

# Gold Filings



October 2024

**AAUW Mission:** Advancing gender equity through research, education, and advocacy

**Vision:** Equality for all.

**Values:** Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality

## Message from the Leadership Chair



Greetings!

Fall is starting to treat us to cooler nights, however the days are still hot. To get cooler days, we just have to hang in there. It will happen.

I hope to see you at the *Women in Elected Office* program on Saturday, October 26 at 2:00pm. We're fortunate to have several women mayors in our midst. So cool! The mayors of Amador City, Sutter Creek and Plymouth will be present at this event to discuss their journey into office. It promises to be very inspirational. Go ahead and invite your friends and neighbors to this wonderful program.

We also just finished our successful "Get Out the Vote" campaign at the three local high schools. The final

total was 21 students registered with 4 already registered. Sixteen students took advantage of the convenient QR code to register later. We made some great connections at each of the high schools and hope to collaborate with them in the future. Thanks go to Mel Welsh, Sandee Bowman and all the wonderful volunteers who made it a success. Take a look at the photo of Cyndie Zikmund, one of our volunteers, who brought her drum and jammed with some of the high school students.

I hope you take some time to enjoy some gorgeous fall views. One suggestion: the trees in Hope Valley are already starting to change, so now's the time.

Cheers,  
Terrie Houseman  
Leadership Chair

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"Get Out the Vote" team at Independence HS:  
Sande Bowm, Mel Welsh, Janie Brown,  
Stephanie Young



Cyndie Zikmund leading a percussion jam session at Argonaut HS during the GOTV event

## Programs

### **Perspectives from Women in Elected Office** **SAVE THE DATE: October 26th at 2:00 p.m.**

Please join us for AAUW's first program of the year. We will host a panel of women who will share their experiences as elected officials. To date, Mayors Sandy Staples of Amador City, Claire Gunselman of Sutter Creek and Marianne Akerland of Plymouth have accepted our invitation to participate. Learn about how they became interested in running for office and their perspectives on serving the community.

### **Call for Volunteers:**

Do we see your hand raised in the back? We should. The branch is asking right now for volunteers to help do what needs doing. What are you good at? What do you want to be better at? What makes you feel warm and fuzzy? Find a role that rewards both you and AAUW. It is not necessary to volunteer for anything that requires spandex costumes, an understanding of the laws of motion, or the ability to use Disney ride apps.

- We need volunteers to assist with all programs (contact Sue Harrington)

- We need a new DEI Coordinator (contact Bonnie Krupp if you have questions)
- We need volunteers for the Hospitality Committee (contact Terrie Houseman)

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## October Calendar

**Thursday, October 3, 4:00-6:00pm**

**Leadership Committee Meeting via Zoom**

*All members are invited to attend. If you wish to be included, please contact [Terrie Houseman](#).*

**Monday, October 7, 9:00am**

**Walking Group**

Location: Lake Tabeaud / 3 miles - easy walk

Meet at the parking lot near the restrooms

Contact [Sande Bowman](#) to confirm you are joining the walk.

**Thursday, October 10, 5:30-6:30pm**

**Libations and Conversations**

Our speaker is Janet Migliore. Janet is a Qigong/Tai Chi instructor and will be speaking and demonstrating the movement of Tai Chi. The location is TENTATIVELY Scott Harvey Tasting Room in Sutter Creek. Look for emails regarding any changes.

**Monday, October 14, 2:00-4:00pm**

**Afternoon Book Group**

We are meeting at Debra Brown's house to discuss *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides

Contact Debra Brown if you would like to join our group [debrown6@gmail.com](mailto:debrown6@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, October 22, 5:30pm**

**Working Girls Book Club**

This month we will meet at Graze Restaurant in Pine Grove to discuss *The Cemetery of Untold Stories* by Julia Alvarez.

Contact Jacque Fletcher [fletcherja4545@gmail.com](mailto:fletcherja4545@gmail.com) if you would like to join or have questions.

**Wednesday, October 23rd, 9:00am**

**Walking Group**

Location: Amador City / 3-4 miles - moderate walk

Meet at the gravel parking lot at the end of town.

Contact [Sande Bowman](#) to confirm you are joining the walk.

**Saturday, October 26 2:00-4:00pm**

**PROGRAM: Women in Elected Office**

Amador High School Giles Turner Performing Arts Center

330 Spanish Street, Sutter Creek

See article above for details.

**Monday, October 28, 12:00-1:30pm**

**Great Decisions**

We will meet at the Jackson View Clubhouse to discuss *The High Seas Treaty*.

**Monday, October 28, 2:00-4:00pm**

**Page Turners & Book Lovers**

We will meet at Kate Kramer Ingvoldstad's house to discuss *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

Contact Sandee Bowman if you are interested in joining the group. [Sbowman56@gmail.com](mailto:Sbowman56@gmail.com)

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**Save these Dates!**

**Tuesday, December 3, 4:00-6:30pm--Giving Tuesday**

Kahtryn Drexel Hall in Martell

**Sunday, December 8, 2:00-5:00pm--Holiday Party**

at Kani Flansburg's house in Pine Grove

**Saturday, January 11, 2:00pm**

**PROGRAM: The State of Journalism with Scott Anderson**

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**DEI--Diversity, Equity, Inclusion**

**We are looking for a new DEI Coordinator!**

Please contact Bonnie Krupp or Terrie Houseman if you are interested!

**An Asian-American story:**

**Mary Tape** immigrated to the United States at age 11 and ended up as a servant in a brothel in San Francisco. She was raised at the Ladies' Protection and Relief Society, where she took the name of Mary McGladery. Mary met and married a young Chinese immigrant, Joseph Tape. He established his own prosperous transportation and immigration brokering business.

Their wealth could not inoculate them from racial discrimination during this time of anti-Chinese exclusion and racial hostility. In 1884, their daughter was denied admission to a local school because she is Chinese. Incensed, Mary wrote an impassioned letter, and the Tapes sued the San Francisco Board of Education. **They won the landmark case Tape v. Hurley, which guaranteed Chinese children the right to a public-school education.**

After the court decision, the school district built a Chinese Primary School, "suitable for Mongolian children". The Tape case and the state's reaction **foreshadowed the "separate but equal" doctrine soon to become law in the 1896 decision Plessy v. Ferguson.**

- *Renee Tajima-Peña, Series Producer of the upcoming PBS series Asian Americans and a Professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles*

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# Membership

**Be as Active as You Can, but Stay a Member**

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## October Birthdays

- 10/02 -- Helen Loffland
- 10/05 -- Candace Diamond
- 10/11 -- Kate Kramer Ingvaldstad
- 10/17 -- Celina Clark
- 10/18 -- Stephanie Young
- 10/19 -- Sandee Bowman
- 10/22 -- Barb Gurnari
- 10/22 -- Peggy Jolley
- 10/27 -- Armen Kendig

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## Know Someone Who'd Like to Join AAUW?

**Word of mouth is the best way to recruit new members!**

**Why Join?** AAUW offers multiple ways to stay engaged with our mission of advancing equity for women and girls, as well as to develop friendship with others who understand that the fight for equality is still critical! Excellent national webinars! Engaging monthly branch programs! A wide variety of interest group meetings! Energetic, intellectually curious friends!

A mission that is more important than ever!

Contact **Zeffy Ruvalcaba** for membership information.

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## 2025 Great Decisions is forming now

If you are interested in joining the 2025 Great Decisions discussion group, please contact **Stephanie Young** by October 15. There is a 20% discount on the issue books if we order 10 or more at once, and that sale is only available for one week near the end of October. There will be one daytime discussion group and one evening discaission group.

### The 2025 Topics are:

- American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads
- U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy
- U.S.-China Relations
- International Cooperation on Climate Change
- The Future of NATO and European Security
- AI and American National Security
- India: between China, the West, and the Global South
- After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East

## We encourage all members to contribute to Gold Filings

If you have a recommendation for a book, film, event or a special interest group update, please send the info to Stephanie by the 10th or the 25th of the month.

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## Public Policy

### **AAUW Voter Issue Guide**

<https://www.aauwaction.org/voter-education/voter-issue-guide/>

**How to Use the 2024 Voter Issue Guide:** This nonpartisan guide will help you learn about key issues supporting gender equity so you can cast your ballot for candidates who share your values. It includes sample questions to:

- Help you evaluate candidates' stances
- Ask at public events (virtual and in-person)
- Discuss over social media

Share this voter guide with friends and family  
— and make sure everyone votes!

**Download the 2024 Voter Issue Guide in English and Spanish:**

Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination in Schools

Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education

College Affordability and Student Debt

Pay Equity

Paid Family and Sick Leave

Reproductive Rights and Abortion Access

Voting Rights

Equal Rights Amendment

### Voter Education

- [Head to Head Voter Guides](#)
- [Congressional Voting Record](#)
- [Download the 2024 Voter Issue Guide](#)
- [Ballot Initiatives](#)
- [AAUW Quick Facts](#)

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From California



# CERTIFICATE

## RECOGNITION

THE CERTIFICATE IS PROUDLY PRESENTED TO

### Amador Branch

AAUW of California proudly congratulates the branch leaders and members who, over the decades, have exemplified their commitment to promoting equity for women and girls by breaking down educational and economic barriers.

AAUW of California values the contributions you have made over the years and will continue to make, because "equity is still an issue." Congratulations on attaining this memorable milestone!

*Sandra M. Gabe*  
Sandi Gabe  
AAUW California State President



June 22, 2024

*Acknowledgement from the state board that we are celebrating an important anniversary. The certificate was presented at the September Member Appreciation Meeting.*

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## From National

### **BE A TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST.**

#### **Yes, Two Minutes Can Make a Difference!**

Join AAUW advocates in urging Congress to expand and pass legislation protecting access to education, economic security and civil rights, and more. Sign up to get alerts on when and how to engage, including sending letters to legislators, publication editors and other timely calls to action. All the tools needed to contact members of Congress and state legislators about pressing issues are provided. Details at [www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/](http://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/)

- [Support Title IX – Write a Letter to the Editor](#)

- [Support the Gender Equity in Education Act](#)
- [End the Student Debt Crisis](#)
- [Pass the Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act](#)
- [Pass the Safe Schools Improvement Act](#)
- [Pass the Paycheck Fairness Act](#)
- [Pay Equity – Write to an Editor](#)
- [Support the Healthy Families Act](#)
- [Pass the BE HEARD in the Workplace Act](#)
- [Raise the Federal Minimum Wage](#)
- [Affirm the Equal Rights Amendment](#)
- [Fight the Attacks on Reproductive Rights](#)
- [Support the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act](#)
- [Pass the Equality Act](#)

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## [Arts and Education](#)





# LET FREEDOM READ!

The freedom to read is under attack — **let's do something about it!**

Take at least one action today to help defend books from censorship and to stand up for library staff, educators, writers, publishers, booksellers, and readers!

## IF YOU HAVE 5 MINUTES...

### CALL A DECISION MAKER

Call school and library administrators and board members, city councilpersons, and elected representatives to ask them to support the right to read!

### SUPPORT AN ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION

Support the organizations fighting censorship! Learn about a few of these organizations at [BannedBooksWeek.org/sponsors/](http://BannedBooksWeek.org/sponsors/)

### JOIN UNITE AGAINST BOOK BANS

Unite Against Book Bans is a national campaign to protect everyone's right to access information. Unite provides a comprehensive toolkit, supports community advocates, and sends targeted messages to mobilize in areas that need it. Add your name: [UniteAgainstBookBans.org/take-action/](http://UniteAgainstBookBans.org/take-action/)

## IF YOU HAVE 15 MINUTES...

### CHECK OUT A BANNED BOOK

Circulation matters! Circulation data can be used to support keeping challenged books on shelves and to justify ordering more books by the same authors or on the same topic.

### BUY A BANNED BOOK

Censorship doesn't just harm libraries and schools; it also impacts writers, publishers, and booksellers. Support the people who make and sell books by buying them!

You can also donate the books you purchase to:

- **Public and school libraries:** Contact your local library or school to find out what they need and how to donate.
- **Little Free Library:** Use their free app ([LittleFreeLibrary.org/app/](http://LittleFreeLibrary.org/app/)) to find a book-sharing box near you!
- **Fundraisers:** Many public libraries are supported by groups that use donated books to raise money.
- **A banned book giveaway or bookmobile:** Call your local bookstore to see if they're hosting a giveaway or supporting a bookmobile.

## IF YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES...

### WRITE A LETTER OR E-MAIL

Write to local school and library boards and elected officials to ask them to defend the right to read for the entire community. Make a public statement for the right to read by writing a letter to the editor in your local paper. Finally, a letter can show library staff, educators, authors, and vulnerable readers that you support them!

### PLAN TO ATTEND A MEETING

While decisions about book bans and library policies are being made at all levels of government, some of the biggest battles are being fought locally. Plan to attend local board and city council meetings to let officials know that many people (including you!) support access to information and oppose censorship.

## IF YOU HAVE AN HOUR OR MORE...

### VOLUNTEER AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Find out how these essential community institutions do so much more than just check out books!

### START ORGANIZING!

No one person or organization can tackle censorship alone. Rally in support of our schools and libraries by bringing together your friends, family, and other members of the community in a shared cause: fighting censorship!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FIGHTING CENSORSHIP BY VISITING [UNITEAGAINSTBOOKBANS.ORG](http://UNITEAGAINSTBOOKBANS.ORG)

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## Freedom to Read Community Day of Action

*from the American Library Association and partners*

Help build on the energy of Banned Books Week by supporting the Freedom to Read Community Day of Action on October 19! Unite Against Book Bans and ALA have partnered with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries, Brooklyn Public Library, New York Public Library, and Queens Public Library to provide everything you need to host an event or engage on social media.

**Here's how to participate and make this a day of solidarity that decision makers can't ignore:**

- Events are being planned in 30+ states around the country. If you can host an in-person or virtual event on October 19, please complete the [event registration form!](#)
- Help spread the word leading up to and on Oct. 19 on social media. Check out the [Day of Action social media toolkit](#) and complete [social media guide](#), which includes instructions on how to create video content in support of our goals.

The Freedom to Read Day of Action is a timely opportunity to share positive, galvanizing messages about the **power of libraries** and **the essential role they play in the functioning of democracy**. Get involved today!

[Join us on October 19!](#)

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## Women Lead the Way On Booker Prize Nominations

For the first time in the literary awards' history, 5 of the 6 nominated novels are by female writers. First awarded in 1969, the Booker Prize is awarded each year to a novel written in English and published in England or Ireland.

Over the years the prize had created literary sensations and capped lifetime careers. Sara Collins, a novelist and a judge, described this as “a gratifying and thrilling moment.” The judges will now reread the books on the short list and will announce the winner at a ceremony in London on November 12.

The short list is

- Percival Everett -- *James*
- Samantha Harvey -- *Orbital*
- Rachel Kushner -- *Creation Lake*
- Anne Michaels -- *Held*
- Yael van der Wansen -- *The Safekeep*
- Charlotte Wood -- *Stone Yard Devotional*

*Excerpted from the Humboldt AAUW Branch Newsletter “The Branch”*

### ***Oh No He Didn't!***

#### ***Brilliant Women and the Men Who Took Credit for Their Work***

by [Wendy Murphy](#)

Don't you hate it when someone takes credit for another person's idea? It happens a lot, and the people who lose out are often women. This book tells the stories of women whose inventions, discoveries, and creations were credited to men—women like Zelda Fitzgerald, the novelist, painter, and playwright who was more than F. Scott's wife, and Margaret Knight, who invented the flat-bottomed paper bag but saw the patent go to a man who stole off to the Patent Office with her idea. By telling the stories of the brilliant women artists, inventors, scientists, architects, and mathematicians who were denied their due,

*Oh No He Didn't!* will help all women tackle obstacles and create a kinship of understanding that will inspire and transcend generations.

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## Some October Holidays or Observances

*Navaratri*, Hindu, October 3 - October 12, 2024

Honors the goddess Durga, the supreme goddess.

*Yom Kippur*, Jewish. October 11 (evening) - October 12 (evening), 2024

Holiest day of the Jewish year when Jews seek to expiate their sins and achieve reconciliation with God.

*Indigenous Peoples' Day*, October 14, 2024

Honors the histories, cultures, and perspectives of indigenous peoples and their ancestors who lived on the land now known as North America.

*Diwali*, Hindu, October 31-November 1, 2024

Celebrates the victory of Lord Krishna's destruction of the demon Naraka who is said to have imprisoned women and tormented his subjects.

*Halloween*, October 31, 2024

It is at the beginning of the observance of Allhallowtide, the time in the Christian liturgical year dedicated to remembering the dead.

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## Contact Us / Social Media

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[instagram.com/aauwamador/](https://instagram.com/aauwamador/)

[YouTube.com/@aauwamador](https://YouTube.com/@aauwamador)

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