

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

VOLUME XXXVI NEWSLETTER 2 OCTOBER 2019

LEARN ABOUT PROJECT SECOND CHANCE!

Saturday, October 19th, 10:00 a.m. Christ Lutheran Church 780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito

Laura Hydeman, Senior Library Literacy Assistant, Contra Costa County Library System, will talk about Project Second Chance, the library's new adult literacy program. Project Second Chance (PSC) offers free, confidential, one-on-one basic literacy instruction to people who read or write below the 6th grade level. Students are over 16 years of age, out of high school, and speak English well enough to communicate over the telephone and in person. While many PSC students are native English speakers, many others are non-native English speakers who can benefit from tutoring sessions that are conducted in English. Tutoring is done by PSC-trained community volunteers who meet one-on-one with their students for an hour and a half, twice a week, at times and public locations convenient to both.

Gloria Merrill, Program Co-Chair

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are off to a good start. Our first meeting of the year on September 21 was as always very special with our Tech Trek girls sharing their camp experiences.

You don't want to miss the **October 19 Meeting** to learn about **Project Second Chance**, the Contra Costa County Library's new adult literacy program, and the need for **volunteer tutors**.

We are fortunate to live in an area with lots to see and do. Checkout Barbara Miller's Culture Corner and the Manya presentation on page 3. As always, I thank you for your support. I enjoy working with such special women.

Roberta Montgomery



OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 1, 2019**, at 2:00 PM, at the home of **Judy Sam** (510-527-1661), 8821 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito. Please contact **President Roberta Montgomery** (510-237-5293) for more information and to let her know whether you will attend.

<u>Afternoon Books</u>: The group usually meets on the **fourth Monday** of each month at **1:30 PM**. Our next meeting will be **Monday**, **October 28**, at the home of **Ida Michael** (510-524-7468), 268 Cambridge Ave., Kensington. At this meeting, we will discuss Toni Morrison's *God Help the Child*. All are welcome —please join us!

<u>Lunch Group</u>: The group's next meeting will be **Monday, October 21**, at **12 Noon**, at **The Junket**, 235 El Cerrito Plaza near Trader Joe's. Contact **Maria LaForge** (510-527-4378; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net) with any questions. All are welcome!

<u>Global Interests Group</u>: The group meets on the <u>second Monday of each month at 1:30 PM</u> at the home of <u>Ellen Mills</u> (510-229-9020), 1648 Oak View Avenue, Kensington. The group's next meeting will be <u>Monday</u>, <u>October 14</u>. <u>Sue Walenta</u> will talk on the Far Right Populism in Italy. Contact <u>Maria LaForge</u> (510-527-4378; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

<u>Daytime Bridge Group</u>: We are still trying to get the **Bridge Group** going again. The 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 or just want to play.

MANYA - Dramatization of Life of Marie Curie OCT 19 2:30 PM

Manya is a living history presentation of one of our most famous chemists, Marie Curie, and allows us to celebrate the International Year of the Periodic Table in grand style. It covers the basis of Marie's scientific investigations that led to the discovery of two new elements (polonium and radium), an understanding of radioactivity, and the use of radium therapy against cancer. The Women Chemists Committee of the California Section of the American Chemical Society is sponsoring this dramatization by Susan Marie Frontczake. Susan's aim is to present the human behind the scientist, while placing Marie Curie's life and accomplishments in a memorable historical context.

The presentation will be **Saturday, October 19**, at **2:30 PM at Laney College**, Odell Johnson Performing Arts Theater, 900 Fallon Street, Oakland. **Manya** tickets cost \$15 (\$8 for students and unemployed) and can be reserved at email office@calacs.org, phone 510-351-9922, or www.calacs.org. Checks should be made payable to **CA Section ACS**, 2950 Merced Street, #225, San Leandro, CA 94577, and postmarked no later than October 4, 2019.

Elaine Yamaguchi



MARY ELLEN BALES AAUW SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Vy Nguyen is the 2019 recipient of our \$1,500 scholarship at Contra Costa College to a woman with a STEM major active in the Center for Science Excellence to help her continue her education at a four-year college or university. She was introduced at our Installation Luncheon last May. Vy is majoring in Chemical Engineering and was accepted at all four of the UC colleges where she applied. Below is a recent update from her.

Hi Roberta.

I hope all members of AAUW WCC Branch and you are doing well. I should have sent you an email but I got carried away with school. After considering carefully, I've made up my mind to go to UC Berkeley. This is my third week here and I'm really happy with the classes as well as the campus. The campus is so big that I often get lost. The classes are challenging and intense. But I'm enjoying everything at UC Berkeley.

Also, I got a research position at Lawrence Berkeley Lab this summer. I've worked on creating a model of water transport through a polymer membrane. This project is hosted by Dr. Frances Houle in the JCAP of Chemical Sciences Division. I've learned so much knowledge about kinetics from this project. This Fall semester, I continue to work for Dr. Houle. The goal is to refine the model that I've built in the summer and test it with data from experiment.

I'll keep you updated if there's anything new. Have a good day! Best,

Vy

AAUW FUND

As we did last year, we will have a one-time annual **AAUW Fund** request for the **Vivian Lamont Coe American Fellowship**, part of the California Unfinished Endowments. Please send your checks made out to **AAUW Funds** with the fund number, **4046**, on the memo line to **Barbara Vaughan**, 970 Wildcat Canyon Road, Berkeley, California 94708. We look forward to the completion of Vivian's Fellowship. Please donate as you are able. (Note: we are making good progress, but Vivian's Fund still needs over \$20,000 *rjm*)

Barbara Vaughan, AAUW Fund VP

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The **2019-2020 Membership Directories** prepared by **Ellen Mills** and her husband **Paul** will be available for pick-up at the **October 19**th meeting. Those directories not picked up by members will be mailed in November. Review your entry and let us know if you have corrections.

Note that there is a 'typo' in the Directory for Marsha's current email. It has an extra "e" at the end of her last name (marsha.weintraube@gmail.com). Make the correction in your Directory.

Roberta Montgomery

CULTURE CORNER for OCTOBER 2019 By Barbara Miller

<u>El Cerrito Art Association</u>. Exhibits of local artists' work around El Cerrito. <u>Monthly meetings are open to the public and are held in the Garden Room of the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. <u>https://elcerritoart.org</u></u>

- Oct 4-6: 43rd Annual Art Show, El Cerrito Community Center. This year's theme is "MOTION!" <u>https://elcerritoart.org/artshow/</u>
 - o Fri., Oct 4, 7:00-9:00pm: opening reception for the Annual Art Show
 - Oct. 5, 11:00am-5:00pm and Oct 6, 11:00am-4:00pm: exhibition of entries in visual media plus sales of unframed work.
- Mon., Oct 14, 7:00pm: Monthly meeting. Lecture by Elaine Miller Bond, local photographer and writer. "How I stay inspired, How one photo I took in Point Reyes led to a children's book and How I learned the craft of photography by spending 3 months snapping pictures of prairie dogs in the wild."
- Exhibitions:
 - Oct 11 through Dec 13 at the El Cerrito Library: Exhibit of First Place Winners of ECAA Annual Art Show
 - Through Nov 13 at the El Cerrito DMV: Summer Vacation. Featuring the work of Lynda Arnold, Christopher Beasley, Nick Brooks, Steve DeMello, and Doug Donaldson. Photographs and collages of vacation destinations, vacation transportation

<u>Richmond Art Center</u>. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. The largest visual arts center in the East Bay. Open Tues.-Sat., 10:00am-5:00pm. Closed major holidays. http://www.richmondartcenter.org

- Sat., Oct. 26: Fall Family Day. Free, all-ages family event
 - o 12:30-2:00pm: Hands-on exploration of collage by Nicole Mueller
 - 2:00-3:00pm Artist Talk. Nicole Mueller discusses her work currently on view in the exhibition "Thresholds"
- Exhibitions: through Nov 22:

- Countersteer. Main Gallery. This exhibition examines personal expression thru the medium of the motorcycle, featuring12 custom bikes spanning a range of purpose and creative sensibilities.
- Thresholds. West Gallery. Nicole Mueller uses colored film, collage and paint to activate the natural light and windows of the gallery to show the transitional and intangible nature of spaces.
- Pause, Gap, Omission. South Gallery. Stephen Namara explores the interplay between representation and abstraction, the physical and the intangible. Pencil and rubbed dry pigment.
- o **Ready and Waiting**. Community Gallery. This exhibit features California graphic art and illustration exploring shared issues relevant to local and global communities. Various artists.
- Rich Reality. Community Gallery. Posters by young artists who participated in a free printmaking class at the Richmond Art Center this summer.

NIAD Art Center. 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. 510-620-0290. http://niadart.org/exhibits/ NIAD also presents several online exhibitions. See http://niadart.org/exhibits/ NIAD also

- Exhibitions:
 - <u>through Oct 12</u>: Art Through Transition: Luis Estrada. 1600 Nevin Plaza, Visitor Center Lobby. Captivating paintings and drawings peppered with meteorological symbols and diagrams representing weather, trains, time, and professional wrestling. Open Mon.-Fri, 9:00am-5:00pm.
 - Oct 5 through Oct 24: October Exhibitions at the NIAD Art Center Galleries:
 - Ether Here Nor There. A collaboration between graphic designer Anthony Grant and NIAD artists. Poses the question: "Where do our thoughts go once they are sent via text, posted to a comment thread, or uploaded to a social media platform?"
 - Before the Clocks Held Time. Oakland artist Lorrie Fink uses the expressiveness of botanical forms to investigate pattern and color. Oil paints.
 - FEAST. NIAD's prolific storyteller Heather Hamman invites you to dine at her miniature table where roasted, chicken, pasta, carrots and strawberries keep her royal fairy folk well fed. Heather makes ceramic models of the characters and scenes in her stories.
- Sat., Oct 12, 1:00-4:00pm: Opening Reception for October Exhibitions
- Sat., Oct 12, 2:00-4:00pm: Closing Reception and Dialogue for Art Through Transition.

<u>San Pablo Art Gallery</u>. Maple Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave., Bldg. 4, San Pablo. 510-882-8673. **NOTE**: The SPAG is closing down in its current form and will re-open when the city of San Pablo finishes building its new City Hall. The current exhibit is a final retrospective. http://www.ci.san-pablo.ca.us/1237/Art-Gallery.

- Oct 12 through Dec 15, Saturdays and Sundays, 12:00-4:00pm: A Fond Farewell. Art by 50 artists who have exhibited their work here throughout the past 20-plus years. https://www.sanpabloca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/12312/A-Fond-Farewell-Flyer
- Oct 19, 1:00-3:00pm: Opening reception for A Fond Farewell.

Knox Performing Arts Center at Contra Costa College. 2600 Mission Bell Drive, San Pablo.

Oct. 18, 19, 26; Nov. 1, 2, at 7:30: Frida Kahlo – The Artist; The Woman. "A bio-epic that mixes history, folklore, culture, music, and dance weaved through magical realism, bringing to the stage the life of one of the most influential artists in the world." Tickets are \$10 online, \$15 at the door. For tickets and a map of the college, go to: https://www.contracosta.edu/event/ccc-drama-presents-friday-kahlo-the-artist-the-woman-in-english/

<u>Cerrito Theater</u> (Rialto Cinemas). 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-273-9102. <u>El Cerrito's own restored art deco theater</u>. 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. To buy tickets online, click on https://rialtocinemascerrito.tix.com/Schedule.aspx?OrgNum=3786&venuecode=6637

Playing Now: Right now, two films that may interest this group are running at the Cerrito:

- Downton Abbey. A big screen continuation of the beloved TV series.
- o **Farewell**. In this funny, uplifting tale, Chinese-born, American-raised Billi reluctantly returns to Changchun to find that, although the whole family knows that their beloved matriarch, Nai-Nai, has been given mere weeks to live, everyone has decided not to tell Nai-Nai herself.
- <u>National Theatre Live</u>. All shows are at 7:00pm. They sell out quickly, so purchase tickets early.
 - Oct. 17: The Lehman Trilogy by Stefano Massini, adapted by Ben Power, directed by Sam Mendes. Starring Simon Russell Beale, Adam Godley and Ben Miles. "The story of a family and a company that changed the world." A "sprawling story of Western capitalism" that describes the rise and spectacular fall in 2008 of Lehman Brothers.
 - Oct 2, 16: Fleabag. A one-woman show written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge.
 The Guardian's reviewer calls it, "Witty, filthy, and supreme." The New Yorker calls it a
 "legitimately hilarious show". NOTE: A new 9:00pm show has been added for Oct. 2.
 - Oct 7: One Man, Two Guvnors by Richard Bean, directed by Nicholas Hytner. Winner of a Tony award for star James Cordon. "Sheer, joyous pandemonium" raved The London Times.
 - Oct 21, 23, 28; Nov. 6: A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare. Dir. by Richard Hytner. starring Gwendoline Christie, Oliver Chris, David Moorst, and Hammed Aniimashaun.

GREAT ART ON SCREEN

https://rialtocinemascerrito.tix.com/Schedule.aspx?OrgNum=3786&venuecode=6637

 Wed., Oct 30, 2:00pm: Gauguin in Tahiti: Paradise Lost. A voyage to Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia to see the landscapes and the light and colors that inspired Gauguin; then a visit to museums in several countries where Gauguin's masterpieces are preserved.

EXHIBITION

Thurs., Nov. 7, Dec. 5, 2:00pm: **Leonardo's Full Story**. For the first time, all of Leonardo's paintings will be shown in ultra-HD on the big screen. Filmed at museums throughout Europe and the U.S., narrated by leading experts on da Vinci's art. This tribute focuses on Leonardo's paintings and drawings. It also "looks afresh at Leonardo's life – his inventiveness, his sculptural skills, his military foresight and his ability to navigate the treacherous politics of the day – through the prism of his art." "The definitive film about Leonardo."

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

Oct 4, 5, 6 and subsequent weekends: Bright Star. "a sweeping tale of love and redemption, inspired by a real event, and featuring an energetic and unique bluegrass score."

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. If you have stories to share, call 510-232-5050 ext. 6643. https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/calendar.htm. IMPORTANT NOTE: Betty Soskin's talks have been temporarily suspended after she suffered a stroke in September. The Park expects her to resume her talks in six months. Meanwhile, you can catch the movie about her life and mission, No Time to Waste: The Urgent Mission of Bety Reid Soskin. You can see the movie trailer here: http://www.rosietheriveter.org/events/film-events

No Time to Waste:

- o Thurs., Oct. 24 at the Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center in Richmond.
- Sun., Nov 10, 2:00pm at the Sebastian Theater, 476 First Street East, Sonoma: For more details, go to the website: http://www.rosietheriveter.org/events/film-events
- Wed., Oct 2, 2:00-3:00pm: Wartime Romance: WWII's Influence on Dating and Marriage. Dating, marriage, moral behavior—all responded to the drastic changes wrought by the war. A discussion of how and why Americans in uniform and on the home front created new ways of

- living.
- Thursdays, 2:00-3:00pm: 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.
- Sun, Oct 6, 13, 20 and 27, 11:00-11:30am: When History Rhymes: Lessons from the WWII Home Front. Learn how the war effort changed the fabric of American society, and join a discussion about how we prepare for unprecedented changes ahead of us.
- Wed, Oct. 9, 2:00-3:00pm: Tune In Tomorrow! A Wartime Radio Day. "News, comedy, drama, sports: everyone listened to the same wonderful programs. And so will we!"
- Fri. Oct. 11, 12:30-1:00pm: **Rationing on the Home Front.** Listen to stories about the Federal Government's rationing program and how it affected families on the Home Front.
- Thurs., Oct 17. Boarding begins at 6:30; film begins at 7:00. Oscar-Winning WWII Films Aboard the Red Oak Victory ship. A screening of the 1953 war drama, From Here to Eternity, starring Burt Lancaster, Frank Sinatra, Deborah Kerr, Montgomery Clift, and Donna Reed. Winner of 8 Academy Awards. Duration: 1 hour 58 minutes. For information and directions to the ship, call 237-2933.
- Wed., Oct 23, 2:00-3:00pm: Time Out! Sports During World War II. A talk about what happened to sports as many players joined the military, and how the armed services used sports to boost morale.
- Saturday., Oct. 26, 3:15-4:15pm: 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.
- Sunday, Oct. 27, 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.
- Saturdays and Sundays, 2:00-3:00pm: Tickets Over the Rainbow. How expulsion from the military during and after WW II affected homosexuals and how the modern LGBTQ rights movement emerged from their activism.

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. http://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/index.html

Sun., Oct. 13, 2:00pm. El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Creedence: The First Decade, 1959-1969. Did you know that the famous 60's rock band, Creedence Clearwater Revival, originated at Portola Junior High in El Cerrito? Alec Palao will talk about their local origins using rare visuals and audio. Free. http://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/upcomingevents.html

El Cerrito Community Orchestra Program-Beginning Players. If you have been wanting to learn to play an instrument, or already play and want to learn to play a new instrument, or are a musician who hasn't played in years, consider joining El Cerrito's community orchestra program. Arlington Clubhouse, 120 Arlington Blvd. http://www.el-cerrito.org/1336/Community-Orchestra-Program IMPORTANT: Registration must be received by Oct. 3. Register online or by mail to Maya Williams, City of El Cerrito, 10890 San Pablo Ave., 94530. Class fee is \$150 for 9 classes, 1 rehearsal and 1

- Oct 7, 14*, 21, 28, Nov 4, 19, 26, Dec 2 and 9: Classes for beginning and restarting musicians.
 - o *Oct 14 class will be held at Hana Gardens Senir Center, 1870 San Pablo Ave.

concert. For financial assistance, call Maya Williams at (510) 215-4318.

- o Nov. 11: Veterans' Day. No class.
- Early December: Concert performance at the Arlington Clubhouse. Exact date TBD.

<u>Kensington Symphony Orchestra</u>. Concerts are at Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington.

 Sat., Oct 26, 7:30pm: España. Emmnuel Chabrier - España; Jaume Torrent - Concert de Rialp Op. 70; Enrique Granados - Intermezzo from Govescas; Maurice Ravel - Rapsodie Espagnole.

<u>East Bay Science Café</u>. Café Leila; 1742 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. http://scienceatcal.berkeley.edu/april-11-cafe-earthquake-mythbusters/

 Thurs., Oct 10, 7:00pm: Talk on neuroscience by Prof. David Presti. Details will be available soon on the website.

2019 Bay Area Science Festival.

• Fri., Oct 25-Sat., Nov. 2. Talks, tours, and activities. Details soon to be published on the website: http://scienceatcal.berkeley.edu

And, lastly, don't forget that **Oct. 6-14 is Fleet Week** in the Bay Area. The Air Show is October 11-13. See the Blue Angels, the newest US Air Force fighter jet, parachutists, and a Coast Guard search and rescue demo. For more information, and to get tickets, go to https://fleetweeksf.org

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