

AAUW TURLOCK/MODESTO BRANCH

THE MONTAGE



SEPTEMBER IS HERE!

Never Forget 9/11/01 🇺🇸

National Suicide Prevention Month 🧠❤️

Labor Day 📅🔧 09/01/25

31st Anniversary of the Violence Against Women

Act 🧑❤️🧑 09/13/94

World Gratitude Day 🌍 09/21/25

National Hispanic American Heritage Month begins

👐🇲🇪🇪🇸 09/15/25

UPCOMING BRANCH EVENTS

Teen Mental Health: Zoom presentation Thursday 10/16/2025 6- 7:30 p.m. Hosted by Heather Friedberg with a panel of students and mental health counselors from Enochs HS in Modesto. Open to the public. See flyer.



UPCOMING AAUW EVENTS

AAUW WA Online Virtual Panel Presentation on Title IX (link):

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. PST, via Zoom

Explore the historical evolution, current landscape, and future implications of Title IX, with a focus on its impact on gender equity in education, athletics, and beyond.

Panelists include:

- Dorothy McBride, professor emeritus of political science at Florida Atlantic University,
- Julie McCleery, co-director, UW Center for Leadership in Athletics, College of Education, and
- Domanic Vanthom, WSU Vancouver, vice chancellor of Student Affairs and Deputy Title IX Coordinator

AAUW National A Fall Member Gathering (link):

Thursday, September 18, 2025, 5 - 6 p.m. via Zoom

At this special event, we will:

- Recognize outstanding supporters and branches,
- Update you on our Strategic Plan's 3 key priorities,
- Share the results of AAUW's FY25 Branch Survey, and
- Provide you with the information you need to answer our 5 Calls to Action!

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and learn about our latest initiatives!

***Double click on event name → link to register**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am very excited to announce that our branch was awarded 5-Star status by AAUW National for last year 2024-2025! We are one of 16 out of 108 branches in California that achieved this goal. Only 54 branches nationwide were awarded 5 stars! Congratulations to all of our members for supporting our efforts through your membership renewals, donations, following our social media, and program attendance. We hope to repeat this year. The AAUW Five Star Program recognizes branches that align with AAUW's strategic priorities and advance the mission of achieving gender equity for women and girls through our local impact and collective efforts nationwide.

I hope that you had the opportunity to attend our membership brunch, enjoy the company, eat good food, and hear from our Tech Trek campers and one alumni counselor. What a pleasure to hear about their wonderful experiences! Additionally, we welcomed seven new members to our branch! Great job Glynis Dove, our Membership VP, and thanks Sue Baldwin for sharing your lovely home.

In October, please plan to attend our Teen Mental Health program on Zoom. This important issue was suggested by one of our high school scholarship recipients a few years ago, and it's of vital importance. Invite your friends, especially those with teenagers or teen grandchildren. Teens are encouraged to attend too.

AAUW survives by us volunteering to serve. Join me in thanking Linda Romero-Soles as our new newsletter proofreader. How are you considering branch service opportunities? Are you willing to be our Public Policy or Diversity Chair? Let me know. Sue Baldwin, our Finance Officer and Valerie Doherty, our Funds VP, are both due to rotate off the board at the end of June. We are required to have a Finance Officer and Sue is willing to train anyone interested starting now. Valerie will provide training for anyone willing to chair our one annual fundraiser and host the February Funds Luncheon. It takes all of us to bring our mission alive!

- Nancy Turner, AAUW Turlock/Modesto Branch President

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

- Follow link → How to self-renew for existing members
 - <https://www.aauw.org/app/uploads/2022/05/AAUW-Community-Hub-How-to-Self-Renew-5.24.22.pdf>
- Did you know it pays to be a member? ▼
 - [Discounts & Perks!](#)



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

1. Janice Kaeley - Periodontics, Masters
2. Peggy Hauselt - Biology, BA & PhD
3. Ashely Maki - Public Health, MPH
4. Liz Escalante - Sociology, BA
5. Gloria Holcomb - English/Bio, BA+
6. Samantha Coughlin - Deaf Studies/Edu, BA & MA
7. Laurie Maki - Chemistry, BS & Theoretical Physical Chemistry, PhD

INVITE A MEMBER

Become a member and connect through our website, plus enjoy special members-only discounts, e-newsletters, webinars, calls to action and more.

National Membership Dues: \$74/annual

California Dues: \$30/annual

AAUW Turlock/Modesto Dues: \$16/annual

Total Dues = \$120/annually

★NATIONAL DUES FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE★

2025 TECH TREK CAMPS



CAMPS: Eight in-person, one virtual; Santa Barbara camp reinstated.

CAMPERS: Over 750 campers, 100 branches, 350 schools; alum community > 16,000!

VOLUNTEERS: Nearly 450 volunteers at branches and camps - 30% alums!

IMPACT: Campers gave Tech Trek a 95% average when asked about its value afterwards.

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UPDATE ON PAST EVENTS

Potluck Membership Brunch: Sept 6 2025 hosted at Sue Baldwin's, our Turlock/Modesto AAUW members, guests, and Tech Trek campers came together to celebrate the start of fall. We heard about our campers experiences, learned about our branch programs & events, while enjoying delicious food, fun, and fellowship.

All four guests plus two 2025 Tech trek moms and one Alumni mom joined. This is the first time we have had three moms join in a year!
Thank you for all your support!



BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS



• BOOK CLUB (TURLOCK)

- Group meets the second Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
- Call the August/Sept host Sue Baldwin @ 209-535-0954 for questions.
- **Next reading → Oct 13** *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead; Host – Mary Allen

• BOOK CLUB (MODESTO)

- Group meets the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m.
- Call Fran Ewald @ 209-409-2208 for questions.
- **Next reading → Oct 16** *All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot; Hostess – Elizabeth Tyler

• BRIDGE

- Meets at 1 o'clock on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at the home of a hosting member.
- If interested, call Marilyn Brunton 209-648-6046 or Nedra Voorhees 209-613-2521.

• GAME NIGHT

- Next gathering TBD, dates/hosts vary monthly based on availability
- Keep a lookout in the Oct Montage for future dates!
- Questions: Valerie Doherty 209-765-7196 or valeried@charter.net



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AAUW CALIFORNIA NEWS

California Book Club

- Statewide book study this year, *The Four Pivots: Reimagining Justice, Reimagining Ourselves* by Dr. Shawn Ginwright. Open to **ALL** members!
- The first Pivot will be discussed on **October 22nd at 7 p.m.** Reading the chapter ahead of time will provide you with more context, but all are welcome to participate in the discussion regardless. You can **register HERE**.

California Compass

- Connection is important, so starting this month, we have a new all-member publication called the *California Compass*. This publication builds upon the *California Connection* and introduces several new features.
- Look for this new way of staying connected in your email from AAUW California

CRISIS RESOURCES

- If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, call or text 988 immediately.
- You can also chat with the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988lifeline.org.
- Know the Warning Signs and Risk Factors of Suicide
- Being Prepared for a Crisis
- Read our guide, "Navigating a Mental Health Crisis"
- What You Need to Know About Youth Suicide

Need more information, referrals or support?
Contact the [NAMI HelpLine](https://www.nami.org/get-involved/awareness-events/suicide-prevention-month/). (NAMI, 2025)

FEEDBACK

♥ We value your input!
Email or text Angelica Contreras with questions or comments regarding your branch newsletter @ 209-338-4176 or angelica.slater@outlook.com



INDIVIDUAL IMPACT

- 1 in 20 U.S. adults (5%) have serious thoughts of suicide each year.
- About 1 person dies by suicide in the U.S. every 11 minutes.
- 79% of all people who die by suicide in the U.S. are male.*
- Although more women* than men attempt suicide, men are 4x more likely to die by suicide.
- In the U.S., suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 10-14 and among people ages 15-24, and the 11th leading cause of death overall. (NAMI, 2025)

*Indicates female or male sex assigned at birth

Data from CDC, NIMH and other select sources

Resource: Suicide Prevention Month. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI, 2025).

<https://www.nami.org/get-involved/awareness-events/suicide-prevention-month/>



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CARNEGIE ARTS CENTER

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING: STREET HEROINES

SEPTEMBER 25 @ 6:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

FREE

STREET HEROINES (2021, 71 mins.) is an award-winning feature-length documentary celebrating the courage and creativity of women who despite their lack of recognition have been an integral part of the graffiti and street art movement since the beginning. With authentic vérité storytelling woven between an interview-driven narrative, STREET HEROINES juxtaposes the personal experiences of three emerging Latina artists from New York City, Mexico City, and São Paulo as they navigate a male-dominated subculture to establish artistic identities within chaotic urban landscapes.

Director: Alexandra Henry | **Producers:** Alexandra Henry, Jordan Noël Hawkes & Valiant Pictures |

Executive Producer: Zahra Sherzad | **Associate**

Producer: Some Serious Business | **Editor:**

Simone Cassas



AAUW SEPT EVENT CALENDAR

- **Work Smart – Know Your Value and Get Paid**
 - Sept. 16th 2025
- **AAUW Start Smart**
 - Sept. 24th 2025
- **AAUW Money Smart: Smart Foundations**
 - Sept. 30th 2025
- Follow link for more information/registration
<https://my.aauw.org/eventcalendardirectory>
 - All events are free and hosted online!

**Work.
SMART**

UPCOMING AAUW EVENT CALENDAR

- **AAUW Work Smart: Refresher**
 - Oct. 8th 2025
- **AAUW Start Smart**
 - Oct. 15th 2025
- **Lobby Corps Virtual Training**
 - Oct. 16th 2025
- **AAUW Money Smart: Smart Finances**
 - Oct. 23rd 2025
- Follow link for more information/registration
<https://my.aauw.org/eventcalendardirectory>
 - All events are free and hosted online!

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MISSION & ACTION

A New Academic Year, A Stronger Future

[Stand with AAUW \(link\)](#)

Our 2025–26 Fellows and Grantees will begin their studies — stepping into classrooms, research labs, and leadership roles with courage — ready to break barriers and chart bold new futures. These extraordinary women are not only pursuing their dreams; they're shaping a future where equity, opportunity, and innovation thrive, and their journeys inspire us all.

For more than a century, we've championed women's education — especially for those from underrepresented communities. Today, our mission is more vital than ever. We're proud to be the largest non-institutional funder of women's graduate-level education in the U.S.

Your continued support fuels our work. Together, we're defending education, empowering women, and creating conditions for equity to flourish. The promise of these scholars and community leaders is a promise for all of us: that education can still be a force for progress, inclusion, and justice.



With deep gratitude and solidarity,

Gloria L. Blackwell

AAUW Chief Executive Officer

EMPOWERING FUTURES: AAUW HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

AAUW continues its long-standing commitment to empowering young women through education with its annual High School Scholarships. Each year, our Turlock/Modesto branch awards scholarships to outstanding high school seniors who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership potential, and a dedication to advancing gender equity with a focus on a career in a STEM discipline (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).

Our branch developed the scholarship program in 2018 with 3 local high schools, and currently we award students at 5 high schools: Turlock, Pitman, Modesto High (renamed the Pat Portwood Scholarship in 2024) Ceres, and Enochs.

In the past 7 years we have awarded a total of 42 students, each receiving \$1,000.00. We are able to provide these funds thanks to the generosity of our members and the community who support our annual scholarship fundraiser, held in November.

The awarded students are celebrated each year in May with a luncheon held at Pageo's Lavender Farm. The AAUW Scholarship Program is more than just financial assistance—it's an investment in the next generation of women leaders. The program is designed to support young women who are pursuing higher education at the community college or California State University.

We believe that every young woman deserves the opportunity to pursue her educational dreams. Our scholarship program not only helps ease the financial burden of college but also recognizes the remarkable achievements of young women in our community.

In 2025, our Branch awarded scholarships to 7 graduating seniors from each of our confirmed high schools. These recipients were selected through a competitive process that considered academic achievement, community involvement, and leadership experience.

Wanda Bonnell
Scholarship Committee





Empowering Women Since 1881
Turlock/Modesto Branch

All ages welcome!

Co-hosts:

Enochs High School HOSA

Topics Discussed

Current Teen Mental Health
Challenges and Statistics
Strategies and Mindfulness

Open Discussion

Grab your favorite
snack, wear your
comfiest clothes and
let's talk!

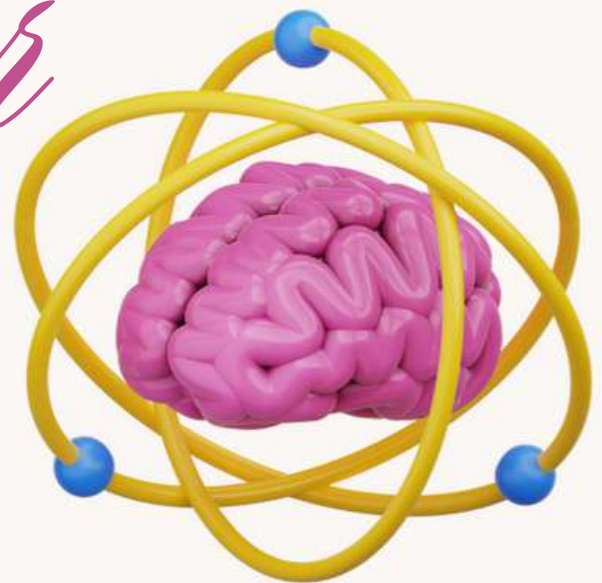
TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

Webinar

October 16, 2025
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Scan QR to join
Zoom Call

Passcode: 2289



**American Association
Of University Women**
Turlock/Modesto Branch

**Sunday
November 2nd
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.**

*For more information call
Valerie 209-765-7196*

The Annual
Scholarship Fundraiser
Dinner and Silent Auction

at
Assyrian American Civic Club
2618 N. Golden State Blvd.
Turlock

*All Proceeds go towards
local scholarships,
STEM camps and
graduate fellowships*

*Tickets: \$80
Table for 10: \$800*



Linking together for our mission.

