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2024-25 BOARD**

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Alameda Branch News

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

January 2025

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Toast in the New Year - Holiday Sparkling Tea!

Saturday, January 4, 2025 2:00 - 4:00
1554 Everett Street

Come celebrate a new year of fellowship and dedication to promoting the advancement of women! Our sparkling tea will be held at a private home (with stairs), and will be catered by Julie's Coffee and Tea Garden. It includes one glass of sparkling wine, specialty teas, four tea sandwiches, a scone, clotted cream with strawberry jam or lemon curd, a savory, and three petite desserts. For a slight additional charge, we have vegan and gluten free options. We will have an optional White Elephant gift exchange.

The tab is \$36 for regular or \$41 for vegan or gluten free.

There are three ways to reserve: Use this link: <https://square.link/u/b34Eq1JL>



OR Scan this QR code to pay online:
(or go to our Square Site at [aauw-alameda-ca-branch.square.site](https://square.link/u/b34Eq1JL))

OR **Send a Check** for \$36 or \$41 to AAUW Alameda % Kevis Brownson 1554 Everett Street 94501 followed by an email to kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Please reserve by the December 28 deadline; there are only 22 spots available. Any questions, please contact kevis.brownson@gmail.com

President's Corner

Thanks to Paula Biwer for planning our very successful Zoom meeting on December 10. And special thanks to our Speaker, Arun Kumar, for donating his time to help us all understand Generative Artificial Intelligence. A popular part of his talk was his demonstration of using ChatGPT to plan a trip. He also showed us how to create images using three unrelated subjects: golf, penguins and a desert. And he encouraged us all to give it a try!

Here is a link to the recording of the talk:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/4ziVEIf3BZdAwkut7WV1DS5K5NxcDumZjAe58PV8UjwiI27cSKIXHzHqIDgDspNa.npfxsIZe_McJ74gx?startTime=1733884991000

Passcode: 5s4T+s7&

For those of you who are not members of AAUW Alameda Branch, here is a link to more information about our organization: <https://alameda-ca.aauw.net/>

Thank you again to our speaker, Arun Kumar, who brought some great examples and also walked us through examples from the audience.

Calling all AAUW Alameda Members to Help with Corporate Fundraising!

Our board has composed an excellent letter (containing our 501c3 tax ID#) asking for corporate donations to fund our programs: College of Alameda Transfer Scholarships and TechTrek.

Are you a client of a financial advisor, banker or lender, insurance provider? (For example, I have reached out to my financial advisor with Ameriprise. Our treasurer is reaching out to Poppy Bank, where our branch has its checking account.)

We need you to reach out to corporations that you do business with. Speak to your contact person about donations. It is best if you can identify the donations coordinator, but not essential.

The next step is for you to send me the contact information for your chosen corporation, and I will provide the letter. It is as simple as that! Early in the new year is a great time to approach corporations, as they are beginning to make their donation commitments for the year. Questions: email me at: kayweinstein@gmail.com

Our festive January meeting will be **Toast in the New Year** on Saturday, January 4 from 2:00 to 4:00pm. This champagne happy hour will be hosted by Kevis Brownson in her home at 1554 Everett Street, and it will be catered by Julie's Coffee and Tea Garden. See more information in this newsletter.

Happy Holidays,

Kay Weinstein, President, kayweinstein@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Future Events

Saturday, January 4, 2:00 – 4:00 pm – **January Holiday Sparkling Tea**

Saturday, January 4, 6:00 pm – **Global Restaurant Dining Group** – Shirashoni Japanese Restaurant

Sunday, January 5 – **Cinema Club**

Tuesday, January 7, 6:00 pm – **Evening Book Group** – Members Reunion via Zoom

Monday, January 13, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Monday, January 13, 6:00 pm -- **Board Meeting** – via Zoom – All Welcome!

Thursday, January 16, 9:45 am – **Museum Group** – Berkeley Art Museum

Monday, January 20, 1:30 pm – **Afternoon Books**

Tuesday, January 21, 6:00 pm – **Evening Books**

Monday, January 27, 1:30 pm – **Mah Jongg Group**

Saturday, February 15, 6:00 pm – **Global Cooking Group**



California Public Policy News

Please click [HERE](#) for the **December issue** of Public Policy News. Included are two articles for your branch newsletters - one about Lobby Days 2025, and the other about how gender-based scholarships have become a target in the larger attack against DEI.

Thank you for everything you do on behalf of women and girls

Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko - Co-chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee
publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org



Museum Group at the Korean Wave Exhibit at the Asian Museum

Branch Interest Groups

Afternoon Books

The Afternoon Book Club meets on the 3rd Monday of the Month at various members' homes. New members are welcome, and there is no "homework". We share what we have read and trade books. Members read all genres, although mysteries seem to be a group favorite.

Afternoon books is meeting Monday the 20th at the home of Ann Chalem. Contact Karen Scanlon at yakitt@aol.com or [510-523-6456](tel:510-523-6456) for more information. New members are welcome.

Cinema Club

Cinema Club meets on Sunday, January 5, for a matinee at the Alameda Theatre followed by a gathering at Tucker's Ice Cream for discussion. To join us or for more information about the group, please contact Kevis at kevis.brownson@gmail.com.

Evening Books

The Evening Book Group hosts our annual online reunion meeting on Zoom on January 7 at 6:00 pm PST, open to all current and former book club members, wherever they may be. To register for the event, please use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/4n4k6npu>

The book club generally meets on the third Tuesday of the month in members' homes. Books coming up are: Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro (1/21), Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard (2/18), and The Biggest Bluff: How I Learned to Pay Attention, Master Myself, and Win by Maria Konnikova (3/18). For more information about the group or to join us, please contact Penny Washbourn at penelopewashbourn@gmail.com.

Global Cooking Group

The Global Cooking Group meets every two months at a member's home to share a potluck meal of an interesting cuisine from around the world and US.

Our next meeting is February 15 at the home of Carol White. Other gatherings this year will be on **Saturdays on April 26, June 21, and August 16**, generally at 6:00 pm. To join us or for more information, please contact Jennifer McGaffey at jjmccgaffey@guenean.com.

Global Restaurant Dining Group

The Global Restaurant Dining Group will be dining at the Shirashoni Japanese Restaurant, 2660 5th St, Alameda on January 4, 2025 at 6PM.

Please contact Marilyn Sharron at marilynvsharron@gmail.com or [215-317-6002](tel:215-317-6002) for more information.

Mah Jongg (American Style)

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday afternoon of each month to play American-style Mah Jongg using the National Mah Jongg League card and rules. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. Contact Laura Porter at Lrajean@aol.com or [510-912-0385](tel:510-912-0385) for more information about the Mah Jongg interest group.

Museum Group

Museum Group We will visit the Berkeley Art Museum on Thursday January 16 and see the exhibition *Making Their Mark: Works from the Shah Garg Collection*. Komal Shah migrated to the US in 1991 to study computer science in California. She spent years in the tech industry and in 2008 began the Shah Garg Collection with her husband Gaurav Garg, solidifying the emphasis on women artists in 2014. *Making Their Mark* brings together more than seventy artworks by women artists from this collection, illuminating transgenerational affinities, influences, and methodologies among pathbreaking artists from the postwar era to the present. The carpool will leave from the Ross parking lot at South shore. Be there at 9:45 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. sharp departure. We will have lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Please RSVP if you would like to go contact Judy Sparks, JudySparks@comcast.net for more information.

Calendar

Branch Activities

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4- Holiday Tea 2:00 – 4:00 PM; Global Restaurant Dining Grop 6:00 PM
5-Cinema Club	6	7-Evening Books Group 6:00 PM	9	9	10	11
12	13- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM; -Board Meeting 6:00 PM	14	15	16- Museum Group 9:45 AM	17	18
19	20-Afternoon Books 1:30 PM;  	21- Evening Books 6:00 PM	22	23	24	25
26	27- Mah Jongg 1:30 PM	28	29	30		