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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research
westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net<<http://westcontracosta-ca.aauw.net>>

VOLUME XXXIV

NEWSLETTER 1

SEPTEMBER 2017



MEET OUR TECH TREK CAMPERS!
Saturday, September 16th, 10:00 a.m.
Christ Lutheran Church
780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito

Come meet our 2017 **Tech Trek** campers. This year we again sponsored nine girls from WCCUSD middle schools to attend the exciting week-long **Tech Trek Science and Math Camp** at Sonoma State University, beginning June 18. Before the girls left, we met them at a reception on Saturday, June 3, at El Cerrito Denny's. They are: **Kiana Pinkard** and **Carolyn Richardson** from Hercules, **Roxana Rosales** from Mira Vista, **Andrea Ramos Rodriguez** from Pinole, **Kenye Bigbee** from Helms, **Kylee Hu** and **Emily Ortiz** from Crespi, **Zoya Alam** from Stewart, and **Katherine Hennig** from Korematsu. At this meeting, the girls will share their camp experiences, which will include talking about their Core Classes (Electricity, Biology Wet Labs, Engineering, Hot Air Ballooning, and Chemistry/Biology), and Cyber Security, Star Finder, Suspension Bridge, Rocketry, and the Professional Women's Night. Special thanks go to all the members who helped on the **Tech Trek** team and to all of you who made donations to the program.

Roberta Montgomery and Marsha Weintraub, Tech Trek Co-Chairs

<p style="text-align: center;">President</p> <p>Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Co-Membership VPs</p> <p>Susan Duncan 334-0520 Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 Judy Sam 527-1661 Jacque Title 234-9370</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Tech Trek Co-Chairs</p> <p>Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 shmw1@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Co-Secretaries</p> <p>Marilynn Bracelin 223-4057 mbracelin414@gmail.com (backup): Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 Ida Michael 524-7468</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AAUW Funds VP</p> <p>Virginia Summerer 526-6827 Barbara Vaughan 548-1942</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Co-Program VPs</p> <p>Maria LaForge 527-4378 Gloria Merrill 527-2681 Susan Walenta 526-4383</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer</p> <p>Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com (backup) Roberta Montgomery 237-5293</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sunshine Chair</p> <p>Nancy Hendrickson 232-2193 Y_nhendrickson@att.net</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Newsletter Circulation</p> <p>Marion McIntire, 237-0534</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Read Aloud Chair</p> <p>Judy Sam, 527-1661 Jssam47@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Telephone Monitor</p> <p>Janet Mengle 232-2676</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Facebook Monitor</p> <p>Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com</p>



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome Back! This is going to be a very exciting year!

Booth at the Solano Stroll, Sunday, September 10th: We decided to promote our **AAUW West Contra Costa Branch** (who we are and what we do) and hopefully get some new members. The Berkeley Branch has helped to pay for the permit. The Membership Committee is taking the lead, but we need help to be successful. **All we need are members to staff the booth in one-hour shifts from 11 AM to 4:30 PM.** **Mimi Fruehan** and **Judy Sam** will arrive and set up the booth from 8 to 11 AM, and we need people every hour thereafter until 4-5 PM, when they will return to help take the booth down. Ideas for attractive decorations and signs are very welcome. The assigned theme color this year is **PINK**, so those of us with Women's March pink kitty caps will wear them as one way to get attention. We'd love to get other ideas to help us be noticeable. Does anyone have a canopy to shade and show us off? We will have a table, some posters and our brochures, kindly updated by **Gloria Merrill**. Thanks to everyone who can pitch in and make this afternoon a success! **If you can help, please call Judy Sam at 517-1661.**

September 16th Meeting with Tech Trek Girls: As always, our first meeting of the year is very special, when the girls we sponsored for the **Tech Trek** camp share their experiences. Join us in welcoming the girls and their parents. A couple of the mothers have expressed an interest in joining the **AAUW WCC**.

Hospitality: We are continuing with last year's hospitality procedure for our monthly meetings. Basically, those who attend the meetings will bring the goodies and will help **Sally Dunham** with the setup and cleanup. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September meeting. Note that the Board will provide the goodies for the September 16th meeting.

October 12th, 6:30 PM, California Women Lead Workshop: We, along with the other branches in the **Contra Costa County InterBranch Council (CCC IBC)** are helping to host this event to encourage women to run for office or to apply for an appointment at the state or local level. **California Women Lead** is the only statewide, nonpartisan women's organization in California committed to providing women the training and support they need to be successful in the political arena. Please help by giving me your suggestions as to ways we can promote this event in our area. It will be held at the Civic Park Community Center Social Hall, 1375 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek.

Proposed Budget: On the following page is our proposed budget for 2017-2018, which we will consider for approval at the September meeting. Thanks to our Treasurer, **Christine Hills**, for putting this together! We balance for this year, but only have \$77 in reserve for next year. Note that our proposed membership income is about \$2,000 less than our proposed operating expenses. Although some of our speaker fees will be donations out of our Scholarship Fund (last year: Project SEED, Ombudsman Services, and Islamic Networks Group), and some of our expenses could be special projects, we will have to consider another fundraising activity to generate income for next year's operating expenses.

Thanks for all your support. We are all very busy people and have many commitments. I appreciate all you do for the Branch. I enjoy working with such special women.

Roberta Montgomery, President



WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH AAUW ----- Proposed Budget 2017 – 2018
Christine Hills, Treasurer

INCOME:

Carry-over:		
Other		1,696
Scholarship Fund (SF)		2,105
Special Projects		232
“Let’s Go” Fund		2,510
Memberships:	5HL +54 @ 16 plus 359 extra	1,223
Branch Fundraisers / Donations		<u>400</u>
Total Proposed Income:		8,166

EXPENDITURES:

Interbranch Council (IBC)		30	
Insurance Assessment		218	
Funds Assessment (tax deductible, from SF)		40	
Start Smart (note: 3-year contract)		165	
Newsletter and Directory:			
Printing, Postage and Labels		300	
Directory Printing		175	
Program:			
Speakers (6@100)		600	
Hospitality		75	
Rental for Meetings (7@80) see Note 1.		560	
Installation Luncheon		100	
Administration:			
Membership (VP expenses, recruiting & tea)		100	
President & other officers (supplies & misc.)		125	
PO Box Rental		134	
Tech-Trek Recruitment, Reception, Printing & Postage		300	
Website		120	
Registration Convention, Conferences		200	
Subtotal Operating Expenses			3,242
Scholarship Fund (SF)		2,105	
Special Projects		232	
“Let’s Go” Fund		2,510	
Other Expenses / Donations / Reserve		<u>77</u>	
Total Expenditures:			8,166

OTHER BALANCES (August 2017)

CCC Foundation – Mary Ellen Bales AAUW Scholarship Acct.	3,000.00
AAUW WCC SSU Tech Trek Account	7,840.00
Checking Acct. – Balance from Ledger	8,848.13

Note 1 . There are no facility rental charges for the Holiday Party (hosted by Betty Ann Barnett) and the annual Installation Luncheon.

CULTURE CORNER for SEPTEMBER 2017
by Barbara Miller

2017 is **El Cerrito's 100th birthday**, and the city is going all out to celebrate, providing activities for a wide variety of interests. The city provides a keepsake Centennial Passport (available at City Hall or at any Centennial event) that will be stamped at every event that you attend throughout the year. If you return your passport to City Hall by December 12, 2017, you will be entered in a drawing to win prizes. Participants with the most number of stamps will also be eligible for the Grand Prize. For more details, call 215-4318. You can find a complete list at: <http://www.el-cerrito.org/1002/Events>. Highlights follow.

- **Sat., Sept 9, 8 pm & Sun., Sept. 10, 2 pm:** Staged reading of 1917 Broadway hit *Hamilton* at the Contra Costa Civic Theater, 951 Pomona Ave., EC. Note that this is the play originally produced 100 years ago, not the Manual Miranda musical. Tickets are \$2.50—the price charged in 1917.
- **Thurs., Sept. 14:** Centennial Celebration at the Cerrito Theater, 10070 San Pablo Ave., hosted by Friends of the Cerrito Theater.
 - 6pm: Outside: View vintage cars and listen to the jazz duo “Leftover Dreams” recreate songs from the 1930s and beyond.
 - 7pm: Brief history program with special guest Joann Taylor, followed by the screening of the 1937 screwball comedy *The Awful Truth* starring Cary Grant, Irene Dunne and Ralph Bellamy. Vintage clothing encouraged! This event is likely to sell out, so get your tickets early. \$9.00 at the box office or the refreshment stand, or online at <https://cerritotheater.org> (where you will find more information about the movie).
- **Fri., Sept. 15:** Family Night at Cerrito Vista Park. Pomona Ave. at Moeser. Movie starts at dusk. Snacks available for purchase. Sponsored by Soroptimist International of El Cerrito.
- **Sat. Sept. 16:** Showcase Parade. One of El Cerrito's largest ever parades, featuring outstanding citizens, businesses, clubs, schools, civic leaders, pioneer families and more. Notably successful El Cerrito alums will be marching in the parade, so you may see some old friends you haven't seen in a while. Parade starts at the Safeway parking lot at 10am, travels along Hill St., Elm St., Richmond Ave., and Moeser Lane into Cerrito Vista Park. Free lunch for the first 1,000 to arrive. Live music and chalk art.
- **Sun., Sept. 17:** Centennial Gala Dinner. 4pm – 10pm at the Berkeley Country Club in El Cerrito (formerly the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club). Lots of food, music and dancing. A centennial program, and a talk by NYU law professor Tony Thompson. \$50 per person, or \$500 for a table of 12. Purchase tickets online at: <https://ca-elcerrito2.civicplus.com/FormCenter/Online-Payments-2/Centennial-Gala-Dinner-Tickets-206>
- **Sun. Sept. 17:** Outdoor Service and Annual Bazaar at Sycamore Congregational Church, 1111 Navallier St. An extravaganza of Japanese-American culture.
- **Sat. Sept. 23:** Tri-City Safety Day. 11am-3pm. El Cerrito Plaza. Special version of an annual event hosted by the El Cerrito, Kensington and Albany police and fire departments.
- **Wed., Oct. 4:** Centennial Senior Resource Fair. 9am-12pm at El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Hosted by the El Cerrito Recreation Department.
- **Fri., Oct. 6 - Sun., Oct. 8:** El Cerrito Art Association's Art Show. A special centennial edition of an annual event. El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, at Ashbury.
 - Reception: Fri., Oct. 6: 7-9pm
 - Show: Sat. Oct. 7: 10am-5pm
 - Show: Sun., Oct. 8: 10am-4pm
- **Thurs., Oct. 12:** Talk by Board of Ed. Member Tom Panas: “Remembering Our Local Japanese Heritage.” 7pm at Arlington Clubhouse, 1120 Arlington Blvd. Hosted by El Cerrito Historical Society.
- **Sat., Oct. 14:** Historical Tour of El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury Ave. 1pm-3pm. Hosted by the ECHS Archiving Project.

Centennial events continue through Oct. & Nov., with the closing event on Dec. 19.

(Continued from previous page)

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST:

Richmond Art Center, 2540 Barrett, Richmond. 620-6772. <http://www.richmondartcenter.org>

- **Sat., Sept 9: 5-7pm. Opening Reception for Fall Exhibitions.** Honoring Bay Area artist Joan Brown (1938-1990), professor of art at UC Berkeley. Exhibitions: *Joan Brown In Living Color* (see illustration above); *Earth, Wind & Fire*; *Pogo Park: A New Model for Community Transformation*
- **Sat., Sept. 23: 2pm-4pm. Picturing a Life.** Panel discussion by artists, former students, and others who worked with Joan Brown.

NIAD Art Center — 551 23rd Avenue, Richmond, 620-0290. Niadart.org

- **Virgins Virgining** organized by Micah Wood;
- **Tears of a Clown**, solo exhibition by Jim Winters (paintings, drawings, and screen prints);
- **Rachel Cohen** – her work explores her reactions to the current stress, anxiety, and fear evoked in today’s sociopolitical landscape. Opening reception, Sept. 9, 1-4pm.

San Pablo Art Gallery — 13831 San Pablo Ave., Maple Hall, Building #4, In the beautiful San Pablo Civic Center, San Pablo, at Alvarado Square. 882-8673. www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us

- **Aug. 26 – Sept. 24: As I See It.** Paintings by David Casterson, Eleanor Doonan Nelson and David Rose.
- **Sept. 30-Nov. 26: Confabulations in Color and Form.** Paintings by Katie Hawkenson and sculptures by Joseph Slusky.

Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona (at Moeser), El Cerrito 524-9012. www.ccct.org

- **Sept. 22 through Oct. 22, Cabaret.** Fridays & Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 2pm.

Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas), 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito.

www.rialtocinemas.com/cerrito

- Sept. 13, 18, 7:00pm: “**Angels in America Part One: Millennium Approaches**” (by Tony Kushner). Directed by Marianne Elliott. Starring Andrew Garfield, Nathan Lane, James McArdle and Russell Tovey
 - Sept. 6, 11, 20, 25, 7:00pm. “**Angels in America Part Two: Perestroika**” (by Tony Kushner). Directed by Marianne Elliott. Starring Andrew Garfield, Nathan Lane, James McArdle and Russell Tovey
 - Coming soon: **Battle of the Sexes**, a film about the 1973 tennis match between the top-seeded woman tennis player Billie Jean King and former men’s tennis champion Bobby Riggs. This matched was one of the most watched televised sports events of all time.
 - Season tickets for *National Theatre Live* are on sale now. This season’s 3 plays are:
 - **Yerma**, written and directed by Simon Stone. Starring Billie Piper and Brendan Cowell.
 - **Follies** by James Goldman and Stephen Sondheim. Directed by Dominic Cooke. Starring Tracie Bennett, Janie Dee and Imelda Staunton.
 - **Young Marx** by Richard Bean and Clive Colman. Directed by Nicholas Hytner. Starring Rory Kinnear.
-



SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES

Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 3, 2017**, at 2:00 PM, at the home of **Judy Sam**, 8821 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito. Please call **President Roberta Montgomery** (237-5293) for more information.

Afternoon Books: The group usually meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **1:30 PM**. We will not meet in September. On **Monday, October 23**, we will meet at the home of **Winnie Sayre** (524-8954), 739 Bay Tree Lane, El Cerrito. At that meeting, we will discuss ***A Piece of the World*** by Christina Baker Kline. We will also choose the book to read for our November meeting and the location of that meeting. All are welcome — even if you have not yet read the novel, please join us!

Daytime Bridge: In the past, this group, which has included all levels of players, has usually met at **1:00 p.m.** on the **third Friday** of the month. At the present time, the group is being reorganized. Any bridge player who is interested in joining the group should contact **President Roberta Montgomery** at 237-5293 or speak to her at the September general meeting.

Global Interests Group: The group meets on the **second Monday of each month from 1:30 to 3:00 PM** at the home of **Ellen Mills** (526-5815), 1648 Oak View Avenue, Kensington. The group's next meeting will be on **Monday, September 11**, from **1:30 to 3:00 PM**. All attendees should be prepared to make a brief (three minutes each) mini-report on some international event that occurred during the summer. Then member **Winnie Sayre** will discuss "Korea – Past and Present." The following meeting will be on **Monday, October 9**, when member **Maria La Forge** will discuss Syria. Branch members who did not attend this **Global Interests Group** last year are invited to join us for this session. If you are interested in coming, if you want further information, if you have any questions, or if you wish to bring a guest, please contact the group's coordinator, **Marty Sarbey de Souto**, at 925-304-2022 or josemarty@yahoo.com. **Marty** looks forward to seeing you there.

Lunch Group: The group's next meeting will be on **Monday, October 16**, at **12 Noon**, at **Renee's Place**, 1477 Solano Avenue, Albany. Please call **Maria LaForge** (527-4378) to let her know you are coming so she can make a reservation for our group. Please also call Maria if you have any questions. All are welcome -- please join us!



SAD NEWS

We regret to advise you that we have lost two long-term members of our group, and a third is gravely ill. **Miriam Oshiro** passed away on May 20, 2017, leaving her husband John, who advises that they would have been married 52 years in July. He can be contacted at juan2osh@comcast.net.

Yvonne Steffen suffered from pneumonia; the hospital then discovered she had advanced lung cancer. She died on July 8, 2017. Her son, Eric Steffen, can be contacted at 707-372-1268. He and his sister Diane have suggested that memorial contributions in her honor could be made to the Food Bank or another of the many worthy organizations she supported.

Nancy Hendrickson has been in the hospital for three weeks after being diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She has had surgery and has started chemo. Her new address is 373 Pine Lane, Apt. A111, Los Altos, CA 94022. She is living near a daughter who is a physician in that area.



MARY ELLEN BALES AAUW SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Our Branch provides one \$1,500 scholarship each year to a woman from the **Contra Costa College Center for Science Excellence** to help her continue her education at a four-year college or university. **Joyce Muse** is our contact with the **Contra Costa College Foundation**. She works closely with Branch member **Seti Sidharta**, the Director of the **Center for Science Excellence**, to identify women candidates who have shown particular aptitude in math or science while studying at the college. The selection of one winner from a strong pool of applicants is always challenging. For 2018 we will be providing two scholarships because of the generosity of our donors (**Betty Ann Barnett, the Bridge Group, Vivian Coe, Sally Dunham, Mimi Fruehan, Maria LaForge, Penny Mendelsohn, Marion McIntire, Ida Michael, Ellen Mills, Marianne Selph, Barbara Vaughan, Sue Walenta, Marsha Weintraub, and Elaine Yamaguchi.**) The 2017 scholarship recipient is **Maria Rodriguez**. She was introduced at our Installation Luncheon last May. **Maria** has a unique story. She is a Biological Science major whose goal is to become a physician because of her mother's experience dealing with cancer. She plans to attend UC Davis. **Maria** is considering coming to our November meeting. Please see her thank you note to the Branch below.

“Mary Ellen Bales Scholarship Foundation,
I was very excited and appreciative to learn that I was selected as your scholarship recipient. I really appreciate the time you put into my scholarship application and wanted to formally thank you for believing I my goals and dreams. I hope to one day help students achieve their dreams like you have. Again, thank you so very much for everything.

Kind regards,
Maria Rodriguez”

Roberta Montgomery, President

American Association of University Women West Contra Costa Branch , Meeting and Program Schedule

Where: Christ Lutheran Church **Time:** 10:00 am – 12:00
780 Ashbury Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530

September 16, 2017, Tech Trek Scholars

October 21, 2017, Richard Bartke will speak on El Cerrito history honoring its Centennial Anniversary.

November 18, 2017, Authors Judith Newton and Amy Peele will speak on their books.

December 9, 2017. Holiday Party at Betty Ann Barnett's house in Pt. Richmond.

January 20, 2018, Linda Rudolph, MD, MPH, will speak on Health and Climate Change.

February 17, 2018, Niloufar Talebi, poet and writer of opera libretto (*Afghan in Flames*). (tentative)

March 17, 2018 , Eleni Wolfe-Roubatis, Immigration Program Director of Centro Legal de la Raza.

April 21, 2018, Lilliane Koziol, PhD, will speak about "Work, Women, and Culture: A Double-Edged Sword."

May 19, 2018, Luncheon and Installation of New Officers. (see newsletter for details)



AAUW-CA has a critical governance issue that must be addressed through an “every member” vote. It is important that every member of AAUW-CA cast a vote in favor of changing our nonprofit status from mutual benefit to public benefit. The voting period is from Sept. 10 to Oct. 1, 2017. **How to vote:** members with an email address will receive a link to vote online; members without an email address will receive a postcard with instructions on how to vote on line or via telephone. **Why vote:** We risk losing our affiliate status with **AAUW** National, which would mean we would no longer be a recognized **AAUW** entity and as such would no longer be eligible to participate in any **AAUW** programs, such as **Tech Trek**. What is the difference between a mutual benefit and a public benefit nonprofit organization? Members of a mutual benefit corporation can receive distributions from the organization and receive its assets if it is dissolved; all assets of a public benefit organization must be irrevocably dedicated to a charitable purpose, so there are no distributions to members on dissolution or otherwise. Full details can be found on the home page of www.aauw-ca.org. Direct all questions to governance@aauw-ca.org before Sept. 9.

Sue Cochran, AAUW-CA Governance Committee Chair



2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

After updating the process, **Ellen Mills** is putting together this year’s Membership Directory. It will be available for pickup at the September 16th and October 21st meetings. Those directories that have not been picked up will be mailed in November. Please review your entry and let us know if you have any corrections.

Roberta Montgomery, President



BRING THE FACTS ABOUT STUDENT DEBT TO YOUR COMMUNITY

Women now earn 57 percent of bachelor’s degrees from American colleges and universities and take on more debt on average than men at almost every degree level and type. As a result, women hold nearly two-thirds of the outstanding student debt in the United States — more than \$800 billion. Factor in the gender pay gap and this debt influences many major life decisions for women. **AAUW’s** research report [*Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans*](#) provides data, analysis, and recommendations to help bolster women’s economic security in the face of the student debt crisis.

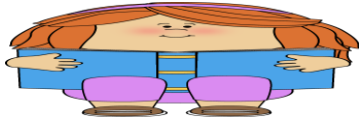
Use the resources here to share this information with your local campuses and the community at large so we can work to change this chilling reality.

AAUW Mission & Action



On Wed., Sept. 6, at 7:30 PM, join a webinar to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month by talking with Joan Biskupic about her book, “*Breaking In: The Rise of Sonia Sotomayor and the Politics of Justice.*” How did Sonia Sotomayor become the first Latina justice on the U.S. Supreme Court? Veteran journalist Joan Biskupic follows the story behind that question, revealing how two forces – the determination of a gifted Puerto Rican girl from the Bronx housing projects and the increasing political power of Latinos across the U.S. – came together to yield a historic appointment. To join the webinar, click on the link, [*¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club*](#)

Hannah Seligman, Branch Relations Associate, National AAUW



READ ALOUD PROGRAM

Dear Members, especially our newer ones:

For 22 years our branch had participated in a wonderful reading program in our school district. Volunteers spend an hour a week at one of five of our Title 1 elementary schools and read books with two young students, one-on-one, for a half hour each. Volunteers form relationships with these youngsters and in so doing, introduce them to the pleasures of reading, the warmth of a friendship with a caring adult who visits regularly, and a beginning home library, as we give each student a new self-selected book twice a month. To learn more about the program, visit the website at info@ravp.org, or call **Judy Sam**, and if you'd like to volunteer for this fun and rewarding nonprofit and help our district's kids, come to the mandatory Orientation at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley on **Wednesday, Sept. 20, from 10:30-12:30pm**. Thank you,

Judy Sam, Membership Committee
(510) 527-1661



AAUW CAMPAIGN TAKES ON EVERYDAY SEXISM

Microaggressions are brief, commonplace actions that communicate hostility and derogatory or other negative slights toward an individual or a group. AAUW tackled these insidious forms of bias with its #StandUptoSexism campaign. In February AAUW launched a new online campaign encouraging people to share how they confront everyday sexism in their lives. By building visibility around a common problem, the campaign aims to take the first step toward ending sexism in the workplace, in the classroom, and in our thoughts. The campaign also includes a video and a three-part panel series. See AAUW's research report: "*Barriers and Bias: The Status of Women in Leadership.*"

AAUW Outlook



EQUALITY IN EDUCATION

Many of us who fight for equality in education are worried. The hard-won progress that we have spent years fighting for – progress that has improved the lives of countless girls and women – appears to be in danger for the first time in years.

Last month I spoke with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos about the importance of Title IX. I stressed the value of this vital civil rights law and urged Secretary DeVos to strengthen and to fully endorse it.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education is still considering rolling back or weakening the Title IX guidance and regulations that have been crucial to ending and preventing sex discrimination in our schools. Make no mistake: The progress we have made so far is under threat in Washington, DC right now. The protections provided by Title IX, not to mention those that we are still fighting to achieve, could be eradicated unless we stand together to defend them.

AAUW has been fighting inequality for more than 130 years. Through inspiring victories and disappointing defeats, we have always been able to depend on the support of people like you – people who understand that our work is far from over.

There are more ways to support AAUW's fight than just financial. Sign AAUW's petition to demand that the Department of Education protect Title IX. Together we can fight to protect and preserve its current regulations and guidance and fully enforce this indispensable civil rights law.

Anne Hedgepeth, AAUW Interim Vice President of Public Policy and Government Relations

Kimberly Churches, AAUW CEO