



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

April 2017

President's Message

The letters have gone out and we are happy to say that we have picked out our Tech Trekkers. We will have a send-off party at Immaculate Conception Academy (ICA) on May 20, starting at 10:30 am, at the corner of 24th Street and Valencia in the auditorium. Come and meet the new Tech Trekkers.

Now is the time to let us know if you have any wants/needs or desire to join our Board of Directors. Every office needs help. There are so many new things going on and very few people who can help. We will be getting even more new ideas to help our girls and women on May 23 at the Alliance for Girls Conference.

Join us at Alliance for Girls' 5th Annual Conference: *Together We Rise* in Oakland on Tuesday, May 23rd. Alliance for Girls is the largest regional alliance of girls' organizations and leaders from across the country! From actresses to legislators to funders to girl leaders, *Together We Rise* is convening the mavericks of the girls' movement to engage in critical conversations and illuminate a path forward that will lead us to a brighter future. Speakers include: **Kalisha Dessources**, former policy advisor to the Obama White House Council on Women and Girls, **Genevieve Angelson**, actress and lead in the acclaimed Amazon original series *Good Girls Revolt*, **Zahra Biloo**, executive director

of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, San Francisco Bay Area, and **Libby Schaaf**, Mayor of Oakland. Any of our branch members who would like to attend should contact Andrea or Barbara for the code to register as members.

Finally, Equal Pay Day is April 4. This date symbolizes how far into 2017 women must work to earn what men earned in 2016. On average women working full-time make 78 cents for every dollar a male earns doing the same job. The pay gap is even worse for women of color — for African American women the gap is 64% compared to white men, and Hispanic women 54%. We will keep working to close these gaps!

Andrea Laudate and Barbara Spencer,
Co-Presidents

AAUWSF Board Meeting

The next board meeting is on **Wednesday, April 12, 2017**, 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 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, April 21, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.
Book/Author: Sister in Law, by Linda Hirshman
Hostess: Connie Armitage, 1952 16th Ave.
 Please RSVP to Connie at 415-681-2110 or Connie_Armitage@yahoo.com

International Book Group

Date: Monday, April 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Book/Author: A Town Like Alice, by Nevil Shute
Hostess: Sheila Bost, 19 Wawona St.
 Please RSVP to Sheila at 415-823-0961 or wawonsast@earthlink.com

Saturday Book Club

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 11 am
Book/Author: Find A Way, by Diana Nyad
Hostess: Mary and Anna, 1200 18 St.
 Please RSVP to Mary at 415-255-8234 or mary.renner2@gmail.com

Lunch Bunch

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at Noon
Where: Lers Ros Thai
 (Unique and fresh Thai dishes)
 307 Hayes Street
 For more information contact Mary Suter at 415-561-1185 or marsuter@yahoo.com

Or just come for a fun experience with AAUW friends

International Dinner

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
Place: Basque Cultural Center
 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco
Transportation: Directions and carpooling will be available.
Menu: Details and menu will be forthcoming by email.
 For additional information, contact Sheila Bost at 415-664-4985

EQUAL PAY DAY

We're just one week away from **Equal Pay Day 2017!** On Tuesday, April 4, people across the United States will observe a national day of action to combat the gender pay gap. This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to bring home what men made in 2016.

While that's not exactly cause for celebration, observing Equal Pay Day (EPD) with **events**, press, and calls-to-action can be an effective way to raise awareness about the gender pay gap in your community.

Now, AAUW has made it even easier for you to take action with this EPD letter-to-the-editor tool!

Writing and submitting a letter-to-the-editor (LTE) is simple. There is a link on the AAUW website. Just enter your zip code, and choose a local newspaper. Next, you'll draft your LTE using the sample talking points and tips provided. Once you're finished personalizing your letter, click submit and your letter will be sent to the newspaper of your choosing.

All that's left for you to do is keep your eyes peeled for your letter in print. If it's published, don't forget to **let us know!**

Ready to make Equal Pay Day 2017 our most impactful yet?

YWact

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

Don't miss this chance to advocate on behalf of women and girls! We're organizing this lobby day next Tuesday on the women's agenda with Stronger CA and Equal Rights Advocates, and hope to see a strong crowd. It's an exciting day with a press conference with the women's caucus and a committee hearing for the new parent leave bill on top of legislator visits. There will be a webinar the day before with talking points and what to expect, as well as a quick training day-of to refresh.

There are buses from San Francisco and Oakland, as well as a carpool organized from our office in San Rafael. Give me a call if you're curious about bringing some of your girls – this is an incredible opportunity for young advocates, there will be plenty of ways to participate, and I'm happy to help you figure out if this is a good fit for some first-timers (program participants or staff!).

If you can't be there in person, be sure to follow along with #StrongerCA for online calls to action.

Thanks, and looking forward to seeing some of you there!

Laura (415) 971-6753

Making a Difference

If you want to make your voice heard, there are number of new things to check out.

The SF Chronical has a new column listing political events in the Bay Area. It can be found in the Bay area section daily.

AAUW's website is also listing political actions that you may want to support. Check advocacy@aauw.org

Tech Trek

This month we choose the girls who we will sponser for Tech Trek Camp.

Tech Trek Interviews, So Many Choices, Now Made

Big thanks go to Support for Families of Children with Disabilities, who allowed us to use their rooms at no cost. We scheduled 46 girls for interviews. We had one girl drop out and one no show so we actually saw **44** and that is a record. There were **11** schools represented by this year's nominees.

I hope I don't forget anyone, as I want to thank our AAUW members. So here it goes. With thanks being sent to: Stephanie Glover, Sheila Bost, Elaine Butler, Pat Spencer, Connie Armitage, Susan Kwock, Nancy Shapiro, Samantha Fisher, Cathy Corcoran, Barbara Spencer, John DeCastro, Andrea Laudate, Kelly Joseph, Esther Wong, Sara Bohner and Marta Mendoza.



Danielle, Tech Trek Alum and Kelly Joseph AAUW Board

We couldn't have done it without our Tech Trek Alums: Samantha Lee, Danielle Joseph, Katarina Spisz, Limia Sattary, Madeleine Larson, Shireen Kaytal, Emi Tsutakawa, Shavonne Hines-Foster, Elysia Cohen-Cox, Rachel Cockrell, Erica Ng, Rebekka Kivimae, C.B Pereira and Michelle Song.



Elaine and Katarina

Thanks to Sheila Bost, who also opened her home to us to make difficult choice for the 2017 camperships, We met on March 25th and now have 14 girls chosen for camp at Stanford.

Mark your calendars for a **May 20th** Get Acquainted and Send-Off party at 10:30 AM at ICA or Immaculate Conception Academy. {Thank you Andrea and Marta!} More about this to follow in the May AVANTI. It will be a chance for AAUW members, Alums, Donors, and the Campers and their Families. It will be an exciting event in a new venue.

March Donors:

Thank you to these generous donors.

Mardi Kildebeck

Pat Spencer

Thank you to all our donors each month. They keep the program strong and allow us to several girls to camp each year.

Note: if you donate through AAUW, your donation is credited to a California camp but not to SF Branch campers. Please send you donation to Barbara Spencer, and write it AAUW with Tech Trek in the memo line.

Elaine Butler, Tech Trek Coordinator, SF Branch

Kate Undercover

Pat Cameraena

In 1861, president-elect Abraham Lincoln was preparing to travel by train to Washington, D.C. for his inauguration. The president-to-be had garnered many enemies both in and out of the Union sphere. He needed inside information regarding his foes so as to be prepared to counter any schemes that would be detrimental to the government. For this reason Lincoln hired Allan Pinkerton's private detection agency. Pinkerton's agents were given the task of uncovering details of a suspected plot by southern sympathizers to kill Lincoln before his train reached the nation's capital. Pinkerton chose his best operatives for this important mission. One of his most skilled undercover detectives was a young woman named Kate Warne. Five years earlier Kate had come to Pinkerton's Chicago office seeking, not the advertised female secretarial position, but rather a job as a detective. Hesitant initially but impressed with her demeanor and self confidence, Pinkerton took a chance and hired her. Employing Kate turned out to one of Pinkerton's best decisions. She offered a skill set that male agents lacked. As a woman going undercover, she was able to gain the confidence and friendship of other women family members or friends close to suspects. In this way Kate was able to gain valuable information related to the agency's criminal cases, such as locating murder witnesses or where robbery loot had been stashed. As Lincoln prepared to travel to Washington, Kate was sent to Baltimore to spy on the suspects. She was able to

ferret out the details of how the suspects planned to kill Lincoln as he changed trains. It is said that she couriered messages to Lincoln's party and helped smuggle him onto a different train that would transport him safely through Baltimore and on to Washington, Kate Warne continued to be involved in other high profile criminal cases during the Civil War. She also trained and supervised the other female operatives that Pinkerton recruited. She later became superintendent of detectives. These were unusual positions for women given that females weren't allowed to be part of any police force until 1891 and could not serve as detectives until 1903.

The accompanying photo is thought to be a likeness of Kate Warne.



www.civilwarwomenblog.com

www.civilwartalk.com

www.allday.com

Playing Now

Paula Campbell

Paula Vogel's **The Baltimore Waltz**, now playing at the Magic Theatre, skillfully directed by Jonathan Moscone, stirs a combination of emotions in the audience that left me breathless when the play ended and the stage went dark. At a fast reading,

it's a play about AIDS, but Vogel says no to that, it's really a play about memory, love, grief, and the healing power of sex.

Vogel, an award winning playwright, Pulitzer Prize for Drama 1988, Obie Best Play 1992, Award for Literature [The American Academy of Arts and Letters](http://www.americanacademy.org) 2004, and a plethora of other awards, has been an academic as well, Chair of Playwriting at Yale School for Drama, Professor of Playwriting at Brown University.

Baltimore Waltz tells the story of her, Anna's, trip (or non-trip since it takes place only in her mind) to Europe with her brother Carl, when he was dying of AIDS. But in **Waltz**, it is she, Anna, who is dying, not of AIDS, but of ATD, Acquired Toilet Disease, a fatal, contagious disease striking elementary school teachers who use the same toilet their students use. ATD gets no government money for research, is #42 on the NIH's list of diseases, and as Anna's doctor says regarding treatment "They're trying all sorts of things abroad. Our hands are tied here by the NIH and FDA..." If this sounds familiar to you it should, since these are exactly the same things that happened when AIDS decimated the gay population in the early 80's. I could almost hear the voice of Larry Kramer, founder of Act-Up, saying it in his play **The Normal Heart**.

By now you understand the while **Waltz** is about a serious subject, it's a very funny play. Anna and Carl take off for Europe on the advice of her doctor, who recommends a doctor in Vienna who's doing research into ATD. FYI – this is a three character play – all the other characters, the doctor, the people they meet in Europe, other doctors, are played by the same actor, in different costumes, wigs, and oh so different accents. Anna sees sex as a life force, and essentially, as she puts it "f..ks [her] way across Europe." Meanwhile Carl is meeting all sorts of unsavory men. An undertone of a sinister spy plot begins to develop, centered

around Carl's childhood toy rabbit, which he has brought with him on the trip. An example is when he meets his old acquaintance Harry Lime in Vienna. The **Third Man** theme music plays in the background, as they ride the ferris wheel. No cure is ever found for Anna, and Carl and Anna return to the US. The scene switches to the hospital where Carl is dying. After his death, music, a Strauss waltz, starts to play. Carl appears, dressed in Viennese military uniform, complete with resplendent plumes in his helmet, and he and Anna dance their waltz.

The actors do a wonderful job, never quite hitting bathos but certainly pathos, yet never missing a comic cue. Lauren English makes Anna both comic and tragic, while Patrick Alparone as Carl is a perfect straight man to both Anna and all the other characters, played with joie de vivre by Greg Jackson. Jackson is amazing, able to change character on a dime, never confusing his ridiculous accents, always somehow making us laugh when he is the ultimate villain.

Special mention must be made of Nina Ball's brilliant set design. She takes us through many different rooms, in many different countries, by clever use of drapery and furniture. Each is sparse, only a few pieces, yet each perfectly tells us not just where we are, but what the prevalent mood is as well.

In the print script, and in the theatre program Vogel includes a letter Carl wrote to her as he was

dying. She wants the audience to get a sense of Carl, who he was, what he was like.

There's a wonderful video online of Paula Vogel talking about the play. If you'd like to see it this is the URL:

<http://www.broadwayworld.com/videoplay/VIDEO-Playwright-Paula-Vogel-Talks-THE-BALTIMORE-WALTZ-at-Magic-Theatre-20170328>

I **LOVED** this production. I hope you will too.

The Baltimore Waltz, through April 16. The Magic Theatre, Fort Mason, Building D, third floor.
Tickets: Box Office 441- 8822 Online <http://magictheatre.org>
Tues 7pm, Wed--Sat 8pm, Wed—Sun—some Sats-- 2:30pm.

New Members

Nanci Cooper
Samantha Fisher

April Birthdays

Patricia Arango	April 1
Joanne Mandell	April 6
Holly Millar	April 22
Roberta Guise	April 28

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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April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Lunch Bunch 12N	12	13 Intern'l Dinner 6:00 PM	14	15
16	17 Int'l Book Group 7PM	18	19	20	21 Aft W Books 1:30PM	22 Sat Bk Grp 11 AM
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Life is short, do stuff that matters

Siqi Chen



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



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.