



ALAMEDA BRANCH
2021-22 BOARD
 alameda-ca.aauw.net

LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Barbara Krummel

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Marilyn Sharron

MEMBERSHIP VPs

Paula Biber, Marilyn Sharron, Silver Alkhafaji

PROGRAM VPs

Paula Biber & Lena Tam

AAUW FUNDS VP

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FINANCE VP

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HOSPITALITY

Cynthia Silva, Karen Guthrie Silver Alkhafaji, Dorothy Kerwin, Mark Hamilton

NEWSLETTER: Jennifer Ayres

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Donna Vaughn

PUBLICITY

Elizabeth McGaffey

SUNSHINE: Cynthia Silva

TECH TREK COORDINATOR

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FUNDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Dorothy Kerwin

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Penny Washbourn

Dorie Guess Behrstock

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Mark Hamilton

Alameda Branch News

Celebrating our strengths and promoting education and equity for women and girls in our community

April 2022

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Luncheon/Tea and Slate of Officers

April 9 Saturday 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM

High St. Station Café at High St. and Encinal Ave.



Come celebrate SPRING with AAUW! We have a complete afternoon tea with creamy Caesar salad, tea sandwiches (egg salad, chicken salad, cucumber and cream cheese), Clotted cream with strawberry jam, cream puffs and small cookies. Choice of specialty teas. We will have a voluntary fun 2022 gift exchange (value of \$25 or less). **Please send a check for \$40, which includes the tax and tip, made out to AAUW Alameda branch and mailed to Paula BIWER 340 29th Ave. Unit 307, Oakland, CA 94601 by Monday, April 4.** Please text Paula at **510-918-8577** if you cannot get the check in the mail on time, but wish to attend. Also, if you would like a gluten-free option, please indicate **GF** on the memo line. For members who have already paid (due to Covid postponements of luncheon) and would like a gluten-free option, please text me that information and I will indicate that on my master list. **Pre-paid list:** Jennifer A, Silver, Paula, Kevis, Mark, Earleen, Barbara I., Barbara K., Elizabeth McGaffey, Gwen, Karen Scanlon, Cindy, Judy, Lena, Roberta Schwartz, Penny, Carol White.

In addition to our social gathering, we will also be introduced to our fabulous slate of officers for the 2022–23 year.

Hope to see everyone at the event and please remember to carpool.

Our Mission is to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

The Fourth Annual AAUW Alameda **Plant Sale**



Sat, April 30, 2022

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**2 Locations: Taylor & Webster Street
Lincoln Avenue near Court**

**Advance tickets with early access to sale 8 am to 9 am at
<https://aauw-plant-sale-2022.eventbrite.com>**

Over 600 beautiful plants grown by AAUW Alameda Branch Dirt Divas will be featured at this fundraiser.

This fundraiser ticket for Saturday, April 30, will allow each ticket holder early access from 8-9 am to the widest selection of outdoor and indoor plants for planting in the garden or in pots. Also featured is a selection of plant arrangements in beautiful pots. Think Mother's Day (May 8), graduation, birthday, giving possibilities! After 9 am door admission will commence, but you may still use your ticket to pick up your plants. Over 600 plants will be offered at two locations!

With each admission ticket, you may select 1-5 plants or arrangements (depending on size, from small to large). You may select additional plants at the event sites and pay there . ADDRESSES and PLANT LOCATIONS provided for ticket holders. SOCIAL DISTANCING , MASKS REQUIRED. Cash, check, or credit card. No change given. Please bring your own bags or boxes.

Sponsor: American Association of University Women, Alameda Branch. All funds raised will go to the Peralta Colleges Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, to support AAUW Alameda scholarships.

President's Corner

Volunteers Make the World (and our branch) Go Round!

Our AAUW branch has so many amazing members who all contribute to making our group vibrant, vigorous and vital (how's that for alliterative adjectives?). This is the time of year where we have to do the difficult job of choosing a few members who have gone above and beyond in contributing their time, talent and treasure. If you have someone who you think is deserving of recognition, please email me (barbarakrummel@comcast.net). Once we have a list of candidates, the Board will make the selections and awards will be presented at our luncheon in May.

We Love New Members!

If you know someone who might be interested in joining our branch, please consider inviting them to one of our luncheons. It's a great way to introduce them to what we do and who we are. As an extra enticement, consider paying for their lunch; however if this is not financially feasible for you, the branch can help. Contact one of our VPs of membership, Paula Biwer, pbiwer@yahoo.com or Silver Alkhafaji, silver.alkhafaji@gmail.com for more information.

FUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

I am pleased to announce that the Funds committee has completed its work with respect to the monies from the Shuler-Heimburger Family Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation. To recap: Patti Heimburger left \$30,000, in \$10,000 annual increments to our branch, to be distributed to groups in line with our goals and mission statement.

This year the committee was made up of Marilyn Sharron, Cindy Silva, Karen Kenney, Susan Myers, Mark Hamilton, Mary Oppedahl, and Dorothy Kerwin.

After due deliberation, it was decided to award \$3000 to the Eureka program at Girls Inc of the Island City, \$1000 to Alameda Junior Golf, \$1000 to Alameda Girls Softball Association, \$1500 through PEO to support their UC re-entry program, \$2000 through the Alameda Education Foundation to support school libraries and \$1500 through the Alameda Education Foundation to support the Art Changes program.

Thank you to everyone who served on the committee. And especially to Patti for her generous gift to make these awards possible.

Dorothy Kerwin, Chair - Funds Committee
March 10, 2022

AAUW-Alameda Branch 2022-2023 Officers Nominations Committee Report For Presentation to the Members Present at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, April 9, 2022

Article IX, Section 1, Item a, of the Nominations and Elections section of our Branch Bylaws states: “There shall be a nominating committee of at least five (5) members, appointed by the Immediate Past President, who shall serve as the Convener of the Nominating Committee. The current President should not serve on this committee.”

It is my honor to be serving our Branch, as its Immediate Past President, during this current 2021-2022 Membership Year. **I am pleased to report that the Committee’s work is complete. We have a full Slate of Nominees for the Elected Offices of our Branch.** The Preliminary Report was presented to and approved by the Board on Monday, March 7, and is now ready to be presented to the Members in attendance at the April Luncheon/Membership Celebration/Annual Business Meeting, on **Saturday, April 9**, for consideration and a vote.

Preliminary Slate of Elected Officers for consideration for the up 2022-2023 Membership Year:

President: Barbara Krummel (incumbent)

President-Elect: Marilyn Sharron (incumbent)

Membership Co-Vice Presidents (VPs): Paula Biwer and Silver Alkhafaji (incumbents)

Program Co-Vice Presidents (VPs): Karen Kenney and Elizabeth “Ellie” Barrantes

AAUW Funds Vice President (VP): Mary Oppedahl (incumbent)

Finance Vice President (VP): Susan Myers (incumbent)

Secretary: Michelle Pero Igo

The following is a list of the Board-Appointed Positions (which do not require a vote of the Membership for approval) for the 2022-2023 Membership Year. This List will also be provided to all Members in the May Newsletter.

2022-2023 Appointed Positions:

Historian: Elizabeth “Beth” Sibley

Hospitality Committee: Cynthia “Cindy” Silva, Silver Alkhafaji, Dorothy Kerwin, Paula Biwer, and Marilyn Sharron

Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Ayres

Parliamentarian/By-Laws: Penelope “Penny” Washbourn

Public Policy: Donna Vaughn

Publicity: Elizabeth McGaffey

Sunshine: Cynthia “Cindy” Silva

Tech Trek Coordinator: Barbara Krummel

Funds Committee Chair: Dorothy Kerwin

College/University Relations: Penelope “Penny” Washbourn, Silver Alkhafaji, and Shubha Fpanse

Website Coordinator: Jennifer Ayres

Great Thanks to the Committee Members – Donna Vaughn, Cynthia “Cindy” Silva, Penelope “Penny” Washbourn, Marilyn Sharron, Marlis White, Paula Biwer, and Kevis Brownson – for their hard work and continuing service to our Branch.

Submitted by Mark Hamilton

Secretary, Immediate Past President, Website Coordinator, Hospitality Committee Member, Ethnic Dining Group Organizer, and Funds Committee Member -- AAUW-Alameda Branch Member -- AAUW-National Inclusion and Equity Committee (IEC)

Alameda AAUW Endorsement

On International Women’s Day, the Alameda Branch of the American Association of University Women Endorses Lena Tam for County Supervisor

OAKLAND, CA – On International Women’s Day, the Alameda Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has endorsed Lena Tam for Alameda County Supervisor in the open 3rd District seat.

“Lena Tam is an expert in her field, a highly qualified engineer with a passion for public service, who has led local government efforts for healthcare, housing and more,” **said Barbara Krummel, President of AAUW-Alameda Branch.** “Lena is an exemplary candidate for County Supervisor, and AAUW enthusiastically endorses her.”

“I know what it’s like to be a professional woman in male dominated fields,” **Lena Tam said.** “When I was pursuing my degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering, I was one of the only women in my class. Today, I serve as one of the highest ranking women engineers in public service anywhere. I’ve broken many glass ceilings in my life, and I take that as a badge of honor as I pursue my greatest challenge yet: the campaign for Alameda County Supervisor. Thank you to AAUW for standing with me.”

Lena Tam graduated with degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley and the University of San Francisco. She has served as Vice Mayor of the City of Alameda, President of the City of Alameda Health Care Board, and Chair of the Alameda County Planning Board. She has worked for more than 30 years at the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), where she currently serves as the Manager of the Water Resources Planning Department.

She is running for County Supervisor in District 3, the seat long held by the late Supervisor Wilma Chan.

For more information on Lena Tam’s campaign, please visit <https://www.lenatam.com>

Membership Update

Membership renewal time is coming, however, it is not here yet. AAUW national is revamping their website so membership renewals have not been set online yet. I will let everyone know when it is time to renew. The amount this time will be \$110 due to a \$5 increase from national.

- Susan Myers, Membership

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Monday, April 4, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom -- ALL WELCOME !!

Wednesday, April 6, 6:30 pm – STEM Careers Panel Discussion via ZOOM

Friday, April 8, 5:00 pm – **2nd Friday Art Walk Group**

Saturday, April 9, 11:30 am – **April Luncheon/Tea & Slate of Officers** – at High St. Station

Monday, April 11, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Monday, April 18, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books Group** - New members welcome!

Tuesday, April 19, 5:30 pm -- **Global Cooking and Dining Group** – New Name!

Thursday, April 21, 9:30 am – **Museum Group** – deYoung —Alice Neel: People Come First

Friday, April 22, 1:00 pm – **Dirt Divas/Gardening Club** – Plant Sale preparations

Sunday, April 24 – **Cinema Club**

Monday, April 25, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Tuesday, April 26, 7:15 pm – **Evening Books Group** – New members welcome!

Saturday, April 30, 8 am – 1 pm – **Plant Sale**



ED Fund Speaker Inspires Record Donations

Faheema Eissar, our February speaker, inspired great generosity to AAUW's Ed Fund with her compelling life story and undaunted pursuit of education, aided in part by a scholarship from AAUW.

From previous newsletters, you know about Faheema's remarkable journey from a completely uneducated Afghan 11-year-old to a thirty-plus year-old woman working on a master's degree in International Economic Development at the University of San Francisco, an endeavor made possible by financial help from AAUW. At age eleven, Faheema not only fast-tracked her education so she could graduate from high school at age 18 but learned English to boot, once afforded the

opportunity to go to school. She so valued education that saw to it that her six siblings also pursued their educations.

While Faheema cannot return to Afghanistan when she completes her degree next year to pursue her dream of helping her country, she plans to work in other developing nations to help women participate in the economic development of theirs. Therefore, AAUW's financial assistance will have a ripple effect for years to come for women all over the world.

Faheema's story sparked an outpouring of generosity, resulting in \$1930 in donations. If anyone wants to contribute to make it an even \$2000 (or more), you can simply send a check to Mary "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" Oppedahl at 2465 Shoreline Drive, Apt. 206, Alameda, CA 94501. Make out the check to AAUW with a notation on the memo line; "Fund 4450."

-Mary Oppedahl



Report from the College and University Relations Committee

Coordinated by Silver Alkhafaji, AAUW Alameda is hosting an online panel discussion for students at the high school and college level who are interested in STEM careers to meet 4 successful women in the fields of civil engineering, finance, computer technology and molecular biology.

Our panelists : Dhara Amin, Molecular Biology, EXELIXIS corp.
 Sophia Skoda, Finance, EBMUD
 Vaishali Pantakar, Computer Technology, SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH PLAN
 Lena Tam, Civil Engineering, EBMUD

This will take place on April 6 at 6:30pm on Zoom . Students will have the opportunity to meet each panelist in small groups and voice their own questions. We have restricted enrollment to give each student sufficient time for active participation.

You can assist us in getting the word out among your relatives and friends for this opportunity. Since the program is on Zoom it is not limited to local residents.

Students will need to register on Eventbrite.

You can help by forwarding the link on Eventbrite:

<https://student-meetings-with-women-in-stem.eventbrite.com>

Special thanks to the planning committee : Paula Biwer, Shubha Fanse, Barbara Krummel and Penny Washbourn

Branch Interest Groups

2nd Friday Art Walk Group

The 2nd Friday Art Walk group meets on Friday, April 8 at 5:00 pm, location to be determined. We will meet and visit an art gallery hosting a reception on Webster Street, Park Street, Frank Bette Center, Rhythmix, or Jingtletown. For more information about the group, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Afternoon Books

We meet at 1:30 pm on the third Monday to discuss books we are currently reading. **We are looking for more members! Call Kate Quick, 510-523-3612, for more information.**

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, April 24, for a matinee. If COVID precautions allow, we will meet at the Alameda Theatre followed by a gathering at Tucker's Ice Cream for discussion. If not, we will plan a virtual event. To join us or for more information about the group, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Evening Books

The Evening Book group meets on Tuesday, April 26 at 7:15 pm to discuss *Circe* by Madeline Miller. We are actively looking for new members for our group. For this year's book list, please see our web page at <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/book-club/> . To join us or for more information , please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com .

Dirt Divas/Garden Club - Plant Sale Preparations!

Friday April 22 at 1:00 pm

Good weather: at Laura Porter (352 Channing Way) or

Rainy weather: at Penny Washbourn (501 Lagunaria LN)

Please come to our final planning meeting on for our plant sale. This will be a rather large group of people containing the Dirt Divas, all planning members and all of the volunteers who will be working the day of the sale. The agenda 1. define the roles and duties of the volunteers on the day of the event, 2. answer any outstanding questions, 3. set pricing guidelines, 4. plan for a post celebration party at Dorothy's house (2918 Lincoln Ave., Alameda). **Please RSVP Paula at 510-918-8577 to confirm you are coming to the meeting.**

There will also be a pre-sale meeting on April 22 at 12 PM, one hour before the regular meeting, for Kevis to train Mary Jo, Cindy, Marilyn and Paula on the EVENTBRITE app for the day of the sale. **Please RSVP Paula at 510-918-8577 to confirm you are coming to this pre-sale meeting.**

Please look at the wonderful flyer and purchase your ticket for the plant sale using the link and share this information with family, friends and neighbors. Our goal is to raise \$4,000 for the College of Alameda Student Study Abroad Program

We are still looking for more volunteers to work the day of the plant sale. If you are interested, please contact Paula at 510-918-8577 or pbiwer@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

Global Cooking and Dining Group -

The Ethnic Dining Group is now the Global Cooking & Dining Group (GC&DG)

Meets monthly, usually on the third Saturday evening, at 6:00 pm. *We will be meeting in person, with masks and as socially distanced as possible, until further notice.* If you like good food and good company, join us. **For more information, contact Mark Hamilton -- (510) 749-0738 or mdham21@yahoo.com**

Great Decisions Group

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book and meeting in a discussion group to have a conversation about the most critical global issues facing America today. Books are ordered in December, and eight meetings are held between April and June. **For more information, contact Dorothy Kerwin -- kerwindorothy@gmail.com**

Mah Jongg (American Style)

The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 1:30 PM. Contact Laura Porter at Lrajean@aol.com or **510-912-0385** if you'd like to play in the Mah Jongg Interest Group.

Museum Group




On Thursday, April 21, the Museum Group will travel to the deYoung Museum to see the exhibit **ALICE NEEL: People Come First.**

This is the first West Coast survey of the work of American artist Alice Neel (1900-1984). This acclaimed exhibit originated at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Neel spent most of her life living and working in New York City. Her work depicts the diversity, resilience, and passion of the people she encountered. Neel thought the term "portrait" sounded elitist. She said she "painted pictures" of her neighbors in Spanish Harlem, political leaders, queer cultural figures, activists, mothers, and a diverse representation of nude figures, including visibly pregnant women. She had this deeply empathetic and humanistic streak in her work. She was also an activist, which is reflected in her work.

We meet at the Ross Parking Lot at South Shore for a 9:30 am **sharp** departure. We have lunch at 11:30 am in the cafeteria. For further information, contact Judy Sparks at JudySparks@comcast.net.

Calendar Branch Activities

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4- Board Meeting 6:00 PM via Zoom	5	6- STEM Panel 6:30 PM via Zoom	7	8- 2 nd Friday Art Walk 5:00 PM	9- Luncheon/Tea 11:00 AM at High St. Station
10	11- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	12	13	14	15-Passover 	16
17- Easter 	18- Afternoon Books 1:30 PM	19-Global Cooking & Dining Gp 5:30 PM	20	21-Museum Group 9:30 AM	22-- Dirt Divas 1:00 PM	23
24— Cinema Club	25- Mah Jongg Group 1:30 PM	26- Evening Book Club 7:15 PM	27	28	29	30—Plant Sale 8 AM – 1 PM 

AAUW is California's most active and diverse organization for women, offering action for equity, personal and professional growth, community leadership, and friendship. AAUW promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change. Membership is open to all graduates who hold associate or equivalent, baccalaureate or higher degrees from an accredited college or university, and college/university students.