



# Torrance Telegram

JULY/AUGUST 2022

AAUW TORRANCE BRANCH  
CHARTERED IN 1968  
PO Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505 |  
<http://torrance-ca.aauw.net> | [aauwtorrance@gmail.com](mailto:aauwtorrance@gmail.com)

## Save the Date!

Planning Meeting, Saturday, August 13, 2 p.m.

Location: Paradise Park, 5006 Lee Street, Torrance, 90503

Come and Share Your Ideas!



### 2022-20223 Branch Leadership

Judi Gerber, President

Gloria Liu, Finance

Lydia McCarver, Secretary

Cami Hamilton & Ann DuPuy, Program Co-VPs

Nancy Kenney & Alice Matthews, Membership Co-VPs

### Additional Leadership Roles

Peggy Monga & Margot Sullivan, EPC

Keri Gilbert, Digital Communications

Indrani Chatterjee, AAUW Fund

Isabel Rodriguez, Public Policy

Gloria Liu & Alice Matthews, TTAG Advisors

## President's Message

### Hello Torrance Branch!

This is my first President's Message. I am looking forward to the year ahead and to seeing you all at the Planning Meeting.

As your new President, I need your input on Branch programs, social activities and attracting new members to ensure our branch moves in the direction we want it to go.

This is your opportunity to make your voice heard by providing your ideas and feedback on what you want your branch to do in the coming year.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please send me your input to [JudiWrites@aol.com](mailto:JudiWrites@aol.com).

### Membership Renewal Reminder

Membership Drive has started for 2022-2023!

You will need to go to the [www.AAUW.org](http://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.

If you have difficulty with the online system, please send your check to AAUW, PO Box 1392, Torrance, CA 90505

#### 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.



**Wednesday, August 3** In Person Potluck@ 6:00-7:30 pm  
(RSVP with Susan Negrette 714.402.1322)

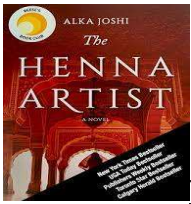
**Meeting Location:** Marsha Swails' home, 30806 Marne Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, 90275, 651.343.0340

Please respect WIT members' agreement: Complete COVID vaccination + booster required for our events.

## Diversity Book Group

**Friday, July 22 @6:30 p.m.** RSVP with Lydia McCarver [lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com](mailto:lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com)

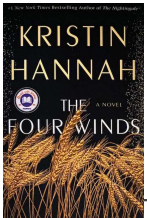
**Meeting Location:** Karen Peters home, 1821A Speyer Lane, Redondo Beach, 90277, 310.941.3338. **Capacity is 12. First 11 people to RSVP are guaranteed a spot.**



The Henna Artist, by Alka Joshi Compelling in its portrait of one woman's struggle for fulfillment in a society pivoting between the traditional and the modern, *The Henna Artist* opens a door into a world that is at once lush and fascinating, stark and cruel. Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own. Known for her original designs and sage advice, Lakshmi must tread carefully to avoid the jealous gossips who could ruin her reputation and her livelihood. As she pursues her dream of an independent life, she is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a high-spirited young girl in tow—a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution that she has carefully cultivated as protection is threatened. Still, she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does.

**Friday, August 19 @6:30 p.m.** RSVP with Lydia McCarver [lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com](mailto:lydiaemcbh@yahoo.com)

**Meeting Location:** Alice Matthews home, 5412 W. 123 Street Del Aire, 619.851.4328



The Four Winds, Kristin Hannah

From Kristin Hannah, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Nightingale* and *The Great Alone*, comes an epic novel of love and heroism and hope, set against the backdrop of one of America's most defining eras—the Great Depression, Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance. In this uncertain and dangerous time, Elsa Martinelli—like so many of her neighbors—must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life. *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American Dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

## Film Group

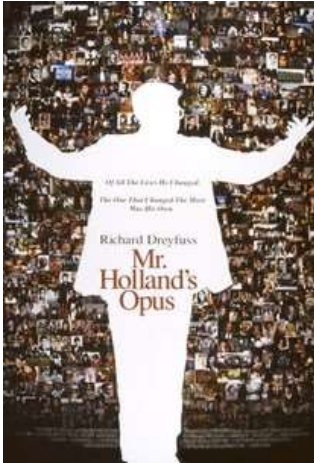
Meets second Tuesday of each month, @4:00 p.m.

Watch the movies in the comfort of your home and then gather for discussion and light refreshments at our Film Group meeting.

No film in July.

Tuesday, August 9, @ 4:00 p.m.

Location: Rachel Ambrose home RSVP to:  
[rambrose@rocketmail.com](mailto:rambrose@rocketmail.com)



### Mr. Holland's Opus Glenn

Holland is a musician and composer who takes a teaching job to pay the rent while, in his 'spare time', he can strive to achieve his true goal - compose one memorable piece of music to leave his mark on the world. As Holland discovers as the years unfold the joy of sharing his contagious passion for music with his students becomes his new definition of success.

Mr. Holland's Opus can be viewed on YouTube and Amazon Prime



### Lunana: A Yak in The

### Classroom

This drama/comedy tells the story of an aspiring singer living with his grandmother in the capital of Bhutan who dreams of getting a visa to relocate to Australia.

Lunana: A Yak in The Classroom can be viewed on YouTube and Netflix.



## Afternoon Literature

Meets fourth

Monday of each month, @ 2:00 p.m. contact Betsy Adams for location at [seamath@cox.net](mailto:seamath@cox.net).

On summer break in July and August. Will return in September.

## Educational Partnership Committee

Thursday, July 28 @ 6:30 p.m., via Zoom

by Peggy Monga

**NOTE:** I am stepping down from EPC Chair and Branch Coordinator effective October 31, 2022. In order for Tech Trek to continue as part of the Torrance Branch, we have to have a new Chair/Branch Director.



If interested, please contact me, Peggy Monga and our new President, Judi Gerber of your interest.

The Whittier camp has concluded. It ran from June 19-25<sup>th</sup>. Torrance had 8 girls attending this camp. The total number of girls that attended was 86 with a capacity of 100 this year.

We have 4 girls attending each of the two Santa Barbara camps: Blackwell, July 10-16, and then Hypatia, July 17-23. Alice Matthews was a Dorm Mom at Whittier and will also be at the Blackwell Camp this year.

Thanks to everyone who helped put the gift bags together— Alice Matthews, Gloria Liu, Michele Freck, Peggy Monga, and Margot Sullivan. Michele Freck and Peggy assigned sponsors to all campers. Elle and Alice added “Torrance Branch” decals to our water bottles - thanks to Elle’s daughter’s generosity in donating the design and stickers!

Each camper is receiving a Water Bottle, thank you notes addressed and stamped to the sponsors with a template included for reference, an invitation to join TTAG, and a post camp questionnaire. Gloria donated the bags. We need volunteers to help distribute the last 4 bags for the Hypatia camp. If available, contact Peggy.

Possible additional meeting, Thursday, August 11 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

I received a packet of Thank You notes written by our girls at Whittier. Here are some examples:

Dear Torrance coordinators,

Thank you for sponsoring me to attend Tech Trek. I really liked participating in the workshops because in one of them I was able to make slime. In my core classes I dissected a pig and really enjoyed it. Overall the camp was great. My dorm mom was great and made sure we were okay every time.

Sincerely, Ifeoma A.



Dear Torrance Branch,

Hello, my name is Sophia Kee Rivera. Thank you for selecting me to attend AAUW Tech Trek at Whittier College. At camp I was excited to learn about CSI in my core class. Tech Trek has made me more aware of Forensic Science and what in that field of work do. My Tech Trek experience inspired me to take more advance classes once I get to high school in order to help me figure out what I want to do in my future. This was a very unique experience that I am very grateful I got to participate in. It helped me make friends, learn new things, and go to places I'd never would have without this camp. Thank you so much, I loved my experience at camp.

-Sophia Kee Rivera

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Thursday, July 28 @ 6:30 p.m. Zoom, EPC

Wednesday, August 3 @ 6:00 p.m. WIT

Tuesday, August 9 @ 4:00 p.m. Film Group

Saturday, August 13 @ 2:00 p.m. Branch Planning Meeting

Friday, August 19 @ 6:30 p.m. Diversity Literature

## July Birthdays

Dana Basiulis - July 1

Lydia McCarver - July 12

Judith Bunch - July 14

Susan Negrette - July 17



## August Birthdays

Betsy Adams - August 6

Alice Matthews - August 14

Gerry Suzuki - August 24

Judy Hill - August 25

Betty Knapp - August 25

## Find Out More

<https://torrance-ca.aauw.net/calendar/> • [www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/](http://www.aauw-ca.org/public-policy/)

[www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/](http://www.aauw.org/resources/news/media/) • [www.aauw.org/resources/programs/tech-trek/](http://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/tech-trek/)

We Rise By Lifting Others Together

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