



## 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

## President's Message from Keri Gilbert

### Hello Torrance Branch!

Thank you to the 14 members who joined our Zoom branch meeting on May 20. It was great to see everyone who attended and catch up a bit. I am grateful for the interest groups that are finding a way to connect and keep meeting.

I appreciate everyone who offered to help out and pick up the secretarial duties for a meeting or two and am happy to report that Lydia McCarver offered to be Secretary for the full term.

There are not words to express how thankful I am to Nancy Kenney for being our secretary for many, many terms. She certainly deserves to retire from this position.

We are still looking for people who would like to help with Membership and AAUW Fund. Neither of these roles needs to be handled alone. Membership entails helping with renewals and recruiting new branch members. (Frankly, every branch member is a on this committee!)

AAUW Fund team members encourage Fund donations and help plan a fundraiser or a program dedicated to Fund.

As you can see, neither of these positions requires a large time commitment.

Another area where you can make a significant difference in a small amount of time is helping with Start Smart. You can help the team teach college students how to value their worth in the marketplace and role play with them. Without more help from our members, we may have to abandon this valuable program.

Since we cannot meet in person, we will vote for our branch slate via e-mail. Please respond with Yes to All or No to All — or you can pick and choose. Please vote as soon as possible so we can update our records with State and National.

**Our Installation Brunch was planned at The Depot on Saturday, June 20. Instead we will have a Zoom meeting at 10:00 am that morning. I hope to see you all then!**

~ Keri Gilbert

Students from Downey High School Can Do It!



## Slate for 2020-2021

Alice Matthews, President

Keri Gilbert, Finance Officer

Lydia McCarver, Secretary

Suzanne Siney & Cami Hamilton,  
Program Co-Chairs

Peggy Monga, Tech Trek Coordinator

**Open Position, AAUW Fund**

**Open Position, Membership**

**Open Position, Hospitality (in-person meetings)**

## Vote for 2020-2021

Since we cannot meet in person, we will vote for our branch slate via e-mail. Please respond with Yes to All or No to All — or you can pick and choose. Please vote as soon as possible so we can update our records with State and National.

## Open Positions

Volunteer. Let Keri Gilbert know you want to serve and which position. We want you to know how much your involvement matters.

## We Want You to Vote!

## We Want You to Jump In!

Since our charter in 1968, the Torrance AAUW branch has able to make an impact for women and girls because volunteers step up to serve. Our success with programs like Start Smart and Tech Trek happens because individuals affirm “We Can Do It!” We need member involvement now.

We need you to vote on the slate of officers for next year. We need you to step up and serve in one of the Open Positions listed. Each position can be filled by one person or a duo — teamwork makes it happen.

As a branch, we need members to invite guests to join our monthly programs. Our strength to make an impact can only happen when we come together.

## We Want You to Renew!

Thank you to those who have already renewed your membership – it is greatly appreciated. There are more renewals that we hope to see come in this month — online or by sending a check.

If you need help with the e-invoice or have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Alice Matthews (619) 851-4328



## We Want You to Jump In!

### Smart Start Updates

by Elle Oliver

Although Michele Freck and I were scheduled to offer Start Smart workshops at California State University on March 17th and 19th, the campus was closed due to the Coronavirus on March 12.

However, I was able to provide three online Start Smart mini-workshops for Michael Grimshaw's students in his Small Business Management/Intro to Entrepreneurship and New Venture Entrepreneurship classes at the Entrepreneurial Institute at CSUDH on May 5. During the workshops we were able to help

over 50 young people (29 of which were women) learn how to establish their value in the marketplace and negotiate to get the best salary and benefits packages possible. The Smart Start workshops are offered as part of AAUW's efforts to overcome the wage disparity gap for women.

Alice Matthews has offered to assist me with future workshops, and **we are still hoping to hear from others who would like to participate/support our efforts.** We will be looking to AAUW National to determine if CSUDH's license can be extended due to the Coronavirus shutdown.

### Educational Partnership Committee

by Margot Sullivan

**EPC does not have plans to meet in June.**

Peggy Monga, our Branch Coordinator, notified all the Tech Trek applicants that there will be no Tech Trek Camp this summer. This year's campers will not attend camp next summer.

Thank you notes were sent to all the school principals and teachers thanking them for their support of Tech Trek, for nominating the girls and for filling out their paperwork. Michele Freck contacted our donors advising them of the camp cancellations and thanking them for the donations that will be applied next year.

We are fielding suggestions for ways to recognize and celebrate this year's campers and are considering ideas with Beach Cities and Palos Verdes branches.



There has been no further development from the camps on activities. If you have any suggestions you would like to share we welcome them. Be safe and well. We are missing you.

### Title IX Rollback Silences Survivors

Earlier this month, the Trump Administration issued a rule that will weaken Title IX, rolling back protections for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault.

"We urge the Administration to keep its focus on protecting our colleges and universities, minding the shaky economy and on keeping Americans healthy and safe," said AAUW Kim Churches in a press release.

She also wrote an editorial in Newsweek about the harmful new rule. Help push back by advocating for equity in education: <https://www.newsweek.com/trump-administrations-new-title-ix-rules-are-attack-students-metoo-opinion-1503216>

**Wednesday, June 3  
7:00 pm**

**WIT (Women In Transition) Group**

Details to be confirmed.

RSVP to Susan Negrete: susimone@aol.com

**Tuesday, June 23  
7:00 pm Zoom Mtg**

**Evening Literature Book Group**

At the June meeting we will be picking our books for the coming year.

RSVP to Lisa Blank for the Zoom link.

**Friday, June 19  
6:30 pm Zoom Mtg**

**Diversity Book Group**

Our book *The Other Americans* is by Laila Lalami

From the Pulitzer Prize finalist and author of *The Moor's Account*, here is a timely and powerful new novel about the suspicious death of a Moroccan immigrant—at once a family saga, a murder mystery, and a love story, informed by the treacherous fault lines of American culture. (LA Times July 2019 Book Club selection)

RSVP to Lydia McCarver for the Zoom link.

**Thursday, June 25  
TBD**

**Film Group**

Details to be determined. Hoping for a face-to-face meeting, or possibly Zoom, if films can be procured.

RSVP to Peggy Monga.

**Moms Deserve More**

Did you know that moms working full-time earn, on average, just 70% of what dads do? Help highlight this disparity by sharing our Fast Facts on Moms in the Workplace on Moms Equal Pay Day (**June 4**) — and every day until we reach full equity!



**We Want Your Opinion!**

**AAUW Fund 2019 Recipients**

Planning the 2020-2021 branch year poses new challenges in this time of virtual... everything! Last year three luncheons were held in different parts of California to showcase grant recipients and hear about their work.

**We want your opinion!**

Please take time to check out the video links <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2019-fund-luncheon-presentations/>

Let us know what subjects you are interested in hearing about in our monthly programs. Feedback can be sent to [heycamster66@gmail.com](mailto:heycamster66@gmail.com).

## Launching Gov Trek

If you've been looking for ideas on how to get more women engaged in politics, you will want to join us for a webinar on **"GovTrek: How to Rock the Next Generation."**

The Carlsbad-Oceanside-Vista (COV) Branch was recently awarded a state project grant from AAUW California for GovTrek, an innovative program designed to encourage young high school women to consider a career in politics. This is a six-month long course in "how politics really works" and it includes presentations by sitting legislators, critical-thinking and problem-solving activities, and workshops on civil discourse and conflict mediation.

Initially scheduled as a convention workshop, this webinar is your opportunity to learn how your branch might duplicate this project.

**Wednesday, June 24  
2:00-3:30 pm**

The June 24 webinar at 2:00 pm will be presented by Kathi Harper, State Director and Co-Chair of the AAUW California Public Policy Committee, and Chair of the COV Public Policy Committee.

Topics will include:

- Overview of the program
- How to design a program that works for your community
- Challenges and ideas for overcoming them
- What worked – and didn't

Registration is required: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_44fJo\\_PzT7KEIOW0HOW7Ng](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_44fJo_PzT7KEIOW0HOW7Ng)

## The State of AAUW: Staying Strong Together

From *Mission & Action* Newsletter

While AAUW members can't gather in person for their spring conventions, they can — and should — continue to cultivate strong relationships and advance gender equity, according to AAUW CEO Kim Churches in her recent "State of AAUW" presentation. Churches provided key organizational updates, including:

- Highlighting virtual programming like AAUW's weekly webinar series, including her interview with Diane Rehm, talks by distinguished Fellowships and Grants alumnae, and tutorials on professional development.
- Sharing our renewed partnership with the Coca-Cola Foundation to bring salary-



negotiation training to the nation's 107 historically black colleges and universities.

- Giving kudos to 60 branches working toward 5-star recognition for meeting our mission, especially the three that have attained all five stars: AAUW Marin (California), Bellingham (Washington), and Northeast Tarrant County (Texas).
- Explaining how we're engaging the next generation of activists through our Equity Network.

Encouraging donations to AAUW's Greatest Needs Fund, which is crucial to AAUW's sustainability and responsiveness during the pandemic.

## We Can Do It!

Kim Churches, CEO of AAUW, visited the virtual California State Convention in April and reminded all members to not to lose the advancements for which we have fought. Even when staying safer at home we can and should continue to leverage the power of social media to continue the discussion on economic security, education and foundation rights.

Visit Kim Churches' Convention message here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2020/04/2020-annual-meeting-churches-presentation.pdf/>

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



## We Want You to Vote in Branch Election and Renew Today!

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**Wednesday, June 3**  
**WIT**

**Thursday, June 4**  
**Moms Equal Pay Day**

**Friday, June 19**  
**Diversity Book Group**



*AAUW is 2018 United Nations Global Citizen Award winner*

**Saturday, June 20**  
**Branch Zoom Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 23**  
**Evening Literature Group**

**Wednesday, June 24**  
**Intro to Gov Trek Webinar**

**Thursday, June 25**  
**Film Group – TBD**

