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Planning for 2024-25

—Trish Darcy

Every year the Leadership Team takes the time to plan for the year. This year the meeting is on July 2nd at Becky Mock's house. We will begin at 10:00, take a break for a potluck lunch at noon, and continue after lunch with anything else we need to finish up. All members are always invited to attend, but just let us know if you will

be there so that we can accommodate you!

Thank you for the feedback provided at our annual meeting. That will be used for our planning. If you didn't get a chance to submit your input, please do so before 10 am July 2nd. Email Trish at tbdarcy1@gmail.com. Let us know what you enjoyed last year and let us know if you have new ideas for next year. We will consider all ideas-no guarantees, though!

This is when we will create our budget for next year as well. We look at spending and costs from last year and decide what we will spend this coming year. Once created, it will go to the membership for approval.

Planning Meeting

Tuesday, July 2

10:00 am

Home of Becky Mock

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*Click on title to link to its page

Backpack Project

Stuffing :

July 16

Distribution:

July 20

July 27

See page 4 for details

Leadership Team

2024 Updates to Title IX: An Overview of Changes and Challenges

By Missy Maceyko, Co-Chair,
AAUW California Public Policy Committee

On Friday, April 19, 2024, the Biden Administration released long-awaited guidance on the application and administration of Title IX. The rule changes rework Trump Administration guidance on the handling of campus sexual assault, providing expanded protections for survivors and expanding Title IX protections against sex/gender-based harassment and discrimination to protect members of the LGBTQ+ community, as well as pregnant and parenting students. In sum, the 2024 regulations clarify what sex-based discrimination is and who should be protected from sex-based discrimination under Title IX: the regulations prohibit discrimination not only based on sex, but also based on sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Many of the major changes in guidance under Title IX come from a centering of the term “sex-based,” including a redefinition of “sexual harassment” as “sex-based harassment.” Under this redefinition, sex-based harassment still includes sexual harassment,

sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, but, importantly, allows harassment to be defined as conduct that contributes to the creation of a sex-based hostile environment, more broadly. **This means that unwelcome sex-based conduct can be more holistically understood as problematic, including a consideration of conduct that is not only offensive but also so severe or pervasive that it limits one’s ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity.**

The 2024 guidance also reforms the process for reporting, hearing, and resolving Title IX complaints, which is an important shift, as guidance issued under the Trump Administration created a reporting environment that many experts agreed was friendlier to those accused of misconduct than to those who were victimized by misconduct. Because the focus of Title IX guidance has shifted to protecting against “sex-based” forms of discrimination and harassment, it also clarifies the

boundaries of pregnancy-related discrimination and expands protections to the LGBTQ+ community. Both of these expansions under Title IX align with current interpretations of federal law under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibit workplace discrimination on the basis of sex/gender. While the changes to Title IX have been gender equity advocates, including widely supported as an overall good by a wide coalition of AAUW National, a coalition of states and conservative advocacy organizations have started to file lawsuits to block the new rules from going into effect, as scheduled, on August 1, 2024.

Furthermore, at the time of this writing, at least eight states’ governors have issued executive orders that openly refuse to comply with the new guidance, putting their state universities at risk of losing all federal funding. Officials who have filed suit and/or who refuse to comply with the new Title IX guidance claim that the rules conflict with their state

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We Value Education

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laws, especially those aimed at the due process rights of those accused of misconduct, LGBTQ+ material in curricula, and the regulation of transgender students' access to bathrooms and sports teams. Therefore, these state officials claim that they should not have to follow the new guidance. For a concise overview of major rule changes under the 2024 guidance, check out the coverage in Ms. Magazine, here. For continued updates, you can also peruse upcoming issues of News via AAUW California throughout the summer.

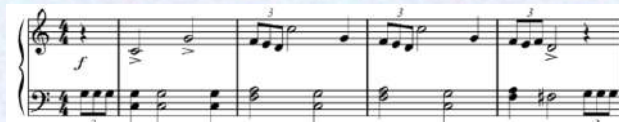


“Mad Hatter” Auction items

Some of our members have already “cashed in” their auction items from the Mad Hatter event.

Auction item: 3 lessons in reading musical score

Can you make any sense of all of these dots and symbols?



Auction item: 6 lessons in basic piano instruction



Christina Oborn won both items. “Learning to read music and play the piano has been on my bucket list for years. So when I saw both on the auction list, I was delighted.”

Events Calendar

2024

- July 2 **Leadership Team planning meeting:** 10:00am, Home of Becky Mock
- August 6 **SIG– Book Group:** 4:00pm, Home of Jaye Howes
- July/August **TBA: Movie Day in Oakhurst:** Be looking for an email to possibly go to Oakhurst to the movies! If something enticing comes along, we'll let you know and we can plan a day!



We Inspire Life-Long Learning



Project: Backpack

More backpacks needed for project's success

Hello everyone! The backpacks are a little rushed this year because the back-to-school events are a little early. We currently have 37 backpacks delivered to me and a few more on their way. If you can afford to support this worthwhile effort, please do. We provide good quality backpacks filled with supplies to middle school-aged kids in need and there is a lot of need in our county. We have been supplying 72 backpacks and would like to meet that number again. Send them to:

Kim Monson
2440 Coachman Rd
Mariposa, CA 95338

Have your vendor include a gift card so that I'll know whom to notify when they arrive.

I have scheduled Tuesday, July 16th at 10:00 am to stuff those backpacks. Also, the first event is at Coulterville Park on Saturday, July 20th, from 9am to noon. The 2nd is on July 27th, at the Mariposa Safe Families offices on 8th Street between Bullion and Jones Streets from 8am to noon. I could

—Kim Monson

certainly use help at these events. Please email me at kimellen13@gmail.com if you are available.

Schedule of Events

Stuffing of packs:

July 16, 10am

Home of Kim Monson

Distribution:

Coulterville Park:

July 20, 9am-Noon

Mariposa Safe Families Offices

July 27, 8am-Noon

AAUW California



Connect to the *California Connection*

Did you read your "California Connection?" It is a witty outline of what is happening at the state level in an entertaining, personal fashion. And it is written by our own Dawn Johnson! Click [here](#) if you missed it!

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

AAUW Mariposa kicks off the new fiscal year

—Bonnie Little



It wasn't officially summertime on June 2nd, but the summer vibes were going strong as over 25 members met at Trish Darcy's home for the AAUW Annual Meeting. Colorful umbrellas, beach balls, and light and bright tablescapes set the mood. As always, the food tables were filled with delectable goodies, both savory and sweet, to keep our tummies satisfied. There was a short business meeting to introduce the new Leadership Team, plus information on our Special Interest Groups, and other important projects, such as our upcoming backpack giveaway. Dina Lambert presented the financial and budget information.



the Leadership Team makes plans for the upcoming year. Remember, your ideas are vital to the health of our branch. We want to hear from you! More communication about this will be coming soon.

Until then, have a safe and happy summer!

One important thing that was discussed was a member survey. We want to know what YOU, the members, want from our AAUW Mariposa Branch. All ideas are important as



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Membership

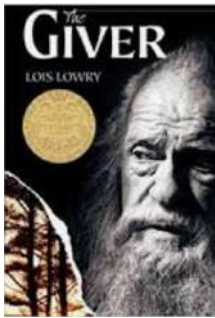
Bonnie Little, Dina Lambert



Member Corner: Idea exchange

—Bonnie Little

Our members share what we have found enlightening and entertaining



Kim Monson mentioned *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, written in 1993. It is a young adult dystopian novel set in a society that initially appears utopian but is revealed to be dystopian as the story progresses. In this novel, society has taken away pain and strife by converting to

“Sameness,” which has also taken away emotional depth from people’s lives. The story’s protagonist is a 12-year-old boy named Jonas, who is selected to inherit the position of “Receiver of Memory”, who stores all of the memories of the time before Sameness. This novel won the 1994 Newbery Medal and has sold more than 12 million copies worldwide. Many schools made it part of the middle and high school reading curriculum. It has, however, been frequently challenged and even banned in some states. Less known is the set of novels known as *The Giver Quartet* with three subsequent books set in the same universe. They are titled *Gathering Blue*, *Messenger* and *Son*. In 2014 a film adaptation was released starring Jeff Bridges and Meryl Streep.

Jill Harry recommends a podcast titled *Serial Season 4*. This



investigative series about Guantanamo Bay features people

who lived through key moments, and so many years later are finally able to tell their

truths. Jill says that this is an enlightening, fascinating, and addictive listen.

Jill also recommends a series on Amazon Prime



called *Expats*. Nicole Kidman stars as the wife of a businessman working in 2014 in Hong Kong. She is the mother of three children living in a high-end apartment complex with other ex-

pats, all with an array of servants, including live-in help. In the first episode, a life-changing, heartbreaking event happens, which affects not only Kidman’s family, but also her best friend, hired help, and others. This is a fascinating look at not only the rich expats’ way of life but also of those who work for them as well as those caught up in the unrest of 2014 Hong Kong. Jill states that this series is sad, but very well done.

Pat Elka has come through with some wonderful travel ideas:

- **The Legion of Honor Museum** in San



Francisco has free pipe organ concerts most Saturdays at 4 p.m. The 100-year-old Speckles organ built into the

museum structure resonates through the entire room while it is played. It must be a magnificent sound!

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

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- Irving Penn’s photography exhibit at the **de Young Museum**, also in San Francisco, runs through July 21. This major retrospective of one of the 20th century’s leading photographers features San Francisco’s 1967 Summer of Love. Pat says the photographs are “absolutely awesome.” I saw a few of them online and I absolutely agree!



A business card for HARP INSURANCE SERVICES. The card has a purple border and a white background. On the left is a green harp logo. To the right of the logo, the text reads: "HARP INSURANCE SERVICES", "Cindy Harp", "AGENT", "CA LICENSE NO. 0M04815", "CELL: 831-241-1611", "EMAIL: cindy_harp@earthlink.net". Below this, it says "LIFE • HOME • HEALTH • BUSINESS" with a horizontal line underneath. At the bottom, it lists "PHONE/FAX 209-966-6263 OR 1-800-959-5630", "5634 HARRIS CUT OFF ROAD, MARIPOSA, CA 95338", and "www.harpins.com".

A business card for Mariposa Native Plants. The card has a green border and a light green background. On the left is a photograph of a butterfly on a plant. To the right of the photo, the text reads: "Mariposa Native Plants" in red, "www.MariposaNativePlants.com", "MariposaNativePlants@gmail.com", "209-742-1540 Ron & Beverley", and "See our website for plant availability" in green.

We Open Eyes

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

International Study
Veronica Gross



Learn about a country, a culture, and a people. We study one country each year and meet monthly.

Book Group
Saralynn Nusbaum



This group meets monthly to discuss both fiction and non-fiction books members chose to read the previous month.

Play Reading Group
Dawn Johnson



“The play’s the thing!” meets monthly to do cold readings of various plays that are shared by several California branches.

Hiking Group
Becky Mock



The hiking group meets monthly to enjoy each other’s company while hiking new trails in and around Mariposa and Yosemite.



Does something else tweak your interest? Consider coordinating a new SIG!

Wine Tasting
Anne Dolchanczyk



The Corks and Forks Wine group meets monthly to experience different types of wines and enjoy them with appetizers and meals paired to complement the varietal being tasted.

We Value Education

Special Interest Groups

Opportunity to create a new Special Interest Group (SIG)

—Trish Darcy

As described in our membership directory, Special Interest Groups (SIGs) “provide members the opportunity to foster connections, further knowledge, and engage in conversations and activities around a common interest. Network with other members; make new friends; stay in touch with old friends; gain new knowledge; sharpen acquired skills; or just enjoy a pleasurable time together. Open to all members, these groups invite occasional or regular participation.” Members may join as many SIGs as their interests may suggest.

Thank you to those who are continuing to coordinate our SIGs for next year! We appreciate you!

Have you thought about starting up a new SIG? Maybe you have a skill or interest that you think others might share. Some ideas that have been tossed around are:

- Board Games group
- Documentary group
- Cooking/Baking group
- Craft group

Please let us know soon if you would be willing to head one of these up or if you have an idea of your own. The ideas are literally endless. These groups are smaller and fun to be a part of, so think about it!

Reminder: Be on the lookout for an email inviting all members to sign up for SIGs. There is no automatic renewal, so everyone needs to sign up at the beginning of each new term (July 1). After the forms are completed, the SIG leaders will email their group’s plans to the members who signed up.



SIG: Hiking

Contact [Becky Mock](#)



Becky Mock is looking forward to heading up the hiking group this year with much more activity. Look for an email about the first hike of the year.

SIG: Wine

Contact [Anne Dolchanczyk](#)



Sign up for the “Corks and Forks” and join others who enjoy tasting various varietals from a variety of vintners; usually with a pairing of complementary foods. The host(ess) generally selects a varietal (say “Petite Syrah”) and members will each bring a bottle from one of several available vintners for everyone to taste.

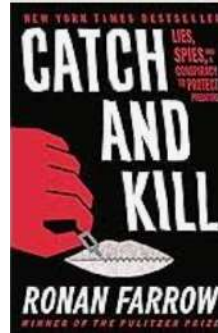
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SIG: Book

Contact [Jaye Howes](#)

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday, August 6, at 4:00 pm
 at the home of Jaye Howes
 We will be discussing:
Catch and Kill
 By Ronan Farrow



SIG: Play Reading

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)

One thousand days and five readers

—Dawn Johnson

Five readers gathered to read Maxwell Anderson's play, *Anne of the Thousand Days*, which told the tragic tale of the second wife of King Henry VIII, Anne Boleyn. The playwright is not too well-known, but certainly Anne's fate is. Even by Americans!

The dialogue was beautifully written and humanized these historic figures who struggled with hard choices demanded by the politics and mores of the day. Although reading their deep thoughts made the reader feel some sympathy for their entrapment and forced choices, we decided that, at the end of the day, neither one of them was a nice person.

English history is complex, but fortunately, we had a cheat sheet describing who the famous people in the play were and two readers who, if not exactly anglophiles, knew a heck of a lot about it from college classes. In summary, there was a lot of sleeping around, a lot of beheading, and a lot of drawing and quartering.

We experimented with a new method for sharing the parts, which worked well enough to try again next fall when we start up again.

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



SIG: International Study

Contact [Veronica Gross](#)

Music of Mexico

—Veronica Gross

The International Study Group had its last meeting of the year at the home of Nancy Martin where members were treated to wonderful food and live music. Peter Sproul gave a comprehensive overview of the music of Mexico and its history, then



joined Olga Leonard with his harmonica to enhance her delightful renditions of traditional Mexican *canciones* (songs).



AAUW- Mariposa: <u>www.aauwmariposa.com</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/aauwmariposa</u> Instagram: AAUW_Mariposa		Project Chairs/Coordinators	
Leadership Team: 2024-2025		Backpack Project	<u>Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher</u>
<u>Trish Darcy</u>	President	Fundraising	<u>Sandi Gabe</u>
<u>Jill Rowney</u>	Finance	Good Will Ambassador	<u>Anne Dolchanczyk</u>
<u>Bonnie Little</u>	Co-Membership	Newsletter Editor	<u>Jill Rowney</u>
<u>Liz Darcy</u>	Co-Membership	Gov Trek	<u>Kim Monson</u>
<u>Becky Mock</u>	Recording Secretary	Programs/Events	<u>open</u>
<u>Anne Dolchanczyk</u>	Team Member	Publicity	<u>open</u>
<u>Kim Monson</u>	Team Member	Social Media	<u>Trish Darcy</u>
		Tech Trek	<u>Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva</u>
		Website	<u>Dina Lambert</u>
		AAUW	<u>https://aauw.org/</u>
		AAUW California	<u>http://www.aauw-ca.org/</u>

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