



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



## The Advocate, March 2022

Online at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/newsletter/>

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March is a busy month; it marks Women’s History Month, International Women’s Day and Equal Pay Day. It’s an incredible month to honor women’s achievements and spotlight the obstacles we continue working to overcome. It also reminds me that I’m proud to be a member of AAUW and share in our organization’s mission of championing gender equity.

There’s also a remarkable milestone in the works this month with the nomination of Katanji Brown Jackson to the US Supreme Court. If confirmed, she will be the first Black woman to become a justice on the court. It’s certainly a wonderful, if long overdue, achievement that will serve as a model for aspiring jurists.

We’re inspired by the theme of International Women's Day, 'Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow', which recognizes women and girls’ contributions to the fight against climate change and toward building a more sustainable future for all. Given this inspiration, we’ve included quotes from notable women on this topic in this issue.

*“Achieving pay equity is not only an economic imperative, it is a necessary step to ensuring parity and the fair treatment of women in the workplace and in society as a whole.” Jennifer Siebel Newsom, First Partner of California*

Take care – be kind.

*Joanne Quijano, President DAW Branch*



### March Checklist

- **March 17, 9:30 am, DAW Board Meeting**
- **March 30, 7:00 pm, Current Perspectives on K-12 Education**  
Look for an email with RSVP information soon
- **April 22, 5:00 pm, Wine Tasting Fundraiser**
- **[Donate here](#) to support the DAW fundraising campaign**
- **Volunteer!** Learn about open board positions on [the branch Website](#)

## March/April Programs Update

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*"If we took away barriers to women's leadership, we would solve the climate change problem a lot faster." Mary Robinson*



### **Admire "Women Who Dare," - art exhibit – March 24-May 20**

In honor of Women's History Month, Danville's Village Theatre Art Gallery is partnering with the Bay Area Studio Artists to show paintings by women inspired by women in an exhibition called "Women Who Dare." The exhibition will run March 24 to May 20 and will feature imagery of women recognized as "trailblazers, leaders, and innovators of their time." The paintings will portray contemporary and historical women who have "dared to challenge societal norms to achieve their dreams."

The exhibit is organized and curated by Bay Area residents Joanne Taeuffer and Marcy Wheeler.

Find out more information:

<https://www.yourtownmonthly.com/event/village-theatre-art-gallery-women-who-dare/>



### **Hear how educators are adjusting to COVID and other issues in K-12 Education – March 30**

What have local educators learned from the COVID experience? What positive actions and initiatives have come from dealing with COVID? What is the most valuable strategy they've found for encouraging inclusion and equity?

Our March Program will be an excellent opportunity to hear about current developments and future plans in San Ramon Valley (SRV) schools. Joining in a moderated conversation will be panelists Vanessa Berastain, representing PTAs and the SRV Education Foundation, Debra Petish, providing a teacher's perspective and Dr. John Malloy, sharing the district administration's view.

Look for an email with RSVP information soon!



### **Savor the date! Wine tasting fundraiser April 22**

Plans are underway for a delicious wine tasting event at the beautiful property of our own branch vintner, Bette Felton. Ticket sales directly benefit our Local Scholarship program. Look for more details next month and mark your calendars for Friday, April 22 at 5:00 p.m.

## National AAUW Updates

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*“The terrible threats of climate change hold in them incredibly positive opportunities, and we’re trying to ride that wave.” Dessima Williams*



### Student Debt: Help Break the Cycle

According to [AAUW research](#), women hold about two-thirds of the country's \$1.7 trillion in student debt, with Black women bearing the greatest burden. Women can't strengthen our economy—or build their own economic security—when they're saddled with debt. [Take action today](#): Urge Congress to enact policies to end the cycle of student debt!

### Panel Discussion: Increasing Leadership and Economic Equity for Women and Work – March 16



The pandemic has spurred radical shifts in the workplace—which present an opportunity because women can't wait any longer for trickle-down change. Join AAUW Chief Executive Officer Gloria Blackwell on Wednesday, March 16, at 2 p.m. ET as she leads a panel discussion about the transformation we need to achieve equity at work. This [special webinar](#) is part of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women and UN Commission on the Status of Women.

## California AAUW Updates

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*“Buy less. Choose well. Make it last. Quality not quantity.” Vivienne Westwood*



### Attend the AAUW California annual event

California's annual virtual event this year will feature fabulous speakers AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell, policy rockstar Lisa Maatz, and Jasmine Sadler the dancing rocket scientist. Hear from our Speech Trek finalists and explore a variety of topics covering equity, women and girls. It will all be happening virtually on April 30. Watch for registration details.

*Charmen Goehring, Meetings Planner, [meetings@aauw-ca.org](mailto:meetings@aauw-ca.org)*



### **Honoring our AAUW Fund heroes**

Thank you branch members for being a part of California's significant contribution to the national AAUW Fund. Although we fell short of our lofty goal, we did raise **\$494,020**. Thank you for all you do to support our fellows and grant recipients!

*Lynne Batchelor, Secretary, AAUW Fund Committee Chair,  
aauwfund@aauw-ca.org*

### **Consider contributing to the Legacy Circle**



Consider AAUW in your estate planning. By making a planned gift to AAUW National, you become a member of the AAUW Legacy Circle and affirm your commitment to equity. These gifts, or bequests, are donations that you designate in your will, estate or trust.

There is no minimum gift requirement to join the Legacy Circle, and the benefits are many to you and your heirs. Including AAUW in your estate plans is a lovely way to leave an enduring legacy to support women and girls long into the future.

For further information click [Planned Giving – AAUW](#)

### **Understand unconscious bias and how it affects you**



While it is well known that people do not always speak their minds, exploring implicit or unconscious bias helps us realize that people do not always know their own minds. Implicit bias refers to the attribution of certain qualities to members of a particular group. Because these biases operate almost entirely on an unconscious level, they are different from prejudices that are intentional and controllable. It is not uncommon for someone to express support for a certain group, behavior, or belief while maintaining the opposite biases on a more unconscious level. Furthermore, implicit biases may not align with the personal identity an individual presents to the public. People can hold positive or negative associations toward their own group and oppose or align themselves with their oppressors or the oppressors of other groups.

Understanding the nature of implicit bias and self-realization promotes meaningful interactions with people of diverse backgrounds and physical characteristics. Opportunities to see others as individuals, not stereotypes, helps to reveal affinities in the differences between people and to build tolerance and understanding through familiarity. The rewards come in new

acquaintances, fresh ideas, more successful problem solving and the prospect of a more inclusive and equitable world view.

Take the Harvard Implicit Association Test [HERE](#). It is a great first step in recognizing we all have implicit biases.

*Elaine Johnson, Director and Janice Lee, DEI Committee Co-Chairs [diversity@aauw-ca.org](mailto:diversity@aauw-ca.org). Submitted by Lenore Gallin, DEI committee member*

## DAW Branch Reports

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*“The fact is, we will not be able to achieve Sustainable Development Goals without investing in women and girls.” Erna Solberg*



### **Get updates on public policy**

#### **California update – Assembly Bill AB 1788**

35th District Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham has introduced a new bill to the California State Assembly that advances the fight against human trafficking. Assembly Bill 1788 would allow city and district attorneys to penalize hotel or motel owners if supervisors knew, or should have known, that victims were being trafficked on site and did not contact law enforcement.



#### **Food facilities and employment – AB 257, as amended, Holden.**

Existing law prescribes various protections for employees and generally charges the Labor Commissioner with the enforcement of labor laws. Existing law establishes the powers and responsibilities of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health and the Division of Labor Standards and Enforcement, which are within the Department of Industrial Relations.

This bill would enact the Fast Food Accountability and Standards Recovery Act or FAST Recovery Act. The bill would establish the Fast Food Sector Council (council) within the Department of Industrial Relations, to be composed of 11 members to be appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Senate Rules Committee, and would prescribe its powers. The purpose of the council would be to establish sector wide minimum standards on wages, working hours, and other working conditions related to the health, safety, and welfare of, and supplying the necessary cost of proper living to, fast food restaurant workers, as well as effecting interagency coordination

and prompt agency responses in this regard. The bill would define the characteristics of a fast food restaurant, including that the establishment be part of a set of fast food restaurants consisting of 30 or more establishments nationally that share a common brand, or that are characterized by standardized options for decor, marketing, packaging, products, and services.

### **Covid 19 vaccination rules for school kids**



A new bill would supersede Gov. Newsom’s student COVID-19 vaccine mandate by requiring all kids in K-12 to get the shot by Jan. 1, 2023. Setting the stage Monday was state Sen. Richard Pan’s introduction of a bill that would supersede Gov. Gavin Newsom’s student COVID-19 vaccine mandate by eliminating the personal belief exemption — and requiring all kids in kindergarten to 12th grade to get the shot by Jan. 1, 2023. Under the Sacramento Democrat’s proposal, only students with rare medical exemptions could opt out.

### **Ukraine update**

Not since World War II have we come so close to the specter of another world war. Russia’s attack on Ukraine has mobilized NATO and unified people all over the world against this barbaric act of aggression. Unfortunately, no resolution is in sight, and sadly the civilian population is the most affected. Mr. Biden’s leadership in getting most of the countries to impose sanctions should hopefully bring some pressure on Mr. Putin.

Stay Alert! Stay engaged! Stay involved!

*Asha Bajaj, Public Policy chair Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW*

### **Spread the word about DAW with our social media channels**



#### *Facebook*

Find information about our branch’s programs, events and information from National and California AAUW offices. Our number of page “Likes” (have you “Liked” our page?) are at 181, up from 125 in September 2020.

Be sure to “like” and “share” posts. Please feel free to comment. All these actions activate Facebook algorithms that make our page more prominent. And by sharing AAUW information on your personal page, your friends learn about the great work we’re doing locally and nationally.

<https://www.facebook.com/DanvilleAlamoWalnutCreekAauw>

### *Instagram*

The main intent of Instagram is to quickly share photos and videos of our activities. We revived our DAW Instagram page in 2020 and now have 175 followers! Are you one of them? Please “like” and “share” (in your Instagram story) our posts to help spread the word about our programs and community work.

@danvillealamowc\_aauw

### *Twitter*

Find out the latest DAW news in fewer words on Twitter. Share our updates by “retweeting” to your followers.

@danvillealamowc

Visit the [National AAUW](#) and [California AAUW](#) websites to find links to their social media channels. And visit AAUW Calif Webinars– to watch/listen to video conferences or register for upcoming programs.

Still trying to figure out the difference between social media platforms? Check out this [Social Media explained with coffee](#) graphic.

*Isabel Lau, Social Media Manager*

## Membership Corner

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*“We are the guardians of the territories, of the rivers, of the continuity of life.”  
Ana Maria Hernandez*

### **Three reasons why we need advertisers**

We seek advertisers for the Advocate and our Membership Directory for three key reasons



- **Producing our Membership Directory** – With paid advertisements from \$175 to \$350, we create, print and distribute our annual directory to over 250 members including postage and printing.
- **Supporting our local businesses and member business owners** – We identify advertisers each year who are a great fit for our members in terms of the excellent services they provide. COVID has impacted small businesses and our branch events so let’s increase our



efforts this year to bolster local merchants and AAUW activities.

- **Holiday Home Tour and Garden Tour** – Advertising helps promote these events including ticket printing, postage and signage. With hundreds of participants, sponsors get great exposure including posters they can use for their own business promotion.

Thank you to our sponsors and to everyone who helps recruit them!

Know someone who might be interested in advertising with us? Send Marsha Anderson Landau the business name, personal contact and why you recommend them. Marsha will send them a portfolio containing all the relevant information.

*Marsha Anderson Landau marsha888@comcast.net, or 925-351-8188*

### **See faces from our February Membership coffee**



An intrepid crew of 13 braved a chilly morning to meet for coffee and the opportunity to socialize with fellow DAW branch members February 8. Thanks to Membership Committee member Liz Peters for getting us organized and helping to find tables among all the morning bike riders at Peet's!



L-R: Liz Peters, Vanessa Gloor and Sharon Cohune



L-R: Vanessa Gloor, Sharon Cohune, Susan Terzuoli and Tena Gallagher



**Meet a new member: Tricia Grame P.h.D.**

- ❖ **Roots:** I am originally from New York, now I live in Danville with my family and art studio.
- ❖ **Academics:** I did my doctorate research in Italy and Malta on ancient symbols of the female. I am the curator for the Women's Studies Department at the California Institute of Integral Studies in S.F. and an adjunct for both their MFA & Ph.D. programs.
- ❖ **Raison d'AAUW:** Promoting and educating young girls has been my life's work. I believe that by encouraging creativity, self identity through the power of art will surface and is essential.
- ❖ **Passions:** I am an educator, artist and curator of exhibitions by women artists.
  - I was the art commissioner for the Town of Danville for nine years, on the advisory committee for the Village Theatre Gallery and organize the Art Tours.
  - I started an Art Pal program in the orphanages in Vietnam, working with California art students.
  - I create two- and three-dimensional art that is inspired by prehistoric symbols.
  - I consider my art to be a dialogue, while attempting to invoke tradition, paying homage to the prehistoric symbols and renewing these images in contemporary art.
  - Archaeological remains of many prehistoric cultures provide abundant evidence of belief in the female as sacred, linking the past to the future in a continuing cycle of experience.

- My new series is "Where Did All The Girls Go," and I'm working on a book about famous male artists that included the female image in their work.
- For the last six years I have been organizing international, customized tours concentrating on art history. This June we are going to Italy with a professional Italian historian and photographer. We will be traveling to Venice, Florence, Rome and amazing towns in Tuscany.

Find out more at [www.tgrame.com](http://www.tgrame.com)

## DAW Interest Group Happenings

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*"It's not nice to fool mother nature." 1970s Chiffon Margarine commercial*



### Consider volunteering

Contra Costa County Commission for Women & Girls is looking for interested community members to fill vacant "At Large Seats". The Commission's mission is to improve the economic status, social welfare and overall quality of life for women in Contra Costa County. One of the commission's key actions is advising the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and assisting with potential legislation or relevant topics.

The Commission also conducts educational events for the community. For more information, visit their [website](#).

## From the Editor

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### Contribute to the Advocate

Send ideas, articles and pictures to Editor Stephanie Denman, [steph@denmans.us](mailto:steph@denmans.us) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to appear in the next issue. Submissions should be in the following format:

- Articles in a .doc or .docx file, or in the body of an email
- Pictures in .jpg format (compressed)

Find contact information about people mentioned in the Advocate on our [branch website](#) and in your directory. If you do not have a directory, contact Tena Gallagher.








### **Handle Money Matters Here**

Please send expense vouchers or deposits to our AAUW P.O. Box 996 in Alamo, 94507 for expedited processing. Refer to our branch website for specific forms and instructions – Click on [Members Page](#).

## Our Wonderful Sponsors

Know someone who may be interested in becoming an advertiser? Contact Marsha Anderson Landau, email: [marsha888@comcast.net](mailto:marsha888@comcast.net), or call (925) 351-8188.

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	<p><i>Stay curious...join us in lifelong learning.</i></p> <p>Bette Felton*</p> <p><a href="http://www.scholarolli.com">www.scholarolli.com</a></p>

\*DAW AAUW 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, 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.

Stephanie Denman, Acting Editor  
Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW  
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