

## Celebrate Women's History Month

**Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**Central United Methodist Church - Fireside Room**

We will celebrate Women's History Month at our branch meeting on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

You are guaranteed to be inspired as you listen to the finalists in our high school inspiring women essay contest read aloud their essays.

Our speaker is AAUW new member Chibwe Chungu, an inspiring woman herself. Originally from the African country of Zimbabwe, Chungu is a PHD in plant breeding. She has made significant contributions to food security through the many varieties of plants she developed leading breeding programs and collaborating with others. You're sure to enjoy hearing about her life story and professional journey.

This month's branch meeting will feature a more filling continental breakfast, so come with an appetite.



*Chibwe Chungu*

**When:**

Saturday, March 23, 9:30am

**Where:**

Central United Methodist Church  
Fireside Room  
3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton

**Cost:** \$10

**Reservation Deadline:** Wed., March 20<sup>th</sup>

Call or Text Reservation Chair Betty Parsons  
@ (408) 309-8958 to Make a Reservation  
[bjpars\\_95120@yahoo.com](mailto:bjpars_95120@yahoo.com)

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# President's Message



2023-2024

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[aauwstockton.org](http://aauwstockton.org)

### Delta Steamer

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### Editor

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March is Women's History Month, and throughout recorded history strong women have been in the forefront. Many have led their countries, yet only fourteen countries have full equal rights for women. Unfortunately, the United States is NOT one of those countries.

Passing the Equal Rights Amendment has been met with opposition from the very beginning. The ERA was proposed in 1923, a century ago, passed both houses of Congress, at long last, in 1972, and was sent to the state legislatures for approval. The amendment remains one state shy of the  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the state legislatures necessary for full ratification and inclusion in the Constitution, and the time limit to ratify has expired.

Why the opposition? Groups opposed to the ERA argued that it could make it possible for abortion to become a Constitutional right. Some argue that women could be drafted for service in combat. Others are concerned that the phrase "on the basis of sex," which is included in the amendment, could be applied to members of the LGBTQ+ community also. In addition, most states have already independently enacted a state-wide ERA, so why is a national amendment necessary? As it stands, women have actually lost some of the rights that we had fifty years ago, and it seems to be getting worse, not better. The amendment might be symbolic, but it is important.

In 2020, Justice Ginsburg argued that it might be best to start over again with a new amendment with, perhaps, a change in phrasing. However, she held on to the belief that a Constitutional amendment was necessary because "the union will be more perfect when men and women are persons of equal citizenship stature." This would guarantee fundamental human rights to healthcare, education, and economic opportunities for all.

(Ruth Bader Ginsburg in an address at Georgetown School of Law, February 15, 2020)

Sandra Mazzuola  
President



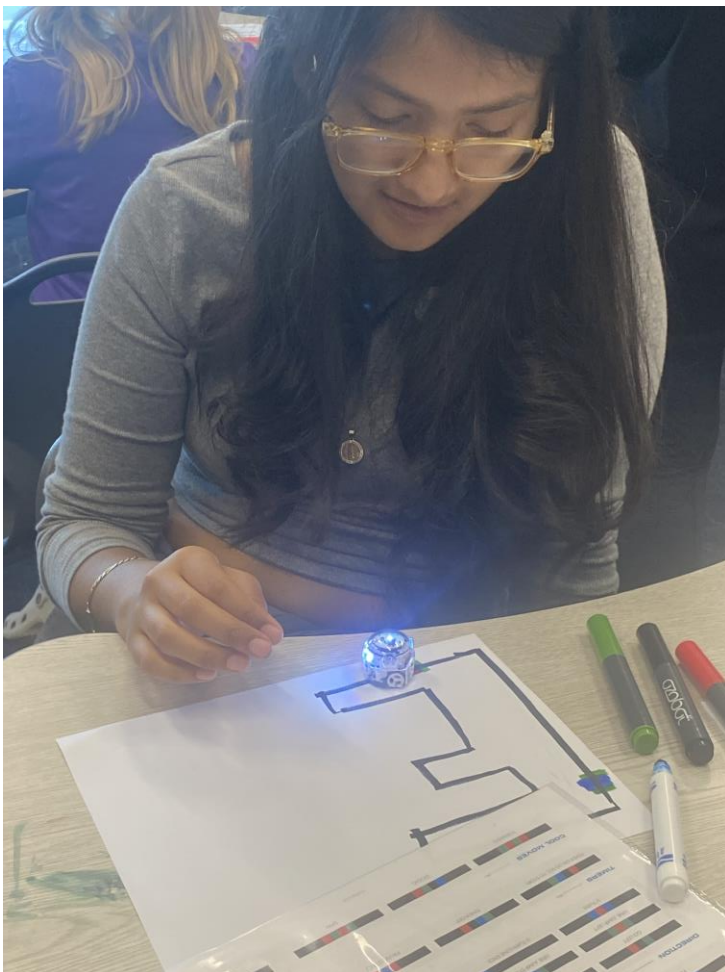
# Mentor Program

Robotics, innovations, physics, math, chemistry, electricity, anatomy, technology, hands-on activities and Star Lab were some of the more than 100 exhibits and activities at the Nor-Cal Science and Technology Festival at Lodi High School on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Our girls were in their own worlds of wonder browsing the many interesting and intriguing opportunities to learn about myriad STEAM areas.

There were Scientists, Engineers, and Medical Professionals waiting to impart knowledge in the Career Exploration room, while demonstrations of robots and drones entertained us at the Police Technologies booth.

The courtyard amphitheater featured a "Fizzics Science Show", math and solar art and the opportunity to make lapidary bracelets between t-shirt and rocket launches.





Though we very well could have stayed for at least another day to see it all, we reluctantly left to tend to other parts of our lives.

Lunch at Rubio's fostered good conversation about all of our experiences at the festival.



Our next activity is planned for March 16<sup>th</sup>, when we are scheduled to learn the importance of dressing for success among other topics.

Stay tuned for that report!



## AAUW California Speech Trek

**How can we ensure a robust public-school curriculum that is accessible to all and teaches historically accurate information?** That is the question posed at this year's AAUW California Speech Trek competition. The Stockton branch held our local contest on Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> in the West Hall at O'Connor Woods. Five area high school students spoke eloquently on the topic and demonstrated their passion and concern about a topic that directly affects them.



Thanks to members Julie Pichardo, Hugh Lily and Vicki Gaia who served as judges. The high calibre of speakers made the rating process quite difficult. Each speech was 5-6 minutes long and Jeanne Gaia was the official timer to make sure all speakers were within time limits. Additional thanks goes to Ronda Sanders who has become our official videographer for the Speech Trek project. [You can view the winning speech by Justin Villanueva from Stockton Collegiate International School by clicking here.](#) Justin's recording will go on to compete in the regional contest and then the final contest at the annual California AAUW meeting in April. Fingers crossed for the entrant from Stockton!



*Justin Villanueva*

# AAUW California Speech Trek



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The Primary Election has now come and gone and I'm hoping everyone fulfilled their vital civic duty and voted.

If you are interested in participating in Lobby Days (April 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>), be sure that you have completed the ZOOM training session on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Now quickly, my favorite topic – books and the freedom to read them! I've read recently some public schools and libraries in the state were actively reviewing their books and moving many to the "adult" sections for little apparent reason. AAUW branch members can play a critical role in ensuring that their local school boards have members who will follow AB 1078, which requires local districts to provide diverse and comprehensive education, such as important topics like racism, sexism, and gender-based marginalization and who oppose policies that infringe on the civil rights of ANY students.



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[contact@stocktonuu.org](mailto:contact@stocktonuu.org)

We affirm and promote the inherent  
worth and dignity of every person and  
are a welcoming congregation.



## DEI Inter-Generational Quiz

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, UOP's School of Pharmacy offered an intergenerational event to bring its students and members of the community together to learn from each other. Part of the event was a quiz with questions from the 1960's, the 1990's and the 2010's. I am borrowing that quiz to see how well you can do across a variety of decades. Would you do better if you had people on your team who represented generations different than your own? Would that same concept work for you in your work, your volunteer activities and in life? It's something to think about and it's for fun.

Enjoy!!!

### 1960's

- Who was the first man on the moon?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Elvis Presley grew up in what state?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Who landed at 17 Cherry Tree Lane in a well-known Walt Disney movie from 1964?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Which British rock band was formed in 1962 and became one of the most influential acts of all time?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What was this famous boxer's name before he changed it to Muhammed Ali?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 1990's

- What hit song was sung by the group "Los Del Rio" and released in 1993?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Which movie is the quote "there's no crying in baseball" from?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- In 1990, the most complete skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex was found in South Dakota. What was it named?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- In 1990, who was released from prison and became the leader of the African National Congress?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What search engine was founded in 1998?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 2010's

- Which company bought Instagram in 2012?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What global sporting event was held in Brazil in 2014?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Which country left the European Union in 2016 by referendum, an event known as "Brexit"?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What mobile app, released in 2016, uses augmented reality to allow players to catch virtual creatures, in the real world?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Who won the 2016 Nobel Prize in Literature, the first musician ever to win the prize?  
\_\_\_\_\_

KATHLEEN M. SOLARI, CPA

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# AAUW Fund Update!

**What happens to your donations to the Fund?** Stockton Branch members generously contribute to the AAUW Fund. Our dollars join those of 1,000 other branches across the country which also send their Fund donations to AAUW Headquarters in Washington, D.C. National AAUW invests those dollars in these dynamic program clusters:

>Education and Training Programs that promote equal access to education

>Leadership Programs that close the gender gap in leadership opportunities

>Economic Security Programs that ensure women's livelihoods through achieving pay equity and retirement security

Note: The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund allows AAUW National to send money to any of the above programs most needing help.

**How does our branch directly benefit from the Fund?** Several of our June meetings in recent decades have featured the recipient of an AAUW fellowship or grant. Branches are allowed one "scholar visit" in alternate years. We hope to have one of these inspiring women visit us at our June 8 luncheon!

**Help select a scholarly visitor!** In the January 2024 Steamer, you were invited to view short videos of the 34 grant and fellowship recipients for 2023, then to submit your feedback about your favorites (up to three). Here's a final chance to do so. Take a direct route on your device: Enter AAUW California 2023 Fund Fellows and Grant Recipients. To view the videos, which are in three groups, click on the red arrow for each group. Evaluate each scholar's delivery, compelling life story, and value of her project. Send your list of favorites to Cindy at 209-481-2227 or askwhynotnow@gmail.com.

**Thanks go to Fund donors!** Eight Branch sisters were already recognized in the September Steamer for AAUW Fund donations totaling **\$538** which accompanied their spring 2023 membership renewals. In addition, the following 20 AAUW members donated, some more than once, directly to AAUW-National a total of **\$1,231**: **Linda Christensen, Heidi Cortelyou, Margaret Dewar, Ann Filson, Gladys Finucane, Jennifer Gray-Rieber,**

**Donna Hammel, Mary Hickman, Sue Kenmotsu, Alice Malde, Cindy Milford, Cecilia Montgomery, Bette Outlaw, Diane Stauffer, Martha Tipton, Van Ha To-Cowell, Therese Tutupalli, Jan Vernor-Howard, Patricia Voss, and Carolyn Wischhusen.**

**Together, these two groups of women raised \$1,769. Thank you, 2023 Supporters of the AAUW Fund!**

## AAUW Stockton Branch Interest Groups

We have some great interest groups and would like to encourage new members to participate in them. The list of our current interest groups and contact info is listed below. These groups are a wonderful way to get connected with fellow AAUW members.

### 1. **Book Club** -

Contact: Pam Mallett-Jones  
(209) 463-3067

### 2. \* **Bunco Group** -

Contact: Barbara Bahler  
(209) 957-2474

### 3. **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Discussion Group** -

Contact: Barbara St. Urbain  
(209) 603-5365

### 4. \* **Gourmet Group** -

Contact: Beverley Dierking  
(209) 474-8532

### 5. \* **Saturday Wisdom Circle**

(formerly *Brunch Buddies*)

Contact: Gladys Finucane  
(209) 601-6796

### 6. **"Write On"**

Contact: Erica Dei Rossi  
(209) 565-5667

Some groups may be currently full (indicated with a \*), in which case a "waiting list" can be started with the idea of starting new groups. Upcoming issues of the Delta Steamer will feature one interest group each month to provide additional information and highlight the exciting things that are being done. Give them a try.

Anita Bautista, Director-at-Large

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**Vision:** AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measureable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.

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

**Value Promise:** By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

## *March Calendar*

Day	Date	Time	Event	Location/Contact
Mon	18	6:00pm	March Board Meeting	Online via Zoom
Wed	20	All Day	Reservation Deadline	Betty Parsons - (408) 309-8958
Sat	23	9:30am	<b>Celebrate Women's History Month</b>	Central United Methodist Church