



AAUW TORRANCE BRANCH
CHARTERED IN 1968

Torrance Telegram

JUNE 2022

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

BRANCH OFFICER INSTALLATION BRUNCH

**IN-PERSON
EVENT**

SATURDAY, JUNE 11 • 9:30 AM
FEATURED SPEAKER, NANDANI SINHA

OF MUSIC HEALS MINDS

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

Depot Restaurant
1250 Cabrillo Ave., Downtown Torrance

\$30 payment is your reservation

Send to Keri Gilbert



President's Message

Hello Torrance Branch!

This is my last President's Message for my two years as your "COVID President." I want to thank each of you for your support and encouragement during the past two years. It truly does take a village. In spite of all the distractions and foreign ways of doing things that we weren't familiar with (i.e., Zoom), the branch was able to still function and have some in person meetings as well as many very valuable programs online.

I also want to thank the interest groups for keeping their groups functioning as well. I am very grateful and honored to have had the opportunity to serve as your President. I feel confident that our branch will be in very capable hands with Judi Gerber as your new President.

If you have not reserved your spot for the Branch Officer Installation brunch at The Depot Restaurant, please send your \$30 check to Keri Gilbert as soon as possible. This will be our last function for the 2021-2022 fiscal year and is set for Saturday, June 11 @ 9:30 am. We also look forward to welcoming our guest speaker * Hope to see you there!

— Alice Matthews

Membership Renewal Reminder

Membership Drive has started for 2022-2023! This year the process is a little different due to the upgrade to the online process.

You will need to go to the www.AAUW.org, click on Log In. You will be asked to click "Forgot my Password" to reset your PW. You will receive an email with a link to reset your PW. Once that is done, you will be prompted to "edit your Personal Information" — you can now enter your cell phone number, as well as add your major from your degree.

Once you do this, you can click on Membership and renew using a credit card. This is still the preferred method to renew instead of sending in a check. Branches are listed by the number associated with each location: Torrance is #0146 (\$22). Then enter CA State dues, and National. You can select multiple branches if you want to add dual memberships. Just click all that apply — you will be asked which branch is your primary branch and you can set it to Torrance.

2021-2022 Branch Leadership

Alice Matthews, President

Keri Gilbert, Treasurer

Lydia McCarver, Secretary

Cami Hamilton & Suzanne Siney,
Program Co-VPs

Peggy Monga & Margot Sullivan, EPC

Cami Hamilton, Telegram Editor

Ann DuPuy, Webmaster

Keri Gilbert, Digital Communications

AAUW Mission Statement

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

Diversity Statement

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.

Membership

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.

Congratulations Marsha Swails

Susan Negrete shared:

Hello WIT Friends & AAUW Members: We're very pleased to share that our own Marsha Swails has been elected a 2-year director of the AAUW California Board of Directors. Marsha stood on a platform of commitment to AAUW's mission, combined with her marketing and communications talents and her years in a variety of roles supporting the Tech Trek residential and virtual Programs.

Please join us in congratulating her and sending our thanks in advance for the work she will be doing to support our members, branches and programs.



WIT

Wednesday, June 1 @ 4:00-5:30 pm

Topic: Sharing All the Things That Bring (Us) Joy!

Location: DePortola Park, 25615 Lazy Meadow Dr., Torrance

An In-Person, Post-Pandemic Version of our Regular Monthly Discussion Meeting. We'll pivot to Zoom if required by weather/health conditions.

(This is a neighborhood park; access is off Crenshaw Blvd. & Rolling Hills Road)

- Please bring your own chair, food and drinks
- We'll gather in a large space in this small local park - facing/down the hill from Rolling Hills Road
- (Note: there is no parking lot — it's street parking only and if it's your first visit, it's best to cruise Rolling Hills Road for spaces!)
- Please respect WIT members' agreement: Complete COVID vaccination + booster required for our open-air events
- Got in-person meeting questions? Contact Susan: 714.402.1322

Action Alert - Gun Violence

Our January program speaker, Josh Sugarmann, Executive Director of the Violence Policy Center, has shared the following from the Newtown Action Alliance:

Senators Schumer and Murphy will try one last time to seek bipartisan support for HR8, the universal background check bill. It passed out of the House of Representatives last March. They will give the GOP 7-10 days then give us a vote on the bill whether or not there are 10 GOP votes to break the filibuster.

Register online to join the **Emergency #EndGunViolence Lunch & Lobby session on Tuesday, May 31** from 12:00-2:00 pm EPT (9:00-11:00 am PST) to call all Senators, to urge them to finally act to save our children and families. We will be asking them to pass a set of comprehensive laws to end this crisis. <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwoceCsrDspGNdhzcEni69mM47hHosWhQrx>

Now, it's time for our legislative representatives to do their part in addressing gun violence.

1. Ban military-style assault weapons.
2. Require universal background checks for all gun sales.
3. Close gun sale loopholes and require background checks on all commercial gun sales.
4. Remove the prohibition on gun violence research by the CDC.
5. Ban bump stocks and limit the size of ammunition clips.
6. Pass an Extreme Risk Protection Order Act, a "red flag" bill, to allow relatives and law enforcement to temporarily remove firearms from an individual in crisis



Diversity Book Group

Friday, June 17 @6:30p

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, still even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect? Brit Bennett offers an engrossing page-turner about family and relationships that is immersive and provocative, compassionate and wise.

Film Group

Tuesday, June 14 @4:00p, Margot Sullivan's home
Watch the movies in the comfort of your home and then gather for discussion and light refreshments at our Film Group meeting. Our focus will be on movies from Ukraine this month. Everyone is welcome. These movies can be viewed on YouTube. Please join us.

RSVP to: margotsullivan@aol.com

Due to illness our May Film Group was canceled so we will be reviewing the Ukraine movies at the June meeting. The movie *The Guide* (suggested for May) was not available in English so we have substituted *Winter on Fire* available on YouTube and Netflix.

Winter on Fire: Ukraine's Fight for Freedom 2015, received People's Choice Award for best documentary at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival

This documentary follows the 2013–2014 Maiden Uprising, in Kyiv, via a chronological approach to key events via historic footage and testimonies of two dozen protesters. The first events narrated are the expected UE-Ukraine trade agreement being promised as a way to elevate Ukraine's future, but this agreement is suddenly discarded in favor of one with Russia. Pro-Europe citizens organize protests and occupations, centered on and around Kyiv's Maiden square. After 4 months, the standoff grows more violent. With the

latest bloody and gruesome killings of protesters in February 2014, protest leaders vow to take down the government by force the following day. Ukraine's pro-Russia president fled to Russia in the early hours opening the way to new elections and a new Ukraine looking toward Europe.

Tini Zabutykh Predkiv (*Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors*); 1965, directed by Sergei Paradjanov

Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors is widely considered the best Ukrainian film ever made, and was acknowledged as such by the Oleksandr Dovzhenko National Center's top-100-Ukrainian-films poll of critics. On the surface, Paradjanov's film is a simple and timeless love story that evokes the themes in *Romeo and Juliet*, but it is distinguished by being set in the Carpathian Mountains along the Ukrainian-Romanian border. The film features the native culture and music of the Hutsuls, an isolated mountain tribe of shepherds (the production employed actual members of the community to perform as extras). *Shadows* sparked broader interest in the Carpathians as a space that affirmed Ukrainian cultural difference, from Russians in particular. During the Kyiv premiere of the film in 1965, the Ukrainian literary critic Ivan Dziuba (who died two days before the invasion) took the stage to denounce Soviet policies of Russification. A massive riot in downtown Kyiv ensued.

Evening (Afternoon) Literature

Monday, June 27 @12:00p, Betsy Adams' home

Come to our annual planning meeting potluck! We need your suggestions. Send titles you would like to discuss for next year to Betsy Adams by June 15. We will vote on them at our meeting. Bring your book ideas and delicious dishes.

Contact Betsy Adams if interested in attending.



Educational Partnership Committee

Thursday, June 9 @6:30p, via Zoom

by Peggy Monga

What's happening now —

Our selected campers are in the process of filling out/uploading at least a dozen forms that the camps require. They are using a new online form, called CampSite. So far it seems to be working well for the campers and families. They have a "contact us" tech support option so families can ask questions about the forms. So far, any questions I have received have been answered directly by the tech support staff. The camps are requiring COVID vaccinations — **no exceptions**, even though there is talk about school districts easing up on requirements.

I have been getting regular updates from the Camp Directors about who has completed which forms. I have sent follow-up emails to remind families to complete the forms.

We have established two times for our Orientations—one

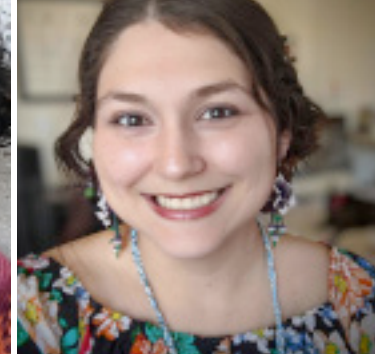
for Whittier and one for both Santa Barbara Camps. We selected Sunday June 5 at 3:00 and 4:00 pm. I expect the sessions to last approximately 45 minutes.

We will have the girls introduce themselves. We hope to have previous campers talk briefly. There will be an audiovisual display of previous camps. We will give instructions about writing thank you notes to our donors. There will be templates for the notes and name and address information about the donors.

We will make up a bag for each girl which will contain this information, blank notecards, as well as a water bottle from Torrance Branch. We hope to find labels that can be permanently attached to the water bottles that say "Torrance Branch". These bags will be delivered by Alice Matthews to the campers when she attends two of the camps. Thank you Alice! The remaining four campers will have their bags delivered to their homes in time for camp.

¡Seis de Mayo!





Monthly Programs In Progress for 2021-2022

Wednesday, June 1 @4:00p
WIT

Thursday, June 9 @
EPC

Saturday, June 11 @9:30a
Installation Brunch

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Film Group

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Diversity Literature

Monday, June 27 @12:00p
Evening (Afternoon) Literature

2021

Sun 9/19 1:00 pm Columbia Park, Welcome Back Picnic

Wed 11/10 6:30 pm Beach Cities program on Zoom

Sun 12/19 2:00 pm Holiday Party hosted by Judy Hill

2022

Sat 1/29 2:00pm Featured Speaker, Violence Policy Center

Sat 2/26 10:00 am Preserving Japanese Farming in South Bay

Sat 3/19 10:00 am Madrona Marsh Walk
with **Karen Peters**, RSVP required

Sat 4/23 10:30 am LAX Update with Stephanie Sampson

Fri 5/6 5:00 pm La Capilla Restaurant, Happy Hour, Seis de Mayo

Sat 6/11 9:30 am The Depot Restaurant, Installation brunch
Speaker/opera soloist from Music Heals Minds

June Bdays

Billie Lee Langley - June 3

Jackie LaBouff - June 26

Suzanne Siney - June 29

Find Out More

<https://torrance-ca.aauw.net/calendar/> • www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/

www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/ • www.aauw.org/resources/programs/tech-trek/



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We Rise By Lifting Others Together