

# Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW  
June 2023

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



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



## President's Corner: Patricia Stubbs

I want to thank you all for this wonderful year that I wouldn't have had if I hadn't stepped out of my comfort zone and said, "Sure, I'll be president." I've enjoyed being your president. I remember my favorite principal saying to us teachers, "If you're not having fun, you're doing it wrong." Enjoy yourselves, as much as possible, of course.

The goals AAUW supports give us all the central purpose of our work. I was very moved by our last speaker, Jessie Padua, as she has lived the very problem that she seeks to remedy; employee abuse in all its forms. Most of us have led fairly safe lives, had educations paid for and expected of us, and been protected. It says a lot of a group that we can identify with others suffering and unfair treatment and want to correct it. You all do good work.

Lunafest was a success for us. That means we made enough money to go into our next year in fairly good financial shape. It was a lovely gathering with interesting and thought provoking films. It will be our last Luna Bar event as the company is taking a break from supporting it. We'll be on the hunt for another similar type fund raiser. To Heather and the group who put it together, "Three Cheers." Great job, ladies. We are quite a powerhouse group!

*~continued on page 3*

## June Branch Meeting

It is with great pride that I introduce our speaker for our June Branch Meeting, Majority Leader Eloise Reyes. Eloise Gómez Reyes was elected to the California State Assembly in November 2016 to represent California's 47th Assembly District. She was re-elected to represent California's 50th Assembly District in November 2022. Now serving her fourth term, she was appointed by Speaker Anthony Rendon as Majority Leader, serving as the first Latina in that role. In addition, she is a member of the Judiciary Committee, Utilities and Energy Committee, Aging and Long-Term Care, Legislative Ethics Committee, Labor Committee and Budget Sub-2 Committee.

Eloise graduated from Colton High School and received her Associates of Arts degree from San Bernardino Valley College. After completing her undergraduate degree at the University of Southern California, Eloise went on to earn her law degree from Loyola Law School. Due to the lack of access to quality legal services in her community she became the first Latina to open her own law firm in the Inland Empire.

Majority Leader Reyes is a luminary whose achievements in driving change on issues that impact Californians are nothing short of remarkable. With great passion, tireless dedication, and unwavering commitment, she has brought about significant progress in the political and social landscape of women's issues. She will take to our stage to share her story, sharing insights about her journey and about the passage of relevant legislation that are sure to resonate with our AAUW community.



## June Branch Meeting

### When

Saturday, June 3, 2023  
Social 9:00 am  
Brunch 9:30 am  
Program 10:15 am

### Where

University of Redlands  
**CASA LOMA Room**

### Menu

Orange Cinnamon French  
Toast, Maple Syrup,  
Scrambled Eggs, Bacon,  
Potatoes O'Brien, Seasonal  
Fruit

### Cost

Members and guests: \$25

### Reservations

Please call 909-362-4955 or  
email [rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:rsvpmeeting@aauw-redlands-ca.org) by  
Wednesday, May 24th. After  
May 24, reservations will be  
on a space-available basis.  
*Reminder: A reservation  
made is a reservation paid.*

**Members and guests are  
always welcome at all  
branch meetings. There is  
no cost to attend the  
program. Chairs will be  
available.**

### Branch Meetings

#### 2023

Tuesday, 9/12 5:30 pm  
**Saturday, 10/7 9:00 am**  
**Membership Brunch**

Saturday, 11/4 9:00 am  
Tuesday, 12/5 5:30 pm

#### 2024

1/9, 2/2, 3/5, 4/13, 5/7, 6/1

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Wednesday, May 24 RESERVATION DEADLINE for June 3 brunch				1 7pm DEI	2	3 BRANCH MEETING
4 6pm California Cuisine 1	5	6	7 1pm Bridge	8	9	10
11	12 5:30pm Board Mtg	13	14 6pm CHAT	15 7pm Racial Justice	16	17 10am Juneteenth
18 5:30pm California Cuisine 2	19 1pm Bridge	20	21 TBD Hiking TBD I Am, Therefore I Think	22 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & the Rainbow	23	14 TBD Hiking
25	26	27 7pm Public Policy	28 1pm Bunco	29	30	
				Save the date: Tues, July 18 Redlands Bowl Ushering		

### AAUW Redlands Joint Board Meeting for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 board

6/12 5:30 pm **In Person & Zoom @ Tricia's home**  
~Patricia Stubbs

### Bridge Groups

1st Wednesday @ 1pm, 3rd Monday @ 1pm  
~Contact coordinator Dorothy Nordquist

### Bunco

6/28 1pm  
~Patty Ahearn

### California Cuisine and Conversation I

6/4 6pm Host & address will be sent by email.  
~Kathy Toister

### California Cuisine and Conversation 2

6/18 5:30pm  
~Patty Ahearn 90

### CHAT meeting

6/14 6pm Assembly Room AK Smiley PL  
~Katherine Gifford 909-798-7565, ext 4138 literacy@akspl.org

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice /

6/1 DEI 7pm Zoom  
6/15 Racial Justice 7pm Zoom  
~Ellen Gruenbaum  
~Erica Wilson  
~Donita Remington

### Hiking Our Hills & Mountains

USUALLY 3rd Wednesday and 4th Saturday.  
Contact Erica and Kathy to be added to distribution list.  
~Kathy Toister  
~Erica Wilson

### I Am, Therefore I Think

6/21 annual planning luncheon  
Location and time TBD  
~Barbara Simmons  
~Margee Fuller

### Juneteenth (see page 5 )

6/17 10am  
~Donita Remington

### Public Policy

6/27 7pm  
~Cassie MacDuff

### Redlands Bowl Ushering

July 18 ~Barbara Simmons

### Reading and the Rainbow

6/22 The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles  
Information on facilitator, host and co-host will be emailed.  
1:00pm: Live Session, 4pm: Self facilitated Zoom session  
7pm: Live Session --  
~Amy Bisek  
~Kathryn Brown  
~Valarie Boone

### Branch Officers:

**President:** Patricia Stubbs, **Presidents-elect:** Heather Abushanab & Marilyn Shankar,  
**Communications Vice President:** Priya Vedula, **Hospitality Vice President:** Eileen Sanborn,  
**Membership Vice President:** Amy Bisek, **Program Vice President:** Martha Lehman,  
**Secretary:** Marion Golson, **Treasurer:** Sue Ferguson **At-Large Board Members:** Rosemary Conway, Joyce Heitmeier, Kathy Warren

### B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **Summer newsletter** is **June 15**. Send articles and photos to the editors via email to [news@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:news@aauw-redlands-ca.org)

## President's Corner: Patricia Stubbs ~continued from page 1

We don't meet July as a group and only the Board meets in August. So it's "see you in September" for most of us. I know that many keep up their friendships made at AAUW which is the part that makes the group so special. Friendships, sisters.

As the new year begins, don't forget to seek out the groups and activities you want to be involved in. Remember that you can call the lovely Susan Miller or myself if you need a ride to an activity. Join in. You'll never regret your involvement in AAUW. I know I won't.

Best wishes to you all,  
Tricia Stubbs

*"I am stronger because I had to be. I'm smarter because of my mistakes, happier because of the sadness I've known, and now wiser because I have learned."*

Unknown author.



# YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS



## Your Membership Matters – Please Renew Today!

In our last Redlands branch newsletter, we asked you to hold off from renewing your membership until you received further notice from us. We're pleased to announce that all systems are ready and members with pending renewal dates can now renew your annual AAUW membership dues.

Your renewal dues are due by June 30, 2023, if you originally joined prior to March, 2022. Members who joined March, 2022, or later will have a renewal deadline that is 12 months after when they joined.

Attached to this newsletter email you'll find membership renewal instructions. You can pay by cash, personal check, or credit card at an upcoming branch meeting. Or, you can go online to either the [AAUW National website](#) or our own Redlands branch website to renew under the Membership tab. If you pay with a credit card through our Redlands branch website, you will incur a \$4.00 processing fee in addition to your membership dues.

This year, our membership dues are \$123 (\$72 National, \$20 California, \$31 Redlands Branch.)

You may have already received a renewal reminder email from AAUW National. It was sent on April 24, 2022, from Katrina Breese at [memberinfo@aauw.org](mailto:memberinfo@aauw.org), entitled "(Insert Your Name Here), it's time to renew your AAUW Branch membership!" This is NOT spam. Feel free to follow the instructions in that email. If you no longer have it, don't worry; just follow the instructions in the attachment on this email. Either way, when you renew your membership, we all will stop bugging you to renew!

If you have questions, please direct them to Ellen Cope or Kay Dobbartin,

If you are a student, please contact Ellen or Kay to assist you with renewing your discounted membership. If you would like a Paid Lifetime Membership, Ellen or Kay can assist you as well.

\$100 of your 2023/24 membership dues are tax deductible.

Ellen Cope 90  
Kay Dobbartin

Please update any changes/corrections to your contact information for the 2023-2024 yearbook by emailing corrected information to [membership@aauw-redlands-ca.org](mailto:membership@aauw-redlands-ca.org). 2022-2023 yearbook additions and changes are attached to June Newsletter email.

## Hospitality Birthday Club

Our best wishes to our  
June birthday ladies:

Patty Ahearn Elaine  
Brubacher  
Carol Buchanan  
Patricia Estrada  
Paula Ferri-Milligan  
Mary Lou Guerrero  
Susan Kean



Sally Trost  
Keita Wangari  
Aleta West

## Family Service/Micah House Back-to-School Jam



Our June meeting will, once again, give our members the opportunity to donate to the AAUW Back-to-School Project. We will be collecting your donations to purchase backpacks and supplies to be distributed to RUSD students in need for the 2023-24 school year. You can donate cash or checks to the Crayola boxes on your luncheon tables or use your credit card at the tables as you enter the meeting.

Thank you for your generous support of this worthy project. See you in June!

*~Dawn Romo, Back-to-School Project Chair*



## Please welcome the following new members!

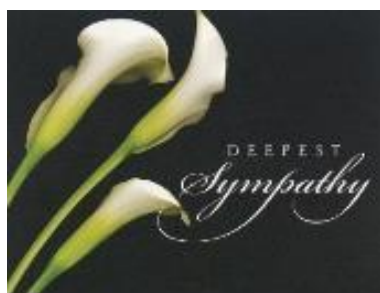
**Kimberly T. Anderson** has an undergraduate degree in art education and a master's degree in library science. Most of her career has been in public schools and public libraries. Kimberly and her husband recently retired and moved to Redlands from San Antonio, TX, where he served as President of Trinity University. They discovered Redlands through visiting their daughter, who works at esri, and they absolutely love it. Kimberly received her BS Ed from Pittsburg State University and her MLS from Emporia State University, both located in Kansas. Welcome Kimberly! And thank you to Shelli Stockton and others for referring Kimberly to AAUW.

**Varonica Dixon** is currently working full time at Beaver/Optum in Redlands as a Pediatrician. She likes to read and may learn how to play Bunko with our group! In addition, she is interested in supporting our Redlands STEM Conference next year. Varonica received her BS from the University of Michigan and her MD from the Medical College of Wisconsin. Welcome Varonica!

**Joan Smith** taught elementary grades K/1, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 4<sup>th</sup> grade for many years before becoming the Resource Teacher for Wilson School in Colton. She became very interested in Early Literacy and the Colton district sent her to The Ohio State University for training in that area. She became the Literacy Coordinator for the district and taught many inservices for all new teachers and many interested teachers (elementary) in the district. After retiring, she taught at CSUSB for 12 years and supervised student teachers. Joan team taught with Hester Turpin. Joan is now interested in art. She paints with oil, acrylics, and watercolor. She is a member of Redlands Art Association and is co-president of Loma Linda Art Association. Welcome Joan! And thanks go to Hester and Amber Costa for referring Joan to AAUW!

**Jane Weldon** and her husband moved to Redlands four years ago, from Cincinnati, Ohio, to be near their daughter, son-in-law and three granddaughters. Jane is a native of New York City and went to college in the Boston area to Wellesley, Simmons (B.A., communications) and Tufts (M.A., political science.) Jane retired in 2019 after 20 years as a copywriter/director of copywriting services for a marketing firm in Cincinnati. Her favorite part of her job was copyediting the Chicago Cubs' monthly magazine, which they produced for nine years. She also wrote hundreds of advertorials on medical, legal, business, and other topics. Here in Redlands, Jane takes a long walk every day, usually in Brookside Park, and she works out at the YMCA two or three days a week. She belongs to a book club at the library, is a tutor in the library's Adult Literacy Program and recently joined the Friends of the Library board as assistant treasurer. As the mother of a daughter and grandmother to three granddaughters, AAUW's mission of promoting equity for women and girls feels personal to her. As a newcomer to Redlands, Jane is always looking to meet interesting people and get more involved in the community. She is sure joining AAUW will help her meet these goals.





## Our Condolences

In sympathy and friendship, we send our condolences to our members on the loss of their loved ones in the last few months.

Pat Estrada on the loss of her husband,  
Marianne Baldwin on the loss of her father and  
Cheri Dawes on the loss of her husband.



## National Member Data Verification and Oral History Project

Have you recently received an outreach from AAUW National regarding a Member Data Verification and Oral History project? Many branch members have received both a postcard and an email from Katrina Sun Breese. This is a real AAUW project; it's not a scam.

The project's goal is to collect stories from members to memorialize the history of AAUW through the years. This is an opportunity for you to share your personal experiences with AAUW and how the organization helped shape your life. These stories will be compiled into both a digital and hardcopy bound book. There is also an opportunity for members to purchase their own copy of the book, as well as other AAUW branded items, if you choose.

Participation in this project is purely voluntary and you are NOT obligated to purchase any products to update your member information or to share your story and be a part of the Oral History Project.

As of early May, over 2,000 stories have been shared and over 1/3 of respondents have updated their contact information. Please note that if you did not receive National's email about this, you may be unsubscribed or be in need of updating your email address with National. If you'd like to resubscribe, you can email [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) for assistance.

If you'd like to participate, you can call 855-447-0717. More information can be found on the National website at

<https://www.aauw.org/membership/member-data-verification-oral-history-project-faq/>



AAUW Redlands branch will have a booth at the Annual Redlands Juneteenth Celebration Expo! Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 17th in Sylvan Park. The Juneteenth Event is sponsored by Unity in the Community, City of Redlands, Redlands PD, The University of Redlands, and The Village Second Baptist Church and will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This will be our second year participating in this event. Our participation in Juneteenth allows us to increase awareness of AAUW, support our community, address diversity goals, and outreach. Come join us! Please contact Donita Remington, Diversity Committee to volunteer.

[https://www.cityofredlands.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/juneteenth\\_2023\\_flier\\_of\\_events.png?1682047990](https://www.cityofredlands.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/juneteenth_2023_flier_of_events.png?1682047990)

## Congratulations

### 2023 Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship Recipients

#### Samantha McVeigh - \$1,000

Crafton Hills College, with transfer to UC Davis  
Associate's Degree, Environmental  
Science/Education, Spring 2024  
2022 NYMS Recipient

#### Angie Cristobal - \$1,000

Crafton Hills College, with transfer to  
4-year University  
Associate's Degree, English, Spring 2023

*Scholarship recipients have been asked to speak  
at the June branch meeting*



Tech Trek is a summer camp for middle school girls that focuses on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Campers spend one week on a university campus – they live in the dorms, eat in the cafeteria, attend labs and classes, and learn what it might be like to be a college student.

## AAUW CA Has Sponsored Tech Trek Camps for

25 years

You will be happy to know that our branch's Tech Trek Committee, under the leadership of Denise Westcott, has selected a total of 15 7th graders to attend Tech Trek this summer. Members of the committee read applications and carried out in-person interviews in order to make the selections. The girls are students at Park View Middle School in Yucaipa, Clement Middle School in Redlands, Nicolet Middle School in Banning, and San Gorgonio Middle School in Beaumont.

Seven of the girls will attend camp on the UC San Diego campus, four will be at Whittier College, and four will participate in the virtual camp. Each camp will have activities all day and each includes evening workshops.

Kathryn Brown organized two pizza parties so the girls and their families could meet other campers and ask questions of girls who attended in the past. Aileen Buckley of ESRI donated ESRI backpacks and books about women in GIS. The backpacks were stocked by the committee with graph paper notebooks, colored pencils, and Tech Trek bears. See the photos for the expressions on the girls' faces as they anticipate this adventure.

As you read, you might wonder if girls really do want to attend virtual camp. The answer is that several do. There may be many reasons for that, but one we are understanding this year is that virtual camp provides an opportunity for girls whose learning challenges might make it difficult for them to be away from home for so many days/nights.

As of this writing, there is still a need for dorm "moms" (must be over 21) so let Denise know if you would like to apply for that volunteer opportunity. Given our experiences interviewing and "partying" with these girls, you would learn a lot and have a great time.

~Pam Ford, Tech Trek Committee Member



left to right: Clement Middle School students, Vivian Ho. Hannah Gamez. and Park View Middle School students, Avery Layman, Emma Marquez, Sekoya Denard.



left to right: San Gorgonio Middle School students, Ella Valdivia, Mariana Lopez Heras, Santana Ty and Nicolet Middle School students, Mariah Falcon, Reyna Urquidez.

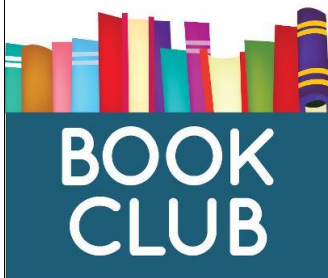


The young woman on the left is Myah Urquidez who attended Tech Trek at Whittier in 2019. Her sister is Reyna. Her family is so grateful to have both girls have this opportunity.



## Welcome to Our Book Club! RSVPs required by Tuesday, May 23.

Now is a great time to become involved in Reading and the Rainbow. At our Thursday, May 25, session we will hold our annual book recommendation dinner. It will be held at Kathryn Brown's pool cabana at 6:00 p.m. at 1522 Lynne Court, Redlands. It will include a casual pizza, salad, and dessert dinner. RSVPs are required by Tuesday, May 23 to Amy Bisek. We'll collect about \$20 from you to cover the cost of dinner. We will not have a 1:00 nor 4:00 session in May.



At this session we gather book recommendations for next year. To recommend a book, we ask that you have read it previously so you know that it is conducive to a robust book club discussion. Please come prepared to briefly describe the book and

why you liked it. In June and July we'll compile the recommended list and distribute it for voting. May the best books win! This is always a really fun session; we hope you can attend!

Here is a list of our reading schedule for the remainder of the summer.

- June 22: The Lincoln Highway by Amoré Towles
- July 27: West With Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge
- Aug 23: The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Michelle Richardson

Happy reading!

## Attention all bridge players!



The Round Robin bridge group has some openings for the coming year. We play with the same partner throughout the year and play about 10 matches of 24 hands/match. If

you are interested, please contact Louise Schumann. Play begins in July and ends in May. We'd love to have you join us.



## Redlands Bowl Ushering July 18th

As in the past, our branch will be ushering for The Redlands Bowl this summer. Our date will be on Tuesday, July 18th and the program will be The Spinners. Many of us "mature" members danced to their music at sock hops and so this should be a fun walk down memory lane. It was groups such as these that began today's R&B music. We still need a few more volunteers to usher and Barbara Simmons will be signing up members at the June meeting.

Also, since this is the Bowl's 100th Season, there will be an added final grand celebration on Saturday, August 26th, yet to be announced that will need some volunteer ushers. I will be on vacation on that date, but I am happy to sign up volunteer ushers for that event also at the May meeting.

Please consider volunteering for both dates if you have the availability.

*~Barbara Simmons*

## Update from our Fund Speaker



Tamar Giligashvili, our 2023 AAUW Fund speaker, reported that her film "A Very Happy Woman" won in the Best Creative Documentary category at the Women's Voices Now 2023 Film Festival. Her mother, on her behalf, attended the award ceremony by Zoom. Her acceptance speech made everyone emotional. You can view this at this link - [YouTube link if you like to see.](#)

In addition, Tamar has been rejected from AAUW Masters Completion Program because she has 2 more years to achieve her Master's degree. She is moving to New York to stay with her partner, trying to figure out what to do next. If anyone has contacts/information about resources for scholarships or about possible work, please contact Marilyn Shankar for Tamar's phone number.

## Lunafest was a Big Success!!



Thank you to all who attended Lunafest on May 5. We sold over 250 tickets to our event, along with an additional 32 tickets to the virtual screening. The food was wonderful, the Esri staff helpful, the venue gorgeous! We were able to get community businesses and organizations to sponsor this event, which helped us to raise over \$7,000 for our AAUW Mission Fund. This goes a long way to paying for our many philanthropic activities that benefit women and girls in our local area! If you have comments that could benefit the committee as we plan future activities, please send them to [Lunafest@AAUWRedlands.org](mailto:Lunafest@AAUWRedlands.org).

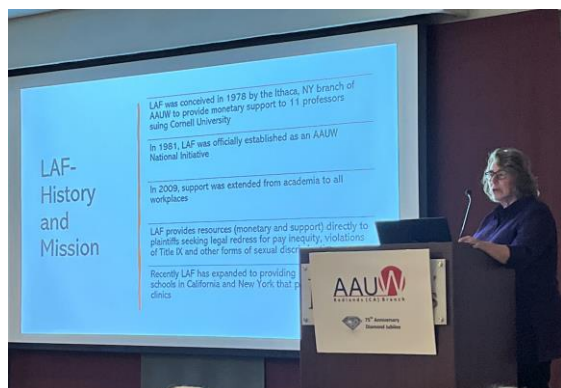
## AAUW CA Gov Trek Program

Katie Zou, a Redlands High School junior, addresses AAUW-Redlands' May 6, 2023 meeting about what attending AAUW-California's new online Gov Trek program meant to her.



She was one of three Redlands high school girls who signed up for the program and the only one from our area who completed it. Katie was accompanied to the AAUW-Redlands brunch by her mother, Shuping Wang, and her father, Ji Zou. Both work in education in San Bernardino.

## May Program: Legal Advocacy Fund



Deborah Seibly, LAF Chair



Jessie Padua, UC Irvine Law Workers Clinic



## May Birthdays

Jane Weldon, Antoinette Brenion, Kathryn Brown, Theresa Lantz, Dawn Romo, Judy Dods and Hester Turpin





## ***Congratulations*** to our members who received certificates at May branch meeting for years of continuous membership in AAUW



5 years: ***Hester Turpin, Eileen Sanborn***      10 years: ***Ellen Cope, Dawn Romo, Amy Bisek, Patricia Stubbs***  
 15 years: ***Maria Rossi***      20 years: ***Kaye Espinosa***      25 years: ***Susan Bentley, Sally Trost***  
 35 years: ***Amber Costa***      40 years: ***Antoinette Brenion***

## ***LUNAFEST 2023***







**Happy Pride Month!**

By Kim Talbert, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

**Happy June and Happy Pride Month!**

Every June since 1970, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ+) Pride Month is celebrated to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. At the time, The Stonewall Inn was the most popular gay bar in Manhattan. Until 1966 it was illegal to serve alcohol to a gay person, and until 1969, homosexuality was a criminal offense. On the morning of June 28, 1969, police raided the bar for the sale of illegal alcohol. As word got out about the raid, thousands of protestors came out, and the protests lasted for six days. These protests sparked the beginning of the Gay Liberation Movement.

The Stonewall Inn is now a National Monument. In 2016, President Obama established the first LGBTQ+ National Park in the 7.7 acres surrounding The Stonewall Inn, and in 2019, the city of New York honored LGBTQ+ activists Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera, with a statue for their activism. They were prominent in the Stonewall Uprising, and according to the city of New York, this was the “first permanent, public artwork recognizing transgender women in the world.”

Since the Stonewall Uprising, there have been many significant advances for the LGBTQ+ community, like same-sex marriage and the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. There is still a long way to go for equitable treatment for all, but that’s why it’s exciting to work with an organization like AAUW on its mission of achieving a more equitable society.

For further information, the Library of Congress has compiled a wonderful resource guide. [LGBTQ+ Studies: A Resource Guide](#) serves as an introduction into the excellent collection of LGBTQ+ resources available at the Library of Congress.



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**Redlands, CA 92375-0678**  
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