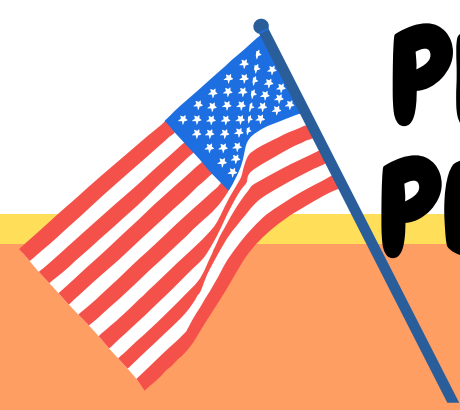


THE OAK TWIG

SUMMER 2024





PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



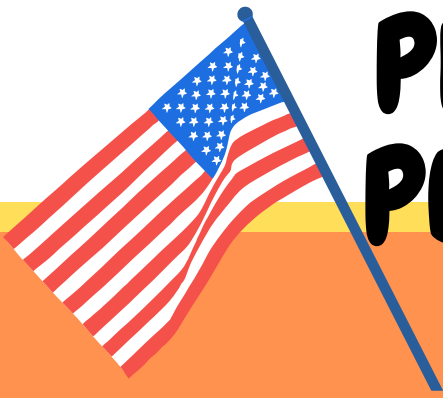
DEAR AAUW FRIENDS,

IT IS NOW APRIL AND MY TURN TO TAKE OVER THE STEERING OF OUR AAUW THOUSAND OAKS BRANCH "SHIP" AS WE HEAD INTO ANOTHER SEASON! A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BETTY STAPLEFORD, NARDA FARGOTSTEIN AND PEGGY BUCKLES FOR EACH TAKING A THIRD OF THIS YEAR AND THE PRESIDENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

THERE ARE SO MANY FUN AND INTERESTING ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS AND I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AT MANY OF THEM, STARTING WITH OUR ANNUAL AAUW CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY ON THE MORNING OF SATURDAY, APRIL 27. [HTTPS://WWW.AAUW-CA.ORG/AAUW-ANNUAL-EVENT-BACK-TO-SCHOOL/](https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-annual-event-back-to-school/) YOU MAY COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE WHEN IT'S CONVENIENT TO YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE, BUT I PARTICULARLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU SIGN ON FOR THE OPENING EVENT AND SEVERAL OF THE SMALLER DISCUSSION OPPORTUNITIES.

OUR MAY ACTIVITIES ARE TWOFOLD PRIMARILY ON MAY 4 WE WILL HAVE OUR LONG OVERDUE AND RESCHEDULED AUTHOR EVENT FEATURING MONA GABLE AT THE THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY AT 2 PM. IF YOU HAVE NOT READ HER BOOK, SEARCHING FOR SAVANNAH YET, I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU DO SO TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE, UNTOLD STORY OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN.

OUR ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON WILL BE ON SATURDAY, MAY 18 AT THE LOS ROBLES GREENS AND OF COURSE YOU CAN FIND TICKETING INFORMATION IN THIS EDITION OF THE OAK TWIG. OUR SPEAKER, MADELENE DAILY, IS AN AMAZING YOUNG ARCHITECT WHO HAS RECEIVED ONE OF OUR AAUW GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND SHE IS GOING TO HIGHLIGHT HER RESEARCH IN THE NEXXUS OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. OUR SPRING LUNCHEON WOULD NOT BE COMPLETE WITHOUT OUR NAMED GIFT HONOREE BEING RECOGNIZED AND OF COURSE, THE ELECTION OF OUR 2024- 25 BOARD.



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

FINALLY, AT THE JUNE 4, THOUSAND OAKS CITY COUNCIL MEETING I HOPE YOU WILL JOIN MANY OF OUR MEMBERS TO CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH IN OUR CITY. WE WILL STAND IN SUPPORT OF THE DIVERSITY COLLECTIVE IN COLLABORATION OF PRIDE IN OUR REGION. BE SURE TO WATCH FOR THE UPDATES IN THE WEEKLY E BLAST FOR ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES.



AAUW California Legislative Action Alerts (23-24)

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ALERTS ABOUT HOW YOU CAN TAKE ACTION TO ADVANCE THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN (AAUW) CALIFORNIA'S PRIORITY LEGISLATION (FOCUSED ON CA STATE LEGISLATION. PLEASE VISIT

[HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/FORMS/D/E/1FAIPQLSE4FH5HKWXKCAQRFWWSHLQ1FSQLOA5RJKBUCDDYOBGLMCO1W/VIEWFORM](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIPQLSE4FH5HKWXKCAQRFWWSHLQ1FSQLOA5RJKBUCDDYOBGLMCO1W/viewform)



AUTHOR TALK

& BOOK SIGNING



Mona Gable

Author of *Searching for Savanna*

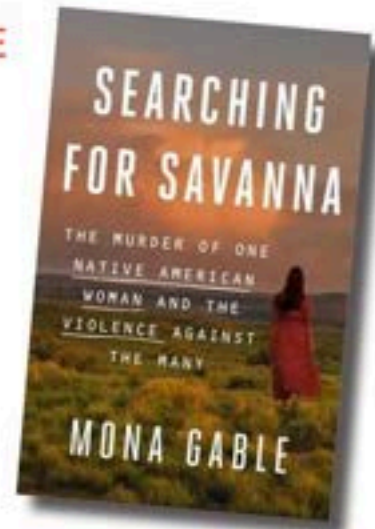
NEW DATE



SATURDAY MAY 4, 2024

2 PM

**GRANT R. BRIMHALL LIBRARY
MARVIN E. SMITH COMMUNITY ROOM**



L.A. Times writer and author Mona Gable will discuss her book *Searching for Savanna: The Murder of One Native American Woman and the Violence Against the Many* and the crisis of violence against Native women.

Presented by
AAUW (American Association of University Women) Thousand Oaks
and Thousand Oaks Library



inspire
inform
engage

All programs are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

Grant R. Brimhall Library - 1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 • 805-449-2660
Newbury Park Library - 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320 • 805-498-2139

www.tolibrary.org

Revised January 2024

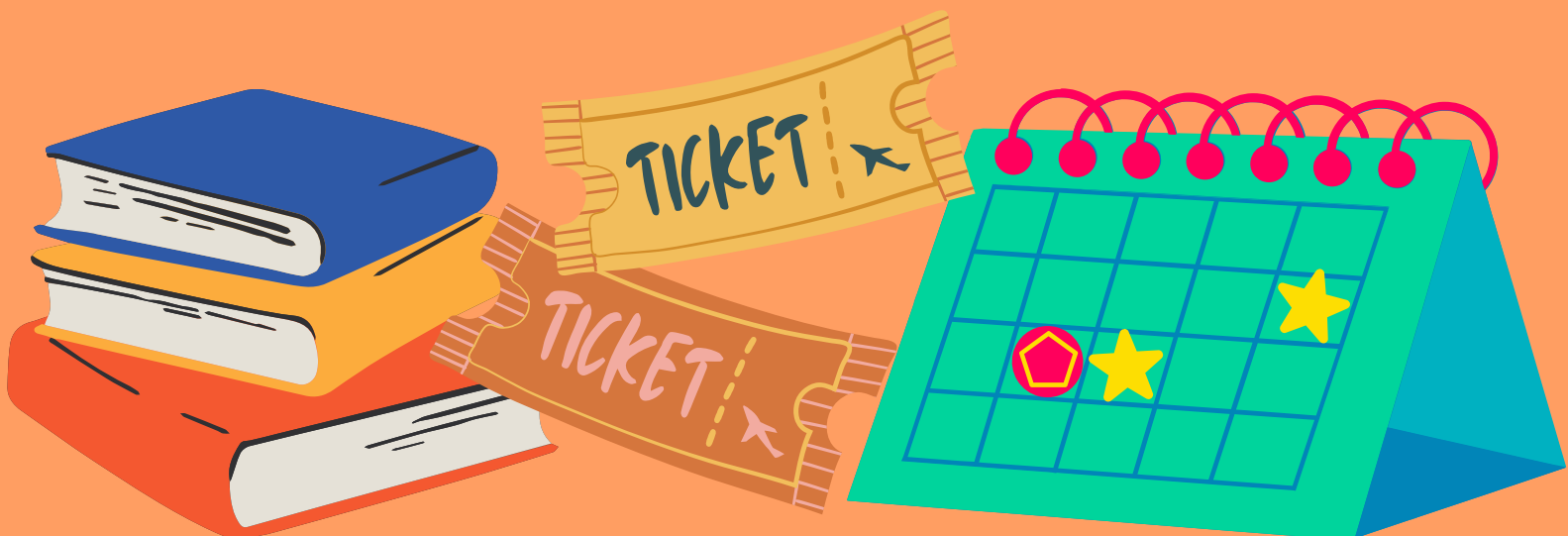


UPCOMING EVENTS

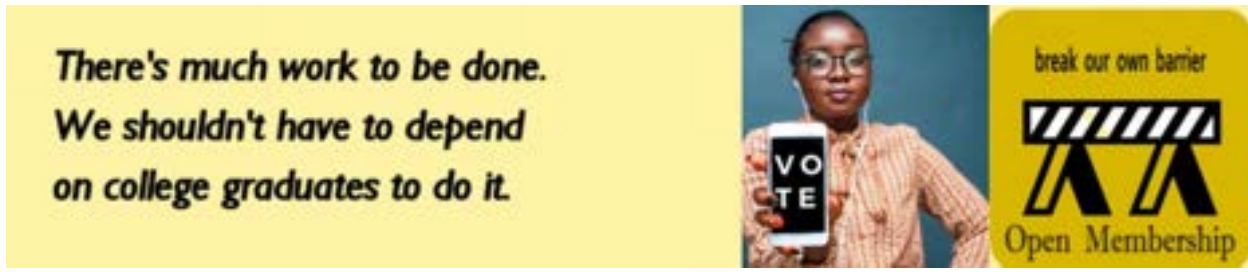
MAY 4TH – AUTHOR, MONA GABLE – SEARCHING FOR SAVANNA – GRANT BRIMHALL LIBRARY - 2:00 PM

MAY 18TH – SPRING LUNCHEON – LOS ROBLES GREENS
11:00 AM CHECK IN STARTS AT 10:30 AM.
MADELENE JAVIER DAILEY, AAUW SELECTED PROFESSIONS
FELLOW
SPEAKING ON ARCHITECTURE * ADVOCACY - \$45
– REGISTER AT
AAUWTHOUSANDOAKS.COM OR SEND CHECK TO AAUW
THOUSAND OAKS BRANCH. P.O. BOX 4223, THOUSAND OAKS,
CA 91359. PLEASE DONATE
NON-GENDERED BEACH TOWELS AND CHILDREN'S
SWIM GOGGLES IF POSSIBLE.
THESE WILL BE DONATED TO MANY MANSIONS.

SEPTEMBER 14TH – FALL BREAKFAST – LOS ROBLES
GREENS 9:00 AM CHECK IN STARTS AT 8:30 AM



SEE INFO BELOW ABOUT VOTING ON THIS IMPORTANT AAUW ISSUE...BALLOTS ARE DUE MAY 15 AND WERE SENT TO YOUR EMAIL BOX IN EARLY APRIL.



OpenUpAAUW.org asks the question are we defined by college degree requirements or the fight for gender equity? AAUW members around the country will be voting on proposed National bylaw changes to fully open AAUW membership to anybody who supports AAUW's mission and values.

OUR MISSION

Gender Equity & Economic Security

We've led the fight for fair pay and economic opportunity for women — and the battle continues: Women still get just 83 cents for every dollar paid to a man, and men continue to dominate the top roles and highest-paying professions.

OUR VALUES

Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.

Though we are nonpartisan, we are not values-neutral: We fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity. We train women to negotiate for pay and benefits and to pursue leadership roles. And we advocate for federal, state, and local laws and policies to ensure equity and end discrimination.

The AAUW National Board of Directors and the Governance Committee are bringing an amendment forward to **eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW. An amendment to the bylaws requires 5% of eligible members (1,970) to vote and a two-thirds majority of voters to pass.**

Key Dates for the 2024 Vote

AAUW is utilizing *SimplyVoting.com*, an independent, third-party voting system for this year's vote.

April 3 | Voting opens. Look for your encrypted ballot email from Simply Voting, **Check your spam folder.**

May 15 | Online voting ends at 12 noon ET and results will be announced online.

All members without an email address on file or who have unsubscribed from AAUW National emails will receive a paper ballot by mail.

Break Our Own Barrier

Open Up AAUW firmly believes that:

- x it is in the best interests of AAUW and its future relevance and sustainability as an inclusive and forward-thinking organization committed to advancing equity for women and girls, and
- x we will finally align our membership requirements with our mission and values.

Haven't we done this before?

Yes! 23% of AAUW members voted in 2021 (5% of eligible members are required)
x 63% approved of Open Membership (66.67 approval is required)

If you want to check out the prior history of this issue please click on the [Open Up AAUW](#) website. Many members have worked diligently to bring us to this moment. Also, you can find more information and how you can get involved on the [Open Up AAUW](#) website.

OpenUpAAUW.org "FAQ"

Does this devalue our support for higher education?

NO. We can change and keep strongly rooted in our commitment to higher education as a path to success as well as our support for fellowships and grants. This change allows those who have taken parallel paths to join our work for gender equity.

Won't we have to change our name?

NO. We'll be "AAUW" - It's a national organization that works for gender equity. It originates from 1881 and an effort then to open up women's access to advancement in universities.

Commonly held differences in perspective between those who oppose open membership and those who support it:

Oppose Open Membership Support Open Membership

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Those who think of AAUW as a professional society.2. intellectual level.3. our members add credibility to the4. Those who think the "U" in the acronym a change in membership requirement without a name change. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Those for whom AAUW2. Those who think there are many ways to gain equivalent skills and knowledge in today's world.3. Those who believe broad-based support for our culture of equity.4. Those who compare the "U" to the YMCA's, FFA's, and IBM's acronyms. AAUW was founded in 1881. is separate from a modern-day membership requirement. |
|--|--|

As a member of AAUW, your voice and your vote count!!

Please note the Board for AAUW Thousand Oaks voted in opposition to this change.



AAUW THOUSAND OAKS
Slate of Officers 2024-25

Thank you to the following members who are stepping up to help with the 2024-25 Branch Leadership responsibilities. This slate will be presented for approval at the May 18 Branch Luncheon.

Officers – one year term of office beginning July 1, 2024

President – Betty Stapleford/Sally Hibbitts/Narda Fargotstein
Vice President – open
Secretary – Sharon Dyer
Treasurer – Dorothy Hatfield

Directors – one year term of office beginning July 1, 2024

Danielle Blum, Rossanna Guerra, Bev Khoshnevisan, Eloda Linehan, Paula Nathan, Melanie Weerasinghe, Sakeena Ali, Evva Kim

Nominating Committee was composed of Sally Hibbitts, Melanie Weerasinghe, and Narda Fargotstein



SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024



CHECK-IN OPENS AT 11 AM

AAUW SPRING LUNCHEON

Los Robles Greens, 299 South Moorpark Rd., Thousand Oaks

Architecture • Advocacy:
Public Interest Design in Architecture
PRESENTED BY:
Madelene Javier Dailey, M.Arch, USC
AAUW SELECTED PROFESSIONS FELLOWSHIP

TICKETING INFORMATION: \$45 PER PERSON
 (contact Sally Hibbitts for
 vegetarian option)

\$45 checks payable to "AAUW TO" mail to
 PO Box 4223,
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

4/10/24
 May 18
 Lunch **STORE**

Ticket Deadline is Wednesday, May 8

Please bring new summer beach towels and/or children's swim goggles to donate to the Many Mansions Children's Swim Program.



MARLENE JAVIER DAILEY, M.ARCH.

Architecture + Advocacy:

Public Interest Design in Architecture

Personal Story:

Madelene Javier Dailey is an Urban Planner working as a consultant with an area of expertise combining transportation planning, community vision planning, FEMA response support, and project management work for environmental policy compliance and mitigation. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Architecture at the University of Southern California, where her academic work focuses on equitable urban planning and sustainable design.

Personal statement:

Serving as a co-founder and director of Architecture + Advocacy (A+A) has been a truly rewarding and incredible opportunity that has allowed me to gain real life experience pursuing a career I am passionate about. A+A's mission brings students, community members, and professionals together with the goal of designing a just and fair world. AA+ was founded by, and continues to support, programs entirely carried out by architecture students. Focused on advocacy work for underrepresented communities, our programs range from elementary and high school education-based architecture camps, community service events, pro bono design workshops, and professional training/mentorship.

Change your neighborhood, change the world!





TECH TREK



*Arleen Garcia,
Sequoia*



*Juliana Concepción,
Sequoia*



*Valentina Cao Torres,
Colina*



*We Are Very Proud To
Announce Our Tech
Trek Campers for
Summer 2024*



*Maya Kim,
Sequoia*

*Thank you to the
Selection Committee:
Nancy Taylor Walker
Bev Khoshnevisan
Sally Hibbitts
Ana Chow
Greceldy Hau*



*Emilia Karl,
Redwood*



COFFEE & CHAT

CONSIDER THIS A SPECIAL INVITATION TO JOIN YOUR AAUW FRIENDS AND NEW FRIENDS FOR COFFEE AND CHAT ON MAY 4 AND/OR JUNE 1. WE WILL LOOK FOR YOU AT PICKLES DELI RESTAURANT FOR BREAKFAST OR JUST COFFEE /TEA AND CONVERSATION WITH SOME VERY INTERESTING PEOPLE, LIKE YOU. SEE YOU STARTING AT 9:30 A.M.

PUBLIC POLICY

A RECENT ACTION BY OUR COMMITTEE, ALONG WITH THE DEI COMMITTEE, WAS TO REQUEST A RESOLUTION FROM THE TO CITY COUNCIL FOR THE RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE HORNER FOR HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS DURING HIS 16 YEARS ON THE COUNCIL AND HIS UNIQUE POSITION AS THE FIRST BLACK MAYOR IN ANY CITY IN VENTURA COUNTY. THAT RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED TO HIS DAUGHTERS AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 27, ACCOMPANIED BY AAUW MEMBERS SALLY HIBBITTS AND CJ KEAVNEY.

AN ONGOING EFFORT BY OUR COMMITTEE HAS BEEN TO ASK THE CITY COUNCIL TO DECLARE JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH IN THOUSAND OAKS AND PRESENT A RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DIVERSITY COLLECTIVE AT A CITY COUNCIL MEETING. THAT REQUEST HAS BEEN ACCEPTED, AND THE RESOLUTION WILL BE PRESENTED ON JUNE 4TH, WHERE A NUMBER OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE AND SPEAK DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE AGENDA IN SUPPORT OF THE RESOLUTION AND THE DIVERSITY COLLECTIVE.

AND A FUTURE PROGRAM OF OUR PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE WILL BE ZOOM INTERVIEWS OF CVUSD SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES TO SEE WHERE THEY STAND ON ISSUES FACING THE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE VALUES OF AAUW. AFTER THESE PUBLIC INTERVIEWS, WE WILL DETERMINE AND PRESENT ENDORSEMENTS OF CANDIDATES WHO ALIGN THEMSELVES MOST CLOSELY WITH OUR MISSION.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING AND INFLUENCING POLICY AND ACTION IN OUR LOCAL, COUNTY, AND STATE GOVERNING BODIES, PLEASE JOIN US ON THE 3RD. THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH ON ZOOM. ALL YOU NEED TO DO TO RECEIVE AN INVITATION IS TO CONTACT BETTY STAPLEFORD AT BSTAPLE4D@GMAIL.COM.

AAUW TO Outing to the Autry Museum



ON MARCH 16, 2024 NARDA FARGOTSTEIN AND ELODA LINEHAN MET IN FRONT OF BARNES AND NOBLE TO CARPOOL TO THE AUTRY MUSEUM (EVEN THOUGH THIS HAD BEEN POSTED IN OUR EBLASTS, EVIDENTLY EVERYONE ELSE WAS BUSY OR NOT INTERESTED.). CORRESPONDING TO OUR FOCUS ON THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, THE EXHIBITS WE THOROUGHLY VIEWED WERE THE "SHERMAN INDIAN SCHOOL: 100+ YEARS OF EDUCATION AND RESILIENCE" AND "RECLAIMING EL CAMINO: NATIVE RESISTANCE IN THE MISSIONS AND BEYOND". THE SHERMAN INDIAN SCHOOL ORIGINALLY OPENED IN 1892 IN PERRIS, CALIFORNIA. IT IS NOW LOCATED IN RIVERSIDE AND IS A BOARDING SCHOOL FOR NATIVE AMERICANS OF HIGH-SCHOOL AGE. IT IS STATED THAT TWENTY-FIVE FEDERAL OFF-RESERVATION BOARDING SCHOOL FOR NATIVE AMERICAN CHILDREN WERE ESTABLISHED IN THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY TO FORMALLY EDUCATE AND "CIVILIZE" STUDENTS "THROUGH A STRICT PROGRAM OF ACADEMICS, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND CHRISTIAN TEACHING, FAR AWAY FROM THEIR FAMILIES AND TRIBAL COMMUNITIES." THE "RECLAIMING EL CAMINO: NATIVE RESISTANCE IN THE MISSIONS AND BEYOND" CENTERED ON THE LIFE THE NATIVE AMERICANS HAD IN THE MISSIONS WHERE THEY WORKED. THIS EXHIBITION "REPOSITIONS (AND RECLAIMS) THE EL CAMINO REAL AS THE ANCIENT AND WELL-WORN TRADE ROUTE FOR NATIVE PEOPLE LONG BEFORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FRANCISCAN MISSIONS IN BAJA AND ALTA CALIFORNIA.



AAUW TO Outing to the Autry Museum

OUR DOCENT ALSO LED US THROUGH THE ENTIRE MUSEUM. THIS INCLUDED "IMAGINED WESTS", "WATERWAYS", "ART OF THE WEST", "CALIFORNIA ROAD TRIP", THE ETHNOBOTANICAL GARDEN, "COWBOY GALLERY", "WESTERN FRONTIERS: STORIES OF FACT AND FICTION", "HUMAN NATURE", "JOURNEYS GALLERY", "THE COLT REVOLVER IN THE AMERICAN WEST", AND "INVESTIGATING GRIFFITH PARK". THE INTRICATELY CARVED BRONZE STATUES, MAGNIFICENT ARTWORK, AND LIFE-SIZED INTERACTIVE DISPLAYS ADDED TO OUR DOCENT'S INFORMATION TO MAKE THIS A MEMORABLE DAY.

THE AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS FESTIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE AUTRY ON JUNE 8-9TH. PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING THIS VIBRANT EXPERIENCE.

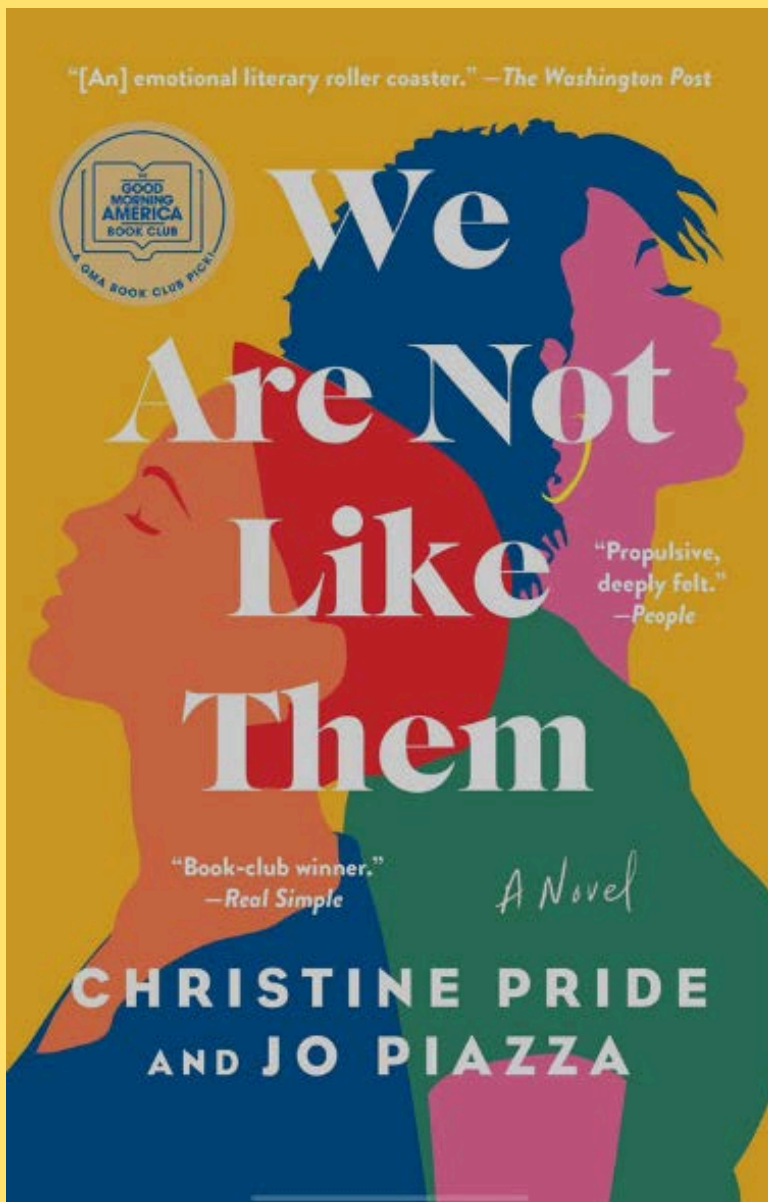


DIVERSITY & UNITY BOOK GROUP

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD, OUR DIVERSITY AND UNITY BOOK GROUP HAS THE VERY BEST DISCUSSIONS, USUALLY FOCUSED ON AN AMAZING BOOK WHICH DEALS WITH THE UNIVERSALITY OF WOMEN'S ISSUES CROSSING CULTURAL TRADITIONS.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS SET FOR 4 PM ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 AT THE HOME OF WENDY HOFFMAN, 330 SOMERSET, THOUSAND OAKS CA 91360.

THE NEW BOOK IS CALLED, WE ARE NOT LIKE THEM BY PRIDE AND PIAZZA.



AS GOODREADS STATES:

TOLD FROM ALTERNATING PERSPECTIVES, THIS NOVEL FOLLOWS TWO WOMEN, ONE BLACK AND ONE WHITE, WHOSE FRIENDSHIP IS INDELIBLY ALTERED BY A TRAGIC EVENT.

JEN AND RILEY HAVE BEEN BEST FRIENDS SINCE KINDERGARTEN. AS ADULTS, THEY REMAIN AS CLOSE AS SISTERS, THOUGH THEIR LIVES HAVE TAKEN DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. JEN MARRIED YOUNG, AND AFTER YEARS OF TRYING, IS FINALLY PREGNANT. RILEY PURSUED HER CHILDHOOD DREAM OF BECOMING A TELEVISION JOURNALIST AND IS POISED TO BECOME ONE OF THE FIRST BLACK FEMALE ANCHORS OF THE TOP NEWS CHANNEL IN THEIR HOMETOWN OF PHILADELPHIA.

DIVERSITY & UNITY BOOK GROUP

BUT THE DEEP BOND THEY SHARE IS SEVERELY TESTED WHEN JEN'S HUSBAND, A CITY POLICE OFFICER, IS INVOLVED IN THE SHOOTING OF AN UNARMED BLACK TEENAGER. SIX MONTHS PREGNANT, JEN IS IN FREEFALL AS HER FUTURE, HER HUSBAND'S FREEDOM, AND HER FRIENDSHIP WITH RILEY ARE THROWN INTO UNCERTAINTY. COVERING THIS CAREER-MAKING STORY, RILEY WRESTLES WITH THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS TRAGIC INCIDENT FOR HER BLACK COMMUNITY, HER AMBITIONS, AND HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HER LIFELONG FRIEND.

WE ARE NOT LIKE THEM IS BOTH A POWERFUL CONVERSATION STARTER AND A CELEBRATION OF THE ENDURING POWER OF FRIENDSHIP.

I AM SURE THIS BOOK WILL PROVIDE SOME EXCELLENT CONVERSATION AND I'M TRULY LOOKING FORWARD TO READING IT. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL CONTACT SALLY HIBBITTS AT 805-750-3119 OR SJHIBBITTS@AOL.COM.



LATINO YOUTH LEADERSHIP GROUP

YOU CAN TELL BY THE PICTURES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ARTICLE, THE LATINO YOUTH LEADERSHIP GROUP IS AN ACTIVE BUNCH. FOUNDED OVER 7 YEARS AGO BY OUR AAUW BRANCH AND CLUE VC AS CONEJO CONEXIONES, THE PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED FIRST GENERATION LATINO YOUNG WOMEN AND MEN WITH SUPPORT, EDUCATION, OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE, TEAMBUILDING AND FUN ACTIVITIES.

THE PICTURES ARE FROM THIS YEAR'S MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE WHERE 8TH. GRADE STUDENTS FROM REDWOOD AND CERRITOS GOT AN ORIENTATION TO WHAT THEY WOULD EXPERIENCE AS FRESHMEN NEXT YEAR. AND OUR STUDENT MEMBERS WERE ABLE TO PRACTICE THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN ORGANIZING AND STAFFING THE DAY'S EVENTS. ALL WERE TREATED TO PERFORMANCES BY SOME OF THE MANY TALENTED THOUSAND OAKS STUDENTS AND TOOK TOURS OF THE LARGE CAMPUS. THEY WERE TREATED TO BREAKFAST AND LUNCH SERVED BY OUR AAUW AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, PRESENTATIONS BY SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF, AND WERE ENCOURAGED TO SOCIALIZE AND ASK QUESTIONS. IT WAS A FULL DAY OF NEW EXPERIENCES.

THIS GROUP USUALLY MEETS TWICE A MONTH AFTER SCHOOL TO SHARE SNACKS, PRACTICE LEADERSHIP SKILLS, LEARN FROM SPEAKERS, AND FORM A COMMUNITY OF SUPPORTIVE STUDENTS AND ADULTS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE AND PERHAPS GET INVOLVED WITH THIS WORTHWHILE PROGRAM,

PLEASE CONTACT OUR INCREDIBLE FACULTY ADVISOR AND AAUW MEMBER SANDRA MARTINEZ OR AAUW MEMBERS SALLY HIBBITTS, BETTY STAPLEFORD, OR CAROL PELLETIER. BEING BILINGUAL IS NOT REQUIRED BUT CAN BE VERY HELPFUL.



The 2024 Women in History Program

A BRILLIANT PORTRAYAL OF SIX NOTABLE WOMEN WAS PRESENTED BY STUDENTS FROM THE ONE SPARK ACADEMY AT THE THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY DURING THE EVENING OF MARCH 6, 2024. FOUR MEMBERS OF OUR THOUSAND OAKS BRANCH OF AAUW; LORI PETERS, DONNA LANGLEY, SHERYL RITZMAN, AND WENDAY HOFFMAN, FORMED A COMMITTEE TO ASSIST THE ONE SPARK ACADEMY COACHES, MELANIE WARE AND JENNI BUCHANAN.

THE PRESENTERS RANGED IN AGE FROM SIXTH TO EIGHTH GRADE. KENZIE RICHARDS GAVE A FIRST-PERSON NARRATION AS RUBY BRIDGES, A CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST. ALEXIA TSEPAS PRESENTED HERSELF AS EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER WHO FOUNDED THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS. ZOEY RICHARDS TOOK ON THE CHARACTER OF DEB HAALAND, U.S. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. AIKA DAYEM GAVE A NARRATION AS ZITKALA-SA, A WRITER, MUSICIAN, AND ACTIVIST. ROSEMARY MYERS GAVE A FIRST-PERSON NARRATION AS JUDY HEUMANN, DISABILITY RIGHTS ACTIVIST. KYLIE AMECHE PRESENTED HERSELF AS BESSIE COLEMAN, AVIATOR. SEEING THESE YOUNG WOMEN PORTRAY THESE WOMEN IN HISTORY GAVE A DIMENSION OF REALITY TO THE DETAILED FACTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE WOMEN WHO PAVED THE WAY FOR THE WOMEN AND SOCIETY OF TODAY.

OUR AAUW THOUSAND OAKS WEBSITE, AAUWTHOUSANDOAKS.COM, HAS A COLLECTION OF SCRIPTS FOR SALE TO INDIVIDUALS AND SCHOOLS. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT SANDY HINDY CREATED THIS PROJECT IN 1985. PAT HELTON WAS THE CO-CHAIRWOMAN OF THE WOMEN'S HISTORY SCRIPT WRITING COMMITTEE ALONG WITH MARLENE ALEXANDER. THANK YOU AND THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE KEEPING OUR LEGACY ALIVE.





AAUW SPEECH TREK

ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH STUDENTS FROM FOUR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS MET AT THE GOEBEL ADULT CENTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SPEECH TREK CONTEST, ALIYAH AHUMADA; RILEY SHIN; GRECELDY HAU; ZHIRUI LIU; DONGYEON KANG; AND JACK PORTER. THE FIRST-PLACE WINNER WAS RILEY SHIN FROM NEWBURY PARK HIGH SCHOOL. SECOND PLACE WENT TO ALIYAH AHUMADA FROM LA REINA HIGH SCHOOL. THE THIRD-PLACE WINNER WAS GRECELDY HAU FROM THOUSAND OAKS HIGH SCHOOL. THE TOPIC WAS "IF AN EDUCATED POPULATION IS ESSENTIAL TO A NATION'S PROSPERITY, THEN HOW CAN WE ENSURE A ROBUST PUBLIC-SCHOOL CURRICULUM THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AND TEACHES HISTORICALLY ACCURATE INFORMATION?". STUDENTS WERE INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE A FOUR MINUTE THIRTY SECOND TO SIX-MINUTE SPEECH REGARDING THIS TOPIC.

RILEY SHIN'S SPEECH WILL BE VIEWED BY JUDGES FOR THE CALIFORNIA AAUW CONTEST. THE WINNER OF THE STATE COMPETITION WILL BE SHOWCASED AT THE AAUW CALIFORNIA ANNUAL EVENT ON APRIL 27, 2024. THIS EVENT WILL BE VIRTUAL. PLEASE CONTACT ELODA LINEHAN, SPEECH TREK CHAIR AT AAUWSPEECHTREKTO@GMAIL.COM FOR A LINK TO THIS EVENT. THE TOP THREE VIDEOS WILL BE SHOWN.

THIS EVENT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF MANY INDIVIDUALS. AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL, BRIAN MERCER GAVE THE OKAY FOR MR. STEPHEN LEPIRE, PRINCIPAL OF NEWBURY PARK HIGH SCHOOL; DR. JASON BRANHAM, PRINCIPAL OF WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL; AND DR. ERIC BERGMANN, PRINCIPAL OF THOUSAND OAKS HIGH SCHOOL TO PUBLICIZE THIS CONTEST TO THEIR FACULTIES AND STUDENTS. I AM AWARE OF THESE TEACHERS WHO PROMOTED THIS CONTEST: MICHAEL CONTRERAS, MADELINE MADDOX, AND KATIE GOODWIN. PLUS, MARTIN GRIMES CONNECTED US WITH OUR VIDEOGRAPHER, ABIGAIL MORGENSTERN FROM NEWBURY PARK HS. THE STUDENT LEADERS WHO PROMOTED SPEECH TREK ARE JAMES MILLER AND ANANYA ARVIND. MANY MEMBERS OF THE THOUSAND OAKS BRANCH OF AAUW HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE PARTICULARLY SHARRI LEAR, EDITH SORENSEN, SUSAN GOETZ, PATRISSHA BOOKER, DIANE BIRCHMAN, MARCINE SOLAREZ, CINDY SPEAKMAN, BETTY STAPLEFORD, ANNA SORENSEN, JENI GORDON, PEGGY BUCKLES, DAVID BIRCHMAN, SALLY HIBBITS, PAT HELTON, NARDA FARGOTSTEIN, AND JEANETTE HOSEK. A "THANK YOU" TO CONEJO RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT AND EMILY VINES OF THE GOEBEL ADULT CENTER FOR LETTING US RENT THE LILAC ROOM.

AAUW SPEECH TREK



PLEASE WATCH FOR NEXT YEAR'S TOPIC AT YOUR LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL NEXT FALL. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE OR HELP NEXT YEAR PLEASE CONTACT ELODA AT (310) 809-0926 OR AT AAUWSPEECHTREKTO@GMAIL.COM. THANK YOU.

PLEASE SEE MELANIE ASHEN AT THE SPRING LUNCHEON. SHE WILL HAVE THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR NEXT YEAR'S SPEECH TREK. HELP IS NEEDED TO CONTACT THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS, COACH THE PARTICIPANTS, AND TO HELP ON THE DAY OF THE CONTEST WHICH WILL BE DURING THE LAST PART OF FEBRUARY 2025 ON A SATURDAY.

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS. ELODA LINEHAN (310)809-0926?OR ELODATOM@VERIZON.NET.



Interbranch Council Luncheon

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2024 MEMBERS OF THE CAMARILLO, SIMI VALLEY, AND THOUSAND OAKS BRANCHES MET AT THE LOS ROBLES GREENS WEST BALLROOM. THE THEME OF THIS EVENT WAS "KEEP YOUR BANS OFF MY BOOKS".

AFTER A DELICIOUS LUNCH OF GRILLED CHICKEN, RICE, AND VEGETABLES, WE HEARD THE VIEWPOINTS OF THREE SPEAKERS. NICOLE VINES, PHD, A PROFESSOR OF BLACK STUDIES AT CAL STATE CHANNEL ISLANDS GAVE AN INSIGHT INTO THE STRUGGLE OF BLACK AUTHORS AND CELEBRITIES WHO HAD THEIR WRITTEN WORKS BANNED. YVONNE WILBUR, PHD, LIBRARIAN AND HEAD OF UNDERGRADUATE INSTRUCTION AND OUTREACH, SPOKE OF EXPERIENCES SHE HAD WITH PEOPLE WANTING VARIOUS BOOKS BANNED AND SAID THAT SOME PLACES WERE REVIVING THE COMSTOCK LAWS IN ORDER TO DO THIS. ASHLEE NISHIYA, MS, LITERACY COORDINATOR FOR THE VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION, EXPLAINED HOW THOSE WHO WISH TO HAVE A BOOK BANNED ARE REQUIRED TO READ AND REVIEW IT PRIOR TO ANY REQUEST BEING ACCEPTED.

THE PRESIDENT OR SOMEONE FROM EACH BRANCH GAVE A SUMMARY OF FUTURE AND PAST EVENTS THEIR MEMBERS HAVE OR WILL BE DOING. WE CONCLUDED BY DECIDING WHO WOULD TAKE HOME THE POTTED SUCCULENT, BOOKS, AND LEMON WHICH COMPRISED OUR CENTERPIECES. THE PERSON AT EACH TABLE WHOSE BIRTHDAY WAS CLOSEST TO THAT OF TONI MORRISON, FEBRUARY 18TH, WAS THE RECIPIENT OF THESE TREASURES.



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