

# 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 XXXVII NEWSLETTER 5 APRIL-MAY 2021

#### LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION: FROM PARIS, NEW YORK TO PARIS, FRANCE

Virtual Meeting Saturday, April 17, 2021 10:00 a.m. Zoom Check-in 10:30 a.m. Talk

Join celebrated mystery writers **Cara Black** and **Susan Alice Bickford** for a discussion of how location and setting play an evocative and critical role in their novels. They will also talk about their latest releases, writing processes, and take questions from attendees.

Cara Black has written nineteen NY Times bestselling Aimee LeDuc mysteries set in different arrondissements in Paris. Her latest standalone "Three Hours in Paris" is also a bestseller. Check out her website: carablack.com

Susan Alice Bickford writes thrillers and suspense stories deeply embedded in rural New York State and New England featuring resourceful female protagonists. "Dread of Winter" is an Edgar Award nominee. Check out her website: susanalicebickford.com

For this virtual meeting, Christine will send all members with email addresses the Zoom invitation. Family and friends are welcome to attend. For them to get the Zoom invitation, they need to send an email to <a href="mailto:aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com">aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com</a>. Christine will open the meeting at 10:00 a.m. so attendees can check-in (and informally chat) before the discussion with Cara Black and Mary Alice Bickford begins at 10:30 a.m.

#### Maria LaForge, Program Co-Chair

President	Co-Membership VPs	Tech Trek Co-Chairs	Co-Program VPs
Roberta Montgomery (510) 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net	Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 <u>mimifru@aol.com</u> Judy Sam 527-1661 <u>Jssam47@yahoo.com</u>	Roberta Montgomery 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 marsha.weintraub@gmail.com	Maria LaForge 527-4378 d.laforge@sbcglobal.net Gloria Merrill 527-2681 cudaviol@yahoo.com
AAUW Fund VP	Secretary	Treasurer	Sunshine Chair
Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 barbvaughan@mac.com	Marilynn Bracelin 223-4057 bracelins14@gmail.com	Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com	TBD
Hospitality Chair	Website Manager	Bylaws, Policies &	Newsletter Editor
Sally Dunham, 758-4094 sallydunham1@gmail.com	Barbara Vaughan (510) 548-1942 <u>barbvaughan@mac.com</u>	Procedures Marilynn Bracelin,)223-4057 bracelins14@gmail.com	Sue Walenta 526-4383 awalenta@comcast.net
Community/Cultural Chair	Contra Costa College	Publicity Chair	Public Policy
Barbara Miller 526-4874 bmil@mac.com	Relations	Maria LaForge, 527-4378 d.laforge@sbcglobal.net	Marianne Selph 526-6631 Mselph2@cs.com
Newsletter Circulation	Read Aloud Chair	Zoom Host	Facebook Monitor
Marion McIntire, 237-0534	Judy Sam, 527-1661 <u>Jssam47@yahoo.com</u>	Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com	Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hopefully, you were able to have more normal holiday gatherings this year. With the COVID 19 vaccines things are beginning to open up, but for AAUW there are still no in-person meetings. We continue with all virtual meetings. As always I appreciate your support.

<u>2020-2021 Program:</u> Rebecca Sung, AAUW Selected Professions Fellow, gave an excellent talk at our March 20 virtual meeting. It included her background and current experience at Cal. Unfortunately she hasn't been able to see much of the Bay area. We conclude our Program on April 17 with a discussion with Sisters in Crime mystery writers Cara Black and Susan Alice Bickford. See article Page 1. You won't want to miss this lively, interesting event. Family and friends are welcome (they send an email to <a href="mailto:aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com">aauw.wcc.94530@gmail.com</a> to get the Zoom link). On May 15 we are invited to attend another CalACS-WCC virtual meeting to hear Dr. Chrissy Stachl's talk "From Water to Human Dynamics: Taking a Non-traditional path to make chemistry more inclusive". See write-up Page 4.

<u>AAUW National News</u>: Voting for the National proposed bylaw changes to eliminate the degree requirement opened April 7. See article Page 5. The AAUW California election will be April 16th to May 7<sup>th</sup>. For both elections, if you have an email address you will be sent a link to vote online. If you do not have an email address, a mail-in-ballot will be mailed to you.

<u>Membership Annual Renewal</u>: This is a reminder if you have not done so already to pay your dues for next year (**July 1, 2021** to **June 30, 2022**). This has been a very unusual year, but we are planning for the (new) normal with more in-person gatherings next year. With the \$3 National dues increase, the dues for regular members is now \$98 (National \$62, State \$20, Branch \$16). Consider giving an extra contribution to Adopt-A-Fund. Our regular expenses far exceed our dues income. Forms are on pages 6 and 7. Thanks for last year's extra contributions. Without them, we would not have been able to continue our many worthwhile activities.

Check out Barbara Miller's <u>April-May Culture Corner</u> and support these local organizations. Although the Cerrito Theater is closed, it has movies you can watch online through the Rialto website. Barbara has included brief descriptions of them. Note the Virtual Cinema Coming Attractions includes London Musicals, Art Shows and Operas.

# **Roberta Montgomery, President**

#### PROPOSED BRANCH 2021-2022 OFFICERS

With no in-person meetings, we decided that the voting for these elected officers will be by email like last year.

President: Roberta Montgomery

Program Co-Vice Presidents: Maria LaForge and Gloria Merrill

Membership Co-Vice Presidents: Mimi Fruehan, Christine Hills, and Judy Sam

AAUW Fund Vice President: Barbara Vaughan

Treasurer: Roberta Montgomery (back-up, Christine Hills)

Secretary: Marilynn Bracelin



#### **CALENDAR – MONTHLY VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

#### **APRIL 2021:**

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

<u>Virtual Meeting:</u> using Zoom Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 10:00 am. Mystery writers Cara Black and Susan Alice Bickford will discuss how location and setting play an evocative and critical role in their novels. See write-up Page 1.

#### **MAY 2021:**

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

<u>CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting:</u> Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 11:00 am Dr. Chrissy Stachl's talk "From Water to Human Dynamics: Taking a Non-traditional path to make chemistry more inclusive". See write-up Page 4.

<u>TELL YOUR STORY Virtual Interest Group:</u> Meeting Fourth Tuesday of month using Zoom. Next meeting **Tuesday, May 24, 2021 2-4 pm**. Send an email to Christine <u>chills627@gmail.com</u> if you want to receive an invitation.

#### **JUNE 2021:**

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

#### **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

The Board decided that we would not print a new Directory for 2020-2021. We will continue to use last year's Directory (2019-2020 with gold cover) that Ellen Mills and her husband Paul printed. Member information updates will continue to be published in the Newsletter. I have extra copies of last year's Directory. Let me know if you need one. All changes to date:

CORBIN, ROSEMARY 474 Western Drive, Richmond 94801

PLAYER, PATRICIA (707) 603-8518 (new landline phone number)

SOUTO-MARTINEZ, MARTHA (Marty) martysoutomartinez@gmail.com

WEINTRAUB, MARSHA marsha.weintraub@gmail.com (email in the directory has an extra "e" at the end of her last name)

#### **Roberta Montgomery, President**



#### **HEAR DR. CHRISTY STACHL'S TALK:**

From Water to Human Dynamics: Taking a Non-traditional Path to Make Chemistry More Inclusive

The California Section American Chemical Society
Women Chemists Committee

Virtual Meeting
Saturday, May 15, 2021
10:30 am Chatting
11:00 am Talk and Discussion

Our member Elaine Yamaguchi has invited us to attend this CalACS-WCC virtual meeting. Information about Dr. Stachl and her talk are below.

All are welcome, but you **must make a reservation by Thursday, May 8**. To register either send email to <u>office@calacs.org</u> or go to <u>https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/5089184</u>. The Zoom link will be sent out the day before the meeting.

#### **About the Speaker**

Dr. Chrissy Stachl (she/ella) graduated from the University of Washington in 2014 with dual B.S. degrees in Chemistry and Neuroscience. Prior to starting her Ph.D., she spent a post-bac research year at the Fritz Haber Institute in Berlin, where she was funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) to study the structure of sugar polymers at ultracold temperatures. She began her graduate studies at the University of California, Berkeley in 2015 as a National Science Foundation and Ford Foundation Fellow, where she began using infrared photodissociation spectroscopy to probe the structure and energetics of hydrated ion clusters in the gas phase. Her desire to improve the quality of mentoring interactions that are so critical to graduate student success led her launch a longitudinal study of the Berkeley Chemistry academic climate. Shortly after, she switched the focus of her research to chemistry education and spent the rest of her Ph.D. working to understand the issues that negatively affect diversity, inclusion, and belonging within graduate communities, and designing interventions to directly combat these disparities. Chrissy earned her Ph.D. in Chemistry in 2020 from UC Berkeley and is now the Director of Education, Outreach, and Diversity at the National Science Foundation Center for Genetically Encoded Materials (C-GEM).

#### **Abstract**

Dr. Stachl's journey to, and through, the University of California, Berkeley, Department of Chemistry contained many unexpected twists and turns. A trained chemist, she started out working in a physical chemistry lab, doing gas-phase research to understand how water molecules interact with each other and the ions they solvate. As one of only a few Latin women in her department of >400 graduate students, she quickly began to feel isolated and had trouble finding individuals that she could relate with. This motivated her to find ways to diversify her department and dedicate time outside of research to start a DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) initiative within Berkeley Chemistry. She eventually fell in love with the work she was doing to help ensure that younger generations of chemistry graduate students would not face the same hardships she had overcome, and switched fields to gain a more rigorous understanding of the issues responsible for the diminishing representation of marginalized individuals at the highest levels of academia. In this presentation, Dr. Stachl will talk about the experiences that ultimately motivated her doctoral research in both physical chemistry and chemistry education, as well as the unique path she paved to pursue a career as both a chemist and an educator.



# **AAUW Board of Directors Statement on Open Membership**

The AAUW National Board of Directors strongly supports elimination of the degree requirement for membership and has put the requirement up for a membership vote this spring. This important change is a critical step in bringing AAUW's bylaws and membership requirement in line with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls.

AAUW's mission is to advance gender equity, yet the requirement for membership explicitly denies access to membership to those without college degrees. AAUW does not promote equity for all women and girls if the organization maintains exclusionary membership requirements. The membership requirement is not fair, is not right, and is not equity. This is simply the right thing to do.

The elimination of the degree requirement will help protect the future of AAUW by opening up opportunities for funding. Because our current educational degree requirement can be deemed discriminatory and not in keeping with our mission, some foundations and corporations will not donate to our organization since it is counter to their criteria of equity. This disadvantage, along with the now 400-plus organizations competing with AAUW on women's equity issues for funding, greatly affects National's ability to get much needed funding. Membership only provides 15-20% of the annual budget. This is not enough to support branch and member services.

To learn more about the proposed changes to the AAUW bylaws as well as proposed changes to the Public Policy Priorities, please visit the election page on the AAUW website: https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/governance-tools/national-election/

Voting will open on April 7 and close May 17, 2021, 5:00 p.m. ET. All voting will take place online (an email link will be sent) unless a member sends a specific request to AAUW for a paper ballot. All members without an email address on file with AAUW national will receive notification of the vote by mail. Note: a "yes" vote on two-thirds of the votes cast is required to change the bylaws.

# \$

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2021-2022

National dues has increased \$3 this year.

\*\*\* Please Pay Your 2021-2022 Membership Dues by June 30 \*\*\*

Regular members: **\$98** (AAUW National \$62\*, State \$20, Branch \$16); DUAL members: **\$16** (Branch only)

50-year members pay NO dues

\*Note \$59 of National Dues is tax deductible

# THANKS FOR THE CONTRIBUTION!

Thanks to all members who made an extra contribution to supplement our Branch dues for 2020-2021. The \$1,990 helped us meet our regular expenses (including meeting room rental, newsletter printing, insurance, post office box rental, and website support) that keep increasing. Note: contributions to operating expenses are NOT tax deductible.

# TWO WAYS TO PAY:

- Make your check payable to AAUW WCC, and mail it to: Christine Hills 936 Norvell Street, El Cerrito, CA 94530, with the form below. Note change of address for Corona virus evasion purposes.
- 2. Pay online NEW PROCEDURE Send an email to treasurer <a href="mailto:chills627@gmail.com">chills627@gmail.com</a> and she will forward a link you will use to make the online donation. (Note: BRANCH donations cannot be made online.)

Name				
Street/Apt				
City/State	Zip Code			
Phone/Home/Cel	<u> </u>			
Email				
□ I have CHANGES to personal information above. We will update the next Directory and the Member Services Database with your new information.  All members with email addresses will receive the newsletter via email.				
□ Check here if you wish to receive a hard copy of the newsletter by US mail				
	ontribution of \$ to help us meet ver and further the good work of our Branch. s 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 ask the members to choose your pet fund to receive your donation again this year. Feel free to donate to an Entire Fund or partial Fund or no Fund at all, as you are able. **The funds go to support Branch operating expenses, and these additional contributions are not tax deductible.** Please note, if the budget item you select is over-subscribed, your donation will go to the Most Needed bucket.

Budget Item	Budget	Your Contribution
Insurance Assessment – Required for all AAUW chapters	\$169	
Printing, Postage Labels – printing and mailing newsletters	\$300	
and chapter business		
Directory Printing	\$125	
Hospitality – Coffee, creamer, napkins, etc.	\$ 75	
Hall Rental – Christ Lutheran Church monthly rental @	\$560	
\$80/month		
PO Box Rental – 1 year	\$150	
Website fee paid yearly	\$120	
Speakers' Honorariums – monthly speakers' fees @ \$100	\$600	
per speaker.		
Tech Trek Recruitment, Reception, Printing & Postage	\$300	
Most Needed		

# **AAUW CA Public Policy: Successful (Virtual) Lobby Day!**

AAUW California's first attempt at a virtual Lobby Day with the California Legislature presented many challenges, such as contacting dozens of legislators' offices, registering and communicating with members wishing to participate, analyzing legislation to discuss... but the Public Policy Team made it happen successfully!

First and foremost we thank our lobbyist, Kathy Van Osten who, with help from her assistant Jennifer, made all the appointments with legislators. Kathy also arranged for our key opening speakers, Assembly Member Christina Garcia, Chair of the Women's Legislative Caucus office, and Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Reyes, author of AB 92, which we are co-sponsoring. Hearing from these two prominent legislators was empowering and it was also significant for them to learn about AAUW and our Public Policy Priorities.

After the opening session, 30 teams of 3 or 4 AAUW members connected with individual legislators or their staff. In these meetings, members communicated information about AAUW CA, their branches and also the three bills which are high priority for AAUW in the current session.

- AB 92 Assembly Member Reves Child Care Family Fees
- SB 62 Senator Durazo Garment Worker Protection Act
- AB 373 Assembly Member Min Consumer Debt: Economic Abuse

Co-Chairs Kathi Harper and Sue Miller met with members of Governor Newsom's staff, who are influential in assisting the Governor in his decisions about signing or vetoing bills, and with Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkin's staff.

The results of these meetings are important in several ways. Sixty legislators or their staff now know about AAUW and our commitment to improve the lives of women and girls in California. They'll remember us when we contact them again as our bills move through the legislative process. Several legislative staffers asked for more information about becoming members!

#### Marianne Selph, Public Policy

# CULTURE CORNER for APRIL-MAY 2021 By Barbara Miller

<u>City of El Cerrito</u>. (510) 215-4300. City Hall is currently closed and most public events have been cancelled. Parts of the recycling center are open and tours of the recycling center for April and May are still scheduled. Check the city calendar to see what is available.

<a href="https://www.el-cerrito.org/Calendar.aspx">https://www.el-cerrito.org/Calendar.aspx</a>

- <u>El Cerrito has a new Poet Laureate</u>, Eevelyn Mitchell. An El Cerrito native, she has traveled widely in the United States and elsewhere and brings her myriad experiences to her poetry and other activities. You can read about her here: <a href="http://www.el-cerrito.org/1561/Current-Poet-Laureate">http://www.el-cerrito.org/1561/Current-Poet-Laureate</a>
- New BART Art. Check out the new murals at the Del Norte BART station. The two murals, by former El Cerrito resident Kyungmi Shin, depict the hills and the bayside. See and read about them here: https://www.bart.gov/news/articles/2021/news20210224-0
- Tuesdays, April 6 and 20, May 4 and 18, 7:00pm: City Council Meeting. Via WebEx. City council meetings are open to the public. For instructions on streaming the meeting, submitting comments, and other information, go to: <a href="https://www.el-cerrito.org/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials">https://www.el-cerrito.org/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials</a>. You can also watch previous council meetings here.
- Wednesday, April 7 and May 5, 3:00-4:00pm: Tour of the recycling center. 7501 Schmidt Lane.
   Meet at the Interpretive Area next to the Exchange Zone. Check the city calendar before going to be sure a tour hasn't been canceled.

<u>El Cerrito Library</u>. 6510 Stockton Ave. (510) 526-7512. Front door service is now available. <u>https://ccclib.org/front-door-service/</u>.

- Mondays through Thursdays, 2:00pm-4:00pm: Lunch at the Library. Children and teens 18 and younger can pick up lunch at the front door Mondays through Thursdays. Masks and social distancing are required. A produce giveaway is also available. <a href="https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fa=tvpes:(5d968fc8a10c7024004c96f8">https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/fa=tvpes:(5d968fc8a10c7024004c96f8)</a>
- <u>Virtual events</u>. The book club and ongoing services are listed below. To learn what other events are being held, go to: <a href="https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/index">https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/index</a>
  - <u>Fourth Mondays</u>, 6:30-7:30pm: El Cerrito Library Mystery Book Club. Each month, the club discusses the first book in a mystery series. Click here for additional information and instructions on how to get the zoom link. <a href="https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/search/local\_start=2021-04-01%20T0%202021-05-31&fq=program:(5e2b7849df59234500450f71)&near=-122.2937428,37.9202057&distance=3/event/602d92cfff763e2f004169e4</a>
    - April 26: The Milford Murders by Jessica Fellowes. From The Milford Murders Series.
    - May 24: Still Life by Louise Penny. From The Gamache Books Series.
  - Meanwhile, the library continues to offer the following services and many more. <u>https://ccclib.org/digital-resources/</u>
    - *Kanopy*. Get free access to thousands of movies with your library card. You can stream these movies to your TV, your computer, or your mobile phone. <a href="https://ccclib.kanopy.com/">https://ccclib.kanopy.com/</a>
    - **Newspapers**. Using your library card, you can read entire newspapers online, including the East Bay Times and the New York Times.
    - Genealogy. Use AncestryLibrary, a genealogy database, to research your family tree.
    - Research\_Explora offers the full text of high-quality research articles.

<u>El Cerrito Trail Trekkers</u>. The ECTT are dedicated to building, maintaining, publicizing and using the many trails in El Cerrito. You can learn about their activities at <a href="http://ectrailtrekkers.org">http://ectrailtrekkers.org</a> and on their Facebook page.

Sunday, April 11, 10:00-11:00am: Virtual Medicinal Plant Walk. Learn how local plants have been used for centuries for food, medicine and crafts by indigenous people. Led by Alan Siegel, docent at the Tilden Botanical Garden. The Zoom link is: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88204987497?pwd=U">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88204987497?pwd=U</a>

**<u>El Cerrito Art Association</u>**. Check the website for updates about meetings in 2021.

https://elcerritoart.org/our-mission-and-programs/

- Monthly meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm. Meetings will be held on Zoom until further notice.
  - Monday, April 12, 6:30-8:30: Monthly meeting via Zoom. David Savellano, watercolor demonstration.
- Exhibitions:
  - March 17 through July 14: An open exhibit will be in place at the DMV. Five works by each of four artists: Beverly Gilbert, acrylics; Jennifer White, watercolors; Kathy Diehl, photography, and Therese Pipe, photography. With chairs removed, the art work is quite accessible.

**NIAD Art Center**. 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. (510) 620-0290. <a href="http://niadart.org">http://niadart.org</a> The NIAD building is closed, but NIAD is displaying art from its exhibitions in its windows and online. For exhibits in March and April, go to the website home page and click on the exhibit you want.

- May, 2021, Joint Windows Exhibition: Art in Windows 2021, in collaboration with the Richmond Main Street Initiative (RMSI). Jury-selected art by Richmond artists will be displayed in windows at both NIAD and the Richmond Visitors Center at Richmond BART (1600 Nevin Place).
- Online Exhibitions:
  - Kiss----Kiss. Curated by Fanny Singer, author and co-founder of the design brand, *Permanent Collection*. This selection of works by NIAD artists plays on the longing for closeness that we feel during these times of imposed social distancing. The 10 works are best viewed in pairs. <a href="https://niadart.myshopify.com/collections/239">https://niadart.myshopify.com/collections/239</a>
  - True Identity. Curated by Patricia Iglesias Peco, artist. A series of portraits woven together by memory. <a href="https://niadartstore.org/collections/238">https://niadartstore.org/collections/238</a>
  - Playlist: Door to Door. NIAD artist Jean McElvane has created a playlist of songs and cartoons.
     This page contains links to pages where you can hear the playlist and view the cartoons.
     <a href="http://niadart.org/blog/jean-mcelvanes-playlist-door-to-door-let-us-in/">http://niadart.org/blog/jean-mcelvanes-playlist-door-to-door-let-us-in/</a>
  - Costume Store, selected by Ari Banias, poet and affiliate artist at the Marin Headlands Center for the Arts. <a href="https://niadartstore.org/collections/234">https://niadartstore.org/collections/234</a>
  - Win Win 9. This auction in March had a goal of \$30,000 and raised over \$45,000 for the Center.
- April 8 at 6:00pm. Thirsty Thursdays. Join artists and other speakers for online conversations. This
   event is free, but you need to register to receive the link. Check the website to be sure that this event
   is still scheduled. No description was available for the April or May meetings.

Arts of Point Richmond. <a href="https://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.php">https://www.artsofpointrichmond.com/index.php</a> The current project, "Taking It Outdoors" involves making and hanging artistic banners in Point Richmond. The first wave resulted in 28 banners being hung. A second wave has begun, with the goal of adding a dozen more banners. A video of the banner project is being made by Arts California in Auburn. The Richmond Standard says, "locating the artworks while taking a stroll can be an exciting urban adventure, as a number of the pieces are displayed somewhat off the beaten path."

<u>Richmond Art Center</u>. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. (510) 620-6772. The largest visual arts center in the East Bay. While RAC's galleries are closed due to COVID-19, RAC's website is featuring projects that represent how artists are adapting, responding and imagining during this period of COVID-19 self-isolation. Many of these were exhibited in 2020 and are still available on the RAC website. <a href="http://www.richmondartcenter.org">http://www.richmondartcenter.org</a>

- Upcoming online exhibitions:
  - Through May 16: Art of the African Diaspora. This annual exhibition supports artists of African descent in the Bay Area. You can view their work at the RAC site and at <a href="https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/aotad2021/online-exhibition">https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/aotad2021/online-exhibition</a>/. Artists are hosting open studios, open houses and in-person happenings. New events are added weekly. Check the website for events: <a href="https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/aotad2021/artist-events/">https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/aotad2021/artist-events/</a>
  - WCCUSD Student Art Show. For the first time, this will be presented online. Hopefully, the
    entire show will be available in April on the RAC web site. Meanwhile, you can see some student
    art work on Google <u>here</u>. Click on images that are labeled "55th Annual WCCUSD Student Art
    Show", and they should show up at the top right side of the page. Click on the arrows to see more

submissions.

- Classes: Art classes are offered online. https://richmondartcenter.org/class-catalog/
- Arts and Crafts Hub: You can view and, in many cases, purchase art produced by artists associated with the RAC. https://richmondartcenter.org/haf/online/

Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas). 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. (510) 273-9102. El Cerrito's own restored art deco movie theater. https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito The theater is currently closed, although Contra Costa County will soon allow movie theaters to open. Meanwhile, the Cerrito offers a selection of movies for streaming at home for \$10.00-\$20.00 per movie. You can stream the movie on your computer, phone, or on your TV, if you have access to a browser. NOTE that you can now view operas and London plays as well as Oscar nominees, filmed live during performances. Our home-town theater is suffering financially, as government funds have dried up and the theater is still closed. The theater has taken advantage of the absence of customers to replace seats in both theaters and do other repairs and upgrades. In addition to renting these movies and buying popcorn and pizza, you can help by going to the Rialto's GoFundMe page for the Cerrito and Elmwood theaters:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/rialto-cinemas-elmwood-amp-cerrito-need-your-help

- Saturdays, 2:30pm-5:30pm. Popcorn Pickup. Pick up authentic movie theater popcorn for your athome movie night. Also serving pizza, burgers and nachos. Pre-order online or order your food in the theater lobby. https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito&film=2020\_popcorn\_cer
- Virtual Cinema Now Playing: Here is the current list of movies you can watch online through the Rialto website. New movies are added frequently. Descriptions are available online at: https://rialtocinemas.com/index.php?location=cerrito
  - **The Father**, starring Anthony Hopkins. Nominated for 6 Oscars.
  - o *Francesco*, "an unsparing look at the most pressing issues of the 21st Century..." with Pope Francis as our guide.
  - *Minari*. This beloved Korean-American film is about a Korean family that moves fo Arkansas in search of the American Dream. This film will screen once a night for two weeks. Winner of the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film; nominated for 6 Oscars. See the Rialto web-site for viewing instructions.
  - Woinarowicz. Named "one of the best movies of the year" by The New Yorker.
  - Gustav Stickley: American Craftsman. About the American Arts and Crafts movement.
  - Preparations to be Together for an Unknown Period of Time. Hungarian romance.
  - F.T.A. A restored version of the film about the anti-war tour taken by Jane Fonda and Donald Sutherland in 1971.
  - RUTH Justice Ginsburg in her Own Words
  - 'Til Kingdom Come. A "stunning backstory of the Trump and Netanyahu administrations, where financial, political and messianic motivations intersect with the apocalyptic worldview that is insistently reshaping American foreign policy toward...the Middle East."
  - Stray. "Explores what it means to live as a being without status or security", using dogs as an
  - **Brooklyn Castle.** 5 members of a championship chess team at a poverty-level inner city junior high school. The film follows the challenges they face. Includes a post-screening discussion with Soledad O'Brien.
  - Adam. Character-driven film about maternity, friendship, and the position of women in Moroccan society. In Arabic with English subtitles.
  - **Sophie Jones.** A coming-of-age film about a 16-year-old girl trying to grapple with the death of
  - Twilight's Kiss (Suk Suk). A gay romance. In Cantonese with English subtitles.
  - Truth to Power. The story of how Serj Tankian, Grammy-winning lead singer of System Of a Down, pursues social justice.
  - 17 Blocks. Critically-acclaimed documentary about two brothers' living in southeast D.C.
  - *Music*. About an autistic girl and her sister's struggles to care for her. Nominated for 2 Golden Globe awards, including Best Picture.
  - Food Club. Three friends travel to Italy to take a cooking course and learn how to live a more fulfilling life. In Danish with English subtitles.

- A Glitch in the Matrix. Explores the idea that life is actually a simulation and not real.
- o **Two of Us**. Love story about two closeted lesbian women. Golden Globe nominee for best foreign language film. In French.
- Leona. A young Jewish woman battles family and religious pressure to be with the man she loves. In Spanish with English subtitles.
- Softie. Award-winning (Sundance and international festivals, including the 2020 Human Rights Film Festival in Berlin) documentary about a journalist and anti-corruption activist in Kenya who must decide whether to pursue his ideals when his family is threatened.
- Identifying Features. About a woman who has lost contact with her son who left Mexico to cross the border into the U.S.
- Virtual Cinema Coming Attractions: London Musicals, Art Shows and Opera. Many of these are purchased for specific times, just as if you were going to the theater. Check the web site for instructions for viewing.
  - Opens Friday, April 2. Shiva Baby. Critically-acclaimed comedy about the experiences of a Jewish college student while attending a funeral service. Written and directed by Emma Seligman.
  - Opens Friday, April 23. My Wonderful Wanda. Satire of the haves and have-nots, in German with English subtitles. Winner of the Audience Award at the Vancouver International Film Festival.
  - Opens Friday, April 23. 8 Billion Angels. Addresses the conflict between the size of our global population and the sustainability of our planet. Directed by Victor Velle.
  - Wednesday, March 31-Tuesday, April 6, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: National Theater Live: War Horse. The London version won several British awards, and the Broadway version won the Tony Award for Best Play in 2011.
  - Wednesday, April 14-Tuesday, April 20, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: Kinky Boots The Musical. Live from the London Stage.
  - Wednesday, May 12 through Tuesday May 18 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. Live from the London Stage. Directed by the original author of the show, Mark Bramble. Includes crowdpleasing standards including "Lullaby of Broadway" and "We're In the Money".
  - Wednesday, April 7 through Tuesday, April 13, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: *Madame Butterfly*.
     Starring Kristine Opolais and Roberto Alagna.
  - Wednesday April 21 through Tuesday April 27, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: *La Bohème*. Starring Sonya Yoncheva and Michael Fabiano.
  - Wednesday, April 28 through Tuesday May 4, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: Great Art on Screen: Secret Impressionists. The story of the art revolution sparked by the Impressionist movement, including 50 previously unseen works by Manet, Renoir, Monet, Cézanne and other artists, on loan from private collections and currently displayed in Rome's Palazzo Bonaparte.
  - Wednesday May 26 through Tuesday June 1, 10am; 1pm; 4pm; 7pm: Great Art on Screen:
     Hermitage The Power of Art. A cinematic journey through one of the world's most loved, most visited museums. Hosted by Toni Servillo, the film highlights the city of St. Petersburg as well as the museum.
- Oscar Nominated Films: The Cerrito offers the opportunity to see short films nominated for Academy Awards in various categories before the actual Oscar ceremony. See the website for lists of the films nominated in each category.
  - Starting Friday, April 2: Short Films: Animation
  - Starting Friday, April 2: Short Films: Live Action
  - Starting Friday, April 2: Short Films: Documentary

Rosie the Riveter National Historic Park. 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond. (510) 232-5050. The indoor portions of Rosie the Riveter Park are currently closed. National Parks are opening up again, so keep checking back at the RtR website to see when the indoor events reopen. You can view the outdoor Rosie the Riveter Memorial any time. For updates, go to: https://www.nps.gov/rori/index.htm.

Betty Reid Soskin, at 99, the country's oldest serving park ranger, returned to work at RtR in January

2020 after a stroke in 2019. And then COVID struck. We hope to see her back there soon. You can view an inspiring film about her life and service here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcONCVIVCxQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcONCVIVCxQ</a>

<u>Barnes & Noble</u>. El Cerrito Plaza. Barnes and Noble will be holding virtual author events. Check this website to get a complete list.

https://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2113?page=1&size=10&month=Month&day=Day&type=SP

<u>Science@Cal</u>. Some of the public science presentations are available via Zoom. You must register in advance. Check the website for additional presentations later this spring and summer. <a href="https://scienceatcal.berkeley.edu/">https://scienceatcal.berkeley.edu/</a>

- Thursday, April 8, 5:00-6:00pm: **Grounds for Science:** Two lectures. "Representation. In Research" investigates the link between PTSD and heart disease. "The Good Side of Viruses" explores the use of harmless viruses as delivery vehicles for potential therapeutic treatment for a variety of illnesses. <a href="https://events.berkeley.edu/index.php/calendar/sn/SciatCal.html?event\_ID=138740&date=2021-04-08">https://events.berkeley.edu/index.php/calendar/sn/SciatCal.html?event\_ID=138740&date=2021-04-08</a>
- Thursday, April 15, 12:00-1:00pm: Midday Science Café: "Water-Energy Nexus". Details to come on the website.
  - https://events.berkeley.edu/index.php/calendar/sn/SciatCal.html?event\_ID=138308&date=2021-04-15
- Wednesday, April 28, 6:00-7:00pm: Lecture Series: "The Oakland Eco-Block: A Novel Approach to Building Resilient Communities".
  - https://events.berkeley.edu/index.php/calendar/sn/SciatCal.html?event\_ID=138310&date=2021-04-28&filter=Secondary%20Event%20Type&filtersel=