



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 hope everyone is healthy and keeping mentally and physically stimulated during the quarantine. The impacts of the isolation could be more devastating than the virus for many people.

I am gratified by stories of neighbors and communities helping each other during this time. Jim and I took the dogs for a walk today and one neighbor who owns a painting company gave us two masks - "just in case." Another gave us some dish soap when he heard that we were almost out and the stores have none. We will get through this together!

I assume that the segregation will remain in place at least throughout April, so all of our meetings will presumably (and wisely) be canceled. Hopefully all special interest groups will be able to "meet" online. As you are aware, our April program, the fundraiser at the Comedy and Magic Club, has been postponed. That's a shame since we could definitely use some comedy - and magic - right now!

We are still looking for members to take leadership positions next year. The future of the branch depends on it.

Please stay safe and continue to check in on your neighbors, friends and family.

~ Keri Gilbert

Save the Date: Saturday, June 20, Board Installation at The Depot

Please send Torrance Telegram articles by April 20 to heycamster66@gmail.com

California's Response to COVID-19 — Online Resources for your Household

Please feel free to share these links with others.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/ncov2019.aspx>

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2020/03/11/california-public-health-experts-mass-gatherings-should-be-postponed-or-canceled-statewide-to-slow-the-spread-of-covid-19/>

AAUW Convention Postponed

Because of our concern for your health and our respect for county, state and federal recommendations to limit large gatherings, the AAUW California Board of Directors has regretfully made the decision to cancel the April 17-19 AAUW California Convention.



TEDx Redondo Beach Postponed

<http://tedxredondobeach.com/events/upcomingevents/>

TTAG College Prep 101 Forum Postponed

Update from Beach Cities branch

Due to the possible coronavirus threat to students and people in large groups, the AAUW/TTAG College Prep 101 Forum to be held on Saturday, March 28 at the Redondo Beach Library, has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled for the Fall.

The AAUW California Board of Directors is working with the hotel and reviewing options for rescheduling the convention for the fall. Additional details will be communicated in the coming days.

We regret this difficult decision, but these are unprecedented times and we must keep our members' welfare and peace of mind uppermost in our plans. We know you will continue to deliver on the AAUW mission in your branches and we thank you for all your efforts.

Let's keep each other in our thoughts and remain resilient during this trying time. Please stay safe and well.

Start Smart Postponed

Elle Oliver and Michele Freck will be leading the next Start Smart Workshops for Michael Grimshaw's entrepreneurial students at California State University, Dominguez Hills... but not in March.



All March Workshop dates have been cancelled and will be rescheduled. **Volunteers will be needed to help some college students start off their careers with competitive salaries.**

Update on National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, May 27-30, 2020

Like you, we at AAUW are concerned about the spread of the coronavirus, including the health of our friends, members and supporters in the US and around the world. We are in regular contact with our NCCWSL partners at the University of Maryland, College Park

regarding this *evolving situation* and we are working with them to determine the safest and most prudent decisions.

We continue to monitor the situation daily and will post information as quickly as possible regarding the status of the conference. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time.

<https://www.nccwsl.org/>

2020-2021 Membership Drive Starts Soon

By Alice Matthews

Renewal Memberships:

Please use the Membership Payment Program (MPP), the secure online system to pay dues AND make any changes to contact information. Visit www.AAUW.org. Click on MSD (Membership) CA-0146 (Torrance), Click "Renew my Membership."

Click here: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/join-a-branch-or-renew-branch-membership/>

You have two options to pay:

- By CREDIT CARD /DEBIT CARD (Preferred Method)
- By Personal Check – send directly to me: AAUW Finance, PO Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS!**

New Memberships:

Please download an application from our website, complete and submit it with a personal check to the address listed.

Any NEW or Renewal Memberships will now cover dues thru June 2021! Starting in May I will send out a monthly e-renewal invoice (via email) that you will only need to click on the link in order to renew your membership.

2020-2021 Dues:	
National:	\$59
State:	\$20
Branch:	<u>\$22</u>
Total:	\$101

AAUW Fund Update on 2019 Fundraiser

Thank you Fund donors!

By Gloria Liu

Congratulations! Thank you all for donating to AAUW Fund in 2019, and supporting the branch and branch fundraiser. Proceeds from our tea fundraiser at Chado Tea Room in May 2019 are included in total branch contribution. The Torrance branch donated \$3,285.18 in 2019 to AAUW.

Thanks to the individual AAUW Fund donors for calendar year 2019. You make the mission of AAUW possible. 2019 AAUW Torrance Donors to AAUW Fund include:

Danute Basiulis, Carol Bauer (*Century Club of \$100**), Nancy Brock, Indrani Chatterjee (*Associate's Circle of \$500**), Carol Dean (*Second Century Club of \$200**), Ann Du Puy, Garold Faber, Linda Grogan, Eunice Hargrove, Betty Knapp, Gloria Liu (*Associate's Circle of \$500**), Alice Matthews, Peggy Monga, Patricia Mor, Susan Negrete, Janice Pomerantz, Margot Sullivan.

AAUW Torrance branch contributions in 2019:

- Tea Fundraiser at Chado \$1,278.25
- Other \$107.00

Donations from all Torrance sources went to the following categories:

- AAUW Greatest Needs Fund \$852.00
- Economic Security Fund \$1,928.25
- Education and Training Fund \$500.00
- Miscellaneous \$ 4.93
- Total \$3,285.18

Educational Partnership Committee (EPC)

by Margot Sullivan

Thank you to all the School Buddy/Reader Captains and readers for your work on selecting the campers to attend Tech Trek Camp this summer. Our Reader Captains were Pat Arnett, Pat Carroll, Michele Croci, Ann DuPuy, Judith Hill, Kabita Kumar, Karen Peters, Alice Matthews, Suzanne Siney and Margot Sullivan. We are grateful to our readers – members Lisa Blank, Maymie Chenoweth, Keri Gilbert, Jessica Hassen, Karen Hassen, Nancy Kenney, Billie Lee Langley, Gloria Liu, Patricia Mor, and Kay Odgers and sponsor Athena Cormier Paquette and Moog sponsors Dawn Salvatore and Jaquelin Alvarez.

We have many wonderful candidates and wish we could send them all to enjoy the amazing experience of Tech Trek Camp. We are grateful for the dedication of the reading teams. All the nominees will be notified of their status this month.

We will be sending 28 campers to the camps at UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara and Whittier. We also realize that these times are uncertain so we continue to plan and hope for a wonderful summer of Tech Trek.

Our Orientation for the new Tech Trek campers is scheduled for May 31 at Hull Middle School. We don't know yet if it needs to be rescheduled and will inform you if members' help is needed in the planning and "day of" activities.

Thank you to Peggy Monga, our branch coordinator, for all of her detail work in following up on the nominees, scanning the applications and teacher recommendations, contacting readers and receiving the rankings from our 15 schools. Peggy will be assigning campers to the camps soon and following up with additional paperwork for each camp and camper. Thank you also to Janice Pomerantz who recorded all the data on each nominee and copied all the paper work for our readers.

Due to our current situation, final decision on EPC meeting (on April 9) will be determined as we near the date. We hope that all of you are safe and well and managing in this difficult time. We are here for each other so if you need anything please let us know.



LACIC Centennial Tea Moments from March 8

Public Policy

Our Work to Ensure Women’s Financial Futures

From Kimberly Churches, CEO AAUW, reprinted from *Mission & Action Newsletter*

As part of our 2020 Gender Policy Agenda, AAUW is pushing for policies that will **protect women and their families**, including paid leave, access to high-quality health care and stronger Social Security benefits. In the wake of the coronavirus crisis, those priorities are even more urgent. That’s why we’re partnering with other organizations to advocate for paid sick leave for public health emergencies. It’s critical for women to be able to take care of themselves and their loved ones without worrying about a lost paycheck or retaliation from their boss.

Public Policy

Reproductive Health for All in 2020

by Claire Noonan, AAUW Public Policy Committee
submitted by Michele Croci

As American women consider action to ensure reproductive health rights in 2020, it is useful to recall that in the 17th and 18th centuries pregnancy termination was legal under common law before ‘quickenings’ (fetal movement) that occurs approximately 16 weeks after conception.

After 1850 the crusade in the U.S. against voluntary pregnancy termination stepped up. According to Lauren McIver Thompson (author of “Battle for Birth Control...”) physicians, known for irregular practice and lack of training, in order to “establish their place as respected members of society” argued about the ‘rights of the unborn’ – sound familiar? *New York Times*, December 15, 2019.

By 1900 in accord with the Comstock Act of 1873, most states had passed laws restricting termination and contraception. As a consequence, by the 1930s one report estimated that 681,000 abortions led to 8,000 to 10,000 thousand maternal deaths.

It took a decision by the Supreme Court in 1973 to change the numbers, but the struggle continues. On Friday, January 24, 2020, at the March for Life rally, the President threatened to take away California’s



federal funding in accord with the Weldon Amendment because of the California law that ensures that private insurers provide abortion and contraception coverage. The HHS department gave the state 30 days to lift the regulation, saying that the state is not compliant with the amendment. Note that four years ago federal opinion confirmed

California’s compliance to not discriminate against a health care facility. Yet, Kevin McCarthy (R-Bakersfield) on February 21, 2020, emailed support for health care entities that don’t want to supply equal legal health services to all.

After the February 4 President’s State of the Union speech, there is no doubt women must continue to advocate for reproductive health rights – especially for black and Native American women who have far higher pregnancy-related mortality rates than white women. Of 15 policies suggested by the National Partnership for Women the most important: access to all forms of abortion care and contraception regardless of where you live.

Last, keep track of the U.S. Senate vote on two bills at the end of February: 1) to institute a 20-week abortion ban and 2) to require medical care be delivered to infants that survive abortions, a misleading bill given that infanticide is already a crime.

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

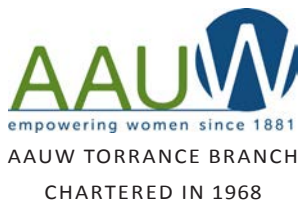
In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, geographic location, national origin, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or socioeconomic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

March 31 is Equal Pay Day

This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year.



AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global Citizen Award winner

Postponed at time of publication:

- Groups
- Meetings
- Events
- Fundraisers
- AAUW Convention

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

Save the Date:
Saturday, June 20
Board Installation
The Depot