



# Torrance Telegram

OCTOBER 2019

PO Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505 | <http://torrance-ca.aauw.net> | [aauwtorrance@gmail.com](mailto:aauwtorrance@gmail.com)

## Welcoming New Members to the Torrance Branch

Eleanore Feldman

### Torrance Branch Leadership

Keri Gilbert, President  
Alice Matthews, Finance Officer  
Nancy Kenney, Secretary  
Gloria Liu, AAUW Fund VP

### Committee Leadership

Peggy Monga, EPC  
Cami Hamilton, Telegram Editor  
Michele Croci, Public Policy  
Kay Odgers, Member Profiles  
Janet Flynn, Telegram Mailing  
Ann DuPuy, Webmaster  
Keri Gilbert, Digital Communications

### Volunteer Leaders Needed

Membership VP  
Program VP  
Branch Tech Trek Coordinator

## President's Message from Keri Gilbert

### Happy October, Torrance Branch!

I would like to encourage all members to attend the **October 15 program** to support our Tech Trek campers, their sponsors and the EPC members who worked so hard to get the girls to camp and prepare them for camp and the event. Invite your friends so they can see how impressive the girls are and how important the program is.

The next Start Smart workshop will be in early November and the team needs your participation. Will you spend a couple of hours helping our Start Smart experts teach some college students how to increase their earning potential? Please reach out to Elle Oliver and Michele Freck (or our branch e-mail) and we will make it happen!

I would like to thank the members who came to the September brunch – we had a great time catching up after the summer.

It's not too late to sign up for the AAUW Fund Luncheon on October 27. Please let me know if you plan to attend. The branch will reimburse you for a portion of the fee.

We are looking for a hostess for our holiday party in December. If you would like to open up your home, please let me know.

**Two Start Smart Workshops  
CSU Dominguez Hills  
Tuesday, November 5  
@5:30-6:30 pm and @7:00-9:00 pm**

## Public Policy

by Michele Croci

What is AAUW Public Policy All About?

Since AAUW's founding in 1881, our advocates have taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day – educational, social, economic and political. Our positions emanate from our Mission, Vision and Values:

**Mission:** To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

**Vision:** Equity for all

**Values:** Nonpartisan. Fact based. Integrity. Inclusion. Intersectionality.

Our positions are rooted in our member-approved Public Policy Priorities at both the national and state levels. The AAUW California Public Policy Priorities for 2019-2021 were approved by our members this spring and can be found on the website [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org). The AAUW CA Public Policy Committee meets early in each legislative session to review bills and determine those on which to take action. In Washington, AAUW staff and volunteer advocates communicate with both Congress and the administration. In California, we employ a part-time lobbyist to represent AAUW CA in the California Legislature.

Economic Security is a critical issue for women of all ages, a foundational aspect of everyday life, and

is particularly important to women's ability to support themselves and their families. Many continue to struggle with economic insecurity, wage discrimination, and employment benefits. Legislated solutions could benefit many women.

Real change in federal and state policy, however, will only come about when our elected officials hear from voters, like us! It is so important that branch members be up to date on AAUW positions on federal and state legislation consistent with AAUW's mission and contact elected officials to share our positions. And we must hold those we have elected accountable as they vote on issues affecting women and girls.

Become involved with your branch's Public Policy Committee. If your branch doesn't have one, start one! You can download and print a copy of the Public Policy Priorities from [aauw-ca/category/publicpolicy](http://aauw-ca/category/publicpolicy). Become an activist by signing up on

the national website [aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist](http://aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist). This will connect you with both state and national calls to action.

Start now! It's not too soon to begin educating yourself about the issues in the important 2020 elections!



## Before the Flood — Free Screening

The **League of Women Voters** presents a screening of the movie, "Before the Flood" in honor of Climate Strike Week. The film will screen on **Wednesday, September 25** at 7:30 pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) at the George Nakano Theatre in Torrance. Reserve your free ticket online. For more information contact LWV at 310-223-6897.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-action-week-movie-screening-before-the-flood-tickets-72738786669?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

### Educational Partnership Committee (EPC)

Please join us for our monthly EPC meeting on **Thursday, October 10 at 6:30 pm.**  
Location forthcoming. Your help is needed!

**Tuesday, October 15  
6:30 pm**

Hull Middle School Multi-Purpose Room  
2080 231st St., Torrance

## TECH TREK — IT'S HERE!

by Margot Sullivan

The Tech Trek Celebration is Tuesday, October 15 at Hull Middle School Multi-Purpose Room, 2080 231st St., Torrance. The program begins at 6:30 pm.

Campers arrive at 5:45pm for pre-presentation activities. We are grateful to Principal Patty Girgis for the use of Hull for our program. Our 36 campers will be sharing experiences from their week of camp.

AAUW members Ann DuPuy, Rachel Creasey, Gloria Liu and Margot Sullivan are assisting the girls to prepare for their presentations.

The campers' families, educators, sponsors, and AAUW members are all invited for a most enlightening evening. We are in need of cookies or brownies for this very well attended event.

If you would like to donate 2-3 dozen cookies, brownies or bars, please let Peggy Monga know [filmgroup@earthlink.net](mailto:filmgroup@earthlink.net).

Please deliver the refreshments to Hull Multi-Purpose Room by 5:30 pm on **October 15** or ask someone who is going to deliver them for you. We thank you in advance!

See you at the EPC meeting on October 10, and the Celebration on October 15. You won't want to miss it!!

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### AAUW Fund Luncheon October 27

**RSVP deadline October 11**

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/fall-fund-luncheons/>

**Sunday, October 27  
12:00-3:00 pm**

Old Ranch Country Club  
3901 Lampson Ave., Seal Beach 90740

*Fantastic Speakers and Delicious Lunch!*

Please join us to hear and learn from talented and dedicated young women who received funds from AAUW Fund. It will be an afternoon that makes you proud to be an AAUW member!

For the 2019-20 academic year, AAUW has awarded \$4 million in fellowships and grants to 259 women and community projects. Thirty Fellows and Grant recipients will be studying in California in 2019-20 and several will be guest speakers at the three AAUW Fund Luncheons (in Northern and Southern California). Six to eight recipients will give a brief overview of their studies or projects and highlight what AAUW's support has meant to them.

Registration fee including lunch is \$45. A partial reimbursement may be available. If you would like to attend, please contact Gloria Liu.

**Film Group**

**Thursday, October 24 at 7:00 pm  
at the home of Ann Dupuy**

EASY RIDER (1969)(2010)(Rated R)

Starring Dennis Hopper and Peter Fonda, with Jack Nicholson. As Billy and “Captain America,” Hopper and Fonda motored down the highway on their Harley Davidsons to the roaring strains of Steppenwolf’s “Born to Be Wild”, and the definitive counterculture blockbuster was born. “[Hopper] ... divests a motorcycle movie of its weak point (the story) and develops its strong point (the role of the self-proclaimed rebel in a conformist society). It’s not just bike freaks who get in trouble when they challenge the establishment -- it’s everybody, even Old George.”—Ebert ☆☆☆☆

**Available at Redondo Library and Torrance Libraries and DVD Netflix.**

**Friday, October 18  
6:30 pm**

**Diversity Book Group**

**Friday, October 18 at 6:30 pm  
at the home of Janice Pomerantz**

**In the Time of the Butterflies** by Julia Alvarez

Set during the waning days of the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic in 1960, this extraordinary novel tells the story of the Mirabal sisters, three young wives and mothers who are assassinated after visiting their jailed husbands.

**Thursday, October 24  
7:30 pm**

ULEE’S GOLD (1997)(1999) (Rated R)

Starring Oscar Nominated Peter Fonda, and Patricia Richardson. Beekeeper Ulee Jackson may have gotten out of Vietnam alive, but he left a part of himself behind. When his family and honey are threatened he must break through his emotional walls, find the strength to change, and begin life anew. “[Fonda] now, at 57, has found the role of a lifetime.”—Ebert ☆☆☆ ½

**Available at Redondo Library and Torrance Libraries. NOT at DVD Netflix.**

**Tuesday, October 22  
7:30 pm**

**Evening Literature Group**

**Tuesday, October 22 at 7:30 pm  
at the home of Dana Basiulis**

**The Island of Sea Women** by Lisa See

This beautiful, thoughtful novel illuminates a world turned upside-down, one where the women are in charge, engaging in dangerous physical work, and the men take care of the children. A classic Lisa See story - one of women’s friendships and the larger forces that shape them - The Island of Sea Women introduces readers to the fierce and unforgettable female divers of Jeju Island and the dramatic history that shaped their lives.

**Tech Trek Alumni Group (TTAG) Tours STEM Facilities**

From: *AAUW California Perspective*

Featured in the recent Fall 2019 issue (pg 8), an article by Tech Trek Alumna and TTAG Co-President Charlotte Maguy’s shared highlights of an exciting summer for TTAG members. In August, TTAG members toured Millennium Space Systems in El Segundo. They also visited UCLA where they took a campus walking tour. Later in the summer, they had a VIP tour of Aerojet Rocketdyne’s L.A. Facility. After a Reunion Picnic in the park, all headed back to their lives as students, thinking about their future college lives and careers.

## AAUW Delivers on Negotiation-Training Goal

From *Mission & Action*, AAUW Newsletter:

You Did It! With a lot of help from our members, AAUW hit a major milestone in our partnership with the Coca-Cola Foundation to teach women everywhere to negotiate effectively. As of August 23, we've trained 102,656 women to ask for the salary they deserve, either through Work Smart Online or in-person workshops.

We knew our goal of reaching 100,000 women through Work Smart in less than a year would be ambitious. But we also knew our members would deliver — and you did (and then some). To further expand the program, we're entering into strategic partnerships with women.nyc, Starbucks Global Academy, the city of Wichita, and many others. Through your support, we've engaged 500 professional organizations and state and local commissions through our outreach. The first New-York-based workshop will take place next week.

A huge thank-you to all who helped us spread the word about Work Smart Online. For those who haven't, we still need you! Please continue to share Work Smart Online with your networks, including alumni groups and other online communities, and helping us promote women's economic security.

## AAUW in Local Indian News Publication

From *IndiaWest*:

"The American Association of University Women has awarded \$4 million in fellowships and grants to 259 women from around the world pursuing graduate degrees at universities in the U.S.

"Four fellowships and grants were awarded to Indian American women. Eight women from India and other countries in South Asia received international fellowships.

"In the 130 years that AAUW has been providing funding, our fellows and grantees have contributed so much to their schools, their communities and to society at large," said Kim Churches, chief executive officer of AAUW."

Read the article online:

[https://www.indiawest.com/news/global\\_indian/american-association-of-university-women-awards-million-in-grants-and/article\\_ef7e180c-c8f5-11e9-a7c7-cb5d40ca5e15.html](https://www.indiawest.com/news/global_indian/american-association-of-university-women-awards-million-in-grants-and/article_ef7e180c-c8f5-11e9-a7c7-cb5d40ca5e15.html)

## Gender equity is not negotiable — but salaries and benefits are.

Learn effective negotiation skills with **Work Smart Online**, a free online salary negotiation workshop from AAUW: <https://courses.aauw.org/learn/register!>

## Message from Beach Cities

It is with great sadness that I share with you, news about the tragic death of one of our TechTrek girls from 2017, Mayel Bustamante. She died in an auto accident last week [September 17, 2019]. Mayel attended Hawthorne Middle School and was interviewed by Terry Hays-Horner and Ginny Evens for the TechTrek selection process. Mayel also worked with Dayla Sims as a mentor in our KBUG program. She was attending CAMS high school.

Mayel's cousin was a Beach Cities Branch TechTrek

camper this summer. Her family has been in contact with our TechTrek leaders and our hearts go out to them. A GoFundMe page has been created, to raise funds for her family at this time of great sorrow: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/in-loving-memory-of-mayel-susset-bustamante>

Vickie McCorkendale,  
AAUW Beach Cities Branch President, Torrance  
branch member



AAUW offers membership to all graduates who hold an associates or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Student affiliate status in AAUW is available for anyone now studying for a degree at a qualified institution. Until graduating with that degree, a student affiliate may participate in all AAUW activities except for holding office or voting.

#### Membership

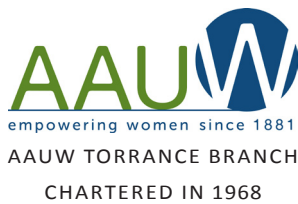
In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

#### Diversity Statement

The purpose of AAUW is to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

#### Mission Statement

PO Box 1392  
Torrance, CA 90505



**April 17-19, 2020**  
**AAUW CA Convention**  
Westin San Francisco  
Airport

## College students are welcome to join!

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**EPC Meeting**

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**Tech Trek Celebration**

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**Diversity Book Group**

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**Evening Literature Group**

**Thursday, October 24**  
**Film Group**

**Sunday, October 27**  
**AAUW Fund Luncheon**

**Tuesday, November 5**  
**Start Smart Workshops**

**December**  
**Holiday Party TBA**



*AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global  
Citizen Award winner*