

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
Summer 2021

<http://redlands-ca-aauw.net>
Issue 1, 11 Issues Annually



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



Erica's Tidings

Hello AAUW Friends,

Erica Wilson here! I'd like to introduce myself to you all. I'm the new AAUW President. Our President-Elect (and my right-hand woman) is Trish Stubbs. We are looking forward to the 2021-22 year, which we all hope will be less crazy than the past "pandemic year." We are grateful to Sue Wallace, our past-president, for making our Covid-19 year as successful as it has been. In meeting with other AAUW Branch officers at

the Interbranch Council (held on Zoom), it became clear to me that our Branch flourished, remaining open and productive. We all learned to use Zoom in ways we never expected.

We had monthly Branch and Board meetings via Zoom and had some exciting speakers and Thoughts for the Month...all on Zoom. STEM had a remote conference, using the available technology in extremely imaginative ways. Many of our interest groups and programs continued to meet on Zoom--I Am Therefore I Think, Reading and the Rainbow, Great Discussions, Racial Justice, Public Policy, Lunafest, Tech Trek, Speech Trek, and the Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship. We even did a Footlighters fundraiser (*Dancing the Distance*), outside and six feet apart. I'm sure all those groups who were unable to meet remotely are looking forward to getting back together again live.

The coming year will present its own challenges. With most of us vaccinated and the State re-opening, we can return to a more normal life. We are scheduled to have our Branch meetings live at the U of R Casa Loma Room, with a return to brunch and dinner meetings. We have missed the in-person social time and the ability to ask questions of our speakers and have discussions amongst ourselves. I am hoping to figure out how to make our meetings hybrid, providing Webinar capabilities for those of you who prefer to remain remote or who may be out of town for a meeting you would like to be part of. Our first Branch meeting is Saturday morning, September 11--9:00 social and 9:30 brunch. You will be sent the RSVP email shortly before the meeting (the same way it was before Covid), so you can reserve your spot. The September meeting is our big new member push, so you can invite your friends and prospective new members. There is a membership fee reduction if they join at a Branch meeting. We hope this will be a year of regrouping and expanding. Our membership declined a little over the Covid-19 year, and we are looking to revive the status of our fabulous organization.

I am including a list of our Board members and Program Chairs. I am looking forward to working with all of them. Thank you for the opportunity to be your president this year. I hope to see you all in September.

Truly Yours,
Erica Wilson

Branch Meetings:

2021-2022

Tuesday, 10/5 evening
Saturday, 11/6 morning
Tuesday, 12/7 evening
Tuesday, 1/11 evening
Saturday, 2/5 morning
Tuesday, 3/1 evening
Saturday, 4/2 morning
Tuesday, 5/3 evening
Saturday, 6/4 morning

September Branch Meeting Information

When

Saturday,
September 11, 2021
Social 9:00 a.m.
Brunch 9:30 a.m.
Program 10:15 a.m.

Where

University of Redlands
CASA LOMA ROOM

At September 11th meeting all interest groups, community action projects, and committees will be represented!

Please remember to invite prospective members to our September 11th Branch meeting!

Contact our Membership Team now by emailing prospective members' names and contact information to membership@aauw-redlands-ca.org.

July & August 2021		AAUW Redlands Calendar	
Thursday, July 22 7:00 pm	Reading and Rainbow	American Dirt by Jeanine Cummings ~Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown	
Monday, August 9 3:00 pm	Footlighters Theater Fundraiser planning meeting at 216 E. South Avenue, Redlands ~Kathryn Brown		
Monday, August 9 6:00 pm via Zoom	AAUW Redlands Board Meeting ~Erica Wilson		
Saturday, August 14 9:00 am	2022 STEM conference planning meeting at 216 E. South Avenue, Redlands ~Kathryn Brown		
Thursday, August 26 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm via Zoom	Reading and Rainbow	The Island of Sea Women by Lisa See ~Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown	
Save the dates Sat., Sept 11 AAUW MEMBERSHIP Branch Meeting 9:00 am social, 9:30 am brunch Thurs., Oct 14 Footlighters Theater Fundraiser			

Branch Officers: President: Erica Wilson, President-elect: Patricia Stubbs, Communications Vice President: Priya Vedula, Hospitality Vice President: Eileen Sanborn, Membership Vice President: Susan Shodahl, 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 September newsletter is August 5th . Send your articles to the editor via email to news@aauw-redlands-ca.org
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2021-2022 Redlands Branch	
APPOINTED POSITIONS	
AAUW College/University Partners	Susan Bangasser & Pam Ford
AAUW Fund	Kathryn Brown
AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund	Deb Seibly
Public Policy	Dianne Landeros (tentative)
Adult Literacy	Diane Shimota
CHAT	Katherine Gifford & Trudy Waldron
Back to School	Dawn Romo
High School Scholarship	Theresa Lantz
Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship	Nerni Miller
Orangewood H.S./Children's Books	Diane Bennett
Lunafest	Heather Abushanab
Redlands Bowl Ushers	Barbara Simmons
Speech Trek	Patty Ahearn
STEM Initiative	Kathryn Brown
Tech Trek	Marilyn Shankar
YMCA Home Tour	Linda Browning & Ann Leonard
INTEREST GROUPS	
Bridge	Dorothy Nordquist
Bunco	Patty Ahearn
California Cuisine	Group 1 – Kathy Toister & Group 2 – Cathy Schilling
Great Decisions	Sue Ferguson & Sue Wallace
Hiking	Kathy Toister & Erica Wilson
I Am, Therefore I Think	Toni Momberger & Barbara Simmons
Reading and the Rainbow	Amy Bisek & Kathryn Brown
Racial Justice	Erica Wilson

Hospitality– Birthday Club

We want to be sure to wish our summer birthday members a happy birthday. We also encourage those of you who have not yet sent in your birth month to send it to us at news@aauw-redlands-ca.org, so you will be included in our celebrations. We would love to see you at our meetings, especially the month you celebrate your birthday! Here are our ladies for July and August.

July (celebrated in January)

Judy Adams
Linda Adams
Hazel Curtis
Sue Ferguson
Yvette Guidry
Heidi Hutchinson
Becky Johnston
Ann Leonard
Sharlene Lund
Viktoria Norberg
Pam Ong
Barbara Pike
Cathy Schilling
Barbara Simmons
Anne Viricel
Susan Wong

August (celebrated in February)

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



Membership Information

Annual dues for 2021-22 are \$113, which includes \$62 national, \$20 for the state, and \$31 for the branch.



There are TWO WAYS to renew:

ONLINE:

As in previous years, you will receive an email

From: “memberinfo@aauw.org”

Subject line: “**AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2022**”

Click on the link in the invoice and renew using a credit or debit card

BY CHECK:

Check for \$113 made payable to

AAUW Redlands

Mail to Ellen Cope

Any questions, or if you need the emailed invoice to be resent, please contact Ellen by phone or email.

Please update any changes/corrections to your contact information for the 2021-2022 yearbook by emailing corrected information to membership@aauw-redlands-ca.org

Redlands Footlighters Theater Event on Calendar!



Save the date—Thursday evening, October 14, 6 PM, for our annual AAUW-sponsored night out at the Footlighters Theater in Redlands.

Following the pre-performance wine and snacks reception, we’ll be seated in the theater to enjoy the comedic mystery ***Murder Room***.

Tickets, at \$35 for the Reception & Show or \$20 for those who have Footlighters season tickets, will be available as of August 1.

All proceeds of the event will be used to support the Redlands AAUW branch’s Mission Fund as well as our ongoing programs that improve the lives of women and girls.

An event kick-off meeting will be held on August 9 at 3 PM at Kathryn Brown’s home in Redlands. Please contact Kathryn if you are available to assist with the festivities that evening and can join the committee.

~Kathryn Brown, Fund Chair



AAUW Redlands STEM Initiatives

Time to Gear Up for 2022!

- **Redlands STEM Conference**
- **Pass STEM Conference**
- **Tech Trek**

We need your help to continue providing these amazing opportunities for our area girls. To learn about what is involved, what work needs to be done, and how you can join our AAUW Redlands branch STEM Initiatives Team, come to the planning meeting.

WHEN: 9 a.m.--Saturday, August 14

More information? Contact Kathryn Brown by email, text or phone



July 2021 California Connection Newsletter

Tech Trek finished its first virtual camp and unleashed hundreds of girls jazzed about tech and funny little things called “servos” (we already Googled them for you [HERE](#)). They created hats with programmed moving parts that reflected their interests. In one camper’s words, “I never thought I could make a fish jump out of a pond on a hat.” Words to live by.



Gabriela Vasquez picked up her kit for the first virtual Tech Trek camp. Gabriela attends Clement Middle School.

The girl on top of Gabriela’s hat indicates her involvement with the Y Circus, and the earth is the group’s concern for climate change.



There were 226 campers from 60 branches who participated. This amazing project required 159 coaches - the majority of whom were Tech Trek alumni. There are 2 more camps - July 12-16 and July 26 to 30.

~Marilyn Shankar



AAUW High School Scholarship Recipients

I am pleased to announce our three high school scholarship recipients. Due to COVID-19, there was no award presentation, so we only have one photo to accompany this article. Our three recipients are so deserving of our \$500 scholarships. We wish them all the best as they continue their education and pursue their dreams. I am also pleased to announce our first two \$250 scholarships to senior girls from Orangewood High School.

Amanda Li is a senior from Citrus Valley High School who thinks that women are like cookies—depending on the amount of flour, sugar, butter, and kinds of toppings used, a new cookie is created each time. Just like the variety of cookies, there are a variety of women, but each share a common trait, strength. Amanda hopes to acquire a B.S. in biological science. She wants to change the statistics of a male-dominated science field and create an equal world for aspiring female STEM students to thrive in. She will be pursuing life as an activist and academic. She hopes to serve her community.

Shreya Kappagantula is graduating from Redlands High School. As a student in India, she studied the concept of drip irrigation. After many experiments and trial and error, she created a piping system that ensured optimal water flow for a much needed irrigation system. She then set about installing it in farms and then taught each farmer how to install the system on their own. She received the title of The Youngest Woman to Influence the Nation's Agricultural Technology. She created a STEM POWER HER Club to advance the role of girls from underprivileged communities like hers in STEM fields. She hopes to create a world where engineering is used for advancement of underprivileged communities and ensure that girls and women play a central role in creating this world.

Riley Anthony is a senior at Redlands East Valley High School who will be majoring in Marine Science with an emphasis on Marine Geology. She hopes to serve as an example to other minorities and girls to pursue a career in science. She is passionate about AAUW's mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Alexis Garcia, (photo) is a graduate of Orangewood High School who plans to attend Crafton College and become an EMT.

Marlene Mendoza is also graduating from Orangewood High School and plans on attending San Bernardino Valley College and pursue a career in Child Development.

It is our pleasure and honor to award them our 2021 high school scholarships. They each further AAUW's mission and goals.

~Theresa Lantz
High School Scholarships



Racial Justice Interest Group

This group was started in the summer of 2020, during the Pandemic and George Floyd protests. We began by reading *White Fragility* and had some profound discussions about our own White Privilege and how White Supremacy has affected us personally and systemically. We have read many books and articles and viewed many films about Racism. We are always open to new members and encourage people to attend the meetings even if you have not had a chance to read the current book to be discussed. A list of the books we have read and films we have seen is available on the Redlands Branch Facebook page.

~Erica Wilson

Redlands Branch, AAUW
P.O. Box 7678
Redlands, CA 92375-0678

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**AAUW Discounts @ Office Depot,  
UPS, Prescriptions,  
Insurance, Travel and more**



*<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/discounts-and-perks/>*  
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What is AmazonSmile?

Did you know that Amazon will automatically donate .5% of your purchases to your favorite charity? The Amazon Smile program allows all Amazon purchasers, both regular and Prime, to designate a charity for their donation. AAUW Redlands is one of the charities you can support.

1. You can shop on either the Amazon or Amazon Smile website, BUT you must purchase your items at the Amazon smile website <https://smile.amazon.com/>.
 2. Sign in using your regular Amazon username and password.
 3. Choose your charity. The first time you login, Amazon Smile will prompt you to select a charity. Of course, Redlands AAUW is a great one to choose! If you have previously chosen a charity and would like to change, hover over **supporting** and notice that there is a link to change the charity.
 4. Search for items, place in cart, and check out as usual. Your donation will be automatically calculated and applied.
- For more info go to: <http://smile.amazon.com/about>