

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
February 2021

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>
Issue 7, 11 Issues Annually



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.



Sue's News

Welcome to 2021. We have had our first virtual branch meeting of 2021 and enjoyed listening to the informative talk by the director of YouthHope of Redlands, Heidi Meyer. A number of members joined the social meeting before the webinar and not only enjoyed catching up on how everyone is doing but had fun playing with the virtual backgrounds on Zoom. More and more members are becoming familiar with how to use Zoom, and that's good because it looks like we will continue using Zoom for our meetings for the spring of 2021. The Redlands AAUW Branch Board met on Monday, January 11, and was pleased to receive an \$800 grant from the Redlands Community Foundation for our RUSD STEM Conference. The other good news is we will be able to host all 8th grade RUSD girls this year because we are doing it as a webinar online. We also voted to increase the number of Crafton Hills College and University of Redlands students we will sponsor to attend the NCCWSL Conference this year from 2 to 8. The Conference will be offered online, and thus, the cost is much less, allowing us to sponsor more students this year. One more piece of good news for members. Priya Vedula, our Communications Vice-President, and Sheron Bealer are going to be researching a method for us to offer a Redlands AAUW Branch Membership Directory online next year that will allow us to have photographs of our members.

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February Branch Meeting

Named Gift Honorees

We proudly honor three branch members as Named Gift Honorees. These three women have made outstanding contributions to our branch. For every \$750 our branch donates to the AAUW Fund, we may designate a named gift honoree. We are pleased to give them special recognition.

AAUW Fund Fellowship/Grant Speaker



Jamelia Harris, an AAUW Fund American Fellowship 2020 recipient, will present an overview of her project, "Hidden Roses: Navigating, Resisting and Reclaiming Geographies of Misogynoir Violence Among Black Girls at Desert Rose High School". Ms. Harris's research questions how antiblackness, sexism, power and space/place perpetuate the hyper-punishment and domination black girls face in school. She explores the daily experiences of misogynoir violence on black girls in a "ghettoized" high school. Using a black feminist group-storytelling methodology, she examines how her young subjects self-define black girlhood and co-construct knowledge. Jamilia, a community organizer who has worked with a number of campaigns, including "Say Her Name", is a tenured UCLA faculty researcher in the field of Education at UCLA, where she is pursuing her PhD in Black Girlhood Studies.

~Kathryn Brown, AAUW Fund Program Coordinator

February Branch Meeting

Saturday, February 6, 2021
Social 9:30 a.m. Zoom
Program 10:00 a.m. Webinar

Prior to February 6th, you will receive an email inviting you to join both the ZOOM SOCIAL and WEBINAR.

TO ATTEND ZOOM SOCIAL

(no registration required)

On February 6 @ 9:30 a.m.
open original email and click
on the link.

TO ATTEND WEBINAR

you must register in advance:

- 1) Click on the link to "Register in advance for this Webinar."
- 2) After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.
- 3) On February 6 at 10:00 a.m., open the confirmation email and click on

[Click Here to Join](#) link

Questions?

Contact Kay Dobbertin by text or email

Branch Meetings:

2020-2021

Saturday, 3/6 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, 4/6 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 5/4 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, 6/5 9:30 a.m.

| February 2021 | AUW Redlands Calendar |
|------------------------|--|
| Saturday, February 6 | Branch Meeting 9:30 am social via Zoom & 10:00 pm program via Webinar |
| Monday, February 8 | AAUW Redlands Board Meeting 6:00 pm via Zoom ~Sue Wallace |
| Tuesday, February 16 | CHAT meeting 6:00 pm via Zoom ~Katherine Gifford 909-798-7565 literacy@akspl.org |
| Wednesday, February 17 | I Am, Therefore I Think "Racism: Changing the Discussion" Facilitator: Erica Wilson 12:00-2:00 pm (12-12:30 informal brown bag lunch) ~Viktoria Norberg & Ellen Schollenberger |
| Thursday, February 25 | Reading and Rainbow The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color Blindness by Michelle Alexander 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm via Zoom ~Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown |

Branch Officers: **President:** Sue Wallace, **President-elect:** Erica Wilson, **Communications Vice President:** Priya Vedula, **Hospitality Vice President:** Sue Ferguson, **Membership Vice President:** Shelley Bodnar, **Program Vice President:** Martha Lehman, **Secretary:** Nerni Miller, **Treasurer:** Ellen Weiss, **At-Large Board Members:** Judy Dods, Mary Lou Guerrero, Barbara Simmons

B&T Submission:
The deadline for the **March newsletter** will be **February 15th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to news@aauw-redlands-ca.org

What Is The AAUW Fund?

The AAUW Fund is the arm of AAUW National by which we join together to provide the financial resources needed to create change, advance equity, and empower women and girls. Since 1888, AAUW's fellowships and grants program has awarded more than \$122 million dollars to more than 13,000 women and nonprofit organizations — making it one of the few, and one of the leading, sources of funding exclusively for the benefit of women and girls. In 2020 alone, the AAUW Fund awarded \$3.5 million dollars in funding for fellowships and grants to 200 women and nonprofit organizations. Twenty eight of the recipients are in California, including our upcoming February 6 speaker, Jamelia Harris. AAUW awarded its very first grant 131 years ago to Ida Street, a pioneer in the field of early American Indian History. The amount was \$350, equivalent to over \$9,000 today. During the first half of the 20th Century, the AAUW Fund was instrumental in the creation of the women's units of the armed forces, advocating equal pay and rank for the women who served their country. In 1920, chemist Marie Curie told journalist Marie Meloney, "I need a gram of radium to continue my research, but I cannot buy it; radium is too dear for me." At that time, a gram of radium cost \$100,000, which is almost \$3 million in today's currency. The Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the predecessor to AAUW, formed the Marie Curie Radium Fund and raised the \$100,000 to buy the radium, plus an additional \$56,414. When Madame Curie and her two daughters visited the United States in 1921, the AAUW New York City branch organized an event in her honor at Carnegie Hall; she then traveled to Washington D.C., where President Warren Harding hosted her at the White House and presented her with the gram of radium in a lead-lined box. The additional money raised was given to Madame Curie for her research; the remainder eventually became AAUW's Marie Curie Fellowship, awarded first in 1963, to support a French or American woman studying Chemistry, Physics, or Radiology. Over time, the AAUW Fund has also supported the work of environmentalist Rachel Carson, author Susan Sontag, and Challenger astronaut Judith Resnik. The AAUW-funded survey "Campus 1970: Where Do Women Stand?" helped lead to the creation of Title IX (nine).

In 2020, individual members of our AAUW Redlands Branch donated almost \$4000 to the AAUW Fund. Our Redlands AAUW Branch also donated \$900 from the proceeds of our October 2020 Footlighters Event. Please consider making a 2021 individual fully tax-deductible donation to the AAUW Fund. You can do so in one of three ways: by mailing a check to AAUW Fund, PO Box 98045, Washington, DC 20090-8045, or by contributing online at www.aauw.org/contribute, or by calling 800-326-2289.

~Kathryn Brown, AAUW Fund Chair

The President's Corner – Sue Wallace

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As our membership has grown through the years, it has become more and more difficult to put names and faces together. This will be a welcome addition to our printed directory. I am looking forward to seeing more of you attend our Zoom virtual branch social and webinar meetings in the future. Hopefully, with the COVID 19 vaccinations it will be possible for us to begin to meet together in person again beginning in September of 2021, but for now stay safe and healthy.

Watch January Branch Meeting On YOUTUBE

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VKPSkej3Ao.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VKPSkej3Ao)

Membership news

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR YEARBOOK:

Cathryn Oltman



Hospitality Birthday Club

Please let us know if we missed anyone!

February Birthdays:

Rosemary Conway
Kay Dobbertin
Judy Elder
Ginny Evans-Perry
Janice Jacobson
Cheryl Jordan
Loes Knutson
Kathleen Presnell-Best
Renae Reiswig
Nelda Stuck
Denise Westcott

August Birthdays:

Heather Abushanab
Gail Anderson
Susie Brainard
Cid Breyer
Roslyn Dunn
Joyce Heitmeier
Martha Lehman
Ann Marshall
Betty Meltzer
Toni Momberger
Cathy Curtis Odegaard
Jane Roberts
Anne Sandel
Susan Shodahl
Susan Willis



Mary Belle Clark

Condolences to the family of friends of Mary Belle Clark who passed away in December at age 93. Mary Belle, along with Bessie Reece and Ann Harding, chaired the Pass Math-Science Conference for many many years. In 2004, Mary Belle was the recipient of the AAUW Redlands Branch's Named Gift Honoree award.

The STEM committee was contacted by her daughter, Maggie Bush.

National AAUW Bylaw Amendment

This spring, the AAUW membership will vote on an important proposal to amend the AAUW bylaws to open membership and eliminate the degree requirement to join AAUW. The national AAUW Board of Directors strongly supports the proposal, along with dozens of member leaders across the country. They believe this is an essential step toward making AAUW a more diverse and inclusive organization, better aligned with our mission, values, and the needs of women today.

Now through February 5, 2021, you can provide thoughts and comments on the proposed changes to the AAUW bylaws as well as proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities. To learn more about the proposed changes and submit your feedback, please visit the [National AAUW website](#). Simply type in the search window "AAUW Elections." Voting will open on April 7 and close May 27, 2021.





College/University Partnership NCCWSL Scholarship Awardees

Good news about NCCWSL!

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders was postponed in 2020 for good reason. It is normally held at the University of Maryland at the end of May. We have been waiting to hear about NCCWSL 2021, and the wait is over.

NCCWSL will be virtual. The two young women selected by our branch to attend in 2020, Jessica Lopez (Crafton Hills College) and Brooke McBay (University of Redlands), will be able to "attend" the 2021 conference on May 25-26. The virtual conference features the same leadership inspiration as its face-to-face version. One of the key speakers will be Brittney Cooper, who is in both the Women & Gender Studies Department and the Africana Studies Department at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

Our board approved the idea that we send three additional students from Crafton Hills College and three more from the University of Redlands to this virtual conference 2021. As you read this newsletter, the application process is in place .

High fives to all of you for your support in this endeavor to promote and develop leadership skills in young collegiate women.

~Pam Ford and Susan Bangasser, College and University Partnership Committee

Great Decisions Interest Groups



We do plan on having the Great Decisions discussion groups this spring by Zoom virtual meetings. The Great Decisions book has 8 different articles on 8 different foreign policy issues. The paperback books are developed by the American Foreign Policy Association and are published in January of each year, so the topics are very timely. Sue Ferguson has ordered books for the following people per their request: Sue Ferguson, Susan Bangasser, Kathryn Brown, Kathy Toister, Kathy Presnell-Best, Mary Lou Guerrero, Sue Cranston, Sue Wallace, Valerie Boone, Kay Dobbertin, Theresa Lantz, and Dorothy Nordquist. As soon as Sue Ferguson receives the books, she will make arrangements to disburse them. There will be two discussion groups, one on Monday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. and one on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. The meetings will begin the first week in March and run for 8 weeks. If you would like to join either discussion group but have not ordered a book through Sue Ferguson, it is still possible for you to join. Simply notify Sue Wallace if you want to join the Monday afternoon group or Sue Ferguson if you want to join the Wednesday evening group. You will need to go online and order your book. Go to https://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/ and click on Program Materials. You can order your book directly from the Foreign Policy Association. The cost is \$32.00 + shipping. The discussion meetings will be handled through zoom. The Zoom links will be sent by email to those who wish to participate.

~Sue Wallace

9th Annual Lunafest

Stay tuned for information regarding Lunafest 2021! If you are interested in being on the Lunafest Planning Committee, please contact Heather Abushanab for the meeting Zoom link.



The 2021 Art Contest through February 3

In the art world women are underrepresented and undervalued. Only a third of artists represented by commercial galleries are women and women working in arts professions are paid on average 74 cents to every dollar paid

to men. This is what motivates AAUW to host an annual art contest — to give women artists the attention they deserve.

Are you an AAUW member with a passion for creating works of art? This year's contest begins on January 6 with entries accepted through February 3. Voting opens on February 10 and will close on March 3. The six winning entries will be featured in a collection of notecards mailed to AAUW members in the spring. Please consult the contest rules <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/initiatives/art-contest/> for helpful tips on ensuring a quality entry. We look forward to seeing your works of art this year!



AAUW STEM
REDLANDS BRANCH

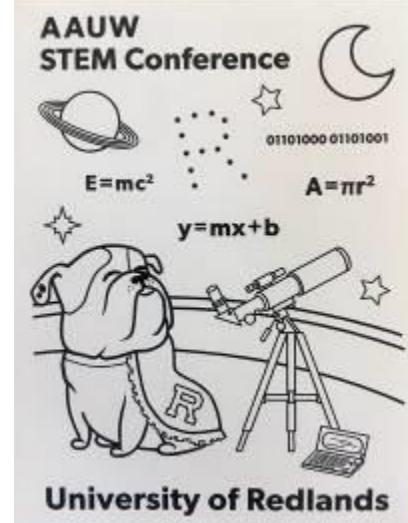
2021 STEM Conferences on Track for March!

On the first two Fridays in March, the over 800 8th grade girls who attend RUSD's middle schools will log into their virtual classroom to spend a unique, "virtual field trip" day, participating in our AAUW Redlands Branch 27th Annual STEM Conference. After being welcomed to the conference by representatives of AAUW Redlands, Crafton Hills College, and the University of Redlands, each girl will attend three 45-minute workshops designed to spark their interest in STEM education and careers. Our STEM committee has recruited an all-female, interest-diverse group of 28 speaker volunteers who will discuss their STEM-influenced career and educational pursuits via workshops with titles such as "Animatronics: Science + Magic"; "Digital Storytelling: Telling Your Story with ArcGIS StoryMaps"; "An Electrified Future"; "Building a Computational Mindset Using Robotics" and many more. While several of the speakers are returning this year after having participated in the on-campus conferences of the past, others are able to volunteer for the conference for the first time because they do not have to travel the distance to Redlands to take part. Each virtual classroom will be limited to 25 students, giving each girl the opportunity to interact with the speaker.

8th Grade students in the Yucaipa, Beaumont, and Banning district schools (along with the Grove School in Redlands) will have the opportunity to view many of the same speakers via videos posted on our new AAUW Redlands STEM YouTube Channel, which is expected to be activated in mid-March. AAUW STEM volunteers are working closely with the school districts to facilitate use of the videos in math and science classrooms.

All students participating in both conferences will be provided with packets containing supplemental handouts and conference-day mementos such as a U of R sticker, AAUW STEM pin and pens featuring the logo of either Crafton Hills College or Mt. San Jacinto College.

Evie Smith, 12 (granddaughter of Sheron Bealer) teamed up with Jennifer Bell of Esri to create a video for the upcoming Pass Area STEM conference: "Storytelling With Maps". Evie was excited to receive the thank you gifts (donated by Esri) delivered by Kathryn Brown.



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Happy Valentine's Day ❤️❤️



STEM Donation

Redlands Community Foundation has been a long-time donor to the Stem Initiatives. At the virtual Branch board meeting on January 11, Cindy Andrews and Robert Dawes (top row, 3rd & 4th participants) presented us with an \$800 check. We are so appreciative of the Foundation's support again this year.