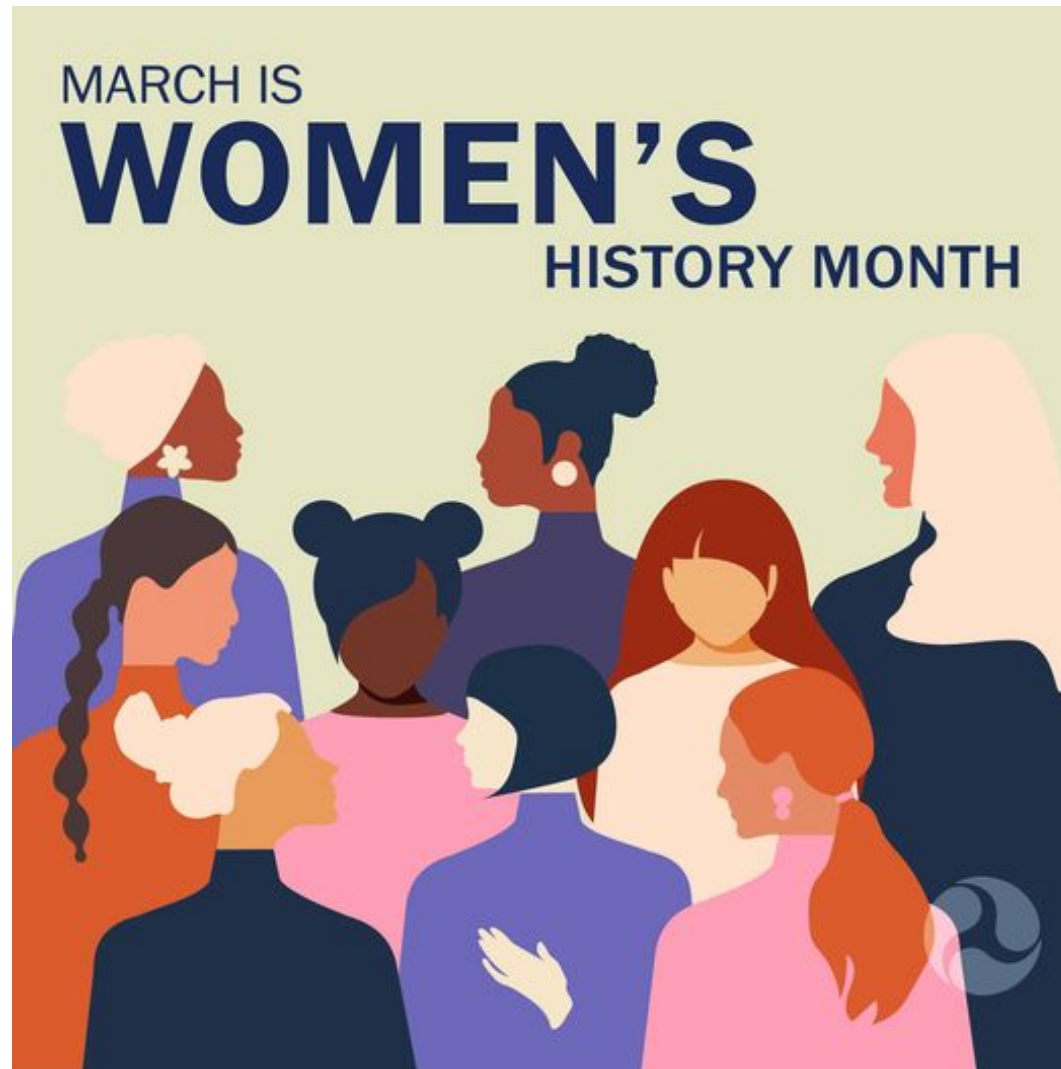


# Montage

Turlock/Modesto AAUW



## **Our Branch President's message:**

**from President Wanda Bonnell**

Each year March is designated Women's History Month by Presidential Proclamation. During this month we celebrate the countless women who have fought tirelessly and courageously for equality, justice and opportunity in our nation. But despite significant progress women and girls continue to face significant barriers to full and equal participation in our economy and society.

As AAUW members we applaud and celebrate women in our community year round with our scholarships and Tech Trek programs. On March 9th we will honor three remarkable women in our community who have achieved economic self-sufficiency by overcoming barriers. These programs would not be possible without our members who volunteer their valuable time and resources to making each event a success.

Advancing equity for women means changing with the times, focusing on our impact, making sure our work is sustainable as we work together to make change. The work we do continues to make a positive difference.

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## **March 9th---Berg Hall---6:30PM---Come and Hear**

Every March Americans are encouraged to recognize women who have contributed to our nation and our individual lives. Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories is the national theme for 2023 and so on this evening our Branch will honor three women who are making a difference in our local community and who will tell us their stories of perseverance, strength and endurance.

### **Margo Souza**

Margo grew up locally, the daughter of a Portuguese dairy family. In her own words: "I was a nurse for 24 years, ran a large Holstein dairy for 29 years and for the last 10 years I have sponsored the Student Leadership Center at UC Merced." The title of her presentation is "Doing It Afraid".

### **Marie Joiner**

Author, owner of two thriving companies, mentor to women in business, Marie Joiner survived homelessness and abuse as a child. She built her life from ground up without knowing how to read. She's sharing her story "in the hope it will inspire women to never give up...you and I are tougher than anything the world throws at us." The title of her presentation is : Picking Up The Pieces".

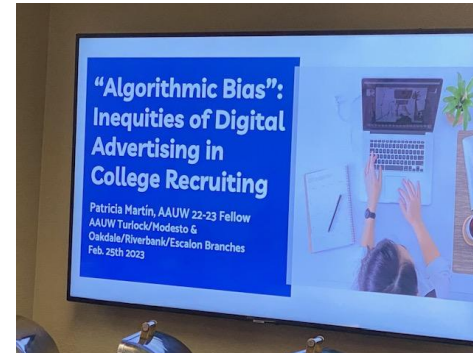
### **Savannah Banuelos**

Savannah Banuelos is another woman who has a story of overcoming tremendous challenges through a combination of study, fortitude and resilience.

A recent graduate of CSU Stanislaus, she is the owner and operator of (SAVV)age, a fitness center focused on the enhancement of women's lives and all done by the tender age of 24. The title of her presentation is "Build It And They Will Come".

## Funds Luncheon

On February 25, 2023 Branches Turlock/Modesto and Oakdale/Escalon/Riverbank gathered at The Fruityard for a Funds Luncheon to hear Patricia Martin, an AAUW fellow and PhD candidate from UCLA give a presentation of her doctoral thesis and her research on how digital advertising impacts college recruiting and college access. She presented a most interesting talk that most agreed was definitely enlightening. The food and the community spirit was also well enjoyed. A good time was had by all.



## Bylaws Reviewed

A committee consisting of Sue Baldwin, Valerie Doherty, and Beverly Schlegel met and refreshed and renewed the Branch's bylaws. The results are posted on our website at: [turlock-ca.aauw.net](http://turlock-ca.aauw.net), if you would like to review the results of their labors. These bylaws will be approved by the membership at the May luncheon.

## AAUW Nominating Committee

The nominating committee composed of Mary Allen, Pam Mayne, and Valerie Doherty met during the month of February and after consultation with many members proposed these nominations to the Board of Directors:

President: Wanda Bonnell  
V. P. Program: Pat Portwood and  
Sedonia Estacio  
V.P. Membership: Sophie Nemeth and  
Pamela Mayne  
V.P. Funds. Linda Romero-Soles  
Recording Secretary: Nancy Turner  
Finance Officer Sue Baldwin

If there are any other nominations, please submit them to the chairwoman of the nominating committee by April 3.  
Mary Allen: [marypopea@gmail.com](mailto:marypopea@gmail.com)

## Remember this Date and This Meeting

**Thursday, April 13 at 6:30**

Have you wondered about all this talk relating to CRT or Critical Race Theory? If you're not a graduate student, you probably haven't really heard much other than talk. But our Turlock Branch will present a Zoom meeting on this date entitled: "Critical Race Theory--Fact, Fiction and Moving Forward". This program will answer : What is CRT and why is it such a hot topic. Keep this date and time in mind and RSVP for a Zoom link to [patportwood@gmail.com](mailto:patportwood@gmail.com)

## May Luncheon

The May Luncheon is scheduled for:

**May 6, 2023**

**Pageo's Lavender Farm**

**1157 Golf Link Road, Turlock California**

We will install our officers, hear from our scholarship recipients, vote on our bylaws and enjoy good food and each others' company.

SEE YOU THERE

## State AAUW Nominations and Election

The nominating period for board candidates has ended and it turns out we have exactly the number of candidates that we need. According to our bylaws, we do not need to hold an election and those candidates are automatically welcomed to the board. So congratulations to President-elect Charman Goehring, Chief Financial Officer Kathy Ford, Directors Amy Horn, Melissa Maceyko, and Sigrid Morantz. We appreciate these members stepping up to leadership for the next couple of years. We will still be voting on the Public Policy Priorities this spring. The state election voting period will be April 22-May 13. You will have the opportunity to vote for new Public Policy Priorities for 2023-2025. Each member with an email address will receive an email with a link to their ballot. Members without an email will receive a paper ballot. The proposed Public Policy Priorities will be posted on the website soon. Please check for them.



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