



AAUW TORRANCE TELEGRAM

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JANUARY, 2019

Celebration of Women Empowerment: The state of women's equity in Los Angeles County today

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Tri-Branch Program Meeting Torrance - Beach Cities - Palos Verdes Peninsula Saturday, January 12, 2019 Torrance Airport Meeting Room

Panel discussion focusing on two areas:

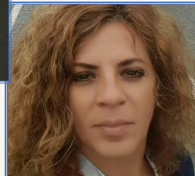
- **Highlights of Equity:** Editorial tales from the areas where progress has been made using successful strategies
- **Spotlight looking forward:** where is inequity at its worst? Where is work still needed?



Moderator: Emily Williams, MPP, EEC: Senior Deputy for Human Services and Child Welfare LA County Supervisor Ridley Scott's office; Current Beach Cities Branch member



Speakers: Carmen Estrda-Schaye, PhD: Governing Council Member, 4th District, Women + Girls Initiative, County of Los Angeles; National Vice President of Diversity of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC); President of NWPC South Bay



Elena Fernandez, MSW, LCSW: Director at St John's Well Child & Family Center; Senior Adjunct Faculty at Pacific Oaks College - Pasadena, California

Meeting Agenda

9:30am - Social, Coffee, Continental Breakfast
10:00am - Moderated Discussion Panel
11:30am - Questions & Answers
12:00pm - Adjourn

January Message From President

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Dear Torrance Members,

2018 was a very special year for all of us at Torrance Branch, since we celebrated our 50th anniversary.

On December 8, we celebrated our Holiday Party at Pat Arnett's beautifully decorated home with 25 members. Thanks to both Pat for hosting the party and Kabita Kumar for coordinating the delicious and plentiful food.

2019 will be an exciting year for women. A record number of women will be sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. To celebrate women's empowerment, on Saturday, January 12, a panel discussion has been organized by AAUW Torrance, Beach Cities and Palos Verdes Peninsula. I look forward to that event and hope to see all of you on January 12.

I wanted to take this time to thank all of you for your passion, your dedication and your time that you donate to help fulfill AAUW missions.

Happy New Year 2019!

Regards,
Indrani

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Board Members 2018-2019

President	Indrani Chatterjee
Treasurer	Alice Matthews
Membership VP	Cami Hamilton
AAUW Fund VP	Gloria Liu
Secretary	Nancy Kenney
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	& Open

Committee Chairs 2018-2019

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	Margot Sullivan
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Communications	Keri Gilbert
Publicity/Mailing	Janet Flynn
Telegram Editor	Open

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AAUW Torrance Monthly Meeting Calendar

January 12, 2019	Tri-Branch Program Meeting Celebration of Women Empowerment
February 9, 2019	TBD
March 9, 2019	Women in History, National & International/ International Women's Day
April, 2019	TBD
May 4, 2019	Afternoon Tea Fundraiser at Chado Tea Room
June 8, 2019	Year-End Meeting & New Board Installation

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AAUW Fund- Gloria Liu

Membership- Cami Hamilton

AAUW Fund Update

Early Mother's Day Tea May 4, 2019

Buy your tickets early for the Mother's Day Tea on May 4, 2019. You should have received the flyer in an email on Wednesday December 12. Tickets are \$40. See the flyer for reservation details. Seating will be limited. (E-mail the branch for a copy of the flyer, if needed.)

Also, start thinking of donations for the silent auction. Do you have something you would like to donate? Do you know someone or a business you could ask to donate? Let me or Athena Paquette Cormier know.

Gloria Liu

GLSB7891@gmail.com, 310 683-3695

Mary Lou Busch Moves to Bakersfield!

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From Mary Lou on Facebook:

"I am moving to Bakersfield on December 14th. I am going to miss all of you since I have lived in the South Bay for over 40 years. My rent here (Brookdale, formerly Pacific Inn) has gone up way too much and I am not really a retirement home type person. This seemed best right now while I still have some savings left. I bought a house from an old friend and did not have to pay realtor fees. I will be close to family and my granddaughter will live with me. She is a good cook so I won't starve. I have found a church that I think will fit me - It is First Congregational I am looking forward to this Adventure!"

Mary Lou is 95 and she didn't get her bachelor degree until 40 years after she started it. For AAUW Torrance she was VP of Funds and also VP of program in the early 1990s. In 1993 she went to the UN meeting on the Conference on the Status of Women in Beijing, China.

She went skydiving for the first time in 2016. She has also gone motorcycle riding in 2017 and took a hot air balloon ride. She was really happy to attend the AAUW party December 8, 2018 and see a lot of old and new friends. Two of her thirteen great-grandchildren live close to her new home.

Her cell phone number which is listed in the directory still works. She welcomes calls or texts. Her computer and email aren't set up yet. Here is her address:

Mary Lou Busch
12510 Andes Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93312
(310) 387-9346

If you are interested in going with a couple of people to visit her after she is more settled, let me know. I hear there are good Basque restaurants up there.

--- Gloria Liu, GLSB7891@gmail.com, 310 683-3695

Membership Updates

A special thanks to Pat Arnett for hosting the holiday party. She and her husband opened their charming home this year for our annual December gathering. Thank you also to new member Kabita Kumar for jumping in with a wide smile to coordinate food and delicious catering.

We had a chance to toast and reminisce with long-time member Mary Lou Busch on the eve of her move to Bakersfield. Mary Lou will be plugging into the AAUW branch and community there. We will miss you in the South Bay, Mary Lou!

New Member Update — in our Go For 10 Campaign, we have added 5 new members in 2018. In 2019 there are some great programs especially in January, March and May that will be perfect to invite a guest to join you. We can continue to offer new members the chance to join with half off national dues.

Keep on sending your contact updates and continue to keep your membership and treasurer chairs in the loop on news updates in your life!

Happy New Year and See You on January 12 for the joint tri-branch event!





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EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE (EPC)

Peggy Monga- EPC

Margot Sullivan- EPC

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

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Join us **Thursday, January 10 at 6:30 pm** at the home of Kabita Kumar
1928 W. 183rd Street, Torrance, 90504

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We look forward to an exciting 2019 as we prepare for our new year of Tech Trek. To begin the year, we are in the process of revising our Tech Trek materials to conform to the new manuals and forms that have been mandated by State and National AAUW for Branch use for nominations, applications and selection of candidates for the Tech Trek camps. Our AAUW Board has approved the Memorandum of Understanding. All Branch members who will be associated with the girls who are nominated and selected are required to go through a training program and sign a Code of Conduct. If you have been notified that you need to do this training and sign the Code of Conduct, please **do so before January 10 and confirm with Peggy Monga.**

Nomination requests for candidates for Tech Trek have been sent to Torrance, Redondo and some Los Angeles Middle Schools. We are working with 15 schools and hope to send at least two seventh grade girls from each school. **School buddies will visit the schools between January 11 and 24. It is important for all school buddies to attend the EPC meeting on January 10th to pick up the packets.** If you are unable to attend, please make other arrangements with Peggy - filmgroup@earthlink.net. If you would like to be a school buddy, there is still time to sign up. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet the five nominees from a middle school and share about Tech Trek STEM camp. New School Buddies may go along with a veteran School Buddy to get acquainted with the process. A script and good instructions are included. The time commitment is a lunch time on a school day between January 11 and January 24. We will also be looking for Readers to read the essays and applications and select the candidates. This will be during the period of March 12 to March 22. If that works for you, please contact Peggy.

We hope you'll join us on Thursday, January 10 at our EPC meeting at Kabita's.

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Torrance Branch Interest Groups

Diversity Book Group

Evening Literature Group

Film Group

Women in Transition

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Diversity Book Group:

Date: January 18, 2019

Place: The home of Nancy Kenney

Time: 6:30 PM

The book is:

My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante

A modern masterpiece from one of Italy's most acclaimed authors, My Brilliant Friend is a rich, intense and generous-hearted story about two friends, Elena and Lila. Ferrante's inimitable style lends itself perfectly to a meticulous portrait of these two women that is also the story of a nation and a touching meditation on the nature of friendship. Through the lives of these two women, Ferrante tells the story of a neighborhood, a city and a country as it is transformed in ways that, in turn, also transform the relationship between her two protagonists.

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Evening Literary Group

Date: Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 7:30 PM

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: The home of Lisa Blank. Please see directory for address.

The Book:

Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

In this gorgeous, page-turning saga, four generations of a poor Korean immigrant family fight to control their destiny in 20th-century Japan, exiled from a home they never knew.

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Film Group: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 4 pm

At the home of Ann DuPuy

RSVP to 310-316-4808 or ann.dupuy@gmail.com

Join us on **our new day, Tuesday and NEW TIME, 4 pm**, for light refreshments and conversation. Everybody's a critic!

LEAVE NO TRACE (2018)(Rated PG for thematic material throughout) For survivalist Will and his teenage daughter, living off the grid means residing in a nature reserve on the edge of a city -- a lifestyle that suits them until they're discovered and forced into the social services system. From writer/director Debra Granik, who won Best Director from the LA Film Critics Association. Starring Thomasin McKenzie and Ben Foster. "The heart of *Leave No Trace* is the rapport between the father and daughter, and McKenzie and Foster are keyed to each other's movements, perhaps even each other's thoughts." Metacritic 88. Available at Torrance and Redondo Libraries and DVD Netflix.

EIGHTH GRADE (2018)(Rated R for language and some sexual material) Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures the tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school (the end of her thus far disastrous eighth grade year) before she begins high school. In his feature film directorial debut, comedian Bo Burnham, the 27-year-old stand-up comic who achieved fame as a teenager through YouTube by riffing on his insecurities, is uniquely capable as the film's writer and director to tell the story of Kayla. Starring Elsie Fisher and Josh Hamilton. Metacritic 89. Available at Torrance and Redondo Libraries and DVD Netflix.

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Women In Transition (WIT) Meeting

TOPIC: Annual Business Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, January 2, 2019

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 PM

PLACE: Private Residence. Please See directory for address

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Noon Wednesday, January 2, 2019 to SUSAN: susan.e.negrete@gmail.com or if questions, call: 310-377-0642

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AAUW News- National & LACIC

**AAUW National
AAUW CA State
LACIC Event**

AAUW National New Strategic Plan Statement

Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision

Equity for all.

Values

Nonpartisan.
Fact-based.
Integrity.
Inclusion and Intersectionality.

<https://www.aauw.org/who-we-are/strategic-plan/>

Message from AAUW CA Board

Jottings with Jane...

Cathy Foxhoven and Jane Niemeier, Co-Presidents, AAUW California,
statepresident@aauw-ca.org

WE ARE A GENEROUS GROUP!

One million dollars! That is what our branches raise each year for Tech Trek. We also raise thousands of dollars for our local scholarships and for NCCWSL attendees. Then consider the thousands that we send each year to the AAUW Fund. If you add all of that to the Tech Trek money, I am sure that our donations pass the two million dollar mark if you consider everything that we give each year. And to top it off, our state board recently put out an SOS call to help the 42 members of the Paradise Branch that lost their homes in the recent fire. We are still totaling the amount in gift cards that AAUW members have sent in, but I can tell you that I received gift cards from Oregon, and as individuals, my own branch (La Mesa-El Cajon) gave over \$1000! At a recent San Diego Branch meeting, I told the members and guests about what had happened in Paradise. One of the guests was a Tech Trek girl from 2017. After the meeting, she gave me a \$25 gift card that her grandmother had given her. All of this generosity means so much to our Paradise members.

On behalf of them, Cathy and I thank you.

Message from AAUW CA Board

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PUBLIC POLICY

Nancy Mahr, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair,
publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

2019 IS A CALL TO ACTION FOR WOMEN

APPOINTING WOMEN TO COMMISSIONS & BOARDS

AAUW California collaborates with California Women Lead (CWL) in many public policy areas. They have launched a project to encourage women to apply for appointments to public boards and commissions. The project's goal is to ensure appointed boards and commissions reflect the rich diversity of California. The end goal is to present to the next governor and their transition team the names and resumes of women interested in serving within the new administration in order to provide a significant pool of qualified women to serve as appointees. CWL is encouraging women to fill out an application for the project on their website. This site also has information to answer questions about the process. You can contact CWLead with any questions at admin@cawomen.lead.org. Take advantage of this opportunity. You could be one of the women who is stepping up; play a part in our governance.

NEXT LACIC MEETING: SUNDAY JANUARY 13

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2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

PRESBYTERIAN INTERCOMMUNITY HOSPITAL
WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA

PROMOTING WORK SMART

Donna Lilly, former AAUW CA President, State Board member and San Diego branch member, will join us on January 13 to discuss all things relating to Work Smart, the AAUW salary negotiation program that helps women hammer away at the gender gap.

Work Smart is key to achieving one of the goals of our new strategic plan which is Economic Security. The AAUW Long Beach branch was selected by National to present Work Smart to their community and has made strides in chipping away at that 10 million goal. LA County has some 58 independent cities within its boundary, not to mention the multitude of nonprofits and businesses that could benefit from this training. Donna will provide us with ways to promote this mission-based program to our communities; let's get the word out about Work Smart.