

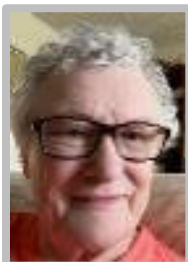
Branches and Twigs

Redlands Branch, AAUW
June 2024

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

This past year for AAUW Redlands Branch has been a huge success. An unprecedented number of new members joined our Branch in October. The Annual Boutique was exciting, and profitable, with the addition of products made by our Sew What! Group. We once again enjoyed the Holiday music from Rhymes with Orange. In January we held our first STEM Conference at Mt. San Jacinto College for 8th grade girls from the Beaumont and Banning School Districts. Next the Public Policy committee held a very successful Candidates Forum at University of Redlands. This was followed by our Speech Trek ~continued on page 3

June Branch Meeting

"The Cancer Channel: One year, Two cancers, Three miracles"

Sarah (Brubacher) McDonald is a seasoned business operator-turned executive coach, author, and speaker. Besides her many practical years of experience in pivotal leadership roles within organizations ranging from Corporate America institutions to start-ups and scale-ups, Sarah's recent life experiences battling cancer have contributed to her unique perspective and expertise on leadership, resilience, and speaking about hard things. In her 2022 Amazon best-selling memoir "The Cancer Channel: One year, Two cancers, Three miracles" Sarah details a year of difficult stories about her cancer treatment in lighthearted and humorous ways. At 44, Sarah was newly married, newly promoted, and planning pregnancy. It felt like a time of new beginnings in her life when suddenly she was diagnosed with a rare, incurable cancer. Two months later she was diagnosed with another, unrelated cancer. During this struggle, her father's cancer, ten years in remission, returned and added new challenges (but also a cancer buddy) to her world. In the most unlikely of outcomes, Sarah survived both cancers and two years later gave birth to a little girl at age 48. Corporate, medical, and cancer support audiences regularly ask Sarah to speak about her cancer experience and about how managers and co-workers can best show up and support their colleagues in crisis. Prior audiences have included eBay, Microsoft, Moody's, Waymo, Google, Publicis, Duke University Medical Center, The Ohio State University Medical Center, and Memorial Sloan Kettering. Sarah is a spokesperson for the American Cancer Society as well as serving as their mission impact chair for the CEOs Against Cancer initiative.

Sarah grew up in Redlands (!!) and attended school there through Redlands High School. She is the daughter of Paul and Elaine Brubacher (former University of Redlands administrator and professor, respectively). Sarah earned her undergraduate degree from Occidental College and holds a MBA from Cornell University. She is wife to Geoff McDonald and mama to Rory, age 8.

~Eileen Sanborn, coordinator

June Branch Meeting

When

Saturday, June 1, 2024
Social 9:00 a.m.
Brunch 9:30 a.m.
Program 10:15 a.m.

Where

University of Redlands
CASA LOMA Room

Menu

Scrambled Eggs, Country & Gravy, Shredded Hash Browns, Fresh Seasonal Fruit, coffee/tea

Cost

Members and guests: \$25

Registration

Please email AAUWRsvp@AAUWRedlands.org or call 909-362-4955 by Saturday, May 18, 2024, to make a brunch reservation. After May 18th, brunch reservations will be made 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 invited to attend the speaker portion of the meeting free of charge. Chairs will be available.

2024 Branch Meetings

Tuesday, 9/10 5:30 pm

Saturday, 10/5 9:00 a.m.

Membership Brunch

Saturday, 11/2 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, 12/3 5:30 p.m.

2025

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

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 BRANCH MEETING
2 6pm California Cuisine 1	3 5:30pm Board Mtg	4	5 1pm Bridge	6 7pm DEI	7	8
9	10 1pm Sew What!	11	12 6pm CHAT	13 6:30pm Programs committee mtg	14	15
16 *10am Juneteenth 5:30pm California Cuisine 2	17 1pm Bridge	18	19 TBD I Am, Therefore I Think	20 7pm Racial Justice	21	22
23/30	24 1pm Sew What!	25 7pm Public Policy	26 1pm Bunco	27 1pm, 4pm & 7pm Reading & the Rainbow	28	29

Save the date: Tues, August 6 Redlands Bowl Ushering

AAUW Redlands Joint Board Meeting for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 board

6/3 Potluck 5:30pm. Meeting 6:30pm Redlands United Church of Christ, 168 Bellevue Ave, Redlands.

~Heather Abushana
~Marilyn Shank

Bridge Groups

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

Bunco

6/26 1pm

~Patty Ahearn
~Lori Powell

California Cuisine and Conversation I

6/2 6pm

~Kathy Toister

California Cuisine and Conversation 2

6/16 5:30pm

~Patty Ahearn

CHAT meeting

6/12 6pm Assembly Room, AKSPL

~Katherine Gifford 909-798-7565, ext 4138 literacy@akspl.org

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion / Racial Justice

5/2 DEI 7pm Zoom

5/16 7pm Racial Justice Zoom

~Ellen Gruenbaum
~Erica Wilson
~Donita Remington

I Am, Therefore I Think

6/19 annual planning luncheon
Location and time TBD

Juneteenth

6/16 10am

~Donita Remington

Program committee meeting

6/13 6:30pm 1136 Kimberly Place, Redlands 909-917-8039

~Eileen Sanborn

Public Policy

6/25 7pm

~Cassie MacDuff

Redlands Bowl Ushering

August 6 7pm at Bowl Heritage House

~Barbara Simmons

Reading and the Rainbow

6/27 Horse by .Geraldine Brooks

1:00 pm host: Linda Richards, cohost: Marion Golson, facilitator:

Valarie Boon

4:00 pm Zoom link sent later in the month

7:00 pm host: Dolly Israelitt, cohost: Kathryn Brown, facilitator:

Karen Watkins

Reservations are not required

~Valarie Boone

~Patricia Stubbs

~Ellen Timothy

AAUW Redlands STEM Initiatives

Tech Trek

~Denise Westcott

~Theresa Lantz

Sew What!

6/10 & 6/24 1pm

~Lisa McCarty

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 **Summer newsletter** is **June 28th**. Send your articles to the editor via email to news@AAUWRedlands.org

President's Corner: Marilyn Shankar ~continued from page 1

This was also the month that 8th grade girls participated in the STEM Conference at University of Redlands. Gov Trek was held in February and March and the Inland Empire team was very successful. After a hiatus due to covid we held a Bridge Scramble in March which contributed greatly to our Mission fund. FilmFest was a great success and also was a profitable fund raiser.

In addition to all the above activities the Program committee offered us a wide variety of topics at our Branch meetings that allowed us to learn and caused us to think outside of our individual bubbles.

Community engagement increased this year due to our participating in Redlands Chamber of Commerce and Redlands Service Club Council. These gave us new opportunities and helped with more recognition. None of these programs and activities would have been possible or successful without the participation and support of all of you. I personally have made friends with many of you and had a lot of fun by participating in many committees over the years. Thanks to each of you who were part of one or more of these committees. I encourage you to be as involved as your time permits. It is extremely rewarding.

This is my last newsletter article. It has been a privilege to serve as your co-president this past year, with special thanks to Heather for her extra commitment during my health issues. We are very fortunate to have Heather continue as President next year. Thanks to Tricia Stubbs and the nominating committee, the Board for 2024-2025 is exceptional. The future of Redlands Branch is in good hands.

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**



It May be Time to Renew Your Membership Dues

Please check your little green yearbook to see when your Membership dues are due: most likely, it's June 30. Your renewal deadline is listed in your yearbook by your name. Attached to this newsletter email you'll find instructions for how to renew your membership. If you have questions or need assistance, feel free to contact Amy Bisek.

Yearbook Deadline: Get your Contact Information and Dues Up to Date prior to June 30

- If your contact or educational information has changed, please notify Marion Golson prior to June 30. .



**We Still Need Help:
Membership Renewal Administrator**

It's a flexible and easy task you can work into your own schedule. We need someone to help nudge members to renew their membership. Please contact Amy Bisek to volunteer.

Hospitality Birthday Club

Our best wishes to our
June birthday ladies:

Patty Ahearn
Elaine Brubacher
Carol Buchanan
Robin Butler
Mary Kay DeCrescenzo
Patricia Estrada
Paula Ferri-Milligan
Mary Lou Guerrero
Susan Kean
Betsy Laudati
Maria Rossi



Sally Trost
Darlene Tybur
Malia Ullrich
Evelyn Vazquez
Keita Wangari
Elaine Weller
Aleta West
Roux Whitmore
Margaret Wilcox

Welcome new member

Margaret Wilcox

UC Berkeley, Bachelor's degree, Master's degree,
Ph.D. degree

Margaret is a native Californian born and raised in the Bay Area east of Berkeley, the area where she and her husband also raised their family. Three years ago, Margaret moved from the Tahoe foothills to Redlands where her daughter, daughter-in-law and two little ones live. And she gladly travels to CT regularly to see her son's family, including two granddaughters.

Margaret's degrees are all from UC Berkeley, followed by a career as a psychologist, University lecturer and administrator, which she thoroughly enjoyed. After retiring, Margaret became active with several nonprofits in the Tahoe foothills area including CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), and SCLAR (large animal rescue association).

Because Margaret moved to Redlands during the pandemic, it has been a challenge to make local connections. She has a passion for social justice, especially for children and families, and has recently become active as a volunteer with Newcomers Access Center in Claremont that provides amazing supportive services to immigrant and refugee families in our area. When she recently met a Redland's AAUW member at a Redlands Democratic Club meeting and learned more from them about AAUW and its subgroups, like DEI and Hiking, she was hooked.

In her free time, Margaret is likely to be happily hiking in the mountains surrounding Redlands or riding her Icelandic horse. And now, Margaret is happily involved in AAUW!



Back2School Jam

Happy June, AAUW members!

This is a reminder that the June meeting is our annual donation day for the purchase of backpacks for our Back-to-School community project. At Micah House's **Back2School Jam** on August 4, backpacks filled with school supplies will be given to students in need at a family-friendly community event.

You have been so generous in the past and I hope you will open your hearts and wallets once again to provide for the underserved students in Redlands USD.

Look for the Crayola boxes on your tables for cash and check donations. You can also donate with a credit card at the June branch meeting.

Thank you so much!

~Dawn Romo, Back-to-School Project Chair

AAUW Redlands Has a New Shirt!!

Members were given a short window to submit orders for the new branch polo shirt. If you ordered a shirt by May 14th, you will be able to pick up your shirt at the June Branch meeting. There are lots of places to wear your AAUW shirt including: **Redlands Bowl Ushering Night, Juneteenth Information Booth, Believe Walk, Redlands Service Day, STEM Conference.**

I'm sure we will come up with many additional places where we want the community to know that AAUW Redlands Branch is present.

Did you miss out on the ordering window? Don't worry! There will be another opportunity to purchase a shirt soon. We will send you an email with details when the new time window is open! Have questions? Contact Marianne Baldwin.



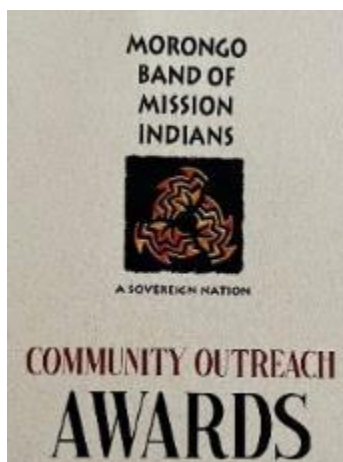


Participate in Outreach!

We will have a booth at the 7th Annual Redlands Juneteenth Celebration. Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 16th in Sylvan Park. The Juneteenth Event is sponsored by the City of Redlands, Unity in the Community, Redlands Police Department, and The Village Second Baptist Church and will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This will be our third year participating in this event. Our participation in Juneteenth allows us to increase awareness of AAUW, support our community, address diversity goals, and perform outreach. Last year we had more than twenty members participate in planning, organizing and staffing the event. AAUW members were able to circulate at the event, see the other booths, hand out fans and information cards, and connect with each other and with the community. Come join us!

Please contact Donita Remington, Diversity Committee.

STEM Initiatives Receives a Grant from the Morongo Band of Mission Indians



Kate Pretorius and Pam Ford accepted a grant on behalf of AAUW Redlands STEM initiatives at Morongo's 3rd Annual Community Outreach Awards Luncheon in April.

Kate submitted the grant proposal and Pam met with the Morongo Community Outreach Committee.

Congratulations

2024 Nancy Yowell Memorial Scholarship Recipients

April Davis - \$1,000

Associate @ Crafton Hills
graduating 5/25 with plans to transfer to CSUN
for BA in American Sign Language

Mayra Carranza - \$1,000

Associate in Psychology @ Crafton Hills
graduating 5/24 with transfer to UC Riverside
for Bachelor's in Psychology

Tabetha Johnson - \$2,000

PhD in Leadership, Educational Administration @
LaSierra, graduating 6/26

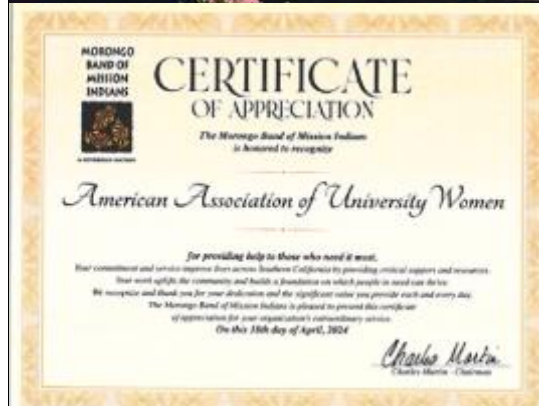
Sabrina Salazar - \$1,000

Associate @ Crafton Hills,
graduating 5/24 with transfer to UC in Fall 2024

Kari Scott - \$1,000

Associate in Psychology @ Crafton
graduating 5/24 with transfer to Cal Baptist
for BA in Psychology

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



Thank You for Helping Us Grow!



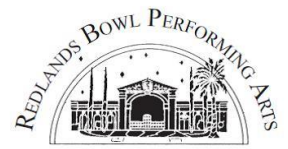
Thank you to all the ladies who joined AAUW Redlands from August 2023 through May 2024. The 48 ladies listed below include new members, previous members, current national members, and members who transferred their membership from another AAUW branch. During the last 10 months, we also have had 10 Student Associates join our branch. AAUW Redlands is very happy to have so many new and returning members. We hope you enjoyed your first year and plan to continue next year. Our August 2023 – May 2024 new members are:

Arlene Benson, Deborah Berg, Connie Binkley, Emily Brown, Susan Burnett, Robin Butler, Stephanie Centeno, Jan Cooper Hagman, Virginia Cruz, Jane Davis, Mary Kay DeCrescenzo, Deborah Dybowski, Joy Fan, Debra Fields, Gigi Garcia, Kimberly Green, Carol Kennedy, Margo Klein, Laura Krenek, Peggy Lanum, Toni Momberger, Betsy Laudati, Heather MacDonald, Margaret Maher, Laura Miles, Thelma Muro, Marjorie Munson, Karen Parker-Parent, Julie Patton, Veronica Phillips, Nancy Rogers, Tricia Rogers, Jennie Ruvalcaba, Laurie Smith, Elizabeth Sopko, Heidi Taber, Valerie Taber, Carolee Taylor, Samantha Trad, Darlene Tybur, Evelyn Vasquez, Elaine Weller, Roux Whitmore, Mandy Wilcox-Herzog, Margaret Wilcox, Debbie Wilson, Julie Wilson, Zsuzsanna Vincze

Student Associates: Krysten Audibert, Wendy Birchard, Lelah Boyd, Rachel Bubb, Cynthia De Los Santos, Jayleen Martinez, Zofia Owerkowicz, Kari Lynn Scott, Simone St. Pierre Nelson, Malia Ullrich

AAUW Community Engagement

Redlands Bowl Ushering August 6



REDLANDS BOWL
SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

As in the past, our AAUW members, significant others, and children over the age of 12 are invited to come usher at one Redlands Bowl Performance. This summer we will be ushering on August 6th. The evening's performance will be Forever Motown "featuring nine all-star performers including: G.C. Cameron, former Lead Singer of The Temptations and original lead singer of The Spinners, and Traci Robinson-Green former lead singer of the Marvelettes. The full stage production brings all the iconic Motown favorites including: *Please, Mr. Postman, My Girl, Tracks of My Tears, Stop In The Name of Love, Signed, Sealed, Delivered*, and many, many others!"

We will meet at 7:00 at the Bowl Heritage House on Eureka next to the Bowl, to receive our instructions. At intermission, we will help collect the free-will offerings.

I am very excited about this particular evening that is affording me a welcomed walk down memory lane from my youth.

We can always use and welcome more volunteers for the evening. Please call me if you wish to be added to our list of volunteers.

~Barbara Simmons

2024 Great Decision Groups



Congratulations to our members who received certificates at the May branch meeting for their years of continuous membership in AAUW.



5 years:
***Nerni Miller, Lori Powell,
Valerie Lichtman,
Monica Harwood***



10 years:
***Kathy Warren,
Ginny Evans-Perry***



15 years:
***Linda Browning,
Gail Anderson***



20 years:
***Dolly Israelitt,
Deborah Seibly***



25 years:
***Kathy Toister,
Sheron Bealer***



30 years:
Cathy Schilling



35 years:
Susan Leonard

Do You Have an Idea For a New AAUW Interest Group?

How do you get an interest group set up? Who needs to approve it? What are the rules? These are all great questions! If you have an idea, the summer is a great time to get the logistics in place so that a new interest group can launch in September. The [AAUW Redlands Branch Standing Rules](#) has this guidance on Interest Groups: *With the approval of the board of directors, any member may form a new interest group provided its meetings will not conflict with other scheduled branch meeting and provided that it is open to all members.*

There have been some exceptions to the “open to all members” requirement for interest groups that get very large. For example, *Sew What!* has limited membership so that they can fit in the available crafting space. California Cuisine, Reading in the Rainbow, and Great Decisions all have multiple meeting times to accommodate different schedules as well as keep the number of participants reasonable.



If you would like to propose a new interest group, please submit your idea in writing to the President to include on the agenda for discussion at the Board June 3rd meeting or the summer meeting in August. Include in your proposal who will be the head of the interest group, which day(s) and time(s) you want to meet and how you will coordinate the meeting space. Generally, interest groups do not receive money from the branch for their activities. If you want to discuss this before you put it in writing, contact Heather Abushanab who will be happy to help you figure things out!



FilmFest 2024

AAUW Redlands



*Filmmaker Lynn Thomlinson with
Kate Pretorius and Kathryn Brown*

Our first FilmFest was held on April 19th and by all measures was a huge success. The evening featured a pre-screening reception in the Esri Café featuring wine and beer, hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. The reception space was lovely, and the food was amazing! Beautiful opportunity baskets were also available. We moved to the Esri Auditorium for the films where we were treated to 7 short films created by women. The films were selected specifically for the event by the FilmFest Committee. Selections included a documentary, a story of painful adolescence, several humorous pieces, and a beautiful, animated story created by filmmaker Lynn Thomlinson who was in attendance that evening. The event was also a huge financial success for the branch, raising \$10,800 for our mission fund! Thank you to everyone who helped make this evening so wonderful!





Thank You To Our Sponsors

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*Burgeson's Heating, A/C,
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Lois Lauer Realty

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People's Choice

Escape Brewery

Hatfield Motors



After the wonderful success of FilmFest in April, we are looking forward to FilmFest 2025. We would like to add some people to our planning committee, which will begin its work over the summer. We need people to help track down and select the films. If you are interested in joining the Screening Team, please contact Kathryn Brown.

We also need people to work on planning the event side of things. If you are interested in either of these areas, please let me know. Last year, we started with bi-weekly brief planning meetings on-line to motivate us and then moved to weekly meetings about two months prior to the event. Contact Heather Abushanab

AAUW Community Engagement

Sharing Worldwide Experiences While *CHAT*ing

AAUW sponsors CHAT (Conversation Helps Adults Transition), which helps women from other countries practice their conversational English. Members of CHAT share their unique stories of work, travel, and family from their native countries, while learning about local customs.

Recently, a CHAT member asked that the CHAT group talk about weddings, since she had not attended a wedding in the United States. While eating wedding cake, the CHAT group talked about weddings from past generations and today in the United States and elsewhere. Did you know that in Russia, a wedding is a three day celebration? Or that in Columbia, weddings involve dancing all night long, until the wee hours of the morning!

Through CHAT, AAUW members get a chance to learn about other countries and help new Redlands residents feel more welcome here. If you are interested in becoming a CHAT volunteer, please contact Katherine Gifford or Trudy Waldron by calling 909.798.7565, ext. 4138 or send an email to literacy@akspl.org. CHATty people are always welcome!



May Birthdays

Evelyn O'Prey, Thelma Korpman, Kathryn Brown, Susan Bangasser, Theresa Lantz, and Jane Weldon



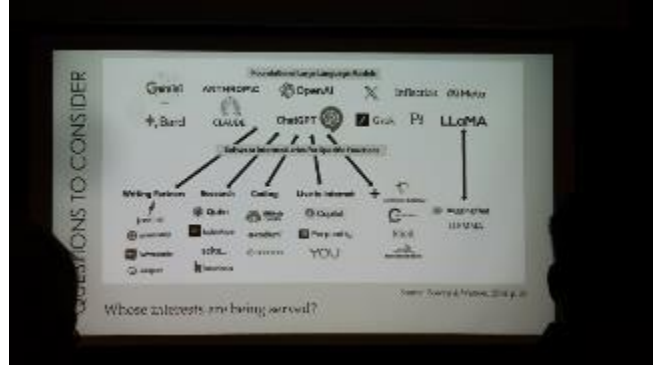
May Program: Generative Artificial Intelligence



Mihaela Popescu



Fadi Muheidat



May Branch Meeting



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