



**The Advocate, November 2019**  
**(Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>)**

**From the Editor**

Just a reminder that contact information for persons mentioned in the Advocate can be found in your directory. If you do not have a directory, please contact Aline Soules ([soulesa@yahoo.com](mailto:soulesa@yahoo.com)) for that information. If you submit articles and pictures for next month’s Advocate, please observe the following: **Articles in .doc or .docx, or in the body of an email. Pictures in .jpg (compressed).** Please submit your items for the December newsletter by **Nov. 20** to [soulesa@yahoo.com](mailto:soulesa@yahoo.com)

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**Cards of Condolence, Health Wishes, or Congratulations for our members**

When you know of an AAUW-DAW member who might appreciate a "Get Well" card, need a condolence card upon the death of a loved one, or a congratulations card, **please let our Corresponding Secretary, Pat Gross**, know. Pat will send cards on behalf of our Branch.

## From the President



Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration was a grand success! About 100 members and guests joined together to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of the Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch. After socializing and viewing photos and history, we began the evening with some congratulatory remarks from Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan. We are grateful to her for attending, and excited to continue our association as we pursue equitable opportunities for women in education, pay, and leadership.

We were able to recognize five charter members in attendance, including our very first president Sandy Varco. The past presidents in attendance reminded us of the many actions and efforts of branch members over five decades. Chris Winter treated us to a slide show overview of branch highlights, with a dose of humor along the way.

It was a memorable evening, with opportunities to reminisce and reconnect with friends. Marian Bliss took some wonderful photos that we will soon be able to view on our website.

Thank you again to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Loretta Lewis, Millie Lindsay, Marilyn Milam, Elaine Reisert, Holly Sauer and Chris Winter. Thanks also to Robin Halloran for the wonderful flower arrangements, and to Tena Gallagher who helped in so many ways.



Please put our next program on your calendars:

**Monday November 18: Higher Education Transitions for Foster Youth**

**Transitions Through Higher Education  
a combined AAUW program from the DAW and San Ramon Branches**



**HIGHER  
EDUCATION  
TRANSITIONS**

***FOSTER CARE STUDENTS***

**AAUW DANVILLE-ALAMO-WALNUT CREEK & SAN RAMON BRANCHES  
PRESENT**

**A Conversation about Transitions through  
Higher Education for Foster Care Students  
featuring**

**Dr. Lael Adediji** — Director of Renaissance Scholars  
at CSU East Bay

**Dr. Jodi Servatius** — Professor Emerita  
former Vice President at CSU East Bay

**Monday, November 18 at 7 P.M.  
Beth Chaim Congregation  
1800 Holbrook Drive  
Danville 94506**

Open to All. Admission is free.  
A suggested \$10 donation is appreciated.  
Please RSVP to [daw.aauw@gmail.com](mailto:daw.aauw@gmail.com).

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**



## Holiday Home Tour Update



Already, the shops are putting out their holiday merchandise. Doesn't it always seem too early to start thinking about December? Yet, now we are focused in the same direction and I hope you are, too.

Our 14<sup>th</sup> Holiday Home Tour is just around the corner. We still need one more home. We are asking you to help us identify a home people would enjoy. We are happy to contact the homeowner.

Now is also the time for you to go to our website and volunteer to be a docent on either Friday, December 13 or Saturday, December 14 (or both). If you have volunteered in the past, you know what an enjoyable experience it can be.

Proceeds from the tour provide funding for our local scholarships and Tech Trek. Your help is needed to make it successful.

Please contact Tena Gallagher or Susan Terzouli to volunteer, or visit our website:

<https://daw-ca.aauw.net/hht2019/>. **Tickets will be available in mid-November.**

## AAUW Funds Luncheon

On October 6, the Northern California annual AAUW Funds luncheon was held at Crow Canyon Country Club. Nationally, for the 2019-2020 academic year, AAUW has awarded \$4 million in fellowships and grants to 259 women and community projects. There are 30 Fellows and Grant recipients studying in California in 2019-2020.

Several of the recipients of the awards who spoke at the luncheon were: Saalem Adera, who attends UC Berkeley and is studying for her PhD in Hydrology, and Larissa Davis, also attending UC Berkeley and studying for her J.D. Government/Public Interest. Additional recipients were: Cheyun Lee who attends Santa Clara University and is studying for her M.B.A. in Business Administration and Jazmyne Gill who attends Sonoma State and is working towards her M.S. in Marine Ecological Physiology.

**Our members generous contributions enable AAUW to help young women reach their goals and lead our next generation in a multitude of vital areas. You should have received this year's annual Funds letter. Please donate to help women like the above recipients reach their goals.**

### What is the Difference and Where does my Donation Go?

Yes, there is a difference between the AAUW Fund and the AAUW DAW Funds. The following is a quick snapshot of how they differ:

<b>AAUW Fund – National</b>	<b>AAUW DAW – Local</b>
Funded by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Garden Tour</li><li>- Individual Donations</li></ul>	Funded By: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Holiday Home Tour</li></ul>
Revenue Used For: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Research</li><li>- STEM Education</li><li>- Legal Advocacy</li><li>- Education Funding</li><li>- and much more</li></ul>	Revenue Used For: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Local Scholarship</li><li>- Tech Trek Camperships</li><li>- Expenses</li></ul>
For more information about AAUW funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="http://www.aauw.org">http://www.aauw.org</a></li></ul>	For more information about DAW funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="http://daw-ca.aauw.net">http://daw-ca.aauw.net</a></li></ul>

This is a wonderful way to help women continue their studies and make a difference in our world.

Liz Williams and Robin Halloran

## AAUW San Ramon Branch invites you

Join us for an exciting and fun evening at the San Ramon AAUW Holiday Silent Auction.

Thursday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

San Ramon Community Center, 12501 Alcosta Blvd., San Ramon, CA 94583

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 for San Ramon high school girls attending a four year university and young women attending CSU East Bay in the Renaissance Scholar Program. All funds raised go toward the scholarships.

One hundred plus items have been donated by Tri-Valley businesses and individuals. The following are a few of the items received:

- Restaurants: Cafe Attila, Blackhawk Grille, Katy's Korner, Esin, Three Brothers, and High Tea at the English Rose.
- Other businesses: Crow Canyon Country Club (golf for four plus cart), Starbucks Coffee, Trader Joe's, Marriott Hotel (one weekend night stay), Sprouts, Costco, Dublin Bowl, cakes from local bakeries, and much more.

Also enjoy:

- Unique gift basket drawings throughout the evening beginning at 7:30pm.
- Light appetizers and desserts with coffee and sparkling cider throughout the evening.
- Wine will be available to purchase.

**Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend! Admission is free. Please forward this Evite to your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers.**

This is a great way to support education in our community, start your holiday shopping early, and help young women reach their educational goals.

**Don't forget to bring cash, credit card, or your checkbook.**

AAUW San Ramon Scholarship Committee

For additional information call Julie or Lorraine.

## Public Policy Update, November 2019

### **The Building Blocks of STEM act (S. 737)**

Studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on.

The bipartisan Building Blocks of STEM Act (H.R. 3397), introduced in the 115th Congress by then-Representative Jacky Rosen and Representative Steve Knight (R-CA), would direct National Science Foundation (NSF) to distribute funding for early childhood education in its Discovery Research PreK-12 program, which seeks to enhance the learning and teaching of STEM and address the

immediate challenges that are facing PreK-12 STEM education. Currently, the Discovery Research PreK-12 program focuses the majority of its research on students in middle school and older.

This year's Senate bill also includes Rosen's bipartisan Code Like a Girl Act (H.R. 3316) from the 115th Congress, which would direct NSF to award research grants to increase understanding of the factors that contribute to the participation of young girls in STEM activities and to develop interventions in pre-K and elementary school classrooms to increase the participation of young girls in computer science. Last Congress, Rosen's combined package of STEM education bills unanimously passed the House but failed to receive a vote in the Senate.

The Building Blocks of STEM Act is endorsed by Girl Scouts of the USA, Save the Children Action Network, American Association of University Women (AAUW), National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE), National Organization for Women, Stop Sexual Assault in Schools (SSAIS), Girls, Inc., BSA The Software Alliance, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), and Code.org.

**A Case to watch:** In September, the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund adopted a new pay-equity lawsuit, Freyd v. University of Oregon. The case challenges the pay discrimination faced by Jennifer Freyd, a professor paid substantially less than her male colleagues who hold the same positions, are junior to her, and are no more accomplished. The disparity is primarily due to retention raises, and the case will help establish whether such raises are considered a "factor other than sex" under the Equal Pay Act. AAUW also joined an amicus or "friend of the court" brief in support of Freyd's appeal.

**Higher education:** California governor Gavin Newsom signed a suite of bills affecting higher education, including Assembly Bill 943, which opens up a large pot of state funds to be used for emergency student aid. The bill, written by Democratic assemblyman David Chiu of San Francisco and passed 40 to 0 on the Senate floor, lets community colleges use funding from the California Community Colleges Student Equity and Achievement Program for emergency student financial assistance.

**Workplace harassment:** Newsom signed Assembly Bill 9 by Assemblywoman Eloise Reyes (D-Grand Terrace), which will extend the window to file complaints with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing from one to three years for victims of workplace harassment, discrimination and civil rights-related retaliation. California law requires employees to submit complaints to the state before they can file a civil lawsuit. Once an employee receives a right to sue notice from DFEH, they are given an additional year to file the lawsuit.

**Telehealth coverage:** A bill sitting on California Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk would expand telehealth access to all state residents by requiring health plans to reimburse providers for appointments that would have the same impact whether in person or via video conferencing. Assembly Bill 744 updates telehealth definitions and contracting law to ensure people have access to health care regardless of where they live in the state, according to the fact sheet. The bill received and passed with overwhelming support in the California Assembly.

Asha Bajaj, Chair  
Public Policy

## DAW Interest Groups

Below is the current list of Interest Groups and Leaders, with notations of new groups that began to form in fall 2019. The leader contact info is in your directory except for new members. For their contact information, ask the Advocate editor, Aline Soules ([soulesa@yahoo.com](mailto:soulesa@yahoo.com)). **NOTE about Art and Garden:** For November's event, please contact Jacque Schubert, who is working to finalize plans for the month.

Group Name	Leader Name(s)	Meeting Day	Time
Art and Garden	Jacque Schubert	Wednesdays or Fridays	Varies. For Oct., contact Jacque.
Beads2Jewelry (WL)	Maureen Mapes & Dianne Giacobelli	1st Thursday	1:00 PM
Bridge: Daytime Party (WL)	Angela Domer	3rd Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Duplicate (WL)	Lola Rohrs	4th Monday	10:00 AM
Bridge: Evening (WL)	Arlene Barnett	2nd Wednesday	7:30 PM
Gourmet: Adventurous Chefs (WL)	Sherry Wilcoxson- Will help start new group for waitlisters	1st Friday	11:30 AM
Gourmet: Epicureans (WL)	Ann Shelton- Liz Williams will help start new group for waitlisters	3rd Saturday	6:00 PM
Great Decisions Daytime and Evening	Mary Granzotto and Mary Ellen Blake	Weekly for eight weeks	Monday 7:30PM Tuesday 1:30 PM
Hiking	Joanne Quijano	Monthly	Varies
Literature: Contemporary Books (WL)	Diane Stangel	4th Wednesday	9:30 AM
Literature: Daytime (WL)	Laurie Ehrlich	4th Thursday	9:30 AM
Literature: Evening (WL)	Linda Jimerson	4th Tuesday	7:30 PM
Literature: Novel Ideas (WL)	Kathy Harkins	3rd Tuesday	1:00PM
Mah Jongg 1 (WL)	Paula Weintraub	Monday Weekly	10:00 AM
Mah Jongg 2 (WL)	Paula Weintraub-looking for beginners to start a new group	Tuesday Weekly	10:00 AM
Movies: Cinema 1	Pat McElderry	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Movies: First Friday Film (WL)	Kathy Harkins	1st Friday	7:00 PM

Movies & Lunch (WL)	Mary Twist	2nd Tuesday	11:30 AM
Movies: Oscars (WL)	Mary Mix	2nd Friday	7:30 PM
Third Friday Film - New Group	Kath Clayton NEW MEMBER	3rd Friday	7:00 PM
Needle Arts (WL)	Sandy Killoran, Holly Sauer	2nd Monday	1:30-3:30 PM
Writers	Kathy Gage	2nd Tuesday	1:00 to 3:00 PM

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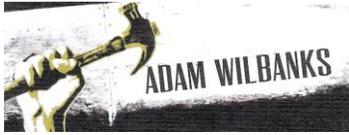


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*\*AAUW DAW members are marked with an asterisk*

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls.

**Mission:** AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

**Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

**Vision:** AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

The Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek branch promotes and supports our AAUW mission through local scholarships, AAUW program support, panel discussions, Tech Trek, AAUW Fund, and topical guest speakers.

Aline Soules, Editor  
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