

Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
March 2023

<http://redlands-ca.aauw.net>
Issue 8, 11 Issues Annually



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

President's Corner, Patricia Stubbs



A flock of robins stopped by my backyard for a few days. I've never seen so many robins at the same time in the same place. They migrated on as trees are blooming in Redlands. Spring's arrived in our area.

I hope you were able to join us at the Branch Meeting on the February 4th. Our speaker, Tamar Giligashvili, spoke about her mother and grandmother and showed us parts of her documentary, *A Very Happy Woman*, on marriage by abduction. A man who wants to marry a woman kidnaps her and holds her overnight or a few days. With her reputation ruined, she is forced by her family and the society to marry the man who kidnapped her. She has no choice. It was the tradition and a common practice in Georgia. Tamar's videos can be viewed on you tube: <https://youtu.be/100-h4gudDI> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcsBf8E2VoU&t=7s>

The discussion left me with questions about marriage in Georgian areas now. A woman's family and her community would need to stand by a kidnapped victim and see the woman as a victim. Men's attitudes, father's attitudes would need to change. The lack of choice for the woman would be bitter. I'll be interested in hearing more. It surprised me.

We are well on our way to the March 1st STEM Conference at the U of R. Please do sign up to volunteer if you haven't already. We have a record number of 8th grade girls attending. Packet Day is February 18th, a Saturday morning, where we assemble the folders everyone uses at the STEM Conference. Many hands make light work.

February is Black History Month and it is more important than ever as the real history, is being assailed. We at AAUW

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Redlands STEM Conference



PACKET ASSEMBLY>>>February 18, 9am @
University United Methodist Church, 940 E.

Colton Ave., Redlands

GUIDES and **HOSTS** for the STEM
Conference on March 1 Conference at U of R
CONTACT:

Patty Ahearn 909-435-5906 patty.rtdm45@gmail.com

Linda Browning 909-213-7039 Lreneb@me.com

Sally Trost 909-855-3987 sallybtrost@gmail.com

March Branch Meeting ~ "Connecting With Nature in the Inland Empire: Conservation and Ways to Enjoy Our Open Spaces"

Rebecca K. O'Connor is the Co-Executive Director of Rivers & Lands Conservancy. A long-time falconer and advocate for wildlife and wild places, she has an MFA in Creative Writing and Writing for the Performing Arts from UC Riverside and is the author of several books on the natural world. For several years, Rebecca has also served as a Workshop Speaker at our branch's



STEM Conference for 8th Grade Girls (see a video of her animal training workshop at <https://youtu.be/uHRY6ldlvs0>)

~Kathryn Brown

March Branch Meeting

When Tuesday,
March 7, 2023
Social 5:30 p.m.
Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Program 6:45 p.m.

Where
University of Redlands
CASA LOMA Room

Menu
autumn vegetable
salad with red wine
vinaigrette, lemon
rosemary chicken,
toasted orzo with
spinach & cranberries,
roasted root
vegetables, rolls
& butter, carrot cake,
coffee/tea

Cost Members and
guests: \$30

Registration for dinner:

Please email
rspmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org, or call
909-362-4955 by
Saturday, February
25, 2023, to make a
dinner reservation.
After February 25th,
dinner reservations
will be made on a
space-available basis.

Reminder:

A reservation made
is a reservation paid.

**Members and guests
are invited to attend
the speaker portion
of the meeting free
of charge. Chairs
will be available.**

Branch Meetings 2022-2023

Tues. April 4 5:30 pm
Sat. May 6 9:00 am
Sat. May 3 9:00 am

				March 2023		
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Saturday, February 25 RESERVATION DEADLINE for March 7 brunch meeting</div>			1 STEM <u>Redlands Conference</u> 1pm Bridge	2 7pm DEI	3	4
5 6pm California Cuisine 1	6 1pm Great Dec #1	7 5:30 pm Branch Mtg.	8 <i>International Women's Day</i> <u>9am CHAT</u> 7pm Great Dec #1	9 1pm Tech Trek	10	11 9am STEM Meeting
12	13 <u>1pm Great Dec #2</u> 6:30pm Board Mtg.	14	15 <u>TBD Hiking</u> 12pm I Am, Therefore I Think 7pm Great Dec #2	16 6:30pm Racial Justice	17	18
19 5:30pm California Cuisine 2	20 <u>1pm Great Dec #3</u> 1pm Bridge	21	22 <u>TBD Hiking</u> <u>1pm Bunco</u> <u>6pm Adult Lit Orientation</u> 7pm Great Dec #3	23 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & the Rainbow	24	25 TBD Hiking
26	27 1pm Great Dec #4	28 7pm Public Policy	29 7pm Great Dec #4	30	31	
Save the Dates		Fri., May 5 LUNAFEST		Sat. April 22 AAUW California Annual Event		
Adult Literacy Volunteer Tutor Orientation 3/22 6pm AK Smiley Library Assembly Room ~Diane Shimota 909-798-7565 ext. 4138 literacy@akspl.org				Hiking Our Hills & Mountains USUALLY 3rd Wednesday and 4th Saturday. Contact Erica and Kathy to be added to distribution list. ~Kathy Toister bktoister@aol.com ~Erica Wilson 909-797-7938 drericar@outlook.com		
AAUW Redlands Board Meeting 3/13 6:30 pm Zoom ~Patricia Stubbs 909-289-9183 patriciastubbs@yahoo.com				I Am, Therefore I Think 3/15 "Your Family of Origin and your Birth Position in it" facilitator: Tricia Stubbs Meets 12 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church Lounge (Rooms 6-8) 419 South 4 th Street, Redlands. ~Barbara Simmons 909-435-6117 barbarasimmons711@gmail.com ~Margee Fuller 909-648-3074 sfuller12@gmail.com		
Bridge Groups 3rd Monday @ 1pm, 1st Wednesday @ 1pm, ~Contact coordinator Dorothy Nordquist 909-862-6666 d.nordquist@att.net				Public Policy 3/28 7pm ~Cassie MacDuff cassiema1@verizon.net		
Bunco 3/22 1pm ~Patty Ahearn 909-435-5906 patty.rdtm45@gmail.com				Reading and the Rainbow 3/23 <i>The Library Book</i> by Susan Orlean 1pm host: Linda Richards 4pm: Self facilitated Zoom session 7pm host: Amber Costa <i>Reservations</i> are not required. ~Amy Bisek 952-261-9908 amy.bisek@gmail.com ~Kathryn Brown 510-220-1876 attykbrown@gmail.com ~Valarie Boone 678-665-9315 valarieboonecm@gmail.com		
Cuisine and Conversation I 3/5 6pm host & address will be sent by email. ~Kathy Toister bktoister@aol.com				AAUW Redlands STEM Initiatives Redlands STEM Conference Redlands STEM Committee Meetings: 3/11 9am committee meeting at Kathryn Brown's home Tech Trek Planning Meeting: Final review & selection of applicant's essays 3/9 1pm Denise Westcott's 1706 Brittney Rd, Beaumont ~Denise Westcott 909-633-3694 denisewestcott6@gmail.com ~Theresa Lantz 909-677-7731 thrslnzt@aol.com		
California Cuisine and Conversation 2 3/19 5:30pm ~Patty Ahearn 909-435-5906 patty.rdtm45@gmail.com						
CHAT meeting 3/8 6pm Assembly Room AK Smiley PL ~Katherine Gifford 798-7565 literacy@akspl.org						
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice 3/2 DEI 7pm Zoom 3/16 Racial Justice 7pm Zoom ~Ellen Gruenbaum 765-586-8993 egruenbaum@icloud.com ~Erica Wilson 909-797-7938 drericar@outlook.com ~Donita Remington 909-856-7955 donitaremington@gmail.com						
Great Dwcisions 1pm Mondays & 7pm Wednesdays ~Sue Wallace 909-522-7894 walleat@aol.com ~Sue Ferguson 951-312-4904 sueferguson026@gmail.com						

President's Corner, Patricia Stubbs *continued from page 1*

join in paying tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity to achieve full citizenship in American society. The NAACP was founded February 12th, 1909. It was the centennial anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. African American History Month is observed in the US, Canada, Ireland and the UK. We will fight for our schools and society at large to know the truth. There is still time to participate in the 2023 MLK Jr. Blood of the Martyrs Blood Drive. You can donate at any Life Stream location through April 4th with code "RC26."

I hope you attend one or more of our many March branch activities: STEM conference, Great Decisions, Bridge, Bunko, California Cuisine, CHAT and Adult Literacy, DEI, Hiking, I Am, Therefore I think, Public Policy, Reading and Tech Trek. Hope to see you all.

Please mark your calendar to attend LUNAFEST on Friday, May 5th.
Tricia Stubbs, President



*"Sometime you don't see the millions of people who accept you for what you are.
All you notice is the person who doesn't."*
Jodi Picoult.

Branch Officers: **President:** Patricia Stubbs (909-289-9183), **Presidents-elect:** Heather Abushanab (909-565-0655) & Marilyn Shankar (909-771-8176), **Communications Vice President:** Priya Vedula (989-400-3242), **Hospitality Vice President:** Eileen Sanborn (909-900-7154), **Membership Vice President:** Amy Bisek (952-261-9908), **Program Vice President:** Martha Lehman (909-936-7819), **Secretary:** Marion Golson (360-584-7994), **Treasurer:** Sue Ferguson (951-312-4904) **At-Large Board Members:** Rosemary Conway (951-300-7468), Joyce Heitmeier (909-794-1367), Sarah Van Tassel (909-809-7670)

B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **April newsletter** is **March 5th**. Send articles and photos to the editors via email to news@aaauw-redlands-ca.org



March 8, 2023

Campaign theme is

Cracking the Code: Innovation for a gender equal future

Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated.

Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all [#EmbraceEquity](https://www.internationalwomensday.com/).



International Women's Day is a day for us to join voices with people around the world and shout our message for equal rights loud and clear: *"Women's rights are human rights!"*

We celebrate all women, in all their diversities. We embrace their facets and intersections of faith, race, ethnicity, gender or sexual identity, or disability. We celebrate those who came before us, those who stand beside us now, and those who will come after.

It's a time to celebrate the achievements of women, whether social, political, economic or cultural.

Why does International Women's Day matter? Because we're not there yet.

IWD is a day to recognize how far we've come towards gender equality, and also how far we have left to go. Back in 1911, only eight countries allowed women to vote, equal pay for equal work was unheard of – if women were allowed to work at all – and reproductive rights were non-existent.

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>



Susan Leonard

Susan grew up in Redlands, moving away several times for education and employment. Since 2020, she has lived here full-time. Her hobbies and interests include photography, art, reading, gardening, California politics and world events. Her interest in educational issues include gender equity, environmentalism and controlled growth.

Jessica Mayuga-Allen

Jessica has lived in the Redlands area for most of her life save for a brief stint in Seattle for graduate school. She is the proud daughter of Filipino immigrants. Jessica is an alum of U of R and has been an analyst for Esri for the last 4 years. As an avid participant in the arts, Jessica and husband, Jake, are members of the Inland Master Chorale. She strives to support the betterment of the community and for this reason she is excited to have found AAUW. Patricia Stubbs invited Jessica to the January branch meeting.

Maria Whitaker-Saucedo

Maria has a passion for helping others and working for the benefit of her community and region. She has devoted significant time volunteering as a youth advocate with The Blessing Center-Transformative House of Hope, Pasres Para Padres, Redlands Interfaith Council, Micah House and YouthHope Foundation. In addition to serving twelve years on the Site Council for Orangewood High School, Maria has volunteered with Unity in the Community, Chiklit Power Ministries, Rotary Club of Redlands and The Dibble Institute. Maria and her husband, Mario, are founders of the Common Vision Coalition of Redlands. The Common Vision Coalition focuses on the need to create healthier communities, engage youth, and provide safe events for our youth to attend. She has a bachelor's degree in business and a master's degree in Management, both from the University of Redlands. Maria heard about AAUW from Cassie MacDuff.

Kimberly Starrs

Kimberly is a non-profit professional that recently returned to school and completed her graduate degree. She enjoys, hiking, cooking, wine tasting, traveling, learning about California, camping and meeting new and interesting people. Kimberly loves to read but has found that audio books are much more suited to her busy schedule. Kimberly has 2 cats, 2 children and lives in Beaumont. New member, Lisa Wright, referred Kimberly to our branch.

Hospitality Birthday Club

Happy Birthday to all our March birthday ladies. Please be sure to join us at the branch meeting, so we can wish you a very happy birthday



Margi Galligan
Betsy Grimes
Ellen Gruenbaum
Jan Negron

Rita Reading
Ellen Schollenberger
Linda Serros
Maria Whitaker-Saucedo

Nominees for Elected Office

Elections will be held in April.

Co-Presidents: 2023-2024

Heather Abushanab
Marilyn Shankar
vacant

President Elect: 2023-2024

Communications VP: 2023-2025

Keita Wangari

Hospitality VP: 2023-2025

Joyce Katkov

Program VP: 2023-2025

Eileen Sanborn

At-Large: 2023-2024

Susan Bentley

At-Large: 2023-2024

Donita Remington

At-Large: 2023-2024

Kathy Warren

Nominating Committee:

2023-2024:

Patricia Stubbs, chair, Mary Lou Guerrero, Nerni Miller, Paula Ferri-Milligan

2023-2025

Ginny Evans-Perry, Dorothy Nordquist, vacant

~2022-2023 Nominating Committee

Erica Wilson, Chair
Susan Bangasser,
Paula Ferri-Milligan
Mary Lou Guerrero
Nerni Miller
Viktoria Norberg,
Kathy Warren





Thank You to All Members Who Have Been Donating to Tech Trek this 25th Anniversary Year!

Great News! CA Tech Trek has approved our branch request for 12 girls at residential camps, 7 at UCSD and 5 at Whittier College, plus 2 girls at the Virtual Tech Trek camp. We started out the year with four prepaid camp registrations due to previous camp cancelations.

We have had great enthusiasm from our 4 schools (listed below) and we now have 41 nominations provided by STEM teachers ready to go. We will be using CampDoc, a new camp management program provided by State for the application process. Parents will receive letters and instructions on how to complete the application. Once applications are completed the Tech Trek committee will select the finalists after reviewing the girl's essays and holding interviews.

At our January meeting we collected \$1,609 for Tech Trek which was enough to send 1 girl to the week long residential Tech Trek Camp and 1 girl to the week long Virtual Tech Trek Camp. We are continuing to get donations by mail and now you can donate online using your credit or debit card at the link below. If you haven't seen our short Tech Trek video, please watch it now to see how really amazing these camps are and the impact they have on these young women.

<https://youtu.be/rxST8RcVaHs> . Once again Thank You for Your Generosity.

~Denise Westcott

Branch Tech Trek Coordinator.

2023 schools:

Nicolet Middle School, Banning USD

San Geronio Middle School, Beaumont USD

Park View Middle School, Yucaipa-Calimesa JUSD

Clement Middle School, Redlands USD



AAUW Redlands is now collecting donations to support our Tech Trek program!

Please consider donating today.

The link is <https://bit.ly/AAUWTREK>



Redlands STEM Conference Committee thanks our wonderful Saturday, February 4th volunteers.

Thank you in advance to the volunteers who will assemble conference packets on Saturday, February 18



Save the date!
Lunafest will be held Friday May 5
at the Esri Cafe and Auditorium



Doors will open at 5:45PM for the reception and the film screening will begin at 7PM. Tickets are \$40 and will be on sale at the March AAUW Branch meeting. On-line ticket sales will also be available soon. And if you cannot come in person, we will have a virtual alternative!

Our **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** interest group organized a blood drive on January 16th in memory and honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Donita Remington,
 Twillea Evans-Carthen,
 Amy Bisek, Erica Wilson



NYSMS Holiday
Boutique



We are still thanking all of the people who so generously helped with the 2022 Holiday Boutique and gave donations to the fund. NYM scholarship fund can't exist without your help.

It is time to think ahead to November 2023, especially for artists and artisans who plan and execute products months in advance. Several people have asked what kind of items we plan to offer in November 2023. Many artists are already working on textiles, ceramics, planter boxes, paintings, and holiday themed gifts for next season. Others are cleaning out their vintage jewelry to donate. Many have asked that we add purses to the jewelry table. Save your good stuff and donate. We will have a very exciting show next year.

Preparing items for sale at the Boutique is a good way to spend time on stormy winter days and during the long stretch of summer. Please submit your ideas to Judy Adams at judyadams714@gmail.com.

Please refrain from using plastics, or at least minimize their use.

"Walk in kindness toward the earth." Sylvia Dolson,
"Living with Wildlife."



Sew What!, the Redlands AAUW Quilters, are planning on making a quilt for a silent auction for AAUW and need your help! If you have any black, white, or red COTTON fabric that you could donate, please contact Judy Adams, Nelda Stuck, Marion Golson, or Lisa McCarty and we will arrange to get it from you. We thank you in advance! The silent auction will benefit the scholarship program.

~ Sew What!
 Redlands AAUW Quilters



Great Decisions Interest Groups

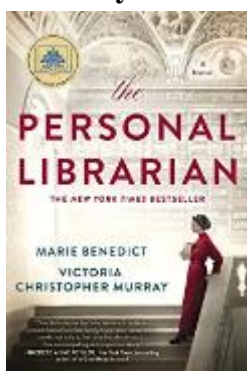
- First Monday afternoon session is March 6 at 1 pm.
Coordinator Sue Wallace (wallteach@aol.com or 909-522-7894)
- First Wednesday evening session is March 8 at 7 pm.
Coordinator Sue Ferguson (951-312-4904 sueferguson026@gmail.com)

Reading and the Rainbow AAUW Redlands Branch Book Club

“Books may well be the only true magic.” – Alice Hoffman

These fantastic books are selected for our upcoming monthly book club discussions. Please join us! No RSVP is required. If you'd like to be added to the book club's email list so you have the most up to date information about where and when we meet, please let us know at amy.bisek@gmail.com.

February 23: *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria C. Murray (Historical Fiction)



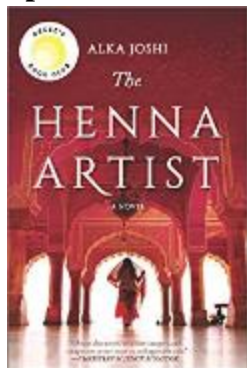
In her twenties, Belle da Costa Greene is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps create a world-class collection. But Belle has a secret, one she must protect at all costs. She was born not Belle da Costa Greene but Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. *The Personal Librarian* tells the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit, and shares the lengths she must go to—for the protection of her family and her legacy—to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives.

March 23: *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean (Non-Fiction)



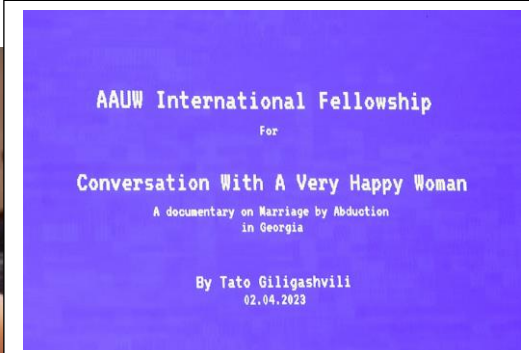
On the morning of April 28, 1986, a fire alarm sounded in the Los Angeles Public Library. The fire was disastrous: it reached two thousand degrees and burned for more than seven hours. By the time it was extinguished, it had consumed four hundred thousand books and damaged seven hundred thousand more. Investigators descended on the scene, but more than thirty years later, the mystery remains: Did someone purposefully set fire to the library—and if so, who? Orlean chronicles the LAPL fire and its aftermath to showcase the larger, crucial role that libraries play in our lives; delves into the evolution of libraries; brings each department of the library to vivid life; studies arson and attempts to burn a copy of a book herself; and reexamines the case of Harry Peak, the blond-haired actor long suspected of setting fire to the LAPL more than thirty years ago.

April 27: *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi (Historical Fiction)



Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi makes her way alone to the vibrant 1950s pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the most highly requested henna artist—and confidante—to the wealthy women of the upper class. But trusted with the secrets of the wealthy, she can never reveal her own. Known for her original designs and sage advice, Lakshmi must tread carefully to avoid the jealous gossips who could ruin her reputation and her livelihood. She is startled one day when she is confronted by her husband, who has tracked her down these many years later with a sister Lakshmi never knew she had. Suddenly the caution she has cultivated as protection is threatened. Still, she perseveres, applying her talents and lifting up those that surround her as she does.

~Amy Bisek, Valarie Boone, and Kathryn Brown



February Branch Meeting



Our February and August birthdays: Marion Goson, Nelda Stuck, Peggi Cook, Denise Westcott, Susan Shodahl, Joyce Heitmeier, Lisa McCarty, Susan Willis, Christine Smith, Valarie Lichtman, Gail Anderson, Kay Dobbartin and (not pictured) Heather Abushanab

~~~~~  
Melissa Maceyko, Member AAUW California Public Policy Committee

## March is Women's History Month, a Fitting Time to Observe Transgender Day of Visibility

Each year on March 31, the world observes Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) to raise awareness about transgender people. It is a day to celebrate the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the poverty, discrimination, and violence the community faces.

We understand how women's history tells the story of misogyny, which is the systemic mistreatment of women, girls, and feminine peoples through forms of physical and structural violence. But we rarely consider how it is linked to

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Branch, AAUW  
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Redlands, CA 92375-0678

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*Public Policy ~ continued from page 8*

transmisogyny, which focuses on the complex intersections between transphobia and misogyny that are faced by trans women and girls, as well as transfeminine and gender non-conforming peoples. It is a term that attempts to capture multiple layers of gender-based marginalization and systemic mistreatment. If misogyny and transmisogyny are not combatted together, then the root of the problem will never truly be eradicated.

Although the past decade has seen a more vocal public push for diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives around gender, the current sociopolitical climate in the United States is not supportive of, and is often openly hostile to, transgender and gender non-conforming individuals. Under this sphere of increased hostility is the explicit targeting of trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples with words, actions, and legislation. It is particularly important for women's organizations who seek to combat gender-based forms of oppression to build coalitions and take a stand against **misogyny and transmisogyny** in all its forms, because misogyny and transmisogyny come from the same place. They both describe gender-based oppression that results from the prioritization of masculinity alongside the degradation of femininity.

Targeted hostility against trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples can be seen not only in the alarming uptick in physical violence against this community, but also in the increasing persistence and intensity of public debates over whether or not trans women and girls and transfeminine peoples are "real women" that belong in "women's spaces," including gender-specific bathrooms, women's sports teams, and locker rooms. These debates prioritize misplaced and misunderstood claims of biological authenticity. They are dehumanizing and cannot be disconnected from other forms of violence as they normalize widespread and explicit marginalization and exclusion.

As a women's organization, the increasingly hostile environment for trans women and girls and transfeminine people should be at the forefront of our collective education and activism - let's help ensure that history doesn't continue to repeat itself. Visit the Public Policy website to learn more.