



# 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 XXXXI

NEWSLETTER 3

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2026

## COME MEET DR. SHERI KRAMS AND LEARN ABOUT TRANSPLANTATIONS

**Saturday, January 17, 2026**

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

Dr. **Sheri Krams** is an immunologist and Senior Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs at Stanford University School of Medicine. She is a professor of surgery specializing in abdominal transplantation. Her talk is entitled: "Transplantation Through the Decades: Scientific Milestones, Breakthroughs, and the Future of Organ Transplantation".

### Diane Ichiyasu

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<b>AAUW Fund VP</b> Barbara Vaughan 548-1942 <a href="mailto:barbvaughan@mac.com">barbvaughan@mac.com</a>	<b>Secretary</b> Marsha Weintraub, 644-0320 <a href="mailto:marsha.weintraub@gmail.com">marsha.weintraub@gmail.com</a>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>Sunshine Chair</b> Sally Dunham, 758-4094 <a href="mailto:sallydunham1@gmail.com">sallydunham1@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Community/Cultural</b> Barbara Miller 526-4874 <a href="mailto:bmil@mac.com">bmil@mac.com</a>	<b>Contra Costa College Relations</b>	<b>Publicity Chair</b> Maria LaForge, 527-4378 <a href="mailto:d.laforge@sbcglobal.net">d.laforge@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Public Policy</b>
<b>Newsletter Circulation</b>	<b>Read Aloud Chair</b> Judy Sam, 527-1661 <a href="mailto:jssam47@yahoo.com">jssam47@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Zoom Host</b> Christine Hills 734-6505 <a href="mailto:chills627@gmail.com">chills627@gmail.com</a>	<b>Facebook Monitor</b> Christine Hills 734-6505 <a href="mailto:chills627@gmail.com">chills627@gmail.com</a>



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year! We continue with our **2025-2026 Programs**. On **Saturday, January 17 at 10:30 am Sheri Krams** will speak. She is the Senior Associate Dean Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs at Stanford University School of Medicine and a Professor of Surgery (Abdominal Transplantation). See Write-up on Page 1. \*\*Since we didn't have our December Holiday Party this year, we will also be **collecting books and donations to support two programs: Read-Aloud Volunteer Program** for children at Kindergarten through second grade levels, and the **Grant Birthday Book Project** for first and second grade students. Our contributions are greatly appreciated by the children who benefit as they enjoy the stories while improving their knowledge and skills.\*\*

On **Saturday, February 21**, we will co-sponsor **CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting 11:00 am Dr. Alba Alvarez Martin's talk: "Translating Science: Making Mass Spectroscopy Accessible in Cultural Institutions"**. See Write-up Page 5.

Our Board meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the month are via Zoom. The **next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 27, at 2:00 pm**. All members are invited to attend.

**Lunch Group:** meetings **Noon Monday, January 19**, at **Picante**, and **Wednesday, February 25 at H & J's Restaurant**. See Calendar Page 3. Be sure to RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

**2026 Tech Trek Program:** The "kick-off" meeting is Thursday, January 15 at Marsha's. . We hope to get nominations from Pinole and DeJean, as well as Mira Vista and Korematsu. See article Page 4.

Be sure to check out Barbara Miller's **Culture Corner** starting on Page 6. There is lots to see and do.

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**

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## **AAUW FUND**

Again, we will have a one-time request from the West Contra Costa Branch for donations to the AAUW Fund. The Funds are used for AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Letters will go out to members the end of January and will include a stamped return envelope. Your donation will go to the Greatest Needs Fund unless another fund number is on the memo line of your check. Members have been very generous. We have been recognized by AAUW CA as a top 10 per capita donor.

**Barbara Vaughan, AAUW Fund VP**

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## CALENDAR – MONTHLY EVENTS

### JANUARY 2026:

**2026 Tech Trek kick-off meeting:** Thursday, January 15, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Marsha Weintraub (1080 Park Hills Rd., Berkeley). Consider being a part of the Team. See 2026 Tech Trek Program Page 4.

**Meeting:** 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church **Saturday, January 17 at 10:30 am** Sheri Krams will speak. She is the Senior Associate Dean Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs at Stanford University School of Medicine and a Professor of Surgery (Abdominal Transplantation). See Write-up Page 1. Since we didn't have our December Holiday Party this year, we will also be collecting books and donations to support two programs: Read-Aloud Volunteer Program for children at Kindergarten through second grade levels, and the Grant Birthday Book Project for first and second grade students. Our contributions are greatly appreciated by the children who benefit as they enjoy the stories while improving their knowledge and skills.

**Lunch Group:** Monday, January 19, at Noon at Picante, 1328 Sixth St, Berkeley  
RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend.

### FEBRUARY 2026:

**CalACS-WCC Virtual Meeting:** Saturday, February 21, at 11:00 am Dr. Alba Alvarez Martin's talk: *"Translating Science: Making Mass Spectroscopy Accessible in Cultural Institutions"*. See Write-up Page 5.

**Lunch Group:** Wednesday, February 25 at Noon at H & J's Restaurant, 10841 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito. RSVP Maria (cell: 1-925-899-3278; d.laforge@sbcglobal.net).

**Board Meeting:** using Zoom **Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 2:00 pm.** All members are invited to attend

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Barbara Vaughan invites members to attend this

**Community Concert at Epworth:  
Hope Briggs (Soprano) with Robert Mollicone**

Sunday, January 18, 2026  
4:00 pm  
Epworth United Methodist Church  
1953 Hopkins Street, Berkeley

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**2026 Tech Trek Program:** The kick-off meeting is **Thursday, January 15, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Marsha Weintraub (1080 Park Hills Rd., Berkeley).** Consider being a part of the Team. I will be reviewing the 2026 procedures, documents and forms. Tech Trek is a major activity for our branch. We have many challenges including getting nominations from our WCCUSD middle schools and then following up with Parent Authorizations and Camper Applications using CampDoc. Our goal is get girls who normally wouldn't have this experience. In addition to contacting the schools, we need help with interviewing and hosting the June reception/orientation.

In December we requested 6 camper spots at the Sonoma State University June 21-27 camp. Although six is the maximum number of campers each branch could have at each residential camp, we feel that six will most likely be the number of campers we could select since we are still redeveloping relationships with the west county schools. We hope to get nominations from Pinole and DeJean, as well as Mira Vista and Korematsu.

In addition to selecting the girls to attend the camp, we must provide the money to pay their camp fees. The cost per camper at Sonoma State University is \$1,300. We are very fortunate to have generous donors, but still need to tap into our reserve. Therefore, donations to our Tech Trek Program of any amount are always welcome and fully tax-deductible. Make your check payable to AAUW-CA SPF with Tech Trek in the memo line and mail it to AAUW WCC Branch, PO Box 501, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Thank you for your support

**Roberta Montgomery, Tech Trek Branch Coordinator**

### **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](mailto:sallydunham1@gmail.com).

# HEAR ALBA ALVAREZ MARTIN'S TALK

## *Translating Science: Making Mass Spectroscopy Accessible in Cultural Institutions*

The California Section American Chemical Society  
Women Chemists Committee

**Virtual Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 21, 2026**  
**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 Alba Alvarez Martin, PhD and her talk is below. All are welcome! Please visit the CalACS website [www.calacs.org](http://www.calacs.org) to register for this meeting. **Register before Thursday, February 19, 12 noon.** Your email address is needed to send the Zoom link, which will be shared with attendees on or before the day of the event via Event Brite.

### About the Speaker

Alba Alvarez Martin is a chemist with a PhD obtained from the University of Salamanca (Spain) in environmental sciences. She also holds a master's degree in conservation science. During 2017 she worked at Antwerp University (Belgium) studying the effect that inorganic pigments have on the discoloration of organic lakes used by Van Gogh. Between 2017 and 2020 she was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian's Museum Conservation Institute, Washington, DC. In USA, her research involved the study of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted by museum collections. From 2020 to 2021 she worked as a postdoc at the Rijksmuseum. In 2021 she received a Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellowship where she developed a new protocol to image cross sections by high resolution mass spectrometry. In 2022 she worked as senior researcher at the Royal Museum for Central Africa. In June 2023 she was appointed research scientist at the Rijksmuseum, where her main research goals are the implementation of more accessible mass spectrometry instrumentation in museums.

### Abstract

Analyzing organic materials in artworks has long been associated with destructive techniques, which can be a major limitation when working with delicate or historically important objects. Recent developments, in both instruments and sampling strategies, have opened the door to approaches that require little to no intervention on the object itself. In this talk, I will share our experience implementing a very sensitive sampling method that brings together collection and concentration of volatiles emitted by art objects. This has proven especially useful as a screening tool when taking a physical sample simply is not an option.

We tested instrumentation developed for other research fields, such as environmental research or clinical studies, for the first time and compared their performance with more established alternatives in the museum laboratories. The methods have performed remarkably well in identifying volatile compounds in enclosed spaces at the Rijksmuseum, and it has allowed us to look at the molecular profile emitted from the back of canvas paintings as part of condition monitoring. Finally, we worked toward automating part of the workflow, offering a more efficient and consistent alternative to lengthy passive sampling approaches.

## **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. Seti Sedhardta retired effective July 1. Her new email address is 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)

SIDHARTA, SETI **INDONONA999@gmail.com**

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)

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## **CULTURE CORNER JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 2026**

**By Barbara Miller**

**City of El Cerrito.** City Hall: 10890 San Pablo Ave. 510-215-4300. <https://www.elcerrito.gov>

Many public events are available to attend in person or via ZOOM. Check the city calendar to see when city committee/commission meetings are being held: <https://www.elcerrito.gov/Calendar.aspx>

For copies of the minutes, agendas, and other information about meetings of city boards and commissions, click here: <https://www.elcerrito.gov/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials>

- Wednesdays, 1:00-2:00pm: **Senior Presentations and Special Events:** Every Wednesday, the city offers a special event, presentation, workshop for residents over 60, at the Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Examples of events include tax aide, warning signs of dementia, and rescuing animals from shelters. Just drop in. <https://www.elcerrito.gov/281/Senior-Programs-Services-Age-60>
- Monday, January 19: **2026 Martin Luther King Day:**
  - 9:00-11:00am: **Parade and Rally,** El Cerrito City Hall. Parade begins at 10:00am, marching to El Cerrito High School, where a rally begins at 11:00am. You can join the parade or attend only the rally. (ECHS address: 540 Ashbury Ave.). <https://www.elcerrito.gov/693/Annual-MLK-Celebration>
  - Tuesdays, Jan 20, Feb 3, Feb 17, Mar 3, Mar 17, April 7, 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: <https://www.elcerrito.gov/482/Council-Meeting-Videos-Materials>. You can get closed caption when



you log in. For instructions on submitting comments and other information, go to:

<https://www.el-cerrito.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13983/Instructions-for-Public-Comments>

- First Wednesdays, 3:00pm: **Free Tour of the El Cerrito Recycling and Environmental Resource Center.** Staff members will provide an overview of the center's history and highlight the various resource recovery programs that help send less to landfill. Tours lasts approximately one hour and space is limited. Private tours are available for groups (fees apply for private tours). Call the office 510-215-4350 or email [greenassistant@elcerrito.gov](mailto:greenassistant@elcerrito.gov) to RSVP or request more information - RSVPs not required but highly encouraged.
- Saturday, March 21, 6:00pm: **Crab Feed.** At the Community Center (7007 Moeser). This annual event is a city fund raiser for the David Hunter Scholarship Fund. (<https://elcerrito.gov/434/David-Hunter-Memorial-Scholarship-Fund>) For \$85 per person (\$75 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: <https://elcerrito.gov/onlineereg>. NOTE: This event tends to sell out early.

**El Cerrito Trail Trekkers.** Formed to build, maintain, publicize, and use the urban trails of El Cerrito.

<http://www.ectrailtrekkers.org/> ECTT produces a map of EC trails that you can get 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>

- Sunday, January 11, 10:00am-12:00pm: **Winter Biome Hike.** Meet at Schmidt Lane Trailhead, near the Recycling Center. This hike is the second in a series held quarterly aimed at enjoying the El Cerrito hillside's ecosystem and its changes through the seasons.
- Wednesdays, 3:30pm-5:00pm and Saturdays 10:30am-12:30pm: **Work Parties.** These are regularly-scheduled work parties to remove broom and invasive species. Hosted by Friends of the Hillside Natural Area. Their schedule can be seen here: <https://www.echillsidefriends.org/events> In case of changes in plans, email [friendshillsidenaturalarea@gmail.com](mailto:friendshillsidenaturalarea@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating.

**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. 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 few of their in-library events:

El Cerrito Library:

- Saturdays, 11:00am-1:00pm: **Digital Docent.** The library's computer docents help you with basic tech questions and guide you through the use of digital services that are available on the library website. NOTE: The programs on January 17 and January 31 are cancelled. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/688e4d1ca46bbe757b21e907>
- Tuesday, February 10, 5:00-7:00pm: **Adinkra Symbols from Ghana: Handmade Stamp Prints.** Discover the deep history and cultural significance of Adinkra symbols in this interactive workshop. You must register in advance. Registration closed on February 9. As of my writing this, there were only 6 spots remaining. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/68f94bcb06078d3600740f1c>

Kensington Library:

- Tuesday, January 13, 6:00-7:00pm: **In Depth on County Sustainability.** A discussion of Contra Costa County's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP).
- Tuesday, March 10, 6:30-7:30pm: **Magical Moonshine Theatre: The Puppet Man.** Traditional puppet characters such as England's Punch and Judy, Germany's Kasperl, and France's Guignol all evolved from humble folk origins. Come see Magical Moonshine Theatre's lively version of old school European street theatre, in which the audience and puppets interact to create the play together! <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/694318fcc967cb41207d52e5>

- Tuesday, March 17, 6:00-7:00pm: **History of Martial Arts Cinema**. Join martial arts cinema expert Frank Djeng in a fun presentation of martial arts movie history, including action-packed clips. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/68d82bdc3fb368ea029322f4>
- Tuesday, April 14, 6:30-7:30pm: **Emergency Prep with Amateur Radio and Walkie-Talkies**. The Kensington Amateur Radio Operators and the El Cerrito Ham Radio Operators describe alternate ways to communicate with loved ones in case of emergency. There will be a drawing for a free set of Family Radio Services (FRS) Walkie-Talkies. <https://ccclib.bibliocommons.com/events/69545af62c65973d00150988>

**Down Home Music**. 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/>

- Saturday, January 10, 2:00pm: **The Boars**. A San Francisco rock 'n' roll group. Free.

**El Cerrito Natural Grocery Annex**: 10367 San Pablo Ave. This store offers music by local musicians on most Wednesday evenings. The hosts are José Ruiz, Javier Navarrette and Amer Budayr. They curate shows with various artists from different cultures in the Bay Area, as well as presenting their own work. To see who will be performing on specific nights, 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 January are:

- Wednesday, January 14, 6:00pm: **Modupue Opening Day**.
- Wednesday, January 21, 6:00pm: **Bryan Dyer and the BD Express**. Jazz, blues, rhythm & blues, soul. Bryan sings, plays piano and provides percussion
- Wednesday, January 28, 6:00pm: **Ariana Lamark**.

**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.

- January 12 through March 18: **Transforming Space**. An exhibition featuring 16 NIAD artists' explorations of space. Mixed media. <https://niadart.org/collections/transforming-space>
- January 12 through March 18: **This must be the place**. A part of Transforming Space, this is an evolving show that creates a convivial living room environment over time. New works that are made in the studio are added to the room. This is the first exhibit in a group that allows visitors to see art being made, the creative space evolving. Soon there will be a list of works here: <https://niadart.org/collections/this-must-be-the-place>

**Richmond Art Center**. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond. 510-620-6772. <https://richmondartcenter.org/>

- January 14 through March 14: **Art of the African Diaspora 2026**. The 29<sup>th</sup> year of this program that spotlights the creativity of Americans of African descent. See the work of over 150 artists at the RAC and elsewhere in the Bay Area. Artists include Ashlie Kègo, Paradise, and Max Wheaton. And the winners of the 2025 Artistic Achievement Awards. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/art-of-the-african-diaspora-2026/>. For more information about the artists, go to: <https://richmondartcenter.org/events/aotad-public-art-in-our-communities-panel-2-21-26/>



- January 14 through March 14: **Spotlight on the Ceramics Studio**. This exhibition, in the Community Gallery, celebrates the work created in the RAC ceramics studio over the past year, showcasing the range of artists who bring the space to life, including students, teaching artists, and guest artists. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/spotlight-on-the-ceramics-studio/>
- January 21 through March 14: **Three Dykes Walk Into a Bar**. A solo exhibition in the South Gallery by dani lopez, a textile artist. A series of "tapestry stills" introducing 3 young dykes coming of age from the 1990s to the present. <https://richmondartcenter.org/exhibitions/dani-lopez/>
- Saturday, January 24, 1:00-3:00pm: **Opening Reception** for January-March exhibitions. Community Gallery. A chance to meet the artists, explore their work, and arrange purchases if desired. No reservation necessary; just show up!

**Contra Costa Civic Theatre**. 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito. 510-524-9012. [ccct.org](http://ccct.org). 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.

- Sunday, January 25, 2:00pm: **Dirty Cello**. Part of the CCCT Concert Series. Dirty Cello is a San Francisco band that performs all over the world. The *Good Times Santa Cruz* reported "The band plays every style imaginable and does some fantastic covers. (Their rendition of "Purple Haze" is incredible.) But what is most spectacular about them is hearing the depth of soul in (Rebecca) Roudman's playing—it goes beyond what most people would expect from the instrument. She plays it with so much heart, you'll wonder why more bands don't have a cellist." To learn more about Dirty Cello, go to: [www.dirtycello.com/](http://www.dirtycello.com/)

**Masquers Playhouse**. 105 Park Place, Richmond, CA. 510-232-3888. A nonprofit community theater in Point Richmond. It provides a creative outlet for amateur theater people. In addition to a 5-play season, the Masquers produces other live theatrical events. <https://www.masquers.org/>

- Thursday, February 12, 8:00pm; Fridays, Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 8:00pm; Saturdays, Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28, 8:00pm; Sundays, Feb. 8, 15, 22, and March 1, 2:00pm: **Improbable Fiction** by Alan Ayckbourn, directed by Angela Mason. For more information, go to: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=303225>. Tickets are \$35 except for the first Thursday, which has special \$15 pricing for all seats.

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/>

- Saturday., February 28, 7:30-10:00pm: **Kensington Symphony Orchestra Concert**. Details as yet unavailable.
- Saturday., March 7, 4:00-5:30pm: **Berkeley Baroque Strings Concert**. Details unavailable.

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

- Wednesday., January 14, 7:00pm: **The Fifth Step**, a critically acclaimed humorous new play by David Ireland. Starring Jack Lowden and Martin Freeman.
- Monday, January 26, 7:00pm, and Wednesday, February 4, 7:00pm: **Hamlet**. Starring Olivier Award-winning actor Hiran Abeysekera. A National Theatre Live event.
- Wednesday, January 28, 1:00pm: **Jago: Into the White**. The internationally prominent Italian sculptor, Jago, worked for two years on a modern version of Michelangelo's Pieta. To learn more about Jago, go to: <https://visitrome.substack.com/p/discovering-jago-the-modern-michelangelo> You can also see a video about him at the Rialto Cinemas site: <https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/great-art-on-screen-cer/gaos-jago-into-the-white-cer/>
- Wednesday, February 11, 7:00pm: **Inter Alia**. A new play from the team behind *Prima Facie*,

starring Rosamund Pike. A National Theatre Live event.

- Wednesday, February 18, 1:00pm: *St. Peter's & the Papal Basilica in Rome*. A journey through the four Papal Basilicas in Rome, focusing on their treasures: St. Peter's, St. John in the Lateran, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.
- Monday, February 23 and Wednesday, March 4, 7:00pm: *Life of Pi*. An Olivier Award-winning stage adaptation of the best-selling novel. Includes puppetry. A National Theatre Live event.
- Wednesday, March 11, 1:00pm: *Painting the Soul of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century: Pellizza da Volpedo*: A film about the life of the painter Giuseppe Pellizza (1868-1907), famous for his work *The Fourth Estate*. For more information go to: <https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/great-art-on-screen-cer/gaos-painting-the-soul-cer/>
- Wednesday, March 18, 7:00pm: *Mrs. Warren's Profession*. Olivier Award-winner Imelda Staunton plays the mother next to her real-life daughter in this rendition of Bernard Shaw's moral classic. For more information, go to: <https://rialtocinemas.com/special-events-cer/national-theatre-live-cer/nt-mrs-warrenss-profession-cer/>
- Thursday, April 9, 7:00pm: *Othello*. Starring David Harewood, Toby Jones, Caitlin FitzGerald, Vinette Robinson and Luke Treadaway. Directed by Tony Award-winner Tom Morris, with music by PJ Harvey.