



THE CONNECTION

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 XXXX

NEWSLETTER 2

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2024



MEET OUR 2024 TECH TREK CAMPERS!

Saturday, September 21st, 10:00 a.m.
Christ Lutheran Church
780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito

Our **2024 Tech Trek Program** was successful. We sponsored six WCCUSD middle school girls who attended the residential Camp at Sonoma State University June 23-29. The selected girls are: Nilaya Iyer, Sierra Luna, Skyler Mills, Isabelle Alicia Pagan, Ximena Paz and Makena Tringale. Isabelle is from Mira Vista. The others are from Korematsu. At this meeting, the girls will share their camp experiences. Their talks will include core classes (Aerospace Engineering and Forensics), star gazing, and Build Night.

Roberta Montgomery and Marsha Weintraub, Tech Trek Co-Coordinators

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is so good to be having regular in-person meetings. As always the meeting Saturday, September 21 with our 2024 Tech Trek girls was very special. See write up Page 1. We will continue to use Zoom tied to speaker requirements and our Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month will remain via Zoom. There will be no Board Meeting in October. The **next Board Meeting is Tuesday, November 19, at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

2024-2025 Programs: Meetings have been scheduled for October and November. On **Saturday, October 19, at 10:30 am** the League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa will present the **California November 5 Election Propositions Pros and Cons**. See Page 6. On **Saturday, November 16, at 10:30 am**. We will have a discussion with Sisters in Crime authors Cara Black and Ellen Kitschman.

Proposed 2024-2025 Budget: The proposed budget (See Page 3) was reviewed at the September 24 Board Meeting and will be voted on for approval at the October 19 meeting.

Be sure to check out **Barbara Miller's FALL CULTURE CORNER** starting on Page 7. Thanks for all your support. We are very busy people and have many commitments. I appreciate all you do for the Branch. I enjoy working with such special women.

Roberta Montgomery, President

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATES

The Board decided that we would not print a new Directory. We will continue to use the **2019-2020 Directory with gold cover** that Ellen Mills and her husband Paul printed. Member information updates will be published in the Newsletter. I have extra copies of the 2019-2020 Directory. Let me know if you need one. **Note Diane Ichiyasu and Susan Walenta have new addresses. See below.**

All changes to date:

CORBIN, ROSEMARY **474 Western Drive, Richmond 94801, (510) 520-0404**

DADZIE, MEIGAN **PO Box 7273, Berkeley 94707, greenledger@gmail.com**

ICHIYASU, DIANE **2100 San Pablo Ave Apt 429, Berkeley 94702**

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

SOUTO-MARTINEZ, MARTHA (Marty) **marthasoutomartinez@gmail.com** (not marty)

WALENTA, SUSAN **1100 San Pablo Ave #306, Albany 94706**

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



WEST CONTRA COSTA BRANCH AAUW ----- Proposed Budget 2024 – 2025
Christine Hills and Roberta Montgomery, Treasurers

INCOME:

Carryover:			
Contra Costa College Scholarship		1,205	
Other Scholarship Funds		1,965	
“Let’s Go” Fund		2,510	
	TOTAL Carryover		5,680
Income Carryover			7,867
Memberships: 5 Life Members + 26 @ 16		416	
Donations – Adopt-A-Fund		1,417	
	TOTAL Income		1,833
Other Donations			0
TOTAL Proposed Income and available funds:			15,380

EXPENDITURES:

CA Tax Registry of Charitable Trusts renewal fee		25	
Insurance Assessment		163	
Newsletter and Directory:			
Printing, Postage and Labels		200	
Directory Printing		150	
Program:			
Speakers (5@100)		500	
Hospitality		50	
Rental for Meetings (7@80)		560	
Installation Luncheon		100	
Administration:			
Membership (VP expenses & recruiting)		100	
President & Other Officers (supplies & misc.)		125	
PO Box Rental		245	
Tech-Trek Recruitment, Reception, Printing & Postage		400	
Website		120	
Registration Convention, Conferences		0	
	TOTAL Regular Expenses		2,738
Contra Costa College Scholarship		1,205	
Scholarship Fund (SF)		1,965	
“Let’s Go” Fund		2,510	
	TOTAL Carryover		5,680
Reserve			6,962
TOTAL Expenditures and reserve funds:			15,380

Need to maintain a \$10,000 balance or pay fees

Balance June 30, 2024: \$13,562.68



CALENDAR – MONTHLY EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2024:

CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting: **Saturday, September 14, at 11:00 am** Dr. Julie Beth Zimmerman's talk "*Designing Tomorrow*". See Write-up Page 5.

Meeting: **10:00 am** at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, September 21**, our 2024 Tech Trek Campers shared their experiences at Sonoma State University June 23-29. See write-up Page 1.

Board Meeting: using Zoom **Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

OCTOBER 2024:

Lunch Group: **Tuesday, October 1, at Noon** Little Hong Kong Restaurant, 10443 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito. RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

Meeting: 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, October 19, at 10:30 am** League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa will present the **California November 5 Election Propositions Pros and Cons**. See Page 6.

NOVEMBER 2024:

CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting: **Saturday, November 2, at 11:00 am** Dr. Carolyn Pearce's talk "*Reducing Risk and Uncertainty Associated with Nuclear Waste Processing and Disposal: A Hanford Tank Waste Case Study*".

Lunch Group: **Wednesday, November 6, at Noon** Lama Beans Café, 1290. 6th Street, Berkeley
RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

Meeting: 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, November 16, at 10:30 am**. Sisters in Crime authors Cara Black and Ellen Kirschman.

Board Meeting: using Zoom **Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

SUNSHINE

Know someone who needs a note? Sally Dunham is our Sunshine Chair and will send cards on behalf of our branch. If you know of a member in need of a get well, condolence or congratulations card, contact Sally at (510) 758-4094 or sallydunham1@gmail.com.

HEAR JULIE BETH ZIMMERMAN'S TALK

Designing Tomorrow

The California Section American Chemical Society
Women Chemists Committee

Virtual Meeting
Saturday, September 14, 2024
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 Julie Beth Zimmerman, PhD and her talk is below.

All are welcome! Please visit the CalACS website www.calacs.org to register for this meeting. **Register before Thursday, September 12, 12 noon.** The ZOOM link will be sent out by Brown Paper Tickets on or before the day of the event.

About the Speaker

Dr. Julie Beth Zimmerman is an internationally recognized engineer whose work is focused on advancing innovations in sustainable technologies. Dr. Zimmerman serves as Yale's inaugural Vice Provost for Planetary Solutions. She holds joint appointments as a Professor in the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and School of the Environment at Yale University and serves as the Deputy Director of Center for Green Chemistry & Green Engineering at Yale.

Her pioneering work established the fundamental framework for her field with her seminal publications on the "Twelve Principles of Green Engineering" in 2003. The framework, in conjunction with Green Chemistry, is guiding the innovation of products and processes in academia and industry including her own research group on topics that include breakthroughs for the integrated biorefinery, carbon dioxide valorization, designing safer chemicals and materials, novel materials for water treatment, and analyses of the water-energy nexus. Professor Zimmerman is the co-author of the textbook, *Environmental Engineering: Fundamentals, Sustainability, Design* that is used in the engineering programs at leading universities domestically and abroad. In addition, Dr. Zimmerman is the Editor in Chief for *Environmental Science & Technology*, is a Member of the Connecticut Academy of Sciences, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Abstract

The half-century history of environmental protection is, at best, mixed and the approaches of the past will need to be significantly changed if we are going to realize a sustainable future. While there have been improvements since the 1960's in the most obvious and egregious problems such as air and water pollution in certain parts of the world, these advances have been uneven. The approaches to environmental protection of the past have been marked by characteristics including: 1. A win-lose framework; 2. Reductionist, fragmented, analytic-only thinking; 3. Risk assessment; 4. Narrow metrics of success; and 5. Near-term vision.

The elements of a future approach that would allow for a pathway to sustainability include: 1. Alignment rather than conflict between environment/human health and economic goals; 2. Integrated systems thinking coupled with reductionist analysis; 3. Sustainable design as a goal rather than risk management; 4. Design for a dynamic world; 5. A focus on what to invent, create and innovate rather than simply what to reduce, limit, and minimize; and 6. Addressing inherent nature rather than circumstantial factors.



***** November 5, 2024 Election Day *****

Every registered voter in California will receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Vote-by-mail ballots are mailed on or before October 7. Vote-by-mail ballots can be voted and returned as soon as they are received. Vote-by-mail drop boxes open October 8.

*****SAVE THE DATE*****

Saturday, October 19, 2024

**Christ Lutheran Church
780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito
10:00 a.m. meeting gathering
10:30 a.m. Talk**

California Propositions Pros and Cons

Presented by the League of Woman Voters of West Contra Costa



The **AAUW California Public Policy Committee** has reviewed the 10 propositions that will be on the November 5 ballot and recommends a **YES** vote on the following 4 because of their close alignment with our Public Policy Priorities:

- Proposition 2 – Public Education Facilities Bond Measure (2024)
- Proposition 3 – Constitutional Right to Marriage
- Proposition 4 – Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure
- Proposition 32 – Raises Minimum Wage

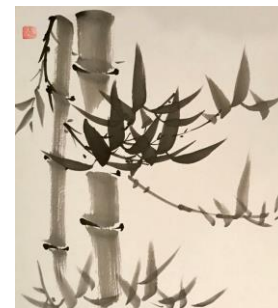
CULTURE CORNER FALL, 2024 By Barbara Miller



*Dionaea, by Abi Mustapha,
Richmond Art Center.*



*Point Pinole Regional Shoreline
EC Trail Trekkers Hike*



*Bamboo with Leaves by
Fumiyo Yoshikawa
Richmond Art Center*

City of El Cerrito. City Hall: 10890 San Pablo Ave., corner of Manila Ave. 510-215-4300.

<https://www.el-cerrito.org/> Many public events are available in person or via ZOOM. Check the city calendar to see when committee meetings are being held: <https://www.el-cerrito.org/Calendar.aspx> For copies of the minutes, agendas, and other information about City Council meetings, click here: <https://www.el-cerrito.org/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials>

- Tuesdays, Sep 17, Oct 1, Oct. 15, and Nov 19, 7:00pm: **City Council Meeting.** In person at City Hall and via Zoom. City council meetings are usually held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and are open to the public. For instructions on streaming the meeting, submitting comments, and other information, go to: <https://el-cerrito.org/DocumentCenter/View/13983/Instructions-for-Public-Comments> For other information on City Council meetings and other municipal meetings, go to: <https://el-cerrito.org/114/City-Council-Meetings> or <https://el-cerrito.org/93/Boards-Commissions>
- Sep 21-27: **United Against Hate Week.** Presented in coordination with the El Cerrito Human Relations Commission. State and local leaders, community members and activists come together for activities that reject hate of any kind and promote working together to build a safer and more equitable world. There are some suggestions for action here: <https://www.unitedagainsthateweek.org/20-ideas-for-action> In El Cerrito, activities include:
 1. Thurs., Sep 26, 6:00-7:00: **Repairing the World: Stories from the Tree of Life.** A free showing of this movie at the Cerrito theater, El Cerrito city officials as well as other Bay Area leaders will be there to discuss the film with the United Against Hate and Not in Our Town film teams.
- Through Dec 13: **El Cerrito Creative Reuse Artist in Residence.** Our current Artist in Residence is painter and graphic designer Mimi Sheiner. You can see her work at the City Hall Gallery Space, Much of her work was completed in or near El Cerrito. Learn more about her here: <https://el-cerrito.org/95/City-Hall-Gallery-Space>
 - Fri., Oct 18, 5:30-7:30pm: **Artist's Reception.** At City Hall.
- Anytime: **Utility Box Artists:** El Cerrito selects local artists to paint scenes on utility boxes around the city. New in 2024 are two decorated boxes on the corner of Ashbury Ave. and Fairmont Ave.: "A Bee's Eye View", depicting how the human and natural worlds are interwoven in EC, and "Flight", honoring native flying animals. This year's artists are El Cerrito High School students. Read about them here: <http://ca-elcerrito2.civicplus.com/1689/2024-Utility-Box-Artists>
- Mon., Oct 21, 7:00pm-8:00pm. **Poetry Circle.** In Hana Gardens Senior Center, 10870 San Pablo Ave. Attend a drop-in poetry circle with El Cerrito Poet Laureate Tess Taylor. Bring a poem of someone else's you admire to read and one of your own if you'd like. There is more information about El Cerrito's current poet laureate at: <https://www.el-cerrito.org/1561/Current-Poet-Laureate>
- Various Dates and Times: **Classes and Activities.** El Cerrito offers a wide variety of classes, both instructor-moderated and self-guided. From learning how to use Microsoft Excel to home renovation to mastering sfoign language, all of us can find something that we need or want to learn about. Many

courses are self-paced. There are also many city-sponsored activities as well as occasional trips. Go to this website for links to all the classes and activities offered: <https://el-cerrito.org/140/Recreation>

NOTE: Signup was in July, so many of these programs have already started. Some are one-time events, some allow you to join any time, and some are drop-in programs, so it is still worth checking them out.

- Saturdays, Sep 7 and 21, Oct 19 and Nov 16: **Compost Giveaway** for El Cerrito residents only, at the upper Cerrito Vista Park, on the Avis Drive side of the park near the tennis courts. All day. Compost is available on the third Saturday of most months. Check the city calendar. For more information, check out: <https://el-cerrito.org/1586/Compost-Giveaway>

Recycling and Environmental Resource Center: The RERC is much more than a recycling center. You can shop for used goods, donate to nonprofit organizations, and dispose of unused sharps and old and broken items. In addition to the usual recyclable items such as paper, glass containers, and some plastic bottles, the RERC accepts some (see website) electronic waste and some hard-to-recycle items, such as automobile batteries, bicycles and bicycle parts, fluorescent tubes and CFLs, textiles and shoes, and used cooking oil. To learn all the services it provides, go to its website:

<https://www.el-cerrito.org/533/Recycling-Environmental-Resource-Center>. You can print out a guide for what they accept for recycling and what to put in your various curbside bins. https://www.el-cerrito.org/DocumentCenter/View/17968/El-Cerrito-Service-Guide-2023_interactive

- First Wednesday of Each Month, 3:00pm: Tours of El Cerrito's Recycling Center are once again available, on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00pm. 7501 Schmidt Lane.

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 online (see below). Become a member and receive *The Forge*, an informative newsletter, by mail; non-members can sign up to receive an email newsletter, *The Sparks*. Or go to their well-maintained and extensive website to learn about the aspects of El Cerrito's history that most interest you.

<https://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/> You can see past newsletters here:

<https://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/newsletter>

- Saturday, Sept 14, 2:00pm: Tour San Pablo's Alvarado Adobe, similar to the Castro Adobe that was once in El Cerrito. The Adobe is in San Pablo, on San Pablo Ave., just north of Church Street. The tour is free.
- Anytime. The ECHS offers a brochure to guide you on a historical walking tour of the commercial El Cerrito. You can print out the brochure from this site: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/17A10MqK-ksz8xrtEqkB5qPZURwvB4dJ/edit> There is a map of the area covered by the tour, with historic sites highlighted, here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OB8nL7Bpo_Y1a80q2zFT7QnXQc5C-GG6/view. For a brochure on the historical and cultural pavers, click here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HA7H0fCfPCt6U_c1nEI7J03Ya1ksRDX/view
- Anytime. Read the book *El Cerrito*, part of the *Images of America* series. You can borrow this book from the Contra Costa Library.

El Cerrito Art Association. The ECAA is a non-profit organization, co-sponsored by the City of El Cerrito, that supports artists with its programs and activities. <https://elcerritoart.org/our-mission-and-programs/> They are not currently holding monthly membership meetings. The Plein Air Group Meets Thursdays at 11:00am for two hours. Locations will be announced here: <https://elcerritoart.org/plein-air-schedule/> <https://elcerritoart.org/plein-air-schedule/>

- Fri.-Sun., Oct 4-6: **Annual Art Show** at the El Cerrito Community Center. This year's theme is EXUBERANCE. The deadline for entering was Sept. 1. For more information, visit this website: <https://elcerritoart.org/artshow/>
 - Fri., Oct 3, 7:00-9:00pm: Artists' Reception.
 - Sat. Oct 5, 11:00am-4:00pm and Sun., Oct. 6, 11:00am-4:00pm: Weekend show hours.
- Nov 13: End of year potluck. Details to come. Check website <https://elcerritoart.org/ecaa-calendar/>

- **Exhibits:** Exhibits of local artists' work can always be seen at the Community Center entryway and the DMV. The current exhibits will be on display until November.

El Cerrito Trail Trekkers. Formed to build, maintain, publicize, and use the little-known urban trails of El Cerrito. ECTT produces a map of EC trails that you can buy at Jenny K's or Pegasus books.

Members get a copy for free. <http://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/>

- **Sun., Sep 15, 9:30am-12:00pm: *Footsteps to the Past: Point Pinole Regional Shoreline.*** Dave Zuckerman leads a 3.5 mile hike in the woods and along the shoreline, exploring the park's past. Meet at the Giant Highway Entrance. <https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/hikes.html>
- **Sat., Oct 5, 1:00pm-3:00pm. *Plant Walking: A Healing Ritual.*** Alan Siegel leads a walk in the Hillside Natural Area designed to help you identify and locate native plants used for healing, food and crafts. Meet at the north end of Regency Court, near 1580 Regency Court. <https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/hikes.html>
- **Anytime: *Discover Hidden Poems in El Cerrito.*** The El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission has worked with the Trail Trekkers to hide 26 poems, along with short biographies of the poets, in containers all around El Cerrito. Our local version of geocaching. Go to the Trekkers website, click on PLACES along the top row and select "Geocaching in El Cerrito". There are three hikes, the first of which features California poets laureate, the second U.S. poets laureate, and the third local poets. The clues on the website for each poem's location are GPS coordinates, so you will need a way to locate these. When you find them, read the poem and then sign and date the logs. <https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/hidden-poetry-gps.html>

El Cerrito and Kensington Libraries. El Cerrito Library: 6510 Stockton Ave. (510) 526-7512.

Kensington Library: 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. (510) 524-3043. The libraries are now open

Tuesday through Saturday. For a list of upcoming online events, check their websites:

<https://ccclib.org/locations/11/> and <https://ccclib.org/locations/13/>.

- **Sat., Sep 7, 10:15am-11:00am: *Storytime with Oaktown Jazz.*** El Cerrito Library. A librarian will read a story, accompanied by the Oaktown Jazz Performance Ensemble. All ages.
- **Any Saturday between Sep 7 and Nov 30, 11:00am-1:00pm: *Digital Docent.*** El Cerrito Library. Computer docents explain some of the library's most useful and most popular computer programs.
- **Sat., Sep 14, 10:30am-12:00pm: *El Cerrito Author Series—Tess Taylor.***
- **Tues., Sep 17, 6:00-7:30pm: *UC Master Gardener Program: Roses.*** Online registration required. Registration closes Sept. 17 at 11:00am. Register here: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/65c548d1db82ef1325eadf31>
- **Thursdays from September 19 through October 24, 6:00pm-7:00pm: *Podcast Essentials Workshop.*** An online event for anyone interest in podcasts: description and access as well as instructions for starting your own. If you are interested, contact Dean Jones at (925) 973-3380 or email him at dean.jones@library.cccounty.us for instructions. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/66aacdb23849bf4100c48ecf>
- **Tuesdays, Oct 8, 15, and 22. 6:00-7:00pm. *Paying for College with Scholarship.*** Kensington Library. In three sessions, Rebecca Lippman will demonstrate that there are college scholarships for everyone and will walk you through the process of applying for them. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/66ce6cf06acf2bbc0019a998>
- **Sat., Oct 12, 10:00am-11:30am: *Nature as Medicine for These Times: Nature-Based Writing Practices.*** El Cerrito Library. Author and artist Rae Diamond discusses turning to nature for support during stressful times. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/665a5d322038232f0089e578>
- **Mon., Oct 21, 6:30pm-7:30pm: *Birds of Bhutan.*** A Zoom event online. "Join award-winning photographer Bob Lewis for a journey to meet the most interesting birds among the 700+ species that live in the small, forested Buddhist nation of Bhutan." To register, go to this page: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/66cfac9d71e2b82800b6b504>
- **Sat., Nov 9, 10:30am-12:00pm: *El Cerrito Library Author Series: Maw Shein Win.***
- **Book Clubs.**
 - **Wednesdays. Sep 18, Oct 16, and Nov 20, 6:30-7:45pm:** El Cerrito Library Mystery Book Club. Check with the library to learn which book will be discussed at each meeting.

- Mondays, Sep 23, 6:30-7:45pm: Kensington Book Club meets in person and on Zoom. Usually the fourth Monday of the month. The September book is: *Kindred*, by Octavia Butler. For instructions for using Zoom, contact the library by phone or email ken@library.cccounty.us
- Thurs., Sep 19, 4:00pm-5:30pm: **Roadmap to Voting**. This webinar by the League of Women Voters is about the voting process, what has been done to improve election integrity and security, what the duties are of election officials and how that affects you. It will discuss the League of Women Voters Vote411.org website and help you use it to keep yourself informed. Register here: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/66ac012842fa12abcec8afb1>
- Tues. Sep 24, 6:00-7:00pm: **Coping in the World We Live in Through Meditation**. With Ajili Hodari, Esq. Via Zoom. Registration required: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/65ff230802859793719dfb7a>
- Thurs., Sep 26, 4:00-5:30pm: **Get the Lowdown on 2024 California Propositions (Pros and Cons)**. Zoom webinar. The League of Women Voters offers explanations of the propositions on the California ballot, including information about major funding sources. Register here with your email: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/66ac026442fa12abcec8afcb> The Zoom information will be sent to you via email 24 hours before the event. There will be closed captioning.
- Tues., Oct 15, 6:00-7:30pm: **Master Gardener Program: Backyard Grapes**. Online. Registration is required. For registration information, go to this website any time after Sep 17 at 7:00pm: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/65c54c500a9fcc22239f7261>
- Tues., Oct 29, 6:00-7:00pm: **Meditation: A Solution to Stress, Anger and Conflict**. Jim Rose will teach you exercises that show you how meditation is a powerful tool for dealing with stress. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/666b66e73849bf4100bce29d>
- Tues., Nov 19, 6:00-7:30pm: **Master Gardener Program: Pruning Trees and Ornamentals**. Online. Registration is required. For registration information, go to this website any time after Oct 15 at 7:00pm: <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/65c54cdb0a9fcc22239f7272>

Blake Garden: 70 Rincon Road, Kensington. 510.524.2449. Blake Garden is an outdoor teaching and research laboratory for [the Department of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning](#). To learn more and read about the garden's history, go to: <https://ced.berkeley.edu/about-ced/our-spaces/blake-garden>

- Thursdays., Sep 12, Oct 10, and Nov 7, 2:00-3:00pm: Tour of the garden, led by garden manager Kathryn Lincoln. It includes a discussion of the garden's history, and highlights projects built by Berkeley professors and landscape architecture students — including a living wall, blackberry tunnel, and a bee hotel. These tours are given on the second Thursday of every month. To register, email: blakegarden@berkeley.edu.

El Cerrito Natural Grocery Annex: This music series supports local musicians. Sessions are usually held every Wednesday, 6:00-8:30pm. You can find out who will be performing by checking this website: <https://naturalgrocery.com/events/> The events are free, but you are encouraged to order food and beverages and donate to the costs of the event.

NIAD Art Center. 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. 510-620-0290. <http://niadart.org> NIAD is a progressive art studio for adult artists with developmental disabilities. Listed here are upcoming events. Many exhibitions are available for viewing online. The website also introduces NIAD artistic exhibits elsewhere in the Bay Area, especially at local universities. <https://niadartstore.org/collections>

- Sat., Sep 14, 1:00-4:00pm: **The Way We Are, Now**. Runway Fashion Show. All galleries at the NIAD Art Center. An exhibition and runway event showcasing the latest designs from NIAD's popular Fashion Class. The runway event will feature dance, opera, and spoken word performances before artists present their creations on the catwalk. https://niadart.org/event/the-way-we-are-now/?mc_cid=c40593853f&mc_eid=6ce61b3921
- Through Oct. 24: **Rooted in Richmond**. At the office of Mayor Eduardo Martinez, 450 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 300, Richmond. This collection is part of the Richmond-wide celebration, *We Make Art in Richmond* and highlights some of the NIAD artists.

Richmond Art Center. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. Online exhibits are often available for viewing past their end date. <https://richmondartcenter.org/>

- September 4 through November 21: Upcoming Exhibitions
 - **Right Here, Right Now: A Biennial of Richmond Art.** Main gallery. Features new work by seven Richmond artists who were encouraged to expand their artistic practices. The resulting exhibition offers a creative lens on Richmond and the Bay Area's history, environment, and the experiences of its vibrant communities. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/right-here-right-now-a-biennial-of-richmond-art/>
 - **Sentinels and Saviors: Iconic Avatars.** South Gallery. Artists Joell Jones and Kim Thoman. Jones' pictures explore the unconscious; Thoman's abstract steel figures are based on the Chinese Terracotta Warriors, representing protective warriors. Together, these bodies of work serve as iconic avatars, encouraging viewers to pay closer attention to themselves, their thoughts, and their feelings. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/sentinels-saviors/>
 - **Abi Mustapha: Recent Work.** West Gallery. "A fusion of contemporary portraiture and vibrant blooming flora", to demonstrate "the magic of our interconnectedness and complexity." <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/abi-mustapha/>
 - **The Art of Sumi-e,** Community Gallery. Japanese ink brush painting by students in the class of Fumiyo Yoshikawa. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/the-art-of-sumi-e/>
- Sat., Sep 7, 1:00-3:00pm: Reception for Right Here, Right Now, Sentinels and Saviors, Abi Mustapha, and The Art of Sumi-e
- Fri., Sep 20, 5:00-8:00pm: Sunset Social for Right Here, Right Now. Richmond Art Center. Meet the artists, enjoy a Richmond-themed art project, and more. Cocktails and snacks will be available. <https://richmondartcenter.org/events/right-here-right-now-sunset-social/>
- Sat. Oct 5, from 1:00 to closing: Gallery Walkthrough for Sentinels and Saviors, Iconic Avatars. The artists will lead a tour through their work.
- Sat. Oct 19, 12:00-3:00pm: Fall Family Day: Dia de Los Muertos. Art-making activities, music, and a live performance by Danza Azteca Teokalli. Free. Includes a "Make Your Own Avatar" activity with Joell Jones and Kim Thoman. <https://richmondartcenter.org/events/fall-family-day-10-19-24/>

Riggers Loft. A commercial restaurant on the Richmond waterfront that offers excellent local music: jazz, blues, and popular local groups of all kinds, including guitar and vocal. See their upcoming events here: <https://riggerloftwine.com/richmond-riggers-loft-calendar>

Contra Costa Civic Theatre. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9012. ccct.org. A non-profit community theater that provides high-quality plays, acting classes and summer drama camps.

- Sep 7, 12, 14, 15, 20, 21: Hamlet. Directed by Joel Roster. For times and actors, see webpage: <https://us.patronbase.com/ContraCostaCivicTheatre/Productions/M001/Performances>
- Sep 8, 13, 14, 19, 21 and 22: Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead. Directed by Joel Roster. <https://us.patronbase.com/ContraCostaCivicTheatre/Productions/M002/Performances>
- Sat., Nov 23, 24, 29, 30, and Dec. 1 and 5. Doctor Dolittle: A New Musical. Join the doctor as he searches for the Great Pink Sea Snail--the wisest of all Earth's creatures. Book, music and lyrics by Leslie Bricusse. A fusion of puppeteering and live action. Presented in special arrangement with Music Theatre International, Inc. <https://us.patronbase.com/ContraCostaCivicTheatre/Productions/M003/Performances>

Masquers Playhouse. 105 Park Place, Richmond, CA. 510-232-3888. A nonprofit community theater in Point Richmond. Unless otherwise indicated, Friday and Saturday shows are at 8:00pm and Sunday shows are at 2:00pm. <https://www.masquers.org/> In addition to a 5-show season, the Masquers offers children's classes and produces short-run pieces that are not appropriate for the regular season.

- Weekends of Sept 6, Sep 13, Sep 20 and Sep 27. Also, a special \$15 night on Thurs., Sep 12 at 8:00pm. God of Carnage. Written by Yasmina Reza. Directed by Chris Rubiingh. "When one boy injures another in a playground incident, their parents get together to discuss the situation "in a civilized manner." What begins as a well-mannered meeting soon degenerates into chaos in this 2009 Tony Award Winner Best Play and Laurence Olivier Best Comedy Award." <https://www.masquers.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/masquers-god-of-carnage-program.pdf>

- Sep 19, after the performance. **Talk Back with Cast and Production Team.**
- Weekends of Oct 11 and Oct 18. **Loose Knit.** This play uses a series of blind dates to define what men and women want these days. <https://www.masquers.org/loose-knit/>
- Weekends, Nov 15 though Dec 8: **The 39 Steps**, adapted by Patrick Barlow; directed by John Maio. “,,a unique theatrical experience, equal parts farce, clowning, and noir thrills, this wonderful comedy features four actors playing 139 roles with fast-paced action and riotous invention.” <https://www.masquers.org/the-39-steps/>

Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas). 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-273-9102. El Cerrito's own restored art deco movie theater. Masks are strongly encouraged and up-to-date vaccinations are desired. To see a list of current and upcoming offerings, visit: <https://rialtocinemas.com/cerrito/>

- National Theatre Live. London plays filmed during a live performance. You can purchase tickets here: <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/rialtocinemaserrito/2629>
 - Wed., Sep 4 and Thurs., Oct. 17, 7:00pm: **Present Laughter**, by Noel Coward. Directed by Matthew Warchus. Starring Andrew Scott; “a giddy and surprisingly modern reflection on fame, desire and loneliness.” NOTE: Good seats are only available on Oct. 17. <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/rialtocinemaserrito/2629/event/1396339>
 - Mon., Sep 16 and Wed., Sep 25: **Prima Facie.** A new play by Suzie Miller, directed by Justin Martin, starring Jodie Comer.. A “solo tour de force” about a young woman facing a sexual assault situation where emotion and experience collide with the rules of the game. Jodie Comer received outstanding reviews for this performance. <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/rialtocinemaserrito/2629/event/1391605>
- **Exhibition:** Thurs., Nov. 14, 1:00pm: **Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers.** At London's National Gallery. A look at Van Gogh's time in the south of France, where he revolutionized his style. <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/rialtocinemaserrito/2629/event/1391537>
- **Cerrito Classics.** Classic movies from the mid-1900s, and one from 2000. For a list of upcoming classics and their trailers, visit: <https://rialtocinemas.com/coming-soon-cer/big-screen-classics-cer/> These are FREE.
 - Thurs., Sep 12, 1:00pm: **GIANT.** 1956. Starring Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor, James Dean.
 - Thurs., Oct 10, 1:00pm: **Wait Until Dark.** 1967. Psychological thriller. Starring Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, and Efram Zimbalist Jr. Both Hepburn and Zimbalist were nominated for Oscars for their performances.
 - Thurs., Nov 7, 1:00pm: **Nobody's Fool.** 1994. Comedy-drama. Written and directed by Robert Benton. Starring Paul Newman, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Bruce Willis. Newman was nominated for an Oscar, a Golden Globe, and a Screen Actors Guild Award. Benton earned an Oscar nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay.

Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. This is one of the many programs offered by the UUCB. Check the calendar for additional musical performances, discussion groups, and writing groups: <https://uucb.org/the-week-ahead-at-uucb/church-calendar-2/>

- Sun., Sep 8, 3:00-4:30pm: **12 Pieces for Organ Recital.** John Pavlik, a local organist, will perform Theodore Dubois' lively and colorful piece. Free. <https://uucb.org/events/12-pieces-for-organ-recital/>

Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historic Park. 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000, Richmond. 510-232-5050. This park was established to tell the story of the people, largely women and minorities, who provided the labor at home to support our effort in World War II. Richmond had 55 different war industries, including the Kaiser Shipyards which produced 747 ships. You can find suggestions for a self-guided tour of the facility here:

https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/things2do.htm#Park_Films

For a map of the various things to do at the park, including the Red Oak Victory Ship, click here:

<https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/maps.htm>

NOTE: Check the website or call before you go to a scheduled event to be sure it is being held. The visitor center may still be on a modified schedule, open only Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 5pm. If the above phone number doesn't work, call 925-812-6164.

<https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/calendar.htm>

- Fridays, through Dec 27, 10:30-11:30am and 11:30am-12:30. **Meet the Rosies.** Women who were actual “Rosies” discuss their experiences. Since these women are now well into their 90s, the park cannot guarantee that they will be able to appear on any specific day. If there are no Rosies available, a park docent will lead a program discussing the Rosies and their importance. No reservation required.
- Fridays, through Dec 27, 2:00-3:00pm. **Blossoms and Thorns.** Film and discussion. The film is about the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during WW II. Jim Oshima will share his family story and answer questions. No reservation required.
- Wednesdays, through 2026, 11:30am-12:00pm and 1:30pm-2:00pm. **Port Chicago Film and Discussion.** A short film on the largest home front disaster of WW II, followed by an insightful discussion with docent Diana King. No reservation required.

Red Oak Victory Ship. 1337 Canal Blvd Berth 5, Richmond. A map showing the ship’s location is here: <https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/maps.htm> The Red Oak is the last surviving ship built at the Richmond shipyards. Holiday and other events are held aboard the ship. The ship is open to visitors from 10:00am to 4:00pm every Sunday for tours, with or without a docent escort, through November 3. NOTE: Boarding the Red Oak requires negotiating a gangway and interior steps.

<https://redoakvictory.us/>

- **Red Oak Victory Ship Film Series.** No films are scheduled for this fall.
- Sun., Sep 15: 9:00am-1:00pm: **Tiki Pancake Breakfast.** With live music by the Alcatraz Islanders. If you pay extra, you can have a docent-led tour of the ship included in your visit. Purchase tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tiki-pancake-breakfast-on-red-oak-victory-tickets-998517632117>
NOTE: Tickets often sell out early.