

WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

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

VOLUME XXXVII

NEWSLETTER 3

APRIL-MAY 2019



**COME TO OUR APRIL MEETING TO HEAR DR. EZINNE ACHINIVU,
 AAUW AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT**

**Saturday, April 27, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
 Christ Lutheran Church
 780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito**

Dr. Ezinne Achinivu is an American Fellowship recipient who received a publication grant from the **AAUW** for the 2018-2019 academic year. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and her doctorate in chemical engineering from North Carolina State University. After obtaining her doctorate, she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and went to Paris to do research. Then **AAUW** awarded her one of their 250 Grants and Scholarships for this academic year, and she is now in the Bay Area. She is dedicated to improving engineering education (and **STEM** fields) among students of all types, and especially among student groups that have been historically underrepresented. She will share with us her experiences and expertise in her personal journey to success. Come . . . and bring a friend!

Gloria Merrill, Co-Program VP

<p>President</p> <p>Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Co-Membership VPs</p> <p>Susan Duncan 334-0520 Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 Judy Sam 527-1661 Jackie Title 234-9370</p>	<p>Tech Trek Co-Chairs</p> <p>Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 marsha.weintraub@gmail.com</p>	<p>Co-Secretaries</p> <p>Marilynn Bracelin 223-4057 mbracelin414@gmail.com (backup): Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 Ida Michael 524-7468</p>
<p>AAUW Funds VP</p> <p>Barbara Vaughan barbvaughan@mac.com 548-1942</p>	<p>Co-Program VPs</p> <p>Maria LaForge 527-4378 Gloria Merrill 527-2681 Susan Walenta 526-4383</p>	<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com (backup): Roberta Montgomery 237-5293</p>	<p>Sunshine Chair</p> <p>Alas, we have lost our sunshine!</p>
<p>Hospitality Chair</p> <p>Sally Dunham, 758-4094 sallydunham1@gmail.com</p>	<p>Website Manager</p> <p>Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 barbvaughan@mac.com</p>	<p>Bylaws, Policies & Procedures</p> <p>Marilynn Bracelin, 223-4057 mbracelin414@gmail.com</p>	<p>Newsletter Editor</p> <p>Sue Walenta 526-4383 awalenta@comcast.net (backup): Barbara Miller 526-4874</p>
<p>Community/Cultural Chair</p> <p>Barbara Miller 526-4874 (backup) Betty Ann Barnett 233-7580</p>	<p>Contra Costa College Relations</p> <p>Joyce Muse, 236-8254 museharris@gmail.com</p>	<p>Publicity Chair</p> <p>Maria LaForge, 527-4378 d.laforge@sbcglobal.net</p>	<p>Public Policy</p> <p>Marianne Selph 526-6631 Mselph2@cs.com</p>
<p>Newsletter Circulation</p> <p>Marion McIntire, 237-0534</p>	<p>Read Aloud Chair</p> <p>Judy Sam, 527-1661 Jssam47@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Telephone Monitor</p> <p>Janet Mengle 232-2676</p>	<p>Facebook Monitor</p> <p>Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com</p>



VOTE FOR OUR BRANCH'S 2019-2020 OFFICERS AT OUR APRIL MEETING

Nominees for our Branch's **Elected Officers** for next year, who will be voted on at the April 27th meeting and installed at the May 18 th La Strada Luncheon, are:

- President: **Roberta Montgomery**
- Program Co-Vice Presidents: **Gloria Merrill and Maria LaForge**
- Membership Co-Vice Presidents: **Mimi Fruehan, Judy Sam, Susan Duncan and Jackie Title**
- AAUW Fund Vice President: **Barbara Vaughan**
- Treasurer: **Christine Hills (back-up, Roberta Montgomery)**
- Secretary: **Marilynn Bracelin (back-up, Barbara Vaughan and Ida Michael).**

Marilyn Bracelin, Roberta Montgomery, & Seti Sidharta, Nominating Committee



JOIN US FOR OUR INSTALLATION LUNCHEON AND MEET OUR CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

***Saturday, May 18th, 2019, 11:30 a.m.
La Strada Italian Restaurant
2215 Church Lane (at San Pablo Avenue), San Pablo***

Be sure to attend our final meeting of the year and the installation of 2019-2020 officers. **Seti Sidharta** will also introduce the current and some past recipients of our **Contra Costa College Mary Ellen Bales AAUW Scholarship**. There are three menu choices: **Pollo Marsala** (chicken breast sautéed with Marsala wine and mushrooms), **Red Snapper** (fish sautéed with white wine, lemon, butter, capers, fresh tomatoes, and spring onions), and **Eggplant Parmigiana**. All entrees are served with polenta and vegetables. The \$32 cost includes bread, green salad, dessert (ice cream), soft drinks, coffee, tea, tax, and tip. Please complete the reservation form below, indicating the number in your party (bring your friends!), your entrée choice, and send your check for **\$32** per person (payable to **AAUW WCC**) to AAUW WCC, P. O. Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Our reservation deadline is **Friday, May 10**. The reservation can also be turned in at our April 27 meeting. Note: You may pay the luncheon fee with the same check as your dues.

NAME(S) _____ No. in party _____

Luncheon choice(s):

Pollo Marsala _____ Red Snapper _____ Eggplant Parmigiana _____

*****Reservation deadline is Friday, May 10**

Please mail the FORM and your \$32 per person CHECK, payable to **AAUW WCC**, to:

AAUW WCC Branch
P.O. Box 501
El Cerrito, CA 94530



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tuesday, April 2, is Equal Pay Day -- the date that symbolizes how far into the year women must work to bring home what men made in 2018. Closing the pay gap is a key goal of **AAUW** in their new strategic plan launched last August. The goal is to achieve pay equity by 2030, with a key component being to train 10 million women in salary negotiations by 2022. To that end, **AAUW** offers a free online course (**Work Smart Online**). Check it out and share it with family and friends.

At our **March 16 Meeting**, we had another excellent talk. **Tiffany Harris, Executive Director of Girls Inc.**, of **West Contra Costa** talked about her organization, which was founded in 1864 (Girls Club of America). It inspires girls ages 5 through 18 to be strong, smart, and bold.

You don't want to miss our **April 27th Meeting**, when **Dr. Ezinne Achinivu**, an **AAUW Fund American Fellowship** recipient, will share her experiences as a Fulbright Scholar in Paris. **Ezinne** has a doctorate in chemical engineering and is dedicated to improving education in engineering (and other **STEM** fields) amongst students who have been historically underrepresented. Invite others to attend. Guests are always welcome. Please note that anyone who joins **AAUW** at the meeting will be a member through June 30, 2020, at a reduced rate (\$64.50 vs. \$95.00).

Plan also to attend our **End of Year Luncheon** on **May 18** at **La Strada Restaurant**. In addition to good food, fun, and the installation of our elected officers, you will meet the current and some past Contra Costa College scholarship recipients.

TECH TREK: Our **Tech Trek** team (**Sue Duncan, Sally Dunham, Mimi Fruehan, Christine Hills, Jackie Title, Rebecca Said, Sharon Trott, and Marsha Weintraub**) has selected the eight campers we will sponsor for the **Tech Trek** camp at Sonoma State University this summer. They will be introduced at a reception at the El Cerrito Denny's on **Saturday, June 8**. We couldn't do this without the generous donations of our members. Raising the money to send girls to camp each year continues to be very challenging (\$1,000 per girl). Donations to our **Tech Trek** Program of any amount are always welcome and fully tax-deductible. **Make your check payable to AAUW-CA SPF, with Tech Trek in the memo line**, and then either mail it to **AAUW WCC Branch, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530**, or give it to me at the **April 27th** meeting.

Thanks for all your support. I enjoy working with such special women.

Roberta Montgomery, President



APRIL-MAY ACTIVITIES

Board Meeting: The April Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 2, 2019**, at 2:00 PM, at the home of **Gloria Merrill** (527-2681), 7357 Hotchkiss Ave., El Cerrito. Please contact **President Roberta Montgomery** (237-5293) for more information and to let her know whether you will attend. There will be no May Board meeting; the June Board meeting will be a joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Boards. It is scheduled for Tuesday, June 4, at the home of **Jackie Title** (234-9370), 3511 Roosevelt, Richmond.

Afternoon Books: The group usually meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **1:30 PM**. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, April 22**, at the home of **Maria La Forge** (527-4378), 240 Columbia Avenue, Kensington. At that meeting, we will discuss Nicole Chung's *All You Can Ever Know*. The following meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 27**. At that meeting, we will discuss *Educated* by Tara Westover. We will not meet over the summer, but we will read *The Paris Seamstress* by Natasha Lester, which we will discuss at our September meeting. All are welcome — please join us!

Lunch Group: The group's next meeting will be on **Monday, April 15**, at **12 Noon**, at the **Royal Cafe**, 811 San Pablo Avenue, Albany. Please call **Maria LaForge** (527-4378) if you have any questions. All are welcome!

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, April 8, from 1:30 to 3:00 PM**, at the same location. Member **Maria LaForge** will speak on the **Baltic States**. The following meeting will be on **Monday, May 13, from 1:30 to 3:00 PM**, at the same location. Member **M. Selph** will speak on **Rwanda**. Branch members who did not attend this **Global Interests Group** last year are invited to join us. 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. If you regularly attend, **Marty** will assume you are coming unless you notify her otherwise. **Marty** looks forward to seeing you there. The group will then break for the summer months of June, July, and August. Please start thinking of ideas for presentations you may be interested in making in the future, and let **Marty** know.

Daytime Bridge Group: We are still trying to get the **Bridge Group** going again. The **Bridge Group** is open to all levels of players and will meet on the **third Friday of each month at 1:00 PM**. Please contact **President Roberta Montgomery** (510-237-5293, rjm2343@sbcglobal.net) if you can host a meeting in April, May, or next year, or just want to play.



CULTURE CORNER for APRIL-MAY 2019

El Cerrito Art Association. Exhibits of local artists' work around El Cerrito. <https://elcerritoart.org/>

- **April 8, 7:00pm:** Monthly meeting, open to the public. Salvador Valencia: Watercolor Airbrush Demo. Garden Room of the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito.
- **May 13, 7:00pm:** Monthly meeting. Meredith Klein will give a calligraphy demonstration.
- Exhibitions:
 - **Through April 12** at the El Cerrito Library: Pam Coville watercolors.
 - **Through July 17** at the El Cerrito DMV: **Animals!—Our Companions on the Planet.** Artwork from five artists: Elaine Miller Bond, photographs; Joan Gombos, watercolors; Sylvia Mori, glass mosaics; Michael Topliff, colored pencil and watercolors; and Mitzie Yamamoto, photographs.

Richmond Art Center, 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. <http://www.richmondartcenter.org> Open Tues.-Sat., 10:00am-5:00pm. Closed major holidays.

- **Sat., April 6, 11:00am-12:00pm:** **"Here is the Sea" Artists' Talk.**
- **Sat., April 6, 1:30-2:30pm:** **"Faces Without Noses" Artist's Talk.** Emeryville painter M. Louise Stanley describes how her sketchbooks anchor her work and help her develop her ideas.
- **Sat., April 13, 5:30-9:00pm:** **Party Richmond,** RAC's Annual Awards and Fundraising Event. Drinks and dinner hors d'oeuvres, awards, live auction, entertainment. Order tickets online or call 510-620-6580. Members: \$55; Non-members: \$60. Tickets at the door: \$65. Proceeds support education programs of Richmond Art Center.
- **Tues., April 16, 5:00-7:00pm:** **Reception for WCCUSD Student Art Show.**

- Sat., April 27, 1:00-4:30pm: **Workshop: Inventing a Narrative**. M. Louise Stanley will lead students through an exercise to create their own narrative-driven artwork.
- Sat., May 4, 2:00-4:00pm: **Reception for “Siempre Estaré A Tu Lado”**.
- Sat., May 11, 12:30-3:00pm: **Reception for “Richmond Creates”**.
- Exhibitions:
 - Thru April 24: **54th Annual WCCUSD Student Art Show**. Community and West Galleries. A teacher-student curated show represents the wealth of student artistic talent in our middle and high schools. A demonstration of the value of art education to a thriving and productive society.
 - April 30-May 24: **Siempre Estaré A Tu Lado**. West Gallery. Jennifer Lugris’ paintings explore identity based on her multi-cultural experience growing up in a household where English, Spanish and Korean were spoken.
 - Through May 17: **Here is the Sea**. Main Gallery. “The coast as a site for investigating the fraught relationship between humans and nature”. A range of environmental work, from political pieces with calls for social action, to works exploring our more subtle, personal relationship to water.
 - Through May 17: **Faces Without Noses**. South Gallery. A survey of the sketchbooks and work of Emeryville artist M. Louise Stanley.
 - May 7 through May 25: **Richmond Creates: The 7th Annual Art in the Community Show**. Community Gallery. A collection of work created in RAC’s ‘Art in the Community’ satellite classes. Artists range from ages 5 to 85.

NIAD Art Center, 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. 510-620-0290. <http://niadart.org/exhibits/>. In addition to the physical exhibitions listed below, NIAD presents several online exhibitions. You can find a list and descriptions at <http://niadart.org/category/blog/>

- April 6 through April 25: Exhibitions:
 - **Forests and Clearings**. Main gallery. This exhibit pairs historic landscape paintings of woodland interiors with contemporary abstract works by NIAD artists. Organized by San Francisco artist Wayne Smith, who inherited numerous Early California landscape paintings.
 - **Simon Tran and Kari Simonsen**. Annex Space. Both artists’ work involve reflections on the power of nutrients.
 - **Pollinators**. Storefront. Jean McElvane and Mary Mortimer. Jean McElvane creates richly detailed sculptures (with found and recycled materials) of nature’s pollinators. The results, often hung as mobiles, offer a look at the importance of these creatures in our fragile ecosystem. Mary Mortimer’s prints tackle the subject of how a border wall would impact migratory pollinators. Proceeds from sales will be donated to the National Butterfly Center at the border in Mission, TX.
- Sat., April 13, 1:00-4:00pm: **Opening reception** for the April exhibits, with a DJ set from John Everett.
- Mon., April 15, 6:30pm: At the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., Berkeley. **Listen to Me Hungry**. Dinner and a conversation between NIAD Executive Director Amanda Eicher and artist Xi Nan, second place winner in a US national juried exhibition for emerging artists with disabilities. Xi Nan’s work has been shown across the U.S. Space is limited. To learn more and get tickets, go to niadart.org/exhibits/baceicher/
- May 4 through May 23: Exhibitions:
 - Untitled exhibition. Main gallery. Organized by Curtis Turner.
 - Solo exhibition of Lexa Walsh. Storefront.
 - Solo exhibition of Nina Else. Backroom.
- Sat., May 11, 1:00-4:00pm: Opening reception for the May exhibits.

San Pablo Art Gallery, Maple Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave., Bldg. 4, San Pablo. 510-882-8673. Hours: Noon to 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Closed holiday weekends. <http://www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us/1237/Art-Gallery>.

- April 6 through May 5: **Arranged Yet Unconstrained.** Ceramics by Tiffany Schmierer and mixed media by Jeffrey Sully.
- April 6, 1:00-3:00pm: **Reception** for *Arranged Yet Unconstrained*.
- May 11 through June 9: **Four Elements.** Photography by Jody Gillerman; blown glass by Elin Christopherson; and paintings by Tinna Savini.
- May 11, 1:00-3:00pm: **Reception** for *Four Elements*.

East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, 339 11th St., Richmond, CA. 510-234-5624. Reservations are required for all events, even when they are free.

<http://www.eastbaycenter.org> The East Bay Center for the Performing Arts “engages youth and young adults in creating new worlds and new visions through rigorous training in world performance traditions.”

- Thurs., April 25, 6:30pm: **1,000 Steps I.** End-of-season showcase of the center’s group classes. To buy tickets, go to: <http://www.eastbaycenter.org/globals/events/2019/april/1000-steps-i>
- Sat., April 27, 11:00am, 1:30pm, & 4:00pm: **1000 Steps II.** End-of-season showcase of the center’s dance classes. <http://www.eastbaycenter.org/globals/events/2019/april/1000-steps-ii>
- Sun., April 28, 12:00pm & 2:30pm: **1000 Steps III.** End-of-season showcase of the center’s music classes. <http://www.eastbaycenter.org/globals/events/2019/april/1000-steps-iii>
- Fri., May 17 and Sat., May 18, 8:00pm: **The Wait Room.** Created in partnership with the Essie Justice Group, this performance installation exposes the physical, psychic, and emotional burden of incarceration for women with imprisoned loved ones. Via a series of custom-made chairs suspended by a counterweight system, the project invokes the balancing act women have to maintain when stripped of emotional and economic support from their partners and family. Free.

Youth Musical Theater Company (YMTC): <http://ymtcbayarea.org> . 510-595-5514.

YMTC “brings together the Bay Area’s most talented and dedicated young singer/actors...(7th grade-University) with professional directors, designers, and musicians [to] create theater that takes on challenging and sophisticated musical and dramatic themes, and that is always accompanied by a full, live orchestra.” YMTC will present its last musical of the season, *Les Miserables*, at the El Cerrito High School Performing Arts Theater in July.

- Sat., April 13, 7:00pm: **Spring Gala.** Wine, cheese, dessert and song. This year’s musical fundraiser will be held at the home of Pam & Mike Crane, 820 Arlington Ave., Berkeley. Attendees will be entertained by current YMTC students and alumni, and will see sneak previews from the 2019-2020 season. \$25-\$100 per person.
- <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?actions=4&p=1>

Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas), 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-273-9102. El Cerrito’s own restored art deco theater. Have a drink and/or dine in during the film, or visit “The Scene” wine bar next to the lobby before or after the show. <http://www.rialtocinemas.com/cerrito>

- **Cerrito Classics.**
 - April 11, 7:00pm. **The Untouchables.** (1987) A stellar cast (Kevin Costner, Charles Martin Smith, Andy Garcia, Robert de Niro and Sean Connery) dramatizes the campaign by FBI agent Elliot Ness and his team to take down underworld kingpin Al Capone. Script by David Mamet. Directed by Brian de Palma. Sean Connery won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor. Violence.
- **National Theatre Live.** All shows are at 7:00pm.
- They sell out quickly, so it is advisable to purchase tickets early. <https://rialtocinemascerrito.tix.com/Schedule.aspx?OrgNum=3786&venuecode=6637>
 - April 1, 10, 15 and 24: **The Tragedy of King Richard the Second** written by William Shakespeare and directed by Joe Hill-Gibbins. Starring Simon Russell Beale.
 - April 29, May 1, 6, and 15: **All About Eve** written by Joseph L. Mankiewicz, adapted and directed by Ivo van Hove, and starring Gillian Anderson and Lily James.
- **Stratford Festival.**
 - Wed., May 22, 7:00pm: **Coriolanus.** Written by William Shakespeare; directed by Robert LePage; and starring André Sills. Presented in 2018 at Stratford, England, it was named on

many critics' "best of" lists. *The Chicago Tribune* reviewer called it "The greatest contemporary staging of the play that I have ever seen."

▪ **EXHIBITION.**

- Apr. 25 and May 16, 2:00pm. **Rembrandt.** A return of the popular exhibition which interweaves Rembrandt's life story with behind-the-scenes preparations for a landmark show at London's National Gallery and Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum.
- Thurs., June 6 and June 27, 12:00pm. **Van Gogh and Japan.** When Japanese art arrived in Paris, it had a profound effect upon Vincent Van Gogh and his art. The film travels to France, the Netherlands and to Japan in an attempt to explore the Japanese influence on Van Gogh's art.

▪ **GREAT ART ON SCREEN.**

- Thurs., April 11, 2:00pm. **Caravaggio—The Soul and the Blood.** "An immersive journey through the life, works and struggles of an Italian master." With Roberto Longhi, who specializes in Caravaggio's work.
- Thurs., May 9, 2:00pm. **Klimt & Schiele—Eros and Psyche.** An examination of the start of the Vienna secession in the 1890's and the advent of new ideas such as independence for women and Freud's concept of the psyche, expressed in many art forms and especially by artists Gustav Klimt and Egon Schiele.
- Thurs., May 23, 2:00pm. **Water Lillies of Monet—The Magic of Water and Light.** Includes tours of the Musée Marmottan Monet, the Orsay Museum and L'Orangerie, as well as Claude Monet's own house and gardens at Giverny, in France.

Contra Costa Civic Theater, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9012. <https://ccct.org/shows/>
Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm; Sundays at 2:00pm.

- April 12 through May 5: **All The Way.** By Robert Schenkkan. An examination of Lyndon Johnson's efforts, soon after unexpectedly becoming President, to pass the Civil Rights Act, all the while working to get re-elected in his own right. "An enthralling look at the morality of power."

Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley. 1 Lawson Rd., Kensington. 510-525-0302.
<https://uucb.org>

- Sat., April 6, 7:30-9:30pm: **Bryan Baker and Friends: from the Pathétique to Over the Rainbow.** Please join Michèle Voillequé, Meghan Dibble, Paul Robles, Phil Buonadonna, and Bryan for an evening of romantic piano music and beautiful songs. Music by Beethoven, Debussy, Schubert, Puccini, Chopin, and Harold Arlen. \$15. Tickets at the door.
- Sat., April 13, 12:00-1:00pm: **Pieces of Eight: Vocal chamber music with an operatic twist.** Pieces of Eight is a choral group formed by veterans of the Bay Area's independent opera companies. This is their inaugural concert. https://en-us.fievent.com/e/pieces-of-eight-vocal-chamber-music-with-an-operatic-twist/20129576?force_subdomain=true
- Sat., April 20, 7:30-10:00pm: **Kensington Symphony Orchestra in Concert: Franco-Russian Alliance.** The orchestra will present works by Berlioz, Saint-Saëns, and Tchaikovsky. Artistic director Geoffrey Gallegos conducts. \$25; \$20 for seniors.
- <https://www.kensingtonsymphonyorchestra.org>
- Sat., May 4, 7:30pm and Sun., May 5, 4:00pm: **Berkeley Broadway Singers Spring Concert.** Admission is free. <http://www.berkeleybroadwaysingers.org>
- Sat., May 18, 8:00pm: **Out of the Shadows: Choral Music by Women Composers.** The Contra Costa Chorale's spring concert features women composers from Hildegard of Bingen to Dolly Parton. Directed by Cindy Beitmen. <http://ccchorale.org>

West County Winds. <http://westcountywinds.org>

- Sun., May 5, 3:00-4:30pm. **End of Season Concert 2019.** This year's concert will be held at the WayPointe Christian Fellowship, 770 Sonoma St., Richmond. Musical items include works by Copland, Holsinger, Wagner, Leroy Anderson, Timothy Mahr, and selections from *Camelot* by Frederic Lowe. Geoffrey Gallegos conducts; Sue Crum is assistant conductor. Admission is free.

Knox Performing Arts Center. Contra Costa College. 2600 Mission Bell Dr., San Pablo, CA 94806. 510-235-7800. Tickets \$10 online; \$15 at door. Website for drama presentations this season: <https://www.contracosta.edu/classes/academic-departments/dramatic-arts/this-seasons-plays/>

- April 19, 20, 26, & 27 at 7:30pm and April 21 & 28 at 3:00pm: ***The Hispanick Zone: A Comedy Extravaganza.*** Written by Guillermo Reyes and directed by Carlos M. Chavarria, this is a series of comedy sketches that speak “with irony and humor about the everyday nuisance of being part of the complex Latinx community, searching for the American dream.”
- May 10 and 11 at 7:30pm: ***CCC Drama Faculty Extravaganza: Twisted Tale.*** “Contra Costa College Drama Faculty and guests come together to bring an hour of entertainment, mayhem, and unexpected results. With these people, you never know what is going to happen. The earnings from this production go directly to the KCACTF fund, helping CCC Drama students attend the regional theatre competition and conference. (Adult language and mature themes.)”

El Cerrito Library. 6510 Stockton Ave., El Cerrito, 510-526-7512; ccclib.org/locations/elcerrito.html
Tues., April 2, 6:00pm. Celebrate Poetry Month with an evening of talking, reading, and writing your own poetry, with El Cerrito’s own Poet Laureate, Dani Gabriel. “We will find new ways to explore poetry using our senses and try both silly and serious exercises to get us into great poetic shape.” No experience necessary!

- Tues., April 16, 5:30-6:30pm. Author talk. Ona Russell, author of *The Rule of Capture*, will discuss how “The Truth of Historical Fiction”. “In the era of alternative facts, good historical fiction remains a reliable source of truth. How? Why? What can an imaginative account of the past reveal that a conventional one cannot? Bring your suspicions and join Ona Russell in exploring this timely and entertaining subject.”

Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park. 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond. 510-232-5050. Open daily: 10:00am-5:00pm. Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Visitor Center and are free. NOTE: If you have stories to share, call **510-232-5050 ext. 6643.** <https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/calendar.htm> NOTE the Annual Benefit Dinner in addition to the regular programs!

- Mondays, April 8 and May 20, 2:00-2:30pm: ***The Port Chicago Disaster and Aftermath.*** What questions were sailors and civilians asking after ten million pounds of explosives blew up in Concord in 1944?
- Tuesdays at 2:00pm, Thursdays at 11:00am, and Saturdays at 2:00pm: ***Of Lost Conversations.*** 97-year-old Ranger Betty Soskin shares her experiences as a young African American woman during WWII. *Reservations required.*
- Wednesdays., April 10 and May 8, 2:00-3:00pm: ***Warbling Through the War Years.*** See and hear how music during W.W. II helped us get through fearful times with samples from radio, records, and the movies.
- Wednesdays., April 24 and May 22, 2:00-3:00pm: ***What We Wore During the War.*** “Leather, wool and nylon were needed by our fighting forces, so we made do on the Home Front...A look at the clothing worn by working men and women, children, and even Hollywood stars.”
- Thursdays at 2:00pm: ***Blossoms and Thorns.*** A documentary about Richmond’s pre- and post-war community of Japanese flower growers, followed by a docent’s personal story of experiences in a WWII incarceration camp.
- Thurs., April 18, 7:00pm: ***2019 Winter Home Front Film Festival.*** A screening of the 1943 film, *Sahara*, starring Humphrey Bogart, who leads a group of outnumbered allied soldiers in a desperate fight in northern Africa. Location: aboard the SS Red Oak Victory ship. For information and directions to the ship, call 237-2933.
- Thurs., May 16, 7:00pm: ***2019 Winter Home Front Film Festival.*** A screening of the 1943 film, *Go For Broke*, starring Van Johnson and Henry Nakamura. The story of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a unit of Japanese-American soldiers who fought with distinction in Europe while their families were incarcerated back home. Location: aboard the SS Red Oak Victory ship. For information and directions to the ship, call 237-2933.

- Saturdays., April 22 and May 25, 3:30-4:30pm: **Henry J. Kaiser: “Build ‘Em by the Mile and Cut ‘Em Off by the Yard”**. Join author Steve Gilford for a presentation about the extraordinary life of ship builder Henry J. Kaiser, an industrialist who was a loyal friend to (organized) labor.
- Sundays, April 28 and May 12, 2:00-3:00pm: **A Second Gold Rush: Migration to California, 1940-1945**. UC Berkeley Professor of History Emeritus Thomas Metcalf talks about how the unprecedented migration during WWII created the California we know today.
- Saturday, May 18, 11:00am-12:30pm: **Join the Union and Keep Working: Labor-Sponsored Films on the Home Front**. Two films: *Hell Bent for Election*, a Warner-brothers animated film made for the FDR re-election effort by the United Auto Workers; and *How You Are Served*, by Shipyard Laborers 882 introducing the union to new members. The host for this event will be Fred Glass, who was communications director for the California Federation of Teachers for nearly 30 years and currently teaches labor history at City College of San Francisco.
- Saturday, April 6. 5:30pm. At the Berkeley Country Club, 7901 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito. **Stories to Inspire—Honoring the Past, Forging the Future: Rosie the Riveter Annual Benefit Dinner**. Cocktails and silent auction at 5:30pm; dinner at 7:00pm. “This event will honor living Rosies and other home front workers who transformed American industry, society and culture.” Special guest will be Jonathan Jarvis, former director of the National Park Service. The funds raised are used for the park’s youth programs. Dress code: business casual. 1940’s attire encouraged. <http://www.rosietheriveter.org/events/annual-benefit-dinner>

City of El Cerrito Recycling and Environmental Resource Center, 7501 Schmidt Lane. 510-215-4350. <http://www.el-cerrito.org/533/Recycling-Environmental-Resource-Center>.

- Wednesdays., April 3 and May 1, 3:00-4:00pm. Tour of the recycling center. Tours are held on the first Wednesday of every month. Meet at the Interpretive Area next to the Exchange Zone.

El Cerrito Historical Society. This group works to preserve and record the city’s history and make that information available to the public. Learn about El Cerrito’s history from the collection of printed and electronic information available at the Dorothy and Sundar Shadi History Room in City Hall. Take a walking tour through El Cerrito’s history along San Pablo Ave. using brochures available at City Hall. Or go to their well-maintained and extensive website to learn about the aspects of El Cerrito’s history that most interest you. <http://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/index.html>

- Sun., Mar. 31, 2:00pm. **El Cerrito Urban Forest: Past, Present and Future**. “...how the ever-changing values of El Cerrito residents influence its structure and composition.” Dave Weinstein will discuss pre-European forests, past, present and future, concluding with the benefits of a properly managed urban forest and the liabilities of a poorly managed one. Light refreshments. Arlington Clubhouse, 1120 Arlington Blvd.
- Sun., April 14, 11:00am-1:00pm. **El Cerrito’s Gambling Past: A Walking Tour**. Chris Horn will lead a tour of sites of the night clubs, gambling dens, dog racing, drinking, and vice that thrived in El Cerrito from the teens into the 1940’s. Meet in the El Cerrito Plaza parking lot near Macaroni Grill. Free.

East Bay Science Café. Café Leila; 1742 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

<http://scienceatcal.berkeley.edu/april-11-cafe-earthquake-mythbusters/>

- Thurs., April 11, 7:00pm: **Earthquake Mythbusters**. Dr. Jennifer Strauss, scientific liaison for the U. C. Berkeley Seismological Laboratory, will present “an overview on earthquake hazards in the Bay Area, some cool science the Berkeley Seismological Lab is working on to help increase knowledge and safety, and bust some common myths about earthquakes and preparedness.” She will also bring us up to date on the status of the Shake Alert early warning system. NOTE: Guests will be seated until the venue fills up, so it’s a good idea to get there around 6:00 and enjoy one of Café Leila’s delicious organic and chemical-free dinners. Or nurse a latté. The East Bay Science Café occurs on the second Thursday of each month, with a U.C. researcher discussing his/her current research.

Dear Friends of **Mollie Hazen**: **Mollie** has entered a very weakened state due to serious challenges with eating and retaining nourishment. She has lost more weight and is now down two clothing sizes. Please continue to consider ordering gift certificates from the Natural Grocery Company Store in El Cerrito for her use. Gift certificates may be ordered in the store itself at 10367 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, or on line at <https://naturalgrocer.com/gift-certificates/> You may send them to her at 796 Pomona Avenue, El Cerrito.

Marty Takimoto

\$

6

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2019

***** Please Pay Your 2019-2020 Membership Dues by July 31 *****

Regular members: **\$95** (AAUW National \$59*, State \$20, Branch \$16);

Paid Life members: **\$36** (\$20 State, \$16 Branch);

DUAL members: **\$16** (Branch only)

50-year members pay NO dues

*Note \$56 of National Dues is tax deductible

THANKS FOR EXTRA DUES!

Thanks to all members who made an extra contribution to supplement our Branch dues for 2018-19. The \$1,758 helped us meet our regular expenses (including meeting room rental, newsletter and directory printing, insurance, post office box rental, and website support) that keep increasing. Without this support, we would not be able to continue all of our many worthwhile activities.

THREE WAYS TO PAY:

1. Make your check payable to **AAUW WCC**, and mail it to: AAUW WCC, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530, with the form below. Make note of any changes to your information.
2. Pay directly to the Treasurer during April or May meetings.
3. **Pay online – NEW PROCEDURE – Details will come in a separate email.**
4. Branch **donations** cannot be made online.

Name _____

Street/Apt _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone/Home _____ /Cell _____

Email _____

Birthday month _____

I wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail

I wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter by US mail

In addition to my dues, I am enclosing a contribution of \$_____ to help us meet the expenses our annual dues no longer cover and further the good work of our Branch. Please see the list of “adopt-a-fund” choices to pick your favorite!

\$\$ ADOPT- A-FUND FUNDRAISER \$\$

Everyone is “time impoverished” these days. In lieu of holding a garage sale, which is time consuming and produces small rewards, we, the Board, decided to let our members choose their pet fund(s) to receive their donation(s). The good news is that we will not raise the Branch dues. Feel free to donate to an Entire Fund or partial Fund or No Fund at all, as you are able. The funds will go to support Branch operating expenses, and these donations are not tax deductible.

Budget Item	Budget	Your Contribution
Insurance Assessment – Required for all AAUW chapters	\$266	
Start Smart – Salary negotiation workshop for Contra Costa College women	\$165	
Printing, Postage Labels – printing and mailing newsletters and chapter business	\$300	
Directory Printing	\$175	
Hospitality – Coffee, creamer, napkins, etc.	\$ 75	
Hall Rental – Christ Lutheran Church monthly rental @ \$80/month	\$560	
PO Box Rental – 1 year	\$134	
Website fee paid yearly	\$120	
Speakers’ Honorariums – monthly speakers’ fees @ \$100 per speaker.	\$600	
Where Most Needed		



IMAGINE AN AMERICA WITHOUT A PAY GAP!

It is common knowledge that a woman in the United States makes 80 cents per dollar made by a man of similar qualifications. The pay gap is worse for women of color. In an era when women make up nearly 50% of the workforce, this pay gap burdens individual family finances and the economy. A recent study estimated the impact on society if the pay gap was corrected.

How would closing the pay gap be expected to impact families?

- 60% of working women and 66% of working mothers would see an increase in their pay;
- Poverty rates for working women would drop by half from 8% to 3.8%
- Poverty rates for single working mothers would drop from 28.9% to 14.5%

How would the US economy benefit?

- Closing the pay gap would increase gross domestic product an estimated \$500 million, roughly 2.6% of the GDP of our entire nation;
- The increase in women’s earnings would be roughly 16 times what federal and state governments spent in 2015 for temporary assistance to needy families.

The pay gap adversely impacts American families. Closing it would raise many out of poverty and reduce the need for public assistance. The question to ask our elected officials is not whether we as a society can afford to pay men and women the same income for the same work. The question is, how can we afford not to? Make time for action on **Equal Pay Day: Tuesday, April 2**, is a great day to take action on the gender pay gap. It is the date that symbolizes how many days into the year women must work to earn what men made in the previous year.



MARY ELLEN BALES AAUW SCHOLARSHIP

Once again we are seeking contributions for our Branch-sponsored **Mary Ellen Bales AAUW Scholarship at Contra Costa College**. Your continued support of this worthwhile endeavor is much appreciated. Each year the West Contra Costa Branch provides a \$1,500 scholarship to a woman from the Center for Science Excellence to help her continue her education at a four-year college or university. Each spring we solicit donations for the next year's scholarship. The check for your tax-deductible donation should be made payable to the **Contra Costa College Foundation**, with **Mary Ellen Bales AAUW Scholarship Fund** on the memo line. Then either mail the check to **AAUW WCC Branch**, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530, or give it to me at our meeting on April 27. Thank you for your support!

Roberta Montgomery, President
