



Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek (CA)



April 2023 Advocate

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

Third Thursday Member Meeting - April

Women's Power and Evolving Image in Art

Thursday April 20, 2023, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Greenbrook Clubhouse, 300 Greenbrook Drive, Danville

Featured Speaker: Tricia Grame, PhD Integral Studies, California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco

Join us for our Third Thursday Member Meeting on April 20. In addition to our usual social time, we will learn about the evolution of women's power and self-image expressed through the visual imagery of the female form in art.

From ancient fertility images to contemporary art, the female body has often been a focus of art works. Undoubtedly, these visuals have affected how we think, how we want to look, and what defines beauty. Tricia will trace the evolution and cultural impact of a few select famous paintings of the female body created by male artists throughout the history of art, including more current times when sexual imagery is used for the purpose of marketing, potentially damaging women's self-esteem and identity.

Today the visual imagery of the female form in art, advertising and media has changed drastically. After giving the background of past depictions of women in art, she will discuss women artists that inspire us and are dramatically changing the art world to no longer see women as art objects. Contemporary female artists have the freedom to use their own vision - from two and three dimensional to performance art - and they will leave their indelible, permanent mark in art history.

For more information about the program and to RSVP - [Click here](#)

Tricia Grame, Ph.D moved from New York to California, where she pursued her education, earning a Teaching Credential, a Masters in Art Education and a Masters in Art History. She continued with graduate courses at the University of Berkeley, California College of the Arts, Oakland, and the California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco.

She's traveled extensively in Asia, Europe, and South America, and organizes yearly art educational tours to Europe and South America for students and adults. Her passion is creating two and three



dimensional art inspired by her research in Italy and Malta about ancient female symbols. She integrates natural materials with her subject matter and historical narrative into her art works. Her research and the art she creates is about the evolution of the images of the female form in art history, education and most importantly her enduring cultural impact on self-identity, gender roles, the validity of symbolism, the position of the female images in society and the fallacy of the Beauty Myth.

Co-Presidents' Message

By Christine Ritter and Joanne Quijano, Co-Presidents

March certainly roared like a lion this year! While the rain is greatly needed, we are getting tired of being soggy and having to weather all of the wild storms. Hopefully April will bring more moderate days, green hillsides, and plenty of flowers for all of us to enjoy.

The time for our branch's Garden Tour is getting closer and closer, gardens are being readied, raffle plans are being finalized, sponsors are ready, and excitement is building. Be sure to get your ticket and invite your friends! There are also still plenty of opportunities for you to be part of the action – take a look at the Garden Tour website to see how you can participate.



Chris Ritter



Joanne Quijano

It's encouraging to see the activity under way with our Teck Trek and Local Scholarship committees! Both teams have received plenty of applications from interested students and are in the process of identifying the best candidates for their respective initiatives. It will be very gratifying to learn about the final awardees in these areas.

The last formal program for this fiscal year will be at this month's Third Thursday Member Meeting. It should be very interesting to hear branch member Tricia Grame's talk about the evolution of women's images in art and how women are now changing the traditional narrative. Women artists are more powerful than ever! Then instead of a program, our May Member Meeting will be a celebration of our Garden Tour and other fundraising successes along with brainstorming ideas for next year's activities. We look forward to sharing and learning your thoughts for the branch's direction.

As our fiscal year winds down, we need to look ahead to the coming year and identify members to fill our board positions for 2023-24. If you are interested in shaping the future of our branch in fulfilling our mission and continuing our initiatives, here's your chance to step up! New members are particularly welcome to join the board under the guidance of the outgoing member in that position. No previous experience is required – just your interest and enthusiasm. Great starter positions include the FUNDS VP, Secretary, Hospitality Chair, and Membership VP positions. Look for more information in this edition about open board positions and participating on the Nominating Committee.

Wishing you all a happy transition to the warm days of spring!



April Checklist

- April 20, 6:00 pm – DAW Third Thursday Member Meeting – Women’s Power in Art [RSVP here](#)
 - April 22, 2023 Zoom – AAUW California Annual Event - [ACADEMY AAUWARDS](#)
 - May 12, 10 am to 4 pm – DAW Garden Tour [Click Here to Volunteer](#)
 - May 13, 10 am to 4 pm – DAW Garden Tour
 - May 18, 6:00 pm – DAW Third Thursday Member Meeting – Member Social [Save the date](#)
 - [Donate here](#) to support DAW branch programs
 - **Volunteer!** – Board and committee positions are open for 2023-24! Learn more [here](#)
-

Third Thursday Member Meeting – May

Member Social and Garden Tour Celebration

Thursday May 18, 2023, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Greenbrook Clubhouse, 300 Greenbrook Drive, Danville

Join your fellow members for a social event to celebrate our successful Garden Tour! There won’t be a formal program, this will be a chance to relax and thank all of our many members and friends who contributed to the tour as well as to socialize with all of our branch members. We will have refreshments and beverages for all to enjoy.



Save the date!

March Third Thursday Member Meeting Recap –

Educational Equity: Student Wellness Initiatives – A Whole Child Approach to Education

By Christine Ritter, Co-president

The meeting’s social time featured refreshments including shamrock green cupcakes and cookies, and Irish Coffee beverages in honor of St Patrick’s Day. With the business part of the meeting, the topic was a review of our progress in making a difference in our five focus areas for the year. If you missed this, please take a look at the chart on the Make a Difference article in this edition – I think you will be proud to support his work.

Then the speakers for the evening’s program were Cindy Dunn, Bancroft Elementary School Principal, and Laney Cline King, MSW, LCSW, GHK Program Director. They informed us about a wonderful garden learning program, called “Growing Healthy Kids”, that has been launched in some of the lower performing elementary schools in the county. This program uses the 3-D learning environment of the garden to teach math, science, art and to get students excited about coming to school.

[Click Here](#) to learn more about this Third Thursday Member Meeting to see the presentation slides.

[Click Here](#) to learn more about the “Growing Healthy Kids” educational program.



Photos from the March Member Meeting

The Month of the Woman – Honoring Beverly Lane

There are many women to be honored this past month given it was Womens' History Month. We choose to honor one from our locality. Beverly Lane has been quite involved in our community giving 50 years of service to the Museum of San Ramon Valley. She has also been the Danville Mayor and served on the town council. She has donated her time to the East Bay Regional Park District board and Save Mount Diablo. She worked to establish the Iron Horse Trail and the Concord Naval Weapons Station into parks for us to enjoy.



We appreciate all she's done to make our area a better place and we are inspired by her commitment to making a difference!

Garden Tour May 2023 Is on Its Way!



The 2023 Garden Tour committee is busily working on plans for activities that will enhance the experience for tour visitors. Of course, we know everyone will enjoy seeing the five wonderful local gardens selected around the theme of ***Gardens that Inspire***. In addition to having beautiful garden scenery and vistas, each location will host an added activity. To start with, we'll provide sweet and savory treats on the patio of one of the garden locations to give attendees a chance to relax and mingle. Then to pique your interest, the other four gardens will host the following added attractions:

Quilt Raffle: At one garden, we'll have this traditional raffle for a beautiful quilt, personally created by branch member Mary Mix. Tickets for this raffle will be available onsite or you can get them online in advance by clicking [here](#).

Basket Raffle: Creative baskets will once again be available at another location. Each one-of-a-kind basket will be filled with delightful items designed to bring joy and inspiration. Tickets for this raffle will be available to purchase onsite.

Garden Art Raffle: New for 2023, fascinating garden plantings, and artwork from members and sponsors will be displayed for this raffle at one garden. The selections will include artful bowls, arrangements, and creative pieces. You'll have to see these creations and be sure to buy raffle tickets at the location.

Plein Aire Painting: In another first for 2023, our talented branch member, Sharon Cohune, will be painting in the fifth garden during the tour. This will be a great chance to see her creative process in action.

Hopefully you've been enticed to attend the 2023 Garden Tour! It will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 12 and 13, 2023 from 10 am to 4 pm. **Tickets are available for \$40.00 per person before May 1, or \$45 after May 1.** All proceeds from the tour tickets and raffles will go directly to our branch's local scholarships program. Note that the winning raffle tickets will be drawn Saturday afternoon and winners need not be present.

Click [HERE](#) for more about the tour, to buy tickets, and to volunteer.

Naturally, the Garden Tour wouldn't be possible without the help of our gracious branch members. With five beautiful gardens, each needing two shifts of docents and helpers for the both days of the tour, along with the raffle and refreshment sites, there are many opportunities for volunteers!

Please thank them by patronizing our generous 2023 Garden Tour Sponsors –

Gold Sponsors:



Silver Sponsor:



Branch Elections – Consider a branch board position!

The 2022-23 fiscal year for our branch will be drawing to a close in just a few months. Now it's time to identify candidates to fill out next year's executive board. To start with, we need volunteers for the Nominating Committee. This is an important team that will search out and follow up potential candidates for the branch's elected Executive Board.



Are you interested in getting more active in supporting our branch? Then please consider volunteering for one of the board positions! Past officers will be available to help, and we will continue to encourage teams to work with many of our board officers.

Please contact either co-president Joanne Quijano or Chris Ritter for more information or to volunteer for the Nominating Committee or a board position. To learn more about the branch's elected positions, visit our website [HERE](#) and go to page ii for a list of elected positions.

Public Policy Update

By Asha Bajaj and Ogie Strogatz, Public Policy Co-chairs

AAUW California reviewed the current state legislature bills and picked 3 to support and co-sponsor. These bills were presented to legislators on AAUW California's Lobby Day held on March 21 and 22.

Here is a short re-cap of the bills –

AB1394 – authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

This bill addresses the soaring rates of child sexual exploitation and sex trafficking by amending current law to hold social media platforms accountable to survivors.

It would allow victims of child sexual exploitation and trafficking to sue a social media platform for between \$1 million and \$5 million if the victim can prove the platform design knowingly, recklessly or negligently facilitated the use of code words for sexual predators to describe the type of child and the type of sexual activity that resulted in the act of exploitation.

SB287 – authored by Senator Nancy Skinner

This bill would prohibit a social media platform from using a design, algorithm, or feature that the platform knows, or should know, causes child users to: purchase fentanyl; inflict harm on themselves or others; develop an eating disorder or engage in dangerous dieting; purposely take their own lives; and/or experience addiction to the social media platform. A victim of any of these consequences can sue the platform for up to \$250,000 for each violation.

AB549 -co-authored by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahn and Assemblymember Lisa Calderon

The convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women referred to as CEDAW was an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nation General assembly. It has been described as an international bill of women's rights. This bill requires all state agencies to conduct an evaluation of all their departments to ensure the state does not discriminate against women, and report their findings every 2 years and adopt the language of the CEDAW declaration of the UN in 1979 regarding equal opportunities for women.

Stay involved! Stay alert! Stay engaged!

A History-Making Month for Women and Girls – A message from AAUW's CEO

Women's History Month is the perfect time to reflect on the progress we've made for generations. AAUW makes history every month through our programs, advocacy and philanthropy. As President Biden noted at the White House Women's History Month celebration, which I had the privilege to attend, "We reaffirm our commitment to advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls in the United States and around the world."

And so does AAUW. Visit our [homepage](#) to see just a few examples of the diverse women who have blazed trails in every field since AAUW's founding in 1881.

As we move into a busy spring, women's economic security remains our top policy priority. March's Equal Pay Day—where we noted all women workers made only 77% of all men's earnings in 2021—reinforced that we must push policymakers to [pass the recently reintroduced Paycheck Fairness Act](#) and take definitive action to relieve student-loan debt.

A few weeks ago, I was honored to represent AAUW at the 67th NGO Committee on the Status of Women Forum and UN Commission on the Status of Women (NGO CSW67). Our expert panel of fellowship recipients discussed ensuring women aren't left behind in tech fields and emphasized the urgency of closing the digital gender divide. Programs that engage curious teens—like [AAUW's STEMEd for Girls](#)—are part of the difference we're making today to build success for tomorrow.



In Solidarity, Gloria L. Blackwell, Chief Executive Officer

“Make a Difference” Update

By Chris Ritter, Co-President

We continue to make progress in our five focus areas for 2022-23. Here’s an update of our latest progress and planned next steps.



Focus Area	Progress to Date	Next Steps
Advancing Women in Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOV TREK - 15 girls from the East Bay. • Join the Gov Trek Student Presentations on Saturday, March 25, 10 am – 12:30 pm. • Lobby Day - registered branch members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering Women Through Art - April program
Advancing Education Equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising – Complete for 2022/23 Local Scholarships and Tech Trek camperships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Wellness Initiatives -March Program • Garden Tour – gaining new sponsors • Tech Trek – camper selection underway • Local Scholarships -applications being evaluated
Supporting Implementation of Title IX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title IX: Fast Forward 50 Years – November Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate members on new Title IX Rules to be released by Biden in May.
Supporting Foster Care Students in Transition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One 2023 Local Scholarship for a Renaissance Scholars transitioning foster care student in the program at Cal State East Bay. • What’s Next after Foster Care? - February Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renaissance Scholar applicants recruited for our branch Local Scholarship
Protecting Women’s Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal Status of Reproductive Rights - September Membership Brunch Speaker • Providing Health Care to Women Experiencing Violence - January program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support National AAUW Rally for Reproductive Rights – support Women’s Health Protection www.aauw.org/resources/policy/rallying-for-repro-rights/ • Continue to build women’s self-confidence to help us avoid abusive situations.

Interest Group Update – Evening Book Group

By Linda Jimerson, Interest Group Lead

Our AAUW Evening Book Group has been in existence for over 25 years with many of the same members! We individually nominate books and then vote for our selections for the year. We meet from September to June when we have a grand potluck based upon the last book we've read. As you can see - we are a full group and we cannot take new members. However, there are branch Daytime Book Groups that are open (see the branch website [here](#) for info).

And, if you prefer an **Evening** group and are interested in being a part of a NEW charter Evening Book group, we would love to put you together with like-minded members. We can mentor your new group as needed. Just drop our group lead an email lindajimerson@comcast.net. We will gather names and get back to you.



Seated left to right: Dianne Tinnies, Judy Lauper, Carol Allen, Judy Halden, and Nadine Rosenzweig (on zoom!). Standing left to right: Carol Highton, Pat DeRensis, Sandy Shalon, Roberta Black, Bev Nidick, Linda Jimerson, Jennifer Brandenburg, Dot Healy, Monika Witte, and Alicia Jones.

Our branch has a wide variety of Interest Groups

Joining an Interest Group gives you the opportunity to have fun and get to know other women in the branch while sharing a common interest. Some Interest Groups are also open to significant others. Visit our website [here](#) for the latest about the groups and the leaders to contact.

Some of our many Interest Groups are:

Art and Garden, Beads2jewelry, Bridge = 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Mondays, Gourmet: Culinary Navigators, Gourmet: Epicureans, Great Decisions, Hiking, Literature: Contemporary Books, Literature: Morning, Literature: Novel Ideas, Movies: Cinema 1, Movies: First Friday Film, Movies: Oscars, Needle Arts, and Writers.

AAUW National Updates

Two Can't-Miss Inclusion & Equity Webinars

AAUW's national Inclusion & Equity Committee is pleased to offer two engaging and informative webinars this spring. On Monday, April 24, from 2:00–3:00 p.m. ET, we'll share information with local branches and states as they prepare for [Celebrate Diversity Month](#) in April and the World Day for Cultural Diversity on May 21. Then, on Wednesday, May 10, from 7:30 pm–9:00 pm ET, we'll provide a [hands-on learning opportunity](#) for AAUW members to explore aspects of diversity and intersectionality. Please join us!

Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act

On March 14—Equal Pay Day—U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) and Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) reintroduced the Paycheck Fairness Act, legislation that would update and strengthen the Equal Pay Act of 1963 to help close the gender pay gap. Tell Congress to support pay equity and [pass the Paycheck Fairness Act](#).

Congrats AAUW Art Contest Winners

We're excited to announce that the winners our 14th Annual [Art Contest](#) are: Alissa Crispin, Chobi DebRoy, Jemetta Hunt and Christine Panero. Check out their inspiring works in our [online gallery](#) and look for your special notecards featuring the winning entries this spring!

Meet AAUW's History-Makers

Since 1881, AAUW members, fellows and awardees have made pioneering advances in virtually every field. Check out our ["Faces of AAUW"](#) online gallery of trailblazing women, which includes Marie Curie, the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in 1903; Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1969; current Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor; and so many more. It's the perfect way to reflect and remember AAUW's world-changing impact this Women's History Month!

AAUW California Updates

California AAUW FUND

By Karen Vanderwerken, Director, AAUW Fund Committee Chair, aaufund@aauw-ca.org

DONATIONS SOAR! Your determination and generosity helped AAUW donations reach even higher levels of giving. As of 12/31/2002, the donations were: \$595,562 by individuals \$124,300 by branches \$719,862 total Kudos to all branches! Your branch donation report from National was sent on February 24th to branch presidents and Fund directors.

Great news:

- 42 branches requested Named Gift certificates.
- 5 branches sent State Named Gift nominations. The recipient of that important award will be announced at the online Academy AAUWards on April 22nd.

Annual Event

By Charmen Goehring, Meetings Planner, meetings@aauw-ca.org

Lights, Camera, Action! Get Ready For The [Academy Auwards](#) Coming On April 22, 2023, On Your Zoom Screen! We have two amazing speakers planned for you amongst all the red-carpet happenings and awards. We will be hearing from AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell. Gloria is also our main representative to the United Nations. Gloria spent 15 years managing our Fellowships and Grants program, awarding over \$70 million in funding to women scholars and programs in the U.S. and overseas. She has worked to increase girls' participation in STEM and to increase AAUW's outreach to girls and women of color. We will also get to meet Secretary Eileen M. Vélez Vega, who is serving as the first woman Secretary of the Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works. Ms. Velez Vega, an engineer who is a fierce advocate for girls in STEM, has an inspiring story to tell. She is also a colleague of our very own Tech Trek Program Director, Mary Issac.

Get ready for a fun-filled event worthy of a Hollywood red carpet. Join us on April 22nd as we celebrate AAUW California and our fantastic branches and members!

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

by Stormy Miller Sabia, Director, DEI Committee Chair, diversity@aauw-ca.org

Dei Statewide Chat: What Is JABEID? And Why Is It Important To AAUW? How can we co-create spaces and embody Justice, Accessibility, Belonging, Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity (JABEID)? We often hear these terms but may struggle with ways we can put them into practice in our branch meetings, programs, and outreach. Join us for a rich conversation led by Dr. Lata Muri, Co-President of the Santa Maria Branch. Dr. Murti is Associate Professor of Sociology for the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Global and author of *With and Without the White Coat: The Racialization of Southern California's Indian Physicians*. While this session was held March 27th, you can view the recording. Click [HERE](#).

Nominations and Elections

by Charmen Goehring, Nominations & Elections Chair, nominating@aauw-ca.org

Why Wait Until May? The nomination period for board candidates has ended and it turns out that we have exactly the number of candidates that we need. According to our bylaws, we do not need to hold an election and those candidates are automatically welcomed to the board. So, congratulations to **President-Elect Charmen Goehring, Chief Financial Officer Kathy Ford, and Directors Amy Hom, Melissa Maceyko, and Sigrid Moranz**. We appreciate these members stepping up into leadership on the state board for the next couple of years. See their profiles on the candidate page of our website [HERE](#).

We will still be voting on the Public Policy Priorities this spring. The state election voting period will be April 22- May 13. You will have the opportunity to vote for new Public Policy Priorities for 2023-2025. Each member with an email address on file will receive an email with a link to their ballot. Members without email will receive a paper ballot. The proposed Public Policy Priorities will be posted on the website soon. Please check for them!

Public Policy

By Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

The Gender Pay Gap Is Alive And Not Well! Big news this month is that National is changing its methodology and terminology in terms of discussing the gender pay gap. They are asking that we no

longer talk about it in terms of “the day that women ‘catch up’ to men,” the feeling being that we will never catch up! They are asking that we focus on the size of the gap itself. They are providing statistics specifying that the gap for “all women vs all men for all full-time workers” = 84%; and for “all women vs all men for all workers, including parttime and seasonal” = 77%. These are the numbers that will be used for the “all women” Equal Pay Day date of March 14th. For all non-white women, the same measurement is being applied within that group and specific dates have been assigned. See [National's Equal Pay page](#) for percentages and dates.

Other big news: National has finally hired a new Public Policy Director. Her name is Meghan Kissell. She was the Public Policy Field Director in 2012-15.

From the Editor *Roseann Krane*

Contribute to the Advocate - Send ideas, articles, and pictures by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue. Please use the [Submittal Form](#) on our website to direct your contribution to the Advocate, or other DAW social media, to our communications team.

Submissions should be in the following format:

- Articles in a .doc or .docx file, or in the body of an email
- Calibri font, size 12
- Pictures in .jpg format (compressed)
- Permissions set for editing

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.

From the Treasurer *Monika Witte*

Handle money matters here - Please send expense vouchers or deposits to our AAUW mailbox at: P.O. Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507 for expedited processing. Refer to our branch website for specific forms and instructions – Click on [Members Page](#)

From the Corresponding Secretary *Julie Grisham*

Know someone who needs a note? - Julie Grisham, our Corresponding Secretary, sends cards on behalf of our branch. If you know of an AAUW-DAW member in need of a get well, condolence or congratulations card, contact Julie via email [here](#).

Our Wonderful Sponsors

We're always looking for new advertisers. Funds go toward branch expenses such as printing, creating the Membership Directory, and postage. Advertisers' names and businesses will appear in our fall Membership Directory, the monthly Advocate, and on our branch website. For more information, please visit our website at <https://daw-ca.aauw.net/support/>



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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.

Roseann Krane, Editor
AAUW Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch
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