Tea Fundraiser at Chado Tea Room

June 8, 2019

Year-End Meeting / New Board Installation at DoubleTree Hotel in Torrance

Torrance Branch and Start Smart Workshop

On August 2017, AAUW National and Mr. Michael Grimshaw, Executive Director of the Entrepreneurial Institute (EI), California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) signed a three year (October 2017- October 2020) licensing contract to promote Start Smart Salary Negotiation workshops on the campus. AAUW Torrance Branch funded the licensing fee and has been actively involved with the execution of workshops.

On October 26, 2017, Torrance Branch launched the Start Smart workshop in collaboration with EI. Branch members Michele Freck and Elle Oliver facilitated the first AAUW Torrance Branch Start Smart workshop with the students of Michael Grimshaw's business classes. The other attending AAUW members were Nancy Kenney and Elaine Bohrer with Indrani Chatterjee as an observer.

On October 11, 2018, Michele and Elle facilitated the second Start Smart workshop at the Entrepreneurial Institute, CSUDH. Using the program and materials provided by AAUW National, Michele introduced issues surrounding the gender pay gap and how to prepare for salary negotiations by knowing one's value, target salary and resistance point. Elle guided the students through strategies to control the salary discussion and she provided tips to effectively counter an offer and improve the salary package. The other attending branch members were Nancy Kenney, Karen Peters, Gloria Liu, Keri Gilbert and Kabita Kumar.

The Spring 2019 Start Smart workshop will be conducted on March 5 and March 7 at CSUDH.



Upcoming Workshops

Cal State University Dominguez Hills:

March 5 and March 7 5:30 – 6:45pm

March 7 7:00 – 9:00pm

Join us to observe or volunteer!

AAUW Start Smart is specifically designed to teach university students how to negotiate salaries for a new job. In every two-hour workshop you will gain confidence in your negotiation style through facilitated discussion and role-play to learn

- How to identify and articulate your personal value
- How to develop an arsenal of persuasive responses and other strategies to use when negotiating
- How to conduct objective market research to benchmark a target salary and benefits
- About the gender pay gap, including its long-term consequences

Why is negotiation so important? AAUW's research on the gender pay gap shows that one year out of college, women are already paid significantly less than men. In 2009, women one year out of college who were working full time were paid, on average, just 82 percent of what their male peers were paid. And those lost potential earnings add up over a lifetime.

Women who negotiate upfront increase their potential to earn higher salaries and better benefit packages during their entire careers.

Contact Nancy Kenney at nancykenney365@msn.com for more information.

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AAUW Fund- Gloria Liu

AAUW Membership – Cami Hamilton

AAUW Fund Update

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Pre-Mother's Day Tea – Send in your checks now!

Join us to have a spectacular time at our Pre-Mother's Day Tea on Saturday May 4, 2019 at Chado Tea Room in downtown Torrance. We need to sell 100 tickets to have the tea room to ourselves and to raise enough funds for the AAUW Security Economic Fund and Tech Trek scholarships. Guests are welcome! See the flyer on our AAUW Torrance website.

Mail your reservation check now! Checks must be received by Alice Matthews before a seat or table can be saved for you.

Donate Silent Auction Items

Make the tea a fabulous event by gathering silent auction donations. Do you have a favorite theater, restaurant, florist, boutique or wine merchant? Ask if they might donate a dinner for two, tickets (museum, theater, sporting event, more!), merchandise, artwork or lessons, etc. These are just a few suggestions. If you have a time share or other suitable items, please donate them. Gift baskets of wines, cheeses, books, you name it, are also welcome – use your imagination! Or if you KonMari your house and find suitable new items you forgot you had, donate them!

Take copies of the donation letter and flyer with you at all times so you have them ready to ask merchants to donate.

Contact Athena Paquette Cormier if you have donations.

AAUW Fund Update (Cont.)

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Special items

- Donate gift cards for a gift card basket. If you have a gift card to contribute (you must have some you won't use!), contact Kabita Kumar on her cell (texting works well) to contribute. The basket will be part of the silent auction.
- We are asking each interest group to donate a gift basket to the silent auction. Make your group's basket the one which raises the most money!

Thanks to the Tea committee:

Gloria Liu - Chair
Judith Hill
Suzanne Siney
Alice Matthews
Kabita Kumar
Athena Paquette Cormier
Cami Hamilton
Nancy Kenney

Membership Update

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Membership continues to grow!

Update: The Shape the Future campaign (2018-2019) has allowed three new members to join the Torrance branch with half-off national dues. Beginning 2019, AAUW National discontinued half-year dues; new members joining from January 1 to March 15 will renew June 30, 2019. While the branch membership renewal paperwork will begin in March, new members joining in March will not need to renew until June 2020. We welcome dual branch members, new members and members at large to join Torrance in March and skip a June 2019 renewal! Please look for the renewal announcement in March and send your membership paperwork in promptly.

Congratulations to **Susan Negrete**, featured in *CA Perspective* Winter 2019 issue as Member Profile “A Decade of Leadership.” A leader with multi-generational interests at heart, Susan is a vital contributor to Women In Transition (WIT) and is a dorm mom at Tech Trek camp, chair of Los Angeles County Interbranch Council (LACIC) and vocal advocate for Younger Women’s Task Force (YWTF). Thank You Susan for Talking Up Torrance and AAUW in all you do!

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EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (EPC)

Peggy Monga- EPC

Margot Sullivan- EPC

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

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PLEASE NOTE change of meeting date: OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 12 at 6:30 pm at the home of Kabita Kumar.

It is important that all those who will be reading the Tech Trek Nominee applications attend this meeting on March 12 to pick up the reader materials and to get the information about the evaluation procedure and forms. If you are not able to attend, please make other arrangements with Peggy Monga.

If you are interested in being a Reader in the selection process to select our 36 campers for Tech Trek Camps, please contact Peggy Monga. We need your help! It is very rewarding and something you can do from the comfort of your own home. Reading takes place from March 12 to March 22.

Readers work in teams of three with the school buddy as captain. All results are sent by the school buddies to Alice Hill, our Tech Trek Camp Coordinator, by Friday, March 22.

We are most grateful to all of our donors, including individuals, corporations and foundations for sponsoring campers this summer. Because of their generosity this year we are able to send campers to Tech Trek camps at UC Santa Barbara, UC San Diego, UC Irvine and Whittier College. More details on our donors will follow next month.

UC Irvine Tech Trek Camp is asking for newspapers for their experiments in engineering, so please save your papers. We will update you with details. UC Irvine Tech Trek Camp is also looking for a teacher of biology or engineering/chemistry who would like to donate a week at Tech Trek Camp July 7 to July 13. Contact Director Amanda Nguyen amandan24@yahoo.com

See you on March 12 at Kabita's. Thank you all for your interest and your help.

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Torrance Branch Interest Groups

Diversity Book Group

Evening Literature Group

Film Group

Women in Transition

AAUW Torrance Telegram

Diversity Book Group:

Date: March 15, 2019

Place: The home of Ann DuPuy

Time: 6:30 PM

The book: TransAtlantic by Colum McCann

In 1919, British aviators Alcock and Brown made the first nonstop transatlantic flight, from Newfoundland to Ireland. McCann imagines a letter handed to Brown by a young photographer, written by her mother, Emily, a local reporter covering the flight, to be delivered upon their landing to a family in Cork. Years earlier, while on a speaking tour in Ireland with the mission to raise money for the abolitionist movement, Frederick Douglass forms a bond with young Isabel, the daughter of his host family in Cork. Lily, a young seryant emboldened by Douglass' visit, sets out for America in the hope of a better life. About a century and a half later, former Senate majority leader George Mitchell is coaxed out of retirement to broker talks between the various factions with the intention of getting a peace agreement by Good Friday. At the tennis club, he meets a woman in her nineties who, years earlier, had lost her grandson to the Troubles. It is Lily and her offspring's stories set across different times and in many different places that ultimately tie everything together, as McCann creates complex, vivid characters (historical and otherwise) while expertly mixing fact and fancy to create this emotionally involving and eminently memorable novel.

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Evening Literary Group

Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: The home of Gerry Suzuki

The Book:

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman

A charming novel from the author of A Man Called Ove. Elsa is seven years old and different. Her grandmother is seventy-seven years old and crazy. When Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged, Elsa's greatest adventure begins. A story about life and death and the right to be different.

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Film Group:

Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 4 pm

At the home of Margot Sullivan

RSVP to Margot

Join us on **our new day, Tuesday, and new TIME, 4 pm**, for light refreshments and conversation. Everybody's a critic!

LION (2016)(2017)(Rated PG-13 for thematic material and some sensuality) Saroo, is a five-year-old Indian boy who gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of kilometers from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia. Twenty-five years later, he sets out to find his lost family. Nominated for five Oscars. Starring Nicole Kidman, Dev Patel (of *Slumdog Millionaire*) and Sunny Pawar, who plays the young Saroo, an "untrained newcomer equal parts waif and rascal with an expressive face that perfectly reflects his state of mind." 3 ½ stars-Ebert.com. Available at Torrance and Redondo Libraries and Netflix DVD.

THE BIG CITY(1963)(1967)(2013)(Not Rated) Set in mid-1950s Calcutta and directed by **Satyajit Ray**, this story follows the personal triumphs and frustrations of Arati, who decides, despite the initial protests of her bank clerk husband, to take a job to help support their family. With remarkable sensitivity and attention to the details of everyday working-class life, Ray gradually builds a powerful human drama that is at once a hopeful morality tale and a commentary on the identity of the contemporary Indian woman.

"The remarkable thing that Ray accomplishes is to make us really deeply care about the fortunes of this simple family." 4 Stars - Ebert. Available at Torrance and Netflix DVD.

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Women In Transition (WIT) Meeting

Join to celebrate WIT's 9th anniversary!

TOPIC: Why and How I Give Back

DATE: Wednesday, March 6, 2019

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

PLACE: Private Residence. Please See directory for address

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Monday, March 4, 2019 to Susan Negrete.

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AAUW News- National, State & LACIC

AAUW National

AAUW CA State

LACIC

AAUW National New Strategic Plan Statement

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>



A Big Day for Fair Pay

On January 30, the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate introduced the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#) (PFA) with support from every Democrat in Congress and bipartisan backing in the House. “The PFA is essential to eradicating practices that have perpetuated the pay gap for far too long,” says AAUW CEO Kim Churches.

The team at AAUW was instrumental in prioritizing the bill by sending letters to Congress and engaging grassroots advocates, garnering 260 organizations in support. They also presented on the PFA to new members of Congress and spoke at the press conference introducing the bill.

The PFA would update the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and complement the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which ensures pay discrimination can be challenged regardless of when it began. We were thrilled to bring Ledbetter to Washington, D.C. where she met with more than a dozen members of Congress. The PFA is now designated as H.R. 7, signaling it is a top ten priority of the House.

Jottings with Jane...

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Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California, statepresident@aauw-ca.org

STEM or STEAM?

In our recent meeting, the state board discussed changing the emphasis of STEM to STEAM in AAUW California. We still acknowledge that STEM is important for women to narrow the pay gap that exists between men and women. But how will the Arts and Humanities help women in their STEM careers?

I asked Director Ainsley Nies, a software engineer and tech team manager, to give us a quote about the value of the Arts. She said, "Educational and career outcomes are more successful when both sides of our brain interact. Learning science along with the Arts (music, design-thinking, theater, etc.) enable connections and the cross-pollination of ideas, creativity and innovation."

In our third quarter phone calls to branch leaders, the state board will be asking you what you think of changing STEM to STEAM. Perhaps you could discuss this idea with your branch boards and let us know when we call. We are always eager to hear from our branches.

BREAKING NEWS!

Julia Brown, the chair of the AAUW National Board of Directors, will be speaking at the **AAUW California Annual Meeting on April 6th**. Julia is a member of the Las Cruces (NM) and Oakland-Piedmont (CA) Branches of AAUW. She will bring us a message from AAUW National.

This serves as a reminder to sign up for the AAUW California Annual Meeting which will be held at the Handlery Hotel in San Diego. It will be a day packed with leadership and membership panels, the Speech Trek contest, the annual business meeting, branch recognition and Julia's speech.

GOVERNANCE

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Sue Cochran, Governance Committee Chair, governance@aauw-ca.org

YOUR BYLAWS MAY NOT BE CORRECT!

One officer = ONE VOTE and CO-officers = TWO VOTES

Many branches are organizing themselves with new and creative methods, such as sharing leadership positions, to continue their responsibilities. This is great and gives them many opportunities. However, it has been brought to the attention of state and National governance that branches might have bylaws or policies that require two elected officers who share a position to also share a vote. This is not compliant with California law. Each officer is entitled to a single, independent vote, even if they are sharing a position. It does not matter whether a branch is incorporated or not with regard to this situation.

A good example is within AAUW California where we have co-presidents. Each of the co-presidents was elected as one of the 12 directors of the state board. Each of the 12 positions is entitled to a vote and therefore each of the co-presidents has a vote on the board of directors.

If your branch bylaws or policies state that co-officers share a vote, the branch needs to revise its bylaws to provide for one person/one vote for all board positions. This is easy to do. **The change can be made without a branch vote.** It is simply a matter of re-wording any section that refers to a shared vote to clearly state that each person in a co-position has a vote.

If you have questions, please direct them to governcomm@aauw-ca.org.

NEXT LACIC MEETING

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

PRESBYTERIAN INTERCOMMUNITY HOSPITAL
12401 Washington Blvd., Whittier, CA

Panel Discussion: Bridging the Generation Gap

JOIN US!

Please encourage all branch members to attend.

Looking for ideas to bridge the gap and meet the needs of all ages in your branch? LACIC branch members representing Traditionalist, Baby Boomers, Millennials, Generation X and Generation Z will participate in a lively discussion highlighting the traits of their generation. They will discuss what we can learn from each and how we can work together to forward AAUW's mission.

Hope to see you at this fun interactive meeting on Sunday, March 10. Please invite your friends and neighbors.

Please contact Susan Negrete with questions.