



## 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

### Hello Torrance Branch!

I would like to thank everyone who attended the holiday party on December 15. We raised \$250 for AAUW Fund and our members donated lots of socks for Harbor UCLA patients and canned goods for the food pantry.

Our January meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 11** from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the Manhattan Beach Community Church Fireside Room (303 S Peck Avenue). This is a tri-branch meeting with the Beach Cities and Palos Verdes Peninsula branches and will feature a speaker from Heal the Bay who will talk about climate change and what we can do in the South Bay to help the environment. Please keep an eye out for an Evite invitation in the near future.

We need a nominating committee to help fill the leadership positions for the 2020 - 2021 year. Please let me know if you can help us out.

Have a fabulous holiday season and a very happy new year!

~ Keri Gilbert

**Please send Torrance Telegram articles by January 20 to [heycamster66@gmail.com](mailto:heycamster66@gmail.com)**

## Public Policy

submitted by Michele Croci

Public Policy Message from State  
by Sue Miller, Co-Chair AAUW-CA Public Policy  
Committee

### Get Ready for 2020!

2020 is nearly upon us, and it is going to be an eventful year... we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote, as well as the most important election in our lifetime where issues that matter the most to us are at risk. Primary elections are coming up March 3. Now is the time to begin planning at the branch level how to address these activities in our communities. Women who vote can influence the outcome of an election!

### What opportunities should be considered?

#### Voter Registration

AAUW CA is well positioned to undertake voter registration, especially with our college/university relationships. Millennial women are an important target group. Research shows that a lack of information on the candidates and a lack of policy debates on issues of importance is the main reason some millennial women don't participate in the election process, and may not even register to vote. Get involved by organizing a voter registration drive in your community



or on your local college campus. Don't forget: a successful voter registration drive must be a compliant one! Be sure to review the AAUW Guide to GOTV Dos and Don'ts on the national website.

#### Voter Education

AAUW aims to increase women's political influence and educate voters on issues that are important to women and girls. These targeted

efforts help increase the number of women voting. Consider sponsoring nonpartisan issue forums, perhaps collaborating with another organization such as the League of Women Voters. Perhaps you have a vacancy to be filled in the primary election, so consider a meet-the-candidate event or debate, and invite all candidates to give their positions on AAUW's key issues: Equal Pay for Equal Work/ Investing in Education/ Reducing Student Debt/ Strengthening Social Security/ Implementing Paid Leave. And certainly consider doing this before the November election.

This is just a start...but early planning will ensure greater success! **Don't hesitate to ask our AAUW CA Public Policy Team for assistance!**



### AAUW Fund Donation – Thank You!

by Gloria Liu

**Thank you!** The branch collected \$250 in checks for AAUW Fund from members at the Holiday Party, including two from people who were not there! Thank you to those who contributed! Others had previously mailed in their contributions, or donated online. Thank you all for your tax-deductible donations! There is still time to donate, particularly if you don't care about tax deductibility.

**Educational Partnership Committee (EPC)**

**Thursday, January 9 at 6:30 pm**

**Location TBA, Please RSVP to Kabita Kumar**

by Margot Sullivan



will notify buddies so they can make their school appointments early. School buddies also act as Reader Captains who collect and consolidate the rankings from each of the readers (usually 3 per school) into a final ranking. Can you be a reader this year? Reading will take place from March 10- March 20. Please contact Peggy Monga.

**Happy New Year!** Please join us as we prepare for the new year of Tech Trek.

The 15 middle schools from Torrance, Redondo Beach, and LAUSD have each nominated five seventh grade girls who they feel would be great candidates for Tech Trek Camp 2020. School buddies are needed now to visit the schools and interview the girls during their lunch time. The visits will take place between January 10 and January 23. Training is provided; you can also shadow another school buddy on her visit. Please consider this wonderful opportunity. Contact Peggy Monga ASAP if you have any questions or want to volunteer. – [filmgroup@earthlink.net](mailto:filmgroup@earthlink.net)  
School buddies pick up their instruction and information packets at the January 9 meeting. Peggy

A new Code of Conduct will be sent to us soon that each Tech Trek participant is required to read and sign. A work session to prepare the School Buddy packets will be held before the January 9 EPC meeting. Watch for an email from Peggy asking for helpers.

We received wonderful news that a distinguished anonymous organization is donating \$5,000 again this year to send campers to Tech Trek Camp. If you know of any company or person who would like to sponsor a camper please contact Michele Freck [micfreck@gmail.com](mailto:micfreck@gmail.com) (cost of a week of camp is \$1,000, but people can also provide portions of that cost).

**SCHOOL BUDDIES NEEDED now!**

**January 9**

EPC meeting — school buddies pick up their packets

**January 10-23**

School buddy visits to middle schools

**March 10**

Readers pick up their packets

**March 10-20**

Reading of applications to rank students

**March 20**

Final ranking of candidates due

**The Top Ten Ways AAUW Made the World Better for Women in 2019**

Message from Kimberly Churches, AAUW President

**What to look for from AAUW in 2020**

A series of special programs to engage members and advance AAUW’s priorities. In lieu of a national convention, the 2020 convening series will include webinars hosted by Kim Churches and featuring special guests throughout the year. We’re also launching a campaign designed to gather information from members about their experiences, which will go into AAUW’s archives; We’re calling it “Your Story. Our Legacy.” Additionally, we’ll commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act by launching a project called “Every Voice. Every Vote.” It will focus

on ensuring that every voice is heard and every vote is counted. In keeping with its mission to advance equity, AAUW is committed to recognizing voting rights for women over the past century—including the fact that when the 19th Amendment was adopted, not all women earned the right to vote. It wasn’t until 45 years later, when the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed, that women of color were granted the right to vote. Yet there are still challenges with voter access and voting suppression, which is why AAUW is focused on ensuring that every vote is recognized.

Download and view: [https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/12/AAUW\\_2019ReviewMember\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.aauw.org/files/2019/12/AAUW_2019ReviewMember_FINAL.pdf)



**LACIC**

**Meeting January 12, 2:00 – 4:00 pm**  
 PIH, 12401 Washington Blvd, Whittier, CA 90602

**Pamela Atherton** is our January speaker and program. We are proud to bring Pamela’s wit and charm to LACIC members and guests.

Pamela is a 17-time broadcast award winner and an expert in speaking as a keynote and workshop leader. She is the creator of *Business CPR workshops*. She has consulted with authors, experts and celebrities for over 20 years. Voiceovers/vocal acting are another of Pamela’s accomplishments. Her clients include: Barnes & Noble, Texas Instruments, Toyota and Sierra Bottled Water, using more than 50 dialects and accents.

*Invite your friends for an entertaining and enjoyable afternoon!*



**Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment**

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women’s suffrage, and was ratified on August 18, 1920, ending almost a century of protest.

From *LACIC Newsletter* by Patricia Cuocco, Editor  
 Let’s not forget that we are celebrating the centennial of Women’s Suffrage. Sometimes, it is all too easy to forget the pain and suffering that went into securing our right to vote. Susan Negrete passed on this wonderful resource from National.

[https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019\\_vote\\_gazette\\_fnl.pdf](https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2019_vote_gazette_fnl.pdf)

At Susan’s suggestion, I am going to pick a suffragette at random from the section on **100 Suffragettes** and cut and paste her story. I would invite you to look at

the biographies and, if one strikes your fancy, tell me and I’ll use that one in the upcoming newsletter.

**Isabella Beecher Hooker** (Litchfield, CT) Feb. 22, 1822 - Jan. 25, 1907, married lawyer, 4 children, a founder of the New England Woman Suffrage Association 1869, defended Victoria Woodhull, sponsored 1871 suffrage convention in Washington DC, testified before Senate committee with Susan B. Anthony and at Congressional hearings, early supporter of federal amendment, socially prominent.

**Saturday January 11  
10:00 am - noon**

**Tri-Branch Meeting**

**Heal the Bay and Climate Change**

**Saturday, January 11 at 10:00 am**

Manhattan Beach Community Church Fireside Room (303 S Peck Avenue)

**Friday, January 17  
6:30 pm**

**The Diversity Book Group**

**Friday, January 17 at 6:30 pm**

**at the home of Nancy Kenney**

**The Alice Network by Kate Quinn (2017)**

In an enthralling historical novel from national bestselling author Kate Quinn, two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

**Tuesday, January 28  
7:30 pm**

**Evening Literature Group**

**Tuesday, January 28 at 7:30 pm**

**at the home of Eunice Hargrove**

**Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (debut novel)**

Kya Clark, the elusive “Marsh Girl,” is sensitive and intelligent, surviving for years alone in the marsh that she calls home. But when two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens. *Where the Crawdads Sing* is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder.

**Thursday, January 23  
7:00 pm**

**Film Group**

**Thursday, January 23 at 7:00 pm**

**at the home of Peggy Monga**

*RSVP to [filmgroup@earthlink.net](mailto:filmgroup@earthlink.net) or 310-316-7542*

Happy New Year!

Join us on our new day —**Thursday & new time 7:00 pm**— for light refreshments and conversation. Everybody’s a critic!

**BURNING (2018)(2019)(Rated NR)**

As he’s out on the job, a shy deliveryman bumps into his former classmate, and the two quickly become lovers. But complications arise after she travels to Africa and brings home a mysterious rich boyfriend. Directed by Chang-dong Yi (or Lee) Metascore 90. Ebert (Sheila O’Malley) ★★★★★ Available at Redondo and Torrance Libraries and DVD Netflix.

**POETRY (2010)(2011)(Rated NR)** From South Korean Director Chang-dong Yi. Mija is a beautiful woman in her sixties who moves gracefully through life. On a whim, Mija enrolls in a poetry class at the local cultural center and begins a personal quest to find the perfect words to describe her feelings, when a school girl’s suicide initiates a chain of tragic events. Metascore 87. —Ebert ★★★★★ ½ stars Available at Torrance, Redondo libraries and DVD Netflix.

**Five Star National Recognition Program  
July 2019 – June 2020**

The AAUW Five Star National Recognition Program rewards affiliates (states, branches, other organizations) for aligning their work with the AAUW strategic plan and other initiatives that foster the organization’s mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. The program is designed to promote cohesion between AAUW national and affiliates and increase understanding and implementation of the strategic plan goals. National recognition allows AAUW National to acknowledge and celebrate affiliates that advance AAUW’s mission.

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

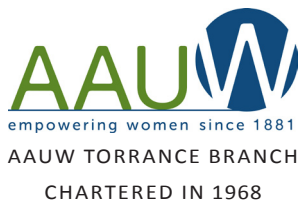
In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic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



AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global Citizen Award winner

## Hello 2020!

### 100 Years of Womens' Votes

**Thursday, January 9**  
**EPC Meeting**

**Saturday, January 11**  
**Tri-Branch Meeting**  
Manhattan Beach Community  
Church Fireside Room

**Sunday, January 12**  
**LACIC Meeting**

**Friday, January 17**  
**Diversity Book Group**

**Thursday, January 23**  
**Film Group**

**Tuesday, January 28**  
**Evening Literature Group**

**Wednesday, February 5**  
**WIT Group**

**Saturday, February 29**  
**Nutrition Talk, Karen Peters**

**Saturday, March 14**  
**Women's History Month**  
**So Bay Librarians Talk**