

### President's Message



Our month was filled with lots of joy!

First we went to the 2016 CEDAW Women's rights awards. Our own Linda Calhoun is the Vice-President and Communications co-chair. The agency has been working on improving the lives of women for 40 years.

The keynote speaker was Amy Logan who is the President of the US National Committee for UN women San Francisco Bay Area, and author of the **Seven Perfumes of Sacrifice**, a novel about the ancient, lost origins of honor killing in the Middle East.

We also heard about the Justice and Courage Project, the San Francisco Family Violence Council, and Anti-Human Trafficking. There were reports of Gender Equality in the workplace and all the new Legislation.

Our own Marta Mendoza, of Tech trek fame, was invited as a young woman on the move up

A few of us went to a goddess tour of the Asian Art Museum, and loved it.

The Asian has a monthly tour and a number of us have memberships with extra coupons added. Senior Premium for example has three extra. You are invited to join us.

Send your "yes I want to come" email to Andrea—[mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com) and when the next one comes up I will e-mail you with particulars.



We will be having our Holiday Party at the wonderful Italian restaurant **Mescolanza**. More details to follow.

Finally, as mentioned last month we have instituted a phone tree to remind members about upcoming events. We will leave a voice message if we get no answer, and we will also continue our email blasts.

Please contact your board members if there are programs or groups you would like to see started. We want to hear from you!

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

### **AAUWSF Board Meeting**

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, November 9**, at Corrine Sacks' condo, 1835 Franklin St. #401 (between Sacramento and Clay). If there is a problem finding street parking,, pull into the driveway of the condo building, tell the doorman you are visiting Corrine, and ask to have your car parked.

Call Corrine at 415-292-4130 if you have any questions.

The potluck will begin at 6:30 pm., and the meeting will start at 7 pm. Please let Barbara know if you are unable to attend.

### **Afternoons With Books**

**Date: Friday, November 18, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.**

**Book/Author:** The inheritance of Loss, by Kiran Desai

**Hostess:** Corrine Sacks, 1835 Franklin St. #401  
Please RSVP to Corrine at 415-292-4130 or [cpsacks@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsacks@yahoo.com)

### **International Book Group**

**Date: Monday, November 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Book/Author:** Dreams of Trespass, Tales of Harem Girlhood, by Fatima Mernisi

**Hostess:** Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St.

Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-664-4985 or [wawonast@earthlink.net](mailto:wawonast@earthlink.net)

### **Saturday Book Club**

**Date: Saturday, November 12 at 11 am**

**Book/Author:** Kindred, by Octavia Butler

**Hostess:** Corrine Sacks, 1835 Franklin St. #401

Please RSVP to Corrine at 415-292-4130  
[cpsacks@yahoo.com](mailto:cpsacks@yahoo.com)

### **Lunch Bunch**

**Date: Tuesday, November 8 at 12 noon.**

**Where: S & T Hong Kong Seafood**, 2588 Noriega St. between 32<sup>nd</sup> and 33rd Avenues, in the Sunset.

For more information, contact Mary Suter at 415-665-1185 or [marsuter@yahoo.com](mailto:marsuter@yahoo.com).

Or just show up!!

### **Movie Night**

The Saturday Book Club invites you to join us on

**Date: Saturday, November 5, at 5 pm**

**Hostess:** Peggy Kavounas, 565 Marina Blvd.

We will be seeing **Ruth Rendell Mysteries**.

Popcorn is included.

Call Peggy at 415-397-7209 and let her know you are coming!

**Holiday Party**

*Saturday, December 10, 2016, 11:00 AM  
Mescolanza Restaurant, 3750 Geary Blvd.*

**STUZZICHINO**

*Platters with:*

*BRUSCHETTA CON POMODORO* grilled slices of  
bread, marinated tomatoes  
*ANTIPASTO MESCOLOANZA*

**INSALATE**

*INSALATA MISTA* butter lettuce, roma tomatoes,  
house dressing

OR

*INSALATA DI CESARE* classic romaine salad, house  
made croutons

**ENTREES**

*Your choice of:*

*GNOCCHI SPINACI* homemade spinach dumpling,  
creamy tomato sauce

OR

*PETTO DI POLLO ALLA PARMIGIANA* breast of  
chicken parmigiana, accompanied by seasonal  
vegetables

OR

*VEAL AL MARSALA* pounded veal, shallots,  
mushrooms, Marsala wine, accompanied by  
seasonal vegetables

OR

*FILLETTO* fillet mignon served on a bed of grilled red  
onions and grilled mushrooms, accompanied by  
seasonal vegetables (additional \$5.00)

**DOLCE**

*Your choice of:*

*CREME CAMELLA* vanilla pudding and  
caramelized sugar

OR

*CIOCCOLATA CON AMARETTI* chocolate flan with  
amaretto and crushed amaretti cookies

**BEVANDE**

*Italian coffee, tea, or soda*

**Cost is \$35. Please mail checks to AAUW-SF at PO  
Box 31405, SF 94131 and put entree choice on  
check.**

**PayPal also available.**

**RSVP by Dec. 3**

**In addition, email your entree choice to  
[mamalaudate@gmail.com](mailto:mamalaudate@gmail.com)**

**Tech Trek**

It is time to consider a year end donation to the  
Tech Trek Program to help support our campers for  
2017. How do I fill out my check so my donation is  
credited to Tech Trek San Francisco Branch? It has  
become easier since the program has gone  
national.

**Payee Line** of your check: AAUW

**Memo Line**, lower left side usually: Tech Trek San  
Francisco Branch

If you have any questions about how to complete  
your check, please contact Elaine Butler, Tech Trek  
Coordinator. Checks should be mailed to Tech Trek  
AAUW-SF, P.O. Box 31405, San Francisco, CA  
94131-0405

**Tech Trek Donor Thank You for October**

**Elaine Butler** in honor of Stephen Butler,  
**Kathy Schmidt**, Marilyn Leal, gone but never  
forgotten

If you choose to honor someone with your  
donation, an acknowledgement will be sent to the  
person or the family of your thoughtful donation.

## A Sense of Family Duty

### Pat Camerena

She grew up, like many other famous women long ago, strongly influenced by her father. His presence affected her to the very last moment of her life when she died on the day of his funeral. Although a friend of some of America's greatest philosophers such as Emerson and Thoreau, her father was never a financial success as an educator. He subscribed to the then controversial educational idea that emphasized student involvement. He also believed that children should enjoy learning. Regarding their education, Louisa and her sisters benefited from this philosophy. However poverty constantly plagued the family. Louisa, the second oldest daughter, soon came to internalize the family's financial needs as her own. She took various jobs to help out, but soon turned to writing poetry or prose. Not initially wildly successful, she was forced to take employment as a governess and even a domestic servant traveling to Europe as a companion. Much of this employment served as material for her later writing. During the Civil War she worked as a nurse in Washington, grinding out potboilers during her spare moments. It was after 1867 when she wrote what became the unequalled book for juvenile literature, and which was to be her greatest achievement. Little Women surpassed in popularity anything that she would later write. Timeless constants of personal growth, her books about the travails of the March family gave an intimate picture of domestic life that readers for more than a century have found captivating. Louisa became successful drawing upon what she herself had experienced...the personal relationships and financial difficulties that had affected her own family.

Louisa May Alcott never outgrew the dominating influence of her family. She spent her professionally successful adulthood in the same

way that she had spent her youth...caring for her family's needs.

[www.xroadsvirginia.edu](http://www.xroadsvirginia.edu)  
[www.louisamayalcott.org](http://www.louisamayalcott.org)  
[www.historynet.com](http://www.historynet.com)

## Playing Now

### Paula Campbell

San Francisco Playhouse's new season is off to a fabulous start with the world premiere of Theresa Rebeck's Seared. And what a great start to the season it is – funny, insightful, cleverly constructed to hold the audience in thrall, beautifully acted, and as an added bonus – it even smells good, as Bill English's ingenious set allows actual cooking onstage. Set in the kitchen of a newly opened restaurant, Seared fills the theatre with the delicious sizzle and aromas of food being prepared.

Rebeck has received numerous awards, such as Finalist: [Pulitzer Prize for Drama](#), Mystery Writers of America's [Edgar Award](#), the [Writers Guild of America](#) Award for Episodic Drama, the Hispanic Images [Imagen Award](#), the [Peabody Award](#), National Theatre Conference Award, William Inge New Voices Playwriting Award, [PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater Award](#). Her TV shows and films credits include: [Smash](#), [Catwoman](#), [Sunday on the Rocks](#), [Seducing Charlie Barker](#), [Gossip](#), plays include: Seminar, Mauritius, The Scene, Ominium Gatherum, Dead Accounts, Seared, and many others.

Under Margaret Perry's skilled direction, Seared's four actors bring out every nuance of their characters, every hint of their inner conflict as well as their overt problems. Harry (Brian Dykstra), the chef, and Mike (Rod Gnapp), the money man, have opened a small restaurant in Brooklyn, and with Rodney (Larry Powell), their server and general

dogsbody, all work hard to achieve success. They are close to getting there when Harry's seared scallops receive a review which raves off the page. The restaurant is filled with diners wanting to try the fabulous scallops. The problem is that Harry refuses to ever make the dish again. He claims he can't get the quality scallops that he needs, and he refuses to make the dish with anything less. Ingredients must meet his high standards – or the dish is gone from the menu. Mike struggles with this, trying to make Harry see that the restaurant must succeed; it's losing money at a fast pace – if they keep up the way they're going they'll soon have to shut down. Harry cannot, or will not understand. As far as he is concerned he's an artist, far more than an average chef, his food is a reflection of his culinary genius. They are at an impasse. Enter Emily (Alex Sunderhaus), a business consultant filled with ideas of how the restaurant can flourish. She has suggestions for additions to the menu, expanding the number of covers (meals) by enlarging and rearranging the physical space. More covers will enable them to hire more help, so the restaurant can grow. She's a one woman hive of activity – she knows how to make a restaurant succeed and she promises that she can do it for them.

The problem, and the conflict that drives the plot, is that Harry resists at every turn. He regards Emily as the enemy, and Mike's support of her ideas as disloyalty and worse, betrayal. Mike is at his wit's end – Harry will not be moved. But the restaurant is expanded, Emily's ideas are realized, Mike and Rodney work well with her, and Harry becomes the odd man out. We begin to wonder if Harry actually fears success. Emily succeeds in arranging for the city's most influential food critic to eat at the restaurant, and Harry is beyond reason when he finds out. What ensues is gut wrenching, as well as a definite spoiler so I won't go into it.

**Seared** is about many things – long term friendship, loyalty, small business versus corporate America, the perceived prerogatives of genius. It's almost two plays in one, the first a fascinating look at the restaurant business, the second a story of friendship and (perhaps) madness.

**Seared** is a must see – everything about this production shines. The writing, the acting, the set – everything! It's easy to imagine it succeeding at a theatre in New York, something which can't be said for too many local productions; **Seared** is exceptional.

**Seared**, through Nov12 . 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: <https://sfplayhouse.org/sfph/get-tickets/>  
Tues-Wed-Thurs 7pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, select Sats 3pm, select Suns 2pm.

## New Members

Stephanie Grover  
Stephanie Rapoza  
Yvonne Steffen  
Kimberly Floren

## Contact Change

Please note that the email address of our membership chair, Nancy Shapiro has changed . She can now be reached at [nancy.shapiro@sonic.net](mailto:nancy.shapiro@sonic.net)

## November Birthdays

Adrienne Kristine	November 3
Sandra Martino	November 5
Alicia Helman	November 7
Sherry Bridygham	November 8
Jeaneen O'Donnell	November 11
Efren Cruz	November 17
Anna Yang	November 19
Kathleen Cha	November 22
Andrea Laudate	November 26
Giselle Parry	November 27
Kelly Joseph	November 29
Beth Wells	November 30

### **Birthday Not Announced?**

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

**AAUWSF Board**

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**November 2016**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Movie Nite 5:00 PM
5	7	8 Lunch Bunch 12 N	9	10	11	12 Sat Bk GP 11:00 AM
13	14	15	16	17	18 Aft w/ Books 1:30 PM	19
20	21 Int'l Books 7:00 PM	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

*Well-behaved women seldom make history.*  
 Laurel Thatcher Ulrich



**Avanti Editor**

AAUW  
 San Francisco Branch  
 P.O. Box 31405  
 San Francisco, CA 94131-0405  
 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.