



A monthly publication of AAUW, San Francisco, est. in 1886

January 2016

**President's Message**

**Happy New Year!!!  
With wishes that 2016 brings peace  
and prosperity to all.**

We had a lovely Holiday Lunch at on December 12 at Mescolanza Restaurant. Besides catching up with old friends, we were happy to have three potential new members join us.

January brings more events. The North Peninsula AAUW branch is celebrating its 60th anniversary with a luncheon on January 29 in San Mateo. Anyone who would like to join me in attending this luncheon should contact me soon. We will also have a Tech Trek family informational meeting on January 10 at the Taraval Police Station to explain about Tech Trek and AAUW. Members are welcome to attend.

Finally, we are sending out announcements for our Silver Jubilee Scholarships. We make awards of \$2,000 to selected women who will be entering their last year of undergraduate or graduate education. The awardees must live or attend school within a 100-mile radius of San Francisco. Applications and further information may be found on our website at [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) Please spread the word about these scholarships.

Andrea attended the Member's Meeting at the alliance for Girls on December 2. This is her report: I found the meeting very well run. They have 75 organizational members and about 25 individual members. Every 15 minutes there was an uplifting talk about one of the members.

'IF YOU DON'T HAVE A SEAT AT THE TABLE YOU'RE MORE LIKELY ON THE MENU' said Nikole Collins-Puri, Women's Foundation of California, I have obtained a copy of her speech if anyone would like to read. I was more than impressed, I was blown away. If AAUW could put something together like this meeting—the ideas would be unbelievable. As it happens, one of the speakers Linda Calhoun, founder and Exec. Producer of Career Girls is first on my list to talk to next week just before our board meeting. Her office is down the street from my house in Dogpatch. I will meet with her and report to the board about the possibility of how her small video clips can enhance our Tech trek girls.



Kailin Chow, Membership; Kathleen Thurmond, co-chair Advisory Board; Emma Mayerson, Exec Dir. Girls Alliance, Mark Gunther, Director of Eva Gunther Foundation

**Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer, Co-Presidents**

## AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, January 13**, at Corrine Sacks' condo, 1835 Franklin St. #401 (between Sacramento and Clay). Street parking should be available, but if there is a problem, pull into the driveway of the condo building, tell the attendant you are visiting Corrine, and ask if there is space to park. Call Corrine at 415-292-4130 if you have questions. The potluck will begin at 6:30 pm, and the meeting will start at 7pm. Please let Andrea know if you are unable to attend.

## Afternoons With Books

**Date:** Friday, January 15 at 1:30 p.m.  
**Book/Author:** Washington Square, by Henry James  
**Hostess:** Pat Spencer, 505 Ortega  
 Please RSVP to Pat at 415-661-0347 or [cpbus66@gmail.com](mailto:cpbus66@gmail.com)

## International Book Group

**Date:** Monday, January 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  
**Book/Author:** *The Door*, by Magda Szabo  
**Hostess:** Barbara Spencer, 730 Third Avenue  
 Please RSVP to Barbara at 415-221-6690 or [barbaracspencer@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracspencer@gmail.com)

## International Dinner

**Date:** Thursday, February 11, 2016  
**Place:** Pagan Restaurant, Burmese and Thai Cuisine, 3199 Clement at 33rd Avenue  
**Menu:** Menu and details will be forthcoming by email

## Tech Trek

If you know any Middle School Math or Science Teachers or 7th grade girls in the San Francisco

Unified School District or 7th Grade girls in private schools on scholarship that could benefit from the opportunity that Tech Trek offers, please ask them to attend **the Tech Trek Informational Meeting on Sunday, January 10th, from 1-2:30 at the Taraval Police Station, 2345 24th Ave. in the Community Room**. The program will explain the AAUW connection to the Tech Trek Program. Recent Alums will be there to describe their experiences and how the program has offered new options. Committee members and the alumnae will be there to answer any questions. We hope to have a good turnout of prospective campers and their families. For logistics and details contact Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator 415-305-2220 or [elainebutler124@comcast.net](mailto:elainebutler124@comcast.net)

## December Donors

Thank you so much for your generous gifts  
 Anna Stern & Mary Renner  
 Nora Lee

If you would like to donate to the Tech Trek project, please write a check for any amount to AAUW and list in the memo line Tech Trek. Mail the check to: Elaine Butler, Tech Trek, 124 Amber Dr. San Francisco, CA 94131

## Help Wanted Tech Trek!!

### January

-Take names and emails of students wanting to apply at meeting on January 10  
 -Email applications to those signed up.

### March 12 and 13 (Saturday and Sunday) Tech Trek interviews

People are needed to work on teams of adults and tech trek alums to interview parents or prospective campers. A list of questions and an evaluation sheet are provided so each interviewee has the

same chance to be chosen. A meeting will be held within 2 weeks to choose the 2016 campers.

### **Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator**

#### **Mystery Book Club**

There are many of us who are still interested in books specifically about mysteries, crime, short stories, and other genres, and emphasizing visits from local authors. We would like to have input from our AAUW members about starting (or re-starting) a group, perhaps to meet on Wednesday afternoons.

Andrea has offered to host an initial meeting on **Wednesday, January 20**. She will provide snacks, you should bring book suggestions, and we will make some decisions together.

Please contact Andrea to let her know if you will come, and/or with any suggestions, requests etc. that you may have: [mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com)

Andrea Laudate, 243 Missouri St (Mariposa and 18<sup>th</sup>).

#### **Learning To Earn Pat Camarena**

Victoria was basically a self-taught person as she grew up in New York City in the 1870s.

She had been born into slavery in Georgia just as the Civil War was beginning. Her mother, Caroline Earle, had escaped alone from the plantation and fled north. After emancipation she returned to regain custody of her children. Returning to New York with the only two children that she could locate, Victoria and her sister, Caroline had to turn to domestic service employment when financial conditions made it necessary. An adept student, Victoria was able to attend public school for a time, however, she spent a great deal of time studying from books in Caroline's home, who encouraged her to do so. After marrying at eighteen, she began

a career as a journalist and newspaper reporter for various black newspapers of the day. She found herself increasingly interested in politics and social issues affecting black citizens. She began to lecture and write on the civil rights issues of the time with the goal of promoting self worth and racial pride among the many young women of color who were beginning to come north looking for employment as the Industrial Age was dawning and more factory workers were needed. Eventually Victoria became interested in settlement work being initiated in both Chicago and New York. Many European immigrants as well as rural southerners flocked to the big cities. The settlement houses that Victoria began offered a safe residence for women on their own and needing protection from racially motivated violence or the potential risks of falling into prostitution out of desperation. Practical job skills were taught to enable women to apply for the decent, albeit low paid, jobs open to women at the time, Victoria recruited ministers and churches to help support this mission. A residence house on the upper east side was purchased and named the White Rose Home. Recreation, literary, and cultural events were provided as well as classes on race history and literature. In order to promote interest in civic issues, Victoria founded The Women's Loyal Union and the National Federation of Afro-American Women in the 1890s.

This was the useful life of Victoria Earle Matthews. She made the most of her considerable writing and organizational talents. She worked to assist hundreds of other young women to find an honorable place for themselves in a rapidly changing society.

[www.blackpast.org](http://www.blackpast.org)

[www.oxfordindex.oup.com](http://www.oxfordindex.oup.com)

## Playing Now

### Paula Campbell

Last week I saw Ayad Akhtar's Pulitzer Prize winning **Disgraced** at Berkeley Rep. Although it has already closed I must tell you about it. One of the most important plays of our time, it will surely be staged again at other theatres – when it is – DON'T MISS IT!!! It's a hard, frightening look at Muslim/American life, at attitudes toward Islam both from within and without that religion, and about survival in working in high finance. I can't remember seeing anything this important in decades – keep your eyes peeled for it being produced somewhere locally.

Now on to my regular review. SFPlayhouse's **Stage Kiss** is a light hearted romp about acting, love, and the boundaries of reality. Written by award winning (MacArthur Fellowship and the PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater Award) Sarah Ruhl, and beautifully directed by Susi Damilano, it presents a play within a play. He (Gabriel Mann) and She (Carie Paff) are characters in a new play. The two characters are former lovers who meet again when cast in a play, and feel that old tingle reawakened when they do their first stage kiss. The kicker is that in fact they ARE former lovers in real life, and like the characters they play, find their old emotions rekindled when they do, and do, and do again, with increasing ardor, their first stage kiss. Where will this lead – where can this lead? Well, it can lead to lots of laughs for the audience, innumerable plot complications, and an awful lot of kissing. And it leads our actors into performing in yet another play, this time with more serious results for both their on stage characters and off stage affair. The supporting cast are all excellent and the amazing,

shape shifting set is by Bill English and Jacquelyn Scott.

**Stage Kiss** is in the best tradition of the 1930's - 40's romantic comedy films and plays. I think of films like It Happened One Night, and plays such as Noel Coward's Private Lives. It's a delightful evening of theatre, entertaining, light hearted, beautifully performed and best of all – it made me laugh out loud. Don't miss it – laughter is good for us!!!

**Stage Kiss**, through Jan 9. SFPlayhouse 450 Post Street (2nd Floor of Kensington Park Hotel) between Mason and Powell. Tickets: Box Office 415-677-9596 Fax: 415-677-9597 Online: <http://sfplayhouse.org/sfph/2015-2016-season/stage-kiss/> Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, Sat 3pm, (some) Suns 2pm.

## January Birthdays

Jane Bernard-Powers	January 1
Susan Kwock	January 5
Wanda Holland Greene	January 8
Pat Morin	January 15
Terese Terry	January 27

### Birthday Not Announced?

If your birthday is not there and you'd like to have it included (or corrected), contact the Membership VP.

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**January 2016**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>10 Tech Trek 1PM</b>	11	12	13	14	<b>15 Aft w/Books 1:30 PM</b>	16
17	<b>18 Int'l Book Group 7PM</b>	19	20	<b>21</b>	22	23
24	25	26	27	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	30

*Each of us must work for her own improvement, and at the same time share a general responsibility for all humanity*

Marie Curie



**Avanti Editor**

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 Address Correction Requested

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation’s leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. It has a national membership of 150,000. People of every race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

AAUW California was launched in San Francisco in 1886 and began lobbying immediately. Check out our website [www.aauwsf.org](http://www.aauwsf.org)



San Francisco Inc. (CA) Branch

**AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research**

**Marie Curie & AAUW**

The year was 1919. Europe had been ravaged by World War I and radium was far too expensive for a scientist of modest means to afford for experiments. This was true even for one as famous as Madame Marie Curie. As a result, her groundbreaking research had reached a virtual standstill. Then the AAUW came to the rescue. Members from Maine to California helped raise an astonishing \$156,413, enabling Madame Curie to purchase one gram of radium and continue her experiments that helped her create the field of nuclear chemistry and forever change the course of science. Madame Curie received the Nobel Prize for her work, but was not admitted to the French *Academie des Sciences* until she won an incredible second Nobel Prize...all because she was a woman. More than 75 years later, there are still only three women members.

**Pay Equity**

AAUW has been on the front lines fighting for Pay Equity for over a hundred years.

AAUW was there in the Oval Office in 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law.

AAUW was there in 2009 when President Barack Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law.

AAUW continues the fight for the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act to ensure women have further equal pay protections. The pay gap is real.

AAUW will continue the fight to achieve pay equity; the economic security of American families depends on it.

**Legal Advocacy Fund**

Founded in 1981, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) works to achieve equity for women in higher education by recognizing indicative efforts to improve the climate for women on campus; by offering assistance to women faculty, staff, and students who have grievances against colleges and universities; and by supporting sex discrimination lawsuits.

The LAF Board only approves support of cases which are currently involved in litigation, and that have the potential to set legal precedent.

The Legal Advocacy Fund’s annual Progress in Equity Award recognizes indicative and replicable college and university programs.