

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 5 MARCH-APRIL 2025

COME MEET BONNIE CHERRY, AAUW FUND SCHOLAR



Saturday, March 15, 2025

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

About Me - Bonnie Cherry:

I am a PhD candidate in Jurisprudence and Social Policy at UC Berkeley School of Law.

My work explores the martial origins (and persisting militaristic dimensions) of the administrative state, and how the management of Indian affairs shaped civilian administrative policies and enforcement mechanisms from the earliest days of the nation.

My dissertation explores how extraordinary security measures taken against Native peoples and their lands inspired administrative law and organizational practices, which in turn informed broader security policies. It also foregrounds the agency of Tribal nations, and methods by which Tribal nations either resisted or actively engaged with this process.

Gloria Merrill, Program Co-Chair

President Roberta Montgomery (510) 237-5293 rim2343@sbcglobal.net	Co-Membership VPs Mimi Fruehan 527-7178 mimifru@aol.com Judy Sam 527-1661 Jssam47@yahoo.com Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com	Tech Trek Co-Chairs Roberta Montgomery (510) 237-5293 rjm2343@sbcglobal.net Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 marsha.weintraub@gmail.com	Co-Program VPs Maria LaForge 527-4378 d.laforge@sbcglobal.net Gloria Merrill 527-2681 cudaviol@yahoo.com
AAUW Fund VP Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 barbvaughan@mac.com	Secretary Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 marsha.weintraub@gmail.com	Newsletter Editor	Sunshine Chair Sally Dunham, 758-4094 sallydunham1@gmail.com
Hospitality Chair Sally Dunham, 758-4094 sallydunham1@gmail.com	Website Manager Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 barbvaughan@mac.com	Treasurer Christine Hills 734-6505 chills627@gmail.com Roberta Montgomery	Bylaws, Policies & Procedures (Governance)
		rjm2343@sbcglobal.net	Marilynn Bracelin,)223-4057 bracelins14@gmail.com
Community/Cultural Barbara Miller 526-4874 bmil@mac.com	Contra Costa College Relations		



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We continued with our 2024-2025 Programs (See list Page 3). On **Saturday, March 15, Bonnie Cherry**, an AAUW Fund Scholar, was to talk. She is researching law, organizations and security in Indian Country as a UC Berkeley PhD Candidate in Law. See write-up Page 1. And on **Saturday, April 26, Tess Taylor**, El Cerrito's current Poet Laureate, was to discuss the Poetry Program she has developed at El Cerrito High School and a Community Literary Series as well as her poetry. See write-up Page 5. Unfortunately Bonnie Cherry developed COVID and wasn't able to speak March 15. And Tess Taylor had to cancel her April 26 talk because of a family emergency. We hope to reschedule both talks.

Our Board meetings at 2:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month remain via Zoom. The last Board Meeting for the year was April 22. Our first Board Meeting after the summer break will be August 26.

I want to welcome new Member, Genoveva Calloway, who attended our October meeting with the League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa. Her contact information is with the Membership Directory Update 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



2025 Tech Trek Program: In November we requested 6 camper spots at Sonoma. Six was the maximum number of campers each branch could have at each residential camp. We also felt that six was most likely the number of campers we could select since we are still redeveloping relationships with the west county schools. We were **allocated 6 camperships at Sonoma's June 22-28 camp**. The cost per camper is \$1,300. We have enough money to cover the costs. We completed the MOU. We are currently getting nominations from teachers at Korematsu and Mira Vista. We were not able to get a contact at any other WCCUSD middle school.

Roberta Montgomery Tech Trek Coordinator

2024-2025 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

All meetings are at 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church, 780 Ashbury (at Stockton), El Cerrito. The talk starts at 10:30 am.

September 21, 2024

Our six WCCUSD middle school girls who attended the Tech Trek STEM residential Camp at Sonoma State University June 23-29, shared their camp experiences.

October 19, 2024

The League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa presented the California November 5 Election Propositions Pros and Cons.

November 16, 2024

Sisters in Crime mystery writer Ellen Kirschman talked about her new book and shared her unique and fascinating path to writing mysteries.

December 14, 2024 2-4 pm

Holiday Party at the home of Judy and Floyd Sam. Books and donations were collected for the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program and the Grant Birthday Book Project.

January 18, 2025

Emily Corwin spoke on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) in Richmond.

February 15, 2025

Crystal Merrill, Executive Director of the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program, explored how the joy and love of learning is fostered in children through the Program's reading and storytelling.

March 15, 2025

Bonnie Cherry, an AAUW Fund Scholar, is researching law, organizations and security in Indian Country as a UC Berkeley PhD Candidate in Law.

April 26, 2025

Tess Taylor, El Cerrito's current Poet Laureate, will discuss the Poetry Program she has developed at El Cerrito High School and a Community Literary Series as well as her poetry.

May 17, 2025 11:30 am

End-of-Year Luncheon Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza.



CALENDAR - MONTHLY EVENTS

MARCH 2025:

<u>Meeting:</u> 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, March 15, at 10:30 am Bonnie Cherry**, an AAUW Fund Scholar, will talk. She is researching law, organizations and security in Indian Country as a UC Berkeley PhD Candidate in Law. See write-up Page 1.

<u>Lunch Group:</u> Tuesday, March 18 at 12 noon at Suzette Crêpes Cafe, 1226 Solano Ave. in Albany. RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

APRIL 2025:

<u>Meeting:</u> 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, April 26, at 10:30 am Tess Taylor,** El Cerrito's current Poet Laureate, will discuss the Poetry Program she has developed at El Cerrito High School and a Community Literary Series as well as her poetry. See write-up Page 5.

Board Meeting: using Zoom **Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

MAY 2025:

<u>CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting:</u> Saturday, May 10, at 11:00 am Natalie McClure's talk: "From the Laboratory to the Market Place: The Development of a New Drug". See write-up Page 6.

End-of-Year Luncheon: Saturday, May 17 11:30 Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza

JUNE 2025:

Tech Trek Reception/Orientation: Saturday, June 7 2:30-4:30 El Cerrito Denny's

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

End-of-Year Luncheon

Saturday, May 17th, 2025, 11:30 am

Romano's Macaroni Grill - El Cerrito Plaza

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, MEETING <u>CANCELLED</u>. Tess Taylor had to cancel her talk because of an emergency family matter

COME MEET TESS TAYLOR, EL CERRITO'S POET LAUREATE

Saturday, April 26, 2025

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

Tess Taylor, El Cerrito's current Poet Laureate, will discuss the Poetry Program she has developed at El Cerrito High School and a Community Literary Series as well as her poetry. Her bio follows:

Tess Taylor's body of work deals with place, ecology, memory and cultural reckoning. She has published five poetry collections: The Misremembered World, The Forage House, Last West: Roadsongs for Dorothea Lange, and Rift Zone, one of the Boston Globe's best books of 2020, and Work & Days, one of the NY Times best poetry books of 2016. Herwork as appears in Harper's Magazine, The Atlantic, The Kenyon Review, Poetry, Tin House, The Times Literary Supplement, CNN, and The New York Times. She has taught widely, from UC Berkeley to Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She served as on-air poetry reviewer for NPR's All Things Considered for over a decade. In 2023 Taylor published Leaning Toward Light: Poems for Gardens and the Hands that Tend Them, a collection of contemporary gardening poems for an era of climate crisis. In 2024, Taylor was awarded an Academy of American Poets' Poet Laureate Fellowship to support her work as Poet Laureate of El Cerrito, California, where she built an ambitious program for poetry in the public schools. A staged adaptation of her book of poems about American photographer Dorothea Lange will launch at the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art in 2025. Her next book, Come Bite, is out from Milkweed Press in 2026. She lives and gardens in El Cerrito.

Maria LaForge, Program Co-Chair

HEAR NATALIE McCLURE'S TALK

From the Laboratory to the Market Place: The Development of a New Drug

The California Section American Chemical Society
Women Chemists Committee

Virtual Meeting
Saturday, May 10, 2025
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 Natalie McClure, 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, May 8, 12 noon.** The ZOOM link will be sent out by Brown Paper Tickets on or before the day of the event.

About the Speaker

Natalie McClure is a regulatory affairs consultant with extensive experience in drug development, regulatory affairs and quality assurance. She obtained a BS in Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1974 followed by a PhD in Organic Chemistry from Stanford University in 1979. She started her career at Syntex Research, working in the process development laboratories on new synthetic approaches to prostaglandin and large-scale peptide synthesis and then changed career direction to drug regulatory affairs.

Over the past 40 years, she has worked at several different companies, big and small, as an individual contributor and executive, and helped get over 6 drugs approved for marketing. She has filed more than 50 INDs (Investigational New Drugs), orphan drug applications and conducted many pre-IND meetings with the FDA. Natalie is an instructor at St Mary's University and the UC Berkeley Extension program offering several courses in drug development and regulatory affairs. Natalie is also very active in the American Chemical Society serving as chair and councilor of the Silicon Valley local section.

Abstract

Drug development requires a delicate balance between innovation, efficacy, safety, and regulatory compliance. This talk will explore the multifaceted process of bringing a new drug from the laboratory to the market, focusing on the critical role of regulatory affairs in ensuring patient safety and product quality. We will examine the key stages of drug development, including preclinical studies, clinical trials, and risk-benefit analysis. We will also discuss how to interpret the package insert. We will discuss how drug developers can work with the FDA to bring the new drug to the market.



MARIANNE SELPH

I am sorry to report that **Marianne ("M") Selph** passed away on September 9 2024. M was an active member for over 18 years. She is our Public Policy Officer and regularly attended our Zoom Board meetings. She will be missed.

CAROLYN LINNARD

We were notified by **Carolyn Linnard**'s son, Garth Tissot, that she had passed away on September 3, 2023. He said AAUW was very dear to her. Carolyn was an AAUW 50 year member.

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. **New member, Genoveva Calloway's contact information is listed below.**

All changes to date:

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

CALLOWAY, GENOVEVA (510) 384-6555 1529 Costa Ave., San Pablo 94806 genovevacalloway68@gmail.com

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

ICHIYASU, DIANE 2100 San Pablo Ave Apt 416, 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)

Roberta Montgomery. President

CULTURE CORNER MARCH-APRIL 2025 By Barbara Miller







From Art of the African Diaspora EC City Hall

a Subject of Historical Society Book Group and Trail Trekkers Walk

"Little Sister" by Relena Valenzuela WCCUSD Student Art Show

<u>City of El Cerrito</u>. City Hall: 10890 San Pablo Ave. 510-215-4300. https://www.el-cerrito.org/
Many public events are available to attend in person or via ZOOM. Check the city calendar to see when city committee meetings are being held: https://www.el-cerrito.org/Calendar.aspx For copies of the minutes, agendas, and other information about meetings of city boards and commissions, click here: https://www.el-cerrito.org/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials.

- Tuesdays, Mar 4, Mar 18, Apr 1, Apr 15, 7:00pm: City Council Meeting. City council meetings are usually held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and are open to the public. They are broadcast on cable TV channel 28, KCRT. They are also broadcast live online at: www.el-cerrito.org/CouncilMeetingMaterials. You can get closed caption when you log in. For instructions on submitting comments and other information, go to: https://www.el-cerrito.org/DocumentCenter/View/13983/Instructions-for-Public-Comments
 For other information on City Council meetings and Municipal Services Corporation meetings, go to: https://el-cerrito.org/114/City-Council-Meetings
- Through March 31: Art of the African Diaspora. In the City Hall Gallery Space, above the lobby of City Hall. This exhibit celebrates Black History Month by showcasing a collection of artworks by local artists. https://el-cerrito.org/95/City-Hall-Gallery-Space
- Saturday, March 8, 6:00pm: Crab Feed. At the Community Center (7007 Moeser). This annual event is a city fund raiser for the David Hunter Scholarship Fund. For \$80 per person (\$70 for early bird tickets), it offers generous servings of fresh crab, bread, pasta, salad and dessert, and drinks for purchase. For \$25, children ages 3-10 will be fed and supervised at the nearby Portola Clubhouse. To buy tickets in advance and save \$10, go to: www.el-cerrito.org/onlinereg NOTE: This event is currently sold out, but there may be additional tickets available later, so keep checking the website.
- Saturday, March 29, 6:00-8:00pm: Line Dance Party. At the Community Center (7007 Moeser). Adults over 18 can enjoy dancing to many kinds of music including old school, new school, R&B, and country music. Refreshments are available. Tickets must be purchased in advance, at the Community Center office or online: www.el-cerrito.org/onlinereg
- Saturday, April 19: Earth Day. El Cerrito residents celebrate Earth Day by volunteering to participate in activities to clean up the city and prevent pollution. To register, email earthday@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us with details on the site location and type of work you wish to do. Or select a work activity from the list of work parties at the city's Earth Day website: El-cerrito.org/EarthDay. The city has additional smaller-scale cleanup programs on the following dates: Sun., March 2 and Sun April 6 (Baxter Creek Gateway Park Volunteer Day); Sun. March 16 (Southern San Pablo Ave);
- Saturday, April 26, 11:00am-3:00pm: GO GREEN Mobility Fair. Meet at the El Cerrito Plaza BART north parking lot. El Cerrito joins Berkeley and BART for an event to inform residents about how the

- region is transforming streets into safe spaces that bring neighbors together, improve our air quality, and connect Bay Area communities. There will be games, music, food, a family cycling workshop & much more! You will get a chance to talk to community planners. Also described at: *El-cerrito.org/EarthDay*. To participate in the family cycling workshop, you must register in advance here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/family-cycling-workshop-tickets-1255822441729
- Various Dates and Times: Classes and Activities. El Cerrito makes available hundreds of self-guided courses. The current programs have already started and continue through May. The city will send you a brochure about the summer-fall programs in the mail. To look up and register for programs online, go to: el-cerrito.org/onlinereg
- Always: City Beautification Program. El Cerrito offers several art programs. Here are a few:
 - Utility Box Public Art. Community artists have painted many utility boxes in El Cerrito, often with social themes. Each year, the city calls for new artists to paint more such boxes. This program is sponsored by the El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission. See descriptions of some of the 2024 utility box art here: https://el-cerrito.org/1689/2024-Utility-Box-Artists
 - Wind Sculptures. You may have noticed the sculptures onn light poles along San Pablo Ave. These are part of the city's streetscape project designed to enhance and enliven San Pablo Ave. You can download a flyer giving the locations of all 12 sculptures here: https://www.el-cerrito.org/DocumentCenter/View/3056/art-walk-flyer?bidld=
 - Poet Laureate Program. El Cerrito supports a city poet laureate whose job is to create and lead activities that will raise the status of poetry in the everyday consciousness of local residents and inspire writing and performance of poetry among all age groups. Our current poet laureate is Tess Taylor. https://www.tess-taylor.com/poet-laureate-project. In 2024, Tess was named a Poet Laureate by the Academy of American Poets for her literary excellence and community engagement.

Poetry Events:

- <u>Saturday, March 15, 4:30pm-8:00pm</u>, *Intergenerational Poetry Workshop*. in the Community Center Garden Room. The first two hours involve a poetry workshop with Tongo Eisen-Martin, the current poet laureate of San Francisco. From 6:30 to 8:00pm, El Cerrito will host a *Bay Area All-Star Reading* with Maw Shein Win, Bob Hass, Tongo Eisen-Martin and Brenda Hillman. Eisen-Martin's book, *Blood on the Fog* was named Best Poetry Book of 2021 by Elisa Gabbert of the *New York Times*.
- <u>Sometime in April</u>: El Cerrito will schedule a special poetry month reading. Check the Tess Taylor page for details in a few weeks. https://www.tess-taylor.com/poet-laureate-project
- Friday and Saturday, May 2, 5:00pm-8:00pm and May 3, 11;00am-3:00pm: Youth Poetry Festival and Year-End Celebration. In the El Cerrito High School auditorium, 540 Ashbury Ave. Fun games and readings are planned for this festival—the first youth poetry festival held in El Cerrito. Again, check Tess Taylor's web page in April for details.

<u>El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission</u>. The ECACC is a city organization whose purpose is to provide a flourishing arts and culture environment in the city. It promotes arts programs and informs the city about the needs of the artistic and cultural community. https://el-cerrito.org/649/Arts-Culture-Commission. The commission shows members' work at the El Cerrito Community Center and at the El Cerrito DMV. These art works are for sale. A new exhibit at the Community Center will begin in early March. The DMV is to be remodeled, so we have no dates for the next exhibit there.

- Monday, March 24, Monthly meeting. Meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month. For information, go to: https://el-cerrito.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/7888
- 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 parks in El Cerrito. Descriptions of the poems and instructions for finding them are at the Trail Trekkers website. https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/hidden-poetry-qps.html Locations are shown using geographic coordinates. For more details, see Trail Trekkers information, below.

El Cerrito Trail Trekkers. Formed to build, maintain, publicize, and use the little-known urban trails of El Cerrito. http://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/ ECTT produces a map of EC trails that you can buy at Jenny K's or Pegasus books. You can find a list of paths, trails and public stairways in El Cerrito here:

https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/trails-list.html
ECTT occasionally leads hikes to explore our local trails. For more details about upcoming hikes and summaries of previous hikes, go to:

https://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/2025-hikes.html

- Wednesday, March 19, 6:00pm: Madera Open Space Tenth Anniversary hike. The city acquired Madera Open Space, 7.5 acres in the Hillside Natural Area, on March 19, 2014, thanks to the effort of Trekkers, the El Cerrito High School Mountain Biking Team, the Trust for Public Land, and dozens of volunteers and donors. It connects the two sides of the Hillside Natural Area, making loop hikes possible. On the hike you will see native flowers, a riparian corridor along a year-round creek, oak forest, and, of course, an incomparable view. Meet by the donor-honoring sign, just below the stairs to the open space from Madera Circle, with the trailhead between 1552 and 1560 Madera Circle. This is a hilly walk.
- Saturday, April 5, 1:00-3:00pm: Harem Scare Walk: El Cerrito History Through the Eyes of a Local Author. Co-sponsored with the El Cerrito Historical Society, For a description of the book and the walk, see the historical society entry below.
- Saturday, April 26, 10:00am-1:00pm: Bioblitz 2025. Explore, discover, and learn about the biodiversity of the Hillside Natural Area. This BioBlitz event is part of the 2025 City Nature Challenge, a global friendly competition among cities to make the most observations of their local plants and wildlife April 25-28. It helps (1) El Cerrito's planning to manage and conserve the HNA while making it more fire resilient, (2) the SF Bay Area's stats and rank in the CNC global competition, and (3) scientists more broadly to understand biodiversity and the effects of climate change. Wildlife experts will be on hand to help us explore. Meet at the trailhead at the end of Regency Court (1590 Regency Court on a map.) For the best experience, install the iNaturalist app on your device and create an account. https://www.inaturalist.org/
- 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. 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-aps.html

El Cerrito Historical Society. NOTE: 2025 marks the 50th anniversary of the EC 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 their newsletter *The Forge* 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, March 29, 2:00-3:00pm: Book Group. Harem Scarem in El Cerrito: The Life of a Little Girl Growing up in El Cerrito, California. At the Kensington Public Library. The book group will discuss Neva Carpenter's memoir about growing up in El Cerrito in the 1930s and 1940s. The book is out of print, but you can download it here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/171ec4-pXQ2vMAYwyrOI7NmWshvP7nx9Z/view?pli=1 The book has 122 pages. To help you decide whether to read it, check out the summary on page 122 at the above URL. At the end of the book is a list of characters—friends and family--and a few other items of interest, even if you don't read the book: a list of candies kids ate in those days; a list of "old time radio programs we listened to", etc.

•

- Saturday, April 5, 1:00-3:00pm: Harem Scarem Walk: El Cerrito History Through the Eyes of a Local Author. Meet at the southwest corner of Fairmount Ave. and Pomona Ave. to join a guided walk led by Barbara Lass and Meredith McGuire that highlights the places Neva Calvert discusses in her book, described above. This is a 3-mile tour at an easy pace on level ground, with one short optional climb. You do not have to read the book to enjoy the tour. Co-sponsored by the El Cerrito Trail Trekkers. https://www.elcerritohistoricalsociety.org/societyevents/harem-scarem-walk
- Thursday, April 10, 7:00pm-9:00pm: The History of Point Isabel: A Talk by Mary Barnsdale. At the Hana Gardens Senior Center, 10870 San Pablo Ave. Ms. Barnsdale is writing a book about the history of this park.
- 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-ksz8xrtEgkB5qPZURwyvB4dJ/view. There is a map of the area covered by the tour, with historic sites highlighted, here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/10B8nL7Bpo_Y1a80g2zFT7QnXQc5C-GG6/view
- Anytime. Read the book El Cerrito, part of the Images of America series. You can borrow this book from the Contra Costa Library or purchase it from the Amazon.
- Anytime. Read the El Cerrito Historic Context Statement draft online to learn about the fascinating history of our city. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1s8RzEnFkgCe-Z3ivz1dfrajF3IGwsPkT/view

<u>El Cerrito Art Association</u>. <u>https://elcerritoart.org/</u> The ECAA is a volunteer organization, co-sponsored by the City of El Cerrito, that supports local artists. Their main activity is an exhibition every October where local artists can display their work and compete for awards.

- Plein Air Outings. The ECAA sponsors a painting event every Thursday, 11:00am-1:00pm. It selects locales where members and guests can paint outdoors in a group. For upcoming locations, go to: https://elcerritoart.org/plein-air-schedule/
- Social Meetings: An opportunity for local artists to meet one another. Artists are asked to bring food and an example of their work. There is currently no regular schedule for these meetings. To find out when the next meeting will be held, go to: https://elcerritoart.org/meeting-news/

<u>El Cerrito and Kensington Libraries</u>. <u>El Cerrito Library</u>: 6510 Stockton Ave. (510) 526-7512. Kensington Library: 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. (510) 524-3043. The libraries are now open Tuesday through Saturday. Each library has its own book club. For information on facilities, hours and upcoming online events, check their websites: https://ccclib.org/locations/11/ and https://ccclib.org/locations/13/. Here are a couple of their in-library events: El Cerrito Library:

Saturday, March 8, 11:00am-1:00pm: Writing Family History with Al: Hands-On Al-Assisted Writing Workshop. This interactive session merges theory, demonstration, and sharing for a dynamic learning experience.

Kensington Library

Tuesday, May 13, 6:30-7:30pm: Jack London, Photographer. A discussion of the life of the famous photographer by Avril Angevine.

<u>Down Home Music</u>. 10341 San Pablo Ave. Open Wednesday through Sunday 1:00-6:00pm. This music store, established by Arhoolie Records founder Chris Strachwitz, offers a broad range of music in a wide variety of formats: CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, books, calendars, magazines, etc. Some are old (*Sons of the Pioneers* from the 1980s) and many are recent. This is a destination, and people from other areas come here to buy music they cannot get anywhere else. You can also buy movies made by El Cerrito director Les Blanc, such as his wonderful 1980 film *Garlic is as Good as 10 Mothers*, which was selected by the Library of Congress to be added to the National Film Registry list of 400 representative movies of America.

If you like the music you can buy here, check out their website. They occasionally have live performances. https://www.downhomemusic.com/

El Cerrito Natural Grocery Annex: This store offers music by local musicians on Wednesday evenings. To see who will be performing, go to: 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. Scheduled for Wednesdays in March are: March 5: Azure; March 12: Saul Sierra; March 19: Modupue; and March 26: Aki Kumar. The annex will present an art collection in March, April and May: The Royal by Schizzi Collection by Marti Cilley.

Thursday, March 28, 5:30pm: Artist's Reception for The Royal by Schizzi.

NIAD Art Center. 551 23rd Ave., Richmond. Open Monday-Friday, 10:00am-4;00pm and the second Saturday of each month from 1:00-4:00pm. 510-620-0290. http://niadart.org NIAD is a progressive art studio for adult artists with physical and developmental disabilities. Listed here are the newer exhibitions and events. Older exhibitions are still available for viewing online. https://niadartstore.org/collections NOTE: Many of the exhibits by NIAD's artists are now shown elsewhere, not at the Richmond space. Check the website for information on these exhibits.

- Through March 21, Main Gallery: **Poetry is Everywhere**. "Poetry isn't just written words. It's art. Visual poetry and words are artwork." Organized by NIAD's Advisory Committee.
- Through March 15, Annex Gallery: NIAD & the Art of the African Diaspora. Creations by NIAD artists alongside work from the Bay Area's community of Black artists. To see some of the art online, go to: https://niadart.org/collections/niad-the-art-of-the-african-diaspora
- Through March 8, online: Artful Silent Auction. A NIAD fundraiser at the Minnesota Street Project. 1275 Minnesota St., San Francisco. Buying these items is a good way to support the NIAD Art Center. Art works were selected by local curators Zully Adler, director of the upcoming Further Triennial 2027, which will explore the creative life of the Bay Area, and Margot Norton, chief curator at BAMPFA (Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive). To see the items available and/or to bid, go to: <a href="https://givebutter.com/c/Artful2025/auction/categories/32022/silent-auction?ct=t(howstheweather_COPY_01)&mc_cid=83e057a58e&mc_eid=6ce61b3921
- Saturday, April 12, 1:00-4:00pm: Gallery Reception for "Round and Round". A celebration of NIAD's newest Annex Gallery exhibition. Round and Round is about the beauty of roundness, circularity and cycles. Anything that is a closed loop that embraces the center within, that is non-linear, such as stages of life, generations, seasons. The show features work by NIAD artists and staff.

<u>Richmond Art Center</u>. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm. The largest visual arts center in the East Bay. Online exhibits are often available for viewing past their end date. https://richmondartcenter.org/

- <u>Adult Classes</u>: The RAC offers a wide variety of classes for adults. For example: textiles, ceramics, printmaking, pastels, and weaving. some are drop-in and others last a semester. Classes start in March, April and May. To view the variety of classes offered and sign up, go to: https://richmondartcenter.org/class-catalog/
- Current Exhibitions
 - <u>Through March 22</u>, Annex Gallery: Art of the African Diaspora. This exhibit, at several art sites around the Bay Area, expresses and celebrates the creative achievements of artists of African descent. This year, over 150 artists showcase their work at Richmond Art Center. For more information, and links to participating artists, go to: https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/art-of-the-african-diaspora-2025/
 - a. Saturday, March 22, 2:00-4:00pm: Closing Reception for Art of the African Diaspora. An opportunity to honor the featured artists and celebrate the legacy of this long-standing event.
 See: https://richmondartcenter.org/events/art-of-the-african-diaspora-closing-reception-3-22-25/
 - 2. Through March 22, Community Gallery: Across Land and Sea. A showcase of acrylic, pastel and mixed media work by students from Jennifer Linderman's fall classes, 'Oceanic Adventures with Acrylics and Mixed Media' and 'Floral Expressions in Pastels' as well as pieces by Linderman herself. https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/across-land-and-sea/
 - 3. Through March 22: Upcycled Garden. An ever-growing project by Daniel "Attaboy" Seifert, who

uses everyday items to create whimsical organic forms. His work has been exhibited at 10 venues in the United States. Richmond is the artist's hometown, and he still lives here. https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/upcycled-garden/

- Upcoming Exhibitions
 - April 16-June 24: Time & Tide: The Art of John Wehrle. John Wehrle was a Richmond artist
 who contributed murals and gateways throughout Richmond as well as many paintings during the
 Vietnam War. In 2006, Wehrle received a lifetime achievement award from Contra Costa's Arts
 and Culture Commission. Check the website for dates of public programs and mural tours.
 https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/john-wehrle/
 - 2. <u>April 16-May 17</u>: **59**th **Annual WCCUSD Student Art Show**. Community Gallery. As the time approaches, more information will be available here: https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/59th-annual-wccusd-student-art-show/
 - i. <u>Tuesday, April 22, 5:00-6:30pm</u>: *Reception for the Student Art Show*. The award presentation will be at 5:45pm.
 - Permanent: Public Art. Artworks at RAC that represent the history of the city's exhibitions and public art projects. See descriptions here: https://richmondartcenter.org/about/public-art/

<u>Contra Costa Civic Theatre</u>. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9012. <u>ccct.org</u>. A non-profit community theater that provides high-quality plays, acting classes and summer drama camps for residents The theater needs volunteers to help construct sets and costumes, to usher, and to work on its beautiful garden. Volunteers get to see the shows for free.

- May 7, 7:30pm: Steve Hofstetter. A performance by the Facebook comic and executive producer of Laughs on Fox. For an extra \$100, attend a meet-and-greet and sit in the front row. https://us.patronbase.com/ ContraCostaCivicTheatre/Seats/ChooseMyOwn?prod_id=S001&perf_id=1§ion_id=1&action=ChooseMyOwn
- June 7-June 22: Fiddler on the Roof. Directed by Joel Roster. The songs If I Were a Rich Man, Matchmaker, and Sunrise, Sunset originated in this touching musical. https://us.patronbase.com/ ContraCostaCivicTheatre/Productions/M005/Performances

<u>Masquers Playhouse</u>. 105 Park Place, Richmond, CA. 510-232-3888. A nonprofit community theater in Point Richmond. 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. https://www.masquers.org/

- Saturday, March 2. Annual Crab Feed. At the Galileo Club, 371 S. 23rd St., Richmond, CA. Doors open at 5:00pm; dinner served at 6:00pm. Includes a no-host bar. \$75.
- April 25 through May 18. Other Desert Cities. by Jon Robin Bates, directed by Dylan Russell. Buy tickets here: https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=mph
- July 11 through August 3. Into the Breeches, by George Brandt, directed by Marilyn Langbehn. "A surprisingly modern and moving comedy about the singular way art and community reveal our boldest selves even in the darkest times." Tickets on sale now. https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?actions=13&p=1

<u>Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. These are just a few 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/</u>

- Saturday., March 1, 7:30-10:30pm: Kensington Symphony Orchestra Concert: Russian Classics.
 Music: Aram Khachaturian Sabre Dance from Gayane; Borodin Symphony No. 2 in B Minor;
 Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35, starring Leonid Igudesman on violin.
- Sunday, March 16, 4:00-6:00pm, and Saturday, May 31: 7:00-10:00pm: Berkeley Baroque Strings Concert: Italian Holiday. For a list of performers and pieces, see: https://berkeleybaroquestrings.org/
- Saturday., April 26, 7:30-10:30pm: Kensington Symphony Orchestra and the UU Church Choir: Earth Day Concert: Luminescence, "The Ice is Listening". The orchestra and church choirs perform poems by Kate Wakeling. The choir will sing Ralph Vaughan Williams' Serenade to Music.
- Sunday, April 27 and Sunday, May 4: 7:00pm-8:30pm: Berkeley Broadway Singers Concerts. For

- information about this group, go to: https://www.berkeleybroadwaysingers.org/ NOTE: The beginning time of the concert may be 7:30pm. Check with the church or the BBS website close to the date to find out for sure.
- Saturday, May 17: 12:00pm-8:30pm: Multicultural Arts Festival. Tatseena and Natica of Artists Embassy, and Serpent Sirens host this show. Artists Embassy is dedicated to furthering peace through the arts. Live music, shopping, workshops, food. https://happeningnext.com/event/dance-art-festival-a-multi-cultural-andamp-poetic-dance-showcase-eid3a0bpadmvs

<u>Cerrito Theater (Rialto Cinemas)</u>. 10070 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-273-9102. <u>El Cerrito's own restored art deco movie theater</u>. <u>Masks and up-to-date vaccinations are strongly encouraged. Current movies are featured</u>. <u>Below are some special events—classics and family matinees as well as London stage shows filmed for National Theater Live. To see a list of current and upcoming offerings, visit: https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/ and https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/ and https://rialtocinemas.com/coming-soon-cer/</u>

- Wednesday., Mar 5, 7:00pm: The Importance of Being Earnest, drama written by Oscar Wilde and directed by Max Webster. Filmed live from the National Theatre in London.
- Thursday, March 6, 1:00pm: Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind. Starring Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet. FREE.
- Thursday, March 20, 1:00pm: *Dawn of Impressionism: Paris 1874.* An art exhibition on screen. 1874 was the year that the early impressionists held their own exhibition outside official channels.
- Monday., Mar 24, 7:00pm: Vanya, a "radical new version" of Chekhov's play Uncle Vanya. Starring Andrew Scott, playing multiple roles, and directed by Sam Yates. This play was sold out when it was performed in London's West End in 2024. Another National Theater Live production.
- Thursday, Mar 27, 7:00pm: Fleabag. Written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge and directed by Vicky Jones, the play received excellent reviews from London critics and inspired a successful TV show of the same name. Filmed live from the performance in London's West End in 2019.
- Monday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 9, 7:00pm: DR. STRANGELOVE. A stage adaptation of. Stanley Kubrick's film of the same name.
- Sometime in March: The Day the Earth Blew Up: A Looney Tunes Movie. An animated comedy starring Porky and Duffy. Check this website for the exact date: https://rialtocinemas.com/comingsoon-cer/free-family-matinees-cer/
- Sometime in March: Black Bag. A spy drama starring Cate Blanchett and Pierce Brosnan, directed by Steven Soderbergh. Check this website for the exact date: https://rialtocinemas.com/coming-soon-cer/free-family-matinees-cer/
- April 5&6, 10:00am: *Kubo and the Two Strings*. A family movie from Japan. FREE. Tickets available at the box office from April 4.
- Thursday, April 10, 12:00pm: Lawrence of Arabia. The classic (1962) film starring Peter O'Toole and Alec Guinness. Directed by David Lean. FREE. Tickets available at the box office April 3.
- Wednesday, April 16, 1:00pm: Van Gogh: Poets & Lovers. Part of the EXHIBITION On Screen series. The UK's largest Van Gogh exhibition ever. This film examines his life and creative process, focusing on his years in the south of France. https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/eos-van-gogh-poets-lovers-cer/
- Saturday and Sunday, May 3 &4, 10:00am: HOOK. Starring Robin William Williams as a grown-up Peter Pan and Dustin Hoffman as Captain Hook. Cast includes Julia Roberts and Maggie Smith. FREE. Tickets available from May 2 at the box office.
- Thursday, May 8, 1:00pm: The Graduate. The classic film starring Dustin Hoffman, Anne Bancroft and Katharine Ross. FREE. Tickets available at box office from May 2.
- Thursday, May 29, 1:00pm: *Michaelangelo: Love and Death.* Directed by David Bickerstaff. "A cinematic journey…to seek out a deeper understanding of this legendary figure's tempestuous life, his relationship with his contemporaries and his incredible legacy." This year marks the 550th anniversary of Michaelangelo's birth.

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. Check the website or call before you go to a scheduled event to be sure it is being held. https://www.nps.gov/rori/planyourvisit/calendar.htm

- Wednesdays, through Feb., 2026. 1130am-12:00pm and 1:30pm-2:00pm. Port Chicago. Visitor Education Center theater. Short film and discussion about the deadliest home front tragedy of World War II, led by docent Diana King. Free. https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/event-details.htm?id=5A6C848C-09EB-C0B8-F3A7FD19BCC83DD3
- Fridays, 10:30-1130am and 11:30am-12:30pm: *Meet the Rosies*. Spend time with women who actually worked in the WW II home front. Since these women are all quite old, it is possible that none will be available on a particular Friday. In that case, a park docent will present a program highlighting the Rosies' contributions during the war. Masks are REQUIRED.
- Fridays, 2:00pm-3:00pm: **Blossoms and Thorns**. A film about the Japanese incarceration during the war. After the movie, Jim Oshima, who was incarcerated, will share his family's personal story.
- Sunday, May 11, 2:00-3:00pm: Rosie the Riveter: From Public Art to National Park—Illuminating the Home Front Legacy. Donna Graves, one of the creators of this park, describes the park's history—how it began as a tribute to women's labor and grew into a national park., including behind-the-scenes stories of the park's evolution and significance.
- **Red Oak Victory Ship.** 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. NOTE: Boarding the Red Oak requires negotiating a gangway and interior steps. https://redoakvictory.us/.
- Red Oak Victory Ship Film Series. Thursday nights aboard the ship. This spring's theme is "A Classic Director's Wartime Films: Alfred Hitchcock in WWII." Movies start at 6:30pm; Boarding begins at 6:00pm. You can find the ship at Shipyard 3, 1337 Canal Blvd., Berth 5, Richmond, CA. Directions: Exit off I-58- West; Left on Canal Blvd.; Drive south to Shipyard 3, Berth 5 (Port of Richmond). Parking is in front of the ship. No tickets or reservations required. Admission is free, but the producers appreciate a \$10 donation. Snacks and drinks are available. https://redoakvictory.us/visiting/calendar-events/
 - o Thursday, March 20: Saboteur. (1942); Thursday, April 17: Lifeboat. (1944)
 - Thursday, May 15: Notorious. (1946); Thursday, June 19: Casablanca. (1942)
- Red Oak Victory Ship Pancake Breakfast. The ship offers monthly pancake breakfasts through October. Spring dates are: 'Sunday, May 11 (Mothers Day); Sunday, June 15 (Fathers Day)

<u>Kensington Symphony Orchestra</u>. Concerts performed at the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Berkeley, <u>1 Lawson Road</u>, <u>Kensington</u>. <u>https://www.kensingtonsymphonyorchestra.org/</u>

- Saturday, March 1, 7:30pm: Russian Classics. Joint performance with the U-U Church choir. See details under the entry for the church.
- Saturday, April 26, 7:30pm: UUCB Luminescence Chorus. Joint performance with the U-U Church choir. See details under the entry for the church. A celebration of Earth Week.
- Saturday, June 7, 7:30pm: Turkish Delight & Grand Finale. Sinfonia in G Minor for Winds by Gaetano Donizetti, Violin Concerto No. 5 in A Major, K. 291 (Turkish) by Wolfgang A. Mozart, and Symphony No. 2 in C Major, Op 61 by Robert Schumann. Featuring Jason Totzke on violin.

<u>West County Winds</u>. Hilltop Community Church, 3118 Shane Drive, Richmond, CA. West County Winds is a non-profit wind ensemble that performs music in a variety of styles from classical to pop. Geoffrey Gallegos has been the conductor for almost 10 years. During this time, the ensemble has grown in its musical proficiency and artistic ambitions. Performers are amateurs. Concerts are free. There is usually another concert in May, so check the website in April for information. https://www.westcountywinds.org/concerts

 Sunday, March 9, 3:00pm: At the Knox enter for the Performing Arts, El Portal Drive and Castro Road, San Pablo, CA. .