

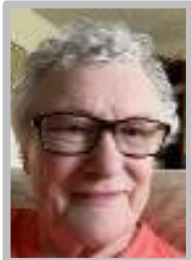
Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
February 2024

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



The Redlands Branch of AAUW is dedicated to advancing equity for women and girls through education, empowerment, and advocacy.



President's Corner, Marilyn Shankar

I hope 2024 is off to a great start for each of you. It certainly has been for Redlands Branch. January had another successful STEM Conference for Banning and Beaumont 8th grade girls. Speech Trek selected this years' winners and a Candidates Forum will be held on January 25th at University of Redlands. Thanks to all the members who worked hard to make these happen.

February looks to be just as busy. The Branch meeting on the 3rd will be all about AAUW Fund. Mary Lou Guerrero and Susan Bentley have selected a grant recipient to be our speaker. Since our Branch donated significant amounts of money to the National AAUW Fund we were able to select 3 Named Gift Honorees. Please come to this meeting and join in celebrating these women.

Gov Trek begins its series of 7 zoom meetings on consecutive Saturdays starting on February 3, 2024. Please contact Cassie MacDuff (cassiemac1@verizon.net) if you know a junior or senior high school girl who might be interested.

~continued on page 3

**Redlands
STEM
Conference
Committee
requests
your help
stuffing
student
letters after
the February
branch
meeting.**

February Branch Meeting: AAUW Fund Fellowship/Grant Speaker "Architecture and Advocacy"

Madelene Javier Dailey is an urban planner whose area of expertise encapsulates transportation planning, community vision planning, FEMA response support, and project management work for environmental policy compliance and mitigation. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Architecture from the University of Southern California, where her academic work focus on equitable urban planning and sustainable design.

"I am first generation Guatemalan American, raised by a single mother and immigrant father who sought asylum from the Guatemalan Civil War. Inspired by their life journeys, I attribute my dedication to public interest design and advocacy through the practice of architecture to them. After working as a Planning Consultant for state and federal entities, I saw numerous opportunities to reimagine planning and infrastructural systems to better support communities being negatively impacted by these fields. I chose to return to school and pursue a Master's Degree in Architecture focusing specifically on sustainable design and urban planning."

Mary Lou Guerrero, AAUW Fund Co-Chair



February Branch Meeting

When

Saturday February 3, 2024
Social 9:00 am
Brunch 9:30 am
Program 10:15 am

Where

University of Redlands
CASA LOMA Room

Menu

Breakfast Buffet: Fried Egg, Cheddar Cheese, Orange French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Breakfast Potatoes, Fruit

Cost

Members and guests: \$25

Reservations:

Please call 909-362-4955 or email AAUWrsvp@AAUWRedlands.org by Tuesday, January 23, 2024. After January 23, reservations will be on a space-available basis. **After registering, you will receive a confirmation via email.**

Reminder: A reservation made is a reservation paid.

Transportation:

Call Susan Miller 951-233-1287 or Patricia Stubbs 909-289-9183

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

Branch Meetings 2023-2024

Tuesday, March 5, 2024
Saturday, April 13, 2024
Tuesday, May 7, 2024
Saturday, June 1, 2024

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Tuesday Jan 23 Reservation Deadline for FEB. 3 Brunch				1 *7pm DEI	2	3 <u>9am Branch Mtg.</u>
4 *6pm California Cuisine 1	5	6 *8:30am Fundraising	7 *1pm Bridge **6pm CHAT	8	9	10 *9 am STEM Redlands Mtg.
11	12 <u>*1pm Sew What!</u> **6:30pm Board Mtg.	13	14  *1pm Bunko	15 *7pm Racial Justice	16	17 *3pm STEM packet
18 *5:30pm California Cuisine 2	19  *1pm Bridge	20 *8:30am Fundraising	21 *Noon I Am, Therefore I Think	22 *3pm STEM walk through @ UofR **1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & Rainbow	23	24 *9am STEM walk through @ UofR **TBD Hiking
25	26 *1pm Sew What!	27 *7pm Public Policy	28	29	Save the Dates	
AAUW Redlands Board Meeting 2/12 6:30 pm Redlands United Church of Christ, 168 Bellevue Ave, Redlands and remotely on teams. ~Heather Abushana ~Marilyn Shanka			March & April Sat. Mar 9, 2pm Wed. Feb. 28 Thurs. Mar 21, 10am April 2-3 Sat. April 27			
Bridge Groups 3rd Monday @ 1pm, 1st Wednesday @ 1pm, ~Contact coordinator Dorothy Nordquist			Great Decisions Adult Literacy “Harvest Dreams” Redlands STEM Conference Bridge Scramble Fundraiser (flyer attached) Lobby Days AAUW California Annual Event			
Bunko 2/14 1pm ~Patty Ahearn ~Lori Powell			Fundraising Committee 2/6 & 2/20 (every other Tuesday) 8:30am on Teams ~Heather Abushana			
California Cuisine and Conversation I 2/4 6pm ~Kathy Toister			Hiking Our Hills & Mountains 2/24 Contact Kathy to be added to distribution list. ~Kathy Toister			
California Cuisine and Conversation 2 2/18 5:30pm ~Patty Ahearn			I Am, Therefore I Think 2/21 Female Bodies, Fashion and Power” facilitator: Stephanie Harlan. Meets 12 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church Lounge (Rooms 6-8) 419 South 4 th Street, Redlands. ~Barbara Simmons ~Margee Fuller			
CHAT meeting 2/7 6pm Assembly Room AK Smiley PL ~Katherine Gifford 798-7565 literacy@akspl.org			Public Policy 2/27 7pm ~Cassie MacDuff			
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice 2/1 DEI 7pm Zoom 2/15 Racial Justice 7pm Zoom ~Ellen Gruenbaum ~Erica Wilson ~Donita Remington			Reading and the Rainbow 2/22 <i>Dinners with Ruth</i> by Nina Totenberg 1pm host: Marion Golson 4pm: Self facilitated session 7pm host: Kimberly Anderson <u>Reservations</u> are not required. ~Valarie Boone ~Patricia Stubb ~Ellen Timothy			
calendar continued on page 3						

President's Corner, Marilyn Shankar

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Our biggest event of the year, Redlands STEM Conference, is on February 28. Please come and help assemble packets at University Methodist Church on Colton Ave on Saturday afternoon, February 17.

As the saying goes "many hands make light work". If you are involved in planning and executing one of many events thank you. If you would like to be more involved please contact the chair of the event or committee of interest to you. You will be more than welcome.

Marilyn Shankar, Co-President
AAUW Redlands Branch

Hospitality Birthday Club

Happy Birthday to All! This month we will celebrate not only our February birthdays but also August birthdays. We celebrate both months because we don't meet in August, and we don't want to leave anyone out.



February Birthdays:

Marianne Baldwin
Linda Bidaki
Marcella Cavallaro
Rosemary Conway
Kay Dobbartin
Judy Elder
Ginny Evans-Perry
Cheryl Jordan
Heather MacDonald
Margaret Maher
Tracy Massimiano
Lisa McCarty
Nan Neighbours
Krista Newkirk
Kathleen Presnell-Best
Rena Reisinger
Christine Smith
Nelda Stuck
Karen Watkins
Denise Westcott

August Birthdays:

Heather Abushanab
Gail Anderson
Deborah Berg
Cid Breyer
Peggi Cook
Roslyn Dunn
Johanne Dyerly
Debra Fields
Marion Golson
Kim Green
Joyce Heitmeier
Martha Lehman
Valerie Lichtman
Toni Momberger
Julia Naman
Cathy Curtis Odegaard
Karen Parker-Parent
Jane Roberts
Anne Sandel
Susan Shodahl
Deepika Srivastava
Susan Willis
Debbie Wilson

calendar continued from page 2

AAUW Redlands STEM Initiatives

Redlands STEM Conference February 28, 2024

Redlands STEM Committee Meetings:

2/10 9am committee meeting at Kathryn Brown's home
2/17 3pm PACKET ASSEMBLY University United Methodist Church 940 E. Colton Ave
2/22 3pm Walk Through @ UoR
2/24 9am Walk Through @ UoR

~Kathryn Brown
~Pam Ford

Pass STEM

~Pam Ford
~Theresa Lantz

Tech Trek

~Denise Westcott
~Theresa Lantz

Sew What!

2/12 & 2/26 1pm

~Lisa McCarty

Welcome New members

A few familiar faces have joined or rejoined our Redlands branch. Thanks for affirming your commitment to AAUW Redlands and our mission to advance equity for women and girls!

Connie Binkley BA from CSUSD, MA from University of Redlands.

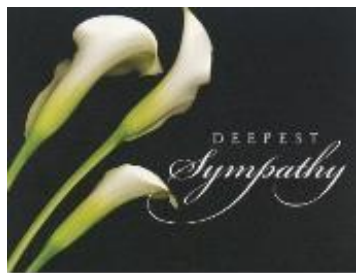
Connie was a member of our Redlands branch from 2014 – 2020. We're so pleased that you have rejoined us.

Cynthia De Los Santos Currently at Cal Poly Pomona

Cynthia is a two-time Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship achiever. Cynthia has shared her AAUW scholarship story not only at a past branch meeting, but also at our Lunafest fundraising event. Your message is meaningful and your drive toward your educational goals is impressive. Thank you, Cynthia, for being such a strong advocate and supporter of our Redlands branch.

Toni Momberger BA from CO University, Boulder
Toni originally joined our branch in 2011. As a former Redlands City Council member and Daily Facts editor, she is a person in the know. Currently Toni is Executive Editor at Follow Our Courts, a publication about the legal industry in the Inland Empire.

Membership News



In sympathy and friendship, we send our condolences to Karen Skoog on the loss of her mother.



Redlands STEM Conference

PACKET ASSEMBLY>>>February 17, 3-5 pm @
University United Methodist Church, 940 E. Colton
Ave., Redlands

CONFERENCE>**NEED GUIDES** and **HOSTS**

for the STEM Conference on **February 28** at

University of Redlands

CONTACT:

*Patty Ahearn
Linda Browning
Sally Trost*

Attention ALL Redlands STEM Conference Volunteers!

Please mark your calendars for one of the STEM Conference training/campus orientation meetings on:

- **Saturday, February 3rd** (following the Branch meeting around 10:45)
- **Saturday, February 17th** (around 2:00 p.m. prior to packet stuffing)

It is crucial for you to familiarize yourself with the University of Redlands campus buildings and understand your roles as a guide, host, or building chair. During these sessions, we will take you on a tour of the U of R campus, highlighting routes, entrances, exits, and providing information about the conference day schedule and your specific duties. Thank you for volunteering for the STEM Conference!

*Patty Ahearn
Linda Browning
Sally Trost*

Closing Soon! Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship deadline is Feb. 29th

If you know a woman living in the Redlands branch area who has had her higher education interrupted but has now returned to earn her Associate's, Bachelor's, or post-graduate degree, please let her know about this scholarship opportunity. The NYMS application can be found at our Redlands branch website <https://redlands-ca.aaupw.net/projects/scholarships-2/> or by scanning the QR code on the attached flyer. Sometimes women who qualify for the scholarship are working right alongside us. Help us find them by printing the attached flyer and leaving a few in your workplace break room or lounge.

~Keita Wangari NYMS Committee Chair



STEM Conference Lunch— You're Invited!

All who are volunteering at the STEM Conference for 8th Grade girls on February 28 at the University of Redlands are encouraged to join the conference speakers, guests and their fellow volunteers for lunch that day in the Casa Loma Room.

Lunch offers the opportunity to network, thank and chat with our Speaker volunteers, as well as to relax and discuss the day's highlights with other volunteers.



The lunch menu, which will be served from 11:30-2 PM, will feature a Pasta Trio Buffet -- Vegetable Alfredo, Rigatoni in Marinara Sauce with Meatballs and Vegan Pasta Primavera with Gluten-Free Pasta--along with Caesar salad (with a vegetarian dressing option) and, of course, two delicious dessert choices: Lemon Cheesecake Bars & Apple Crumb Cake (Vegan.)

The cost of the Lunch is \$30. (Lunch for our Speakers is complimentary.) RESERVATIONS for Lunch must be made by February 15. Please contact Gail Anderson (text or call) or email. Payment can be made on our website <https://redlands-ca.aaupw.net/> or Gail will also be accepting reservations and payments at the February 3 Branch Meeting.

AAUW FUND

Because of your generous support:

- Passage of critical state pay-equity legislation
- Awarding of \$6.3 million to..... 285 fellows and grantees in the 2023-2024 school year
- Empowering young women....Transformational STEM workshops for teens, and career boosting workshops

Please make a tax-deductible gift to the AAUW Fund in one of two ways:

- On line @ aauw.org
- or you write a check to AAUW FUND. Write the number of the *fund you wish to contribute to* in the memo section and hand in at branch meeting

AAUW Fund Numbers

Greatest Needs Fund (9110)
Education and Training (4450)
Economic Security (4449)
(Includes Legal Advocacy)
Leadership (4452)

Your support promotes equity for women and girls.

Thank you,

Mary Lou Guerrero & Susan Bentley, AAUW Fund Co-Chairs



Explaining the Legal Advocacy Fund What does it Mean to Us?

As I talk to branch members, I realize that many do not know of the work of the Legal Advocacy Fund. Perhaps it is because the LAF is an AAUW National initiative, not a state or branch initiative, and therefore its work, and successes seem remote. But, in fact, the resolution of at least two of the cases supported by the LAF have resulted in establishing legal precedence. Or, perhaps, you are new to AAUW and have never heard of the Legal Advocacy Fund. So let me explain the LAF and its mission.

In 1978, a fund was established by the Ithaca NY branch of AAUW to provide monetary support to 11 Cornell University female faculty members who were suing the University for wage discrimination. The branch members believed it was important that these plaintiffs have funds for the many expenses incurred when involved in a lawsuit-not just legal fees. Therefore, the branch established a fund and collected money in support of the professors. The fund was so successful that when presented at the 1981 AAUW National Convention, the Legal Advocacy Fund was established as a national AAUW initiative.

Funds continued to be granted only to plaintiffs bringing lawsuits against academic institutions until 2009 when the mission was expanded to provide funds to women suing any workplace for gender discrimination and/or wage discrimination. Since 1972, the majority of cases revolve around violation of Title IX regulations. Each year, \$100,000 may be designated for grants to eligible plaintiffs. The LAF has supported dozens of cases over the many years of its existence and is currently supporting 8 active cases.

LAF continues to expand its scope and now provides grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000 per year to law schools in New York and California conducting legal clinics that advance gender equity. Two law schools are receiving grants currently.

I hope by knowing the story of the Legal Advocacy Fund-its mission and its history-that you will be moved to donate to and support it. It is my sincere belief that LAF does important work with possible national impact. Donations can be made online at the AAUW national website. LAF falls under the Economic Security Fund, #4449. Or a check can be written to AAUW Funds designating 4449 in the comments section and mailed or handed to our Treasurer at a branch meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Seibly, Legal Advocacy Chair

2024 Pass 8th Grade Girls STEM Conference

A BIG Thank You to All who Helped Make the Conference a Tremendous Success!

- 263 8th graders from Banning & Beaumont
- 12 school staff from 4 middle schools
- 20 speakers and substitutes
- 12 workshops
- Keynote speaker
- 40 AAUW volunteers
- Donors & sponsors including individuals like you
- Mt San Jacinto College staff, administrators & students
- Another Great Year!



Thank You to the following Redlands Branch Members who were Presenters at the Pass Conference:
Susan Bangasser, Kimberley Cousins, Cynthia De Los Santos, Kelsey Gormley and Elizabeth Schilling



THANK YOU **MSJC**
MT. SAN JACINTO COLLEGE



Great News for Student Members!

To encourage inclusion of and participation by student members, no matter the student's college, the board approved a trial plan to offer reduced cost meals to student members.

From January through June, 2024, students will pay only \$10 for their dinner or brunch meal at our branch meetings. The one caveat is that each student member may take advantage of this price just TWO times in the next six months.

The Trial is underwritten by donations to the General Fund for meals and the C/U Partnership Committee will keep track.

Keep in mind that a *Reservation Made is a Reservation Paid*, even at the reduced rate.



Great Decisions Interest Groups

The Great Decisions discussion groups will begin meeting the first week of March. The afternoon session will meet on Monday afternoon, March 4 at 1 pm. The evening group will meet on Wednesday evening, March 6 at 7 pm. Each group will meet for 8 consecutive weeks starting on those dates.

If you have previously pre-ordered a book through Redlands branch, those books will be available to pick up at the February branch meeting or you can contact Sue Wallaceto make arrangements to pick up your book from her. If you would like to join one of the groups but have not pre-ordered your book, you can independently order your book by going to www.fpa.org/great_decisions, click on Bookstore tab and choose Great Decisions 2024 Briefing Book which costs \$35.00 plus shipping.

If you would like to join one of the groups, please contact Sue Wallace, the coordinator for the Monday afternoon group, or Sue Ferguson, the coordinator for the Wednesday evening group. We look forward to another year of thought provoking discussions and gaining a greater understanding of global issues.

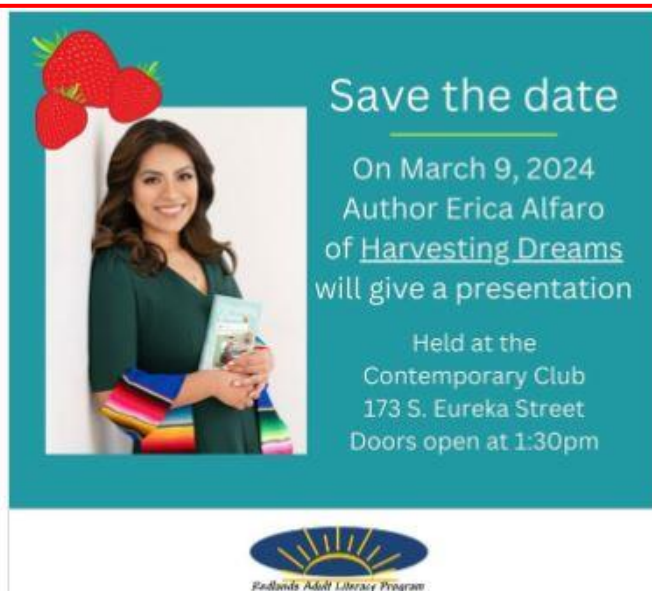
Reminder: Online Membership Directory Password

This is a reminder that our AAUW Redlands branch website has an online member directory. It lists all members' contact information, joining year, annual membership renewal date and educational background. You can access our website at redlands-ca.aauw.net. The password for the online directory portion of the website has been sent previously.

No longer do you need to hunt down your little green yearbook when you need someone's phone number. You can just go online and you'll find the most up to date information.



AAUW Community Engagement



January Branch Meeting

Molly Widdicombe, Program Manager
Girls on the Run Riverside



January & July Birthdays:

Lori Powell, Amy Bisek, Sue Ferguson, Ann Leonard, Mercedes Gifford, Barbara Simmons, Sheron Bealer and Beverly Woolverton



Branch Officers:

Co-Presidents: Heather Abushanab & Marilyn Shankar, **Co-Communications Vice Presidents:** Priya Engel & Keita Wangari, **Co-Hospitality Vice Presidents:** Joyce Katkov & Keller Iuppenlatz, **Program Vice President:** Eileen Sanborn, **Membership Vice President:** Amy Bisek, **Secretary:** Marion Golson, **Treasurer:** Sue Ferguson, **At-Large Board Members:** Susan Bentley, Donita Remington, Kathy Warren

B&T Submission:

The deadline for the **March newsletter** is **February 5th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to news@AAUWRedlands.org

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

Branches and Twigs
Issue 7, February 2024



Follow Us on Social Media!

Are you on social media platforms? So are we! Help us get broader exposure for our mission, fundraisers, scholarship opportunities, STEM activities, and community action projects by following us, reacting to our posts, and resharing our posts with your followers.

Here's where to find us:

- Facebook: @aauwredlands
- Instagram: @aauw_redlands
- LinkedIn: @aauw_redlands

