

SEPTEMBER 2021

THE SPOKESWOMAN

<https://davis-ca.aauw.net>

AAUW Davis Friends and Family Picnic

All members should have received an Eventbrite invite to our upcoming Friends and Family Picnic. Please RSVP no later than **Sunday, September 12th** so that we have an accurate headcount for the event. Lunch will be provided, and all are welcome! Meet with branch members, former Tech Trek families and students from the AAUW@UCD organization. We hope to see you there!



In This Issue:

[click to be directed to article](#)

[AAUW Friends and Family Picnic Announcement](#)

[August Celebrate the NineTEAnth Recap](#)

[August Book Group Recap](#)

[AAUW 2021 Fund Events Feature](#)

[Public Policy Update](#)

[UNA Updates](#)

[Upcoming Branch Yard Sale](#)

[AAUW National News](#)

[Upcoming Webinars](#)

September Calendar

Thursday, September 9th at 7 pm: Board Meeting on Zoom

Saturday, September 11th at 9 am: Book Group meeting to discuss *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*

Sunday, September 19th, 11 am to 1 pm: Family and Friends Picnic at Westwood Park in Davis

Thursday, September 23rd: AAUW National Implicit Bias Webinar (more information is forthcoming - check your email)

Friday, September 24th, 3 pm to 4 pm: UNA, The ABCs of UN Climate Conferences

Friday, October 1, 1:30 pm to 5 pm: UNA Virtual Western Region Climate Forum: Feeling the Heat

Celebrate the NineTEAnth Recap

Former AAUW@UCD student, Annie Chen (class of 2019), invited us to a Tea from Taiwan on August 19th. In a virtual and in-person experience hosted by Estelle, we joined Annie as she explained the culture of tea in her home country. For the tea tasting, Annie sent an organic Honey Oolong black tea from the Taitung mountains in eastern Taiwan. The natural sweet honey taste is released to the tea leaves following cicada bites to the leaves, which improves the quality of the tea. We tasted the tea brewed hot, as well as cold, as Annie described optimal methods for brewing and tasting tea. She said that tea should be steeped in smaller pots and poured into small cups for drinking and taller cups for enjoying the aroma of the tea.

With the tea bags, Annie included fortunes that featured her botanical drawings along with positive messages associated with the plants. A few examples are:

- "A good beginning": *Phalaenopsis aphrodite*
- "Opportunities for growth": *Lindsaea orbiculata*
- "Strength to overcome difficulties": *Lewisia cotyledon*
- "Someone will lend you a hand": *Chrysanthemum sp.*

During the event, Annie also shared her passion for plants and science communication that inspired her to start a resin jewelry business called Sciencely Handmade. Her stunning jewelry can be viewed on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and in [videos](#). Annie is offering Davis branch members free shipping for priority holiday orders until November 15th, 2021. The promo code is "AAUW NineTEAnth". Click [HERE](#) for an order form and more information.



An example of Annie's beautiful jewelry

August 14th Book Group Recap

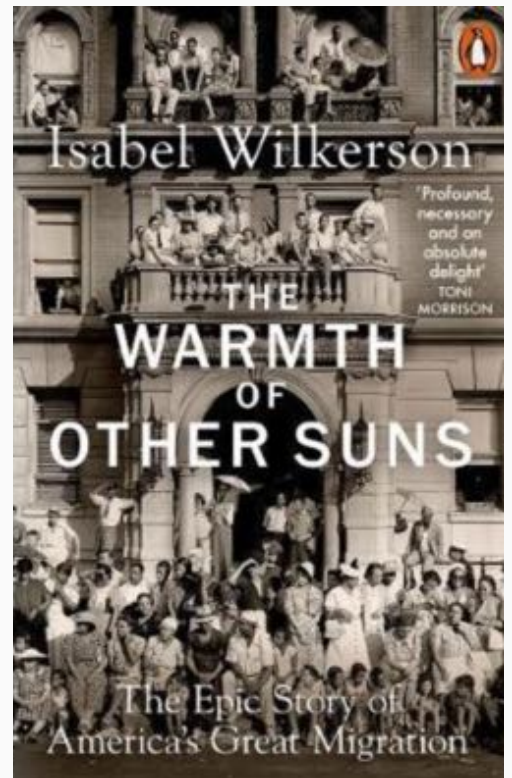
The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration by Isabel Wilkerson was the topic of discussion during the August book group meeting over Zoom. Led by Karen Lemcke, we discussed migration within the U.S. related to the experiences of more than 5.5 million Black Americans who abandoned their lives in the South and fled to northern and western cities in search of a better life. Karen asked us to consider why each character migrated (willingly or out of necessity) while Wilkerson took us through several decades between World War I and 1970 and geographical regions. The book was the result of much research and the discussion participants decided the book should be part of a history curriculum in schools.

The stories told in the book described railroads in great detail: working on them, traveling in designated compartments, and how they often divided cities and communities. Life in a small town, where there is usually a sense of community and safety, is very different from life in cities.

Wilkerson's recent award-winning book, *Caste: The Origins for Our Discontents*, will be discussed on September 11th at 9 am on Zoom. An e-mail providing the link to the Zoom meeting was sent to branch members on September 8th and will be sent again on the morning of September 11th. All are welcome to share experiences and opinions even though you have not read the book.

“It occurred to me that no matter where I lived, geography could not save me.”

ISABEL WILKERSON



AAUW 2021 Fund Events Feature Inspiring Fellows and Grant Recipients

Because we are lucky enough to have so many (37) recipients in California, AAUW CA has scheduled three virtual AAUW Fund events for 2021 to enable all of them to have an opportunity to explain their work. You may attend any number of events but you must register in advance. There will be two Saturday events from **10:00 am-noon (October 23rd and October 30th)** and **one Sunday event from 1:00-3:00 pm (November 7th)**. **REGISTER** to be informed and inspired by these wonderful women.

Although the events are free, please consider making a donation to the AAUW Fund to support this fantastic program. You are especially invited to contribute to the Greatest Need Fund which enables your donation to be prioritized to meet AAUW obligations.

AAUW California in Action: Public Policy Legislative Update

The Legislature adjourned for Summer Recess from July 16th to August 16th, but is now back in session. Here is an update on bills that AAUW CA is taking positions on or is tracking:

- Childcare is an AAUW CA legislative priority, as many women are unemployed due to inability to find childcare, especially since the pandemic caused many childcare providers to go out of business. AB92*, co-sponsored by AAUW CA, would determine fair fees parents pay for childcare by creating a sliding scale for family fees, which are imposed on low-income families accessing subsidized childcare. Assemblymember Gómez Reyes (D-San Bernardino), author of AB92, extended this bill into the next legislative session after the State Budget was passed without provisions for funding childcare fees into 2023. However, the 2022 budget recently signed by the governor does contain considerable increases in childcare funding.
- Of our initial list of 39 bills on which AAUW took positions or is watching, one has been signed by the governor (re-hiring employees displaced by the pandemic). Eighteen bills are still active.
- The governor must sign or veto bills that pass the legislature by the end of September.

*For more information on AB92, go to: <https://www.childcarelaw.org/ab-92-family-fee-pandemic-relief-bill-resources/>



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WESTERN REGION
CLIMATE FORUM

OCTOBER 1
2021
—

SAVE
THE
DATE

Feeling the Heat
Expectations for United Nations
26th Climate Conference (COP26)

**Path to Success and Priorities
for Comprehensive Actions**

www.unawestclimate.org



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF THE USA
FREE VIRTUAL WESTERN REGION CLIMATE FORUM - *Feeling the Heat*
Friday, October 1, 2021 from 1:30 to 5 p.m. PDT
www.unawestclimate.org

We are at a pivotal moment in the fight against climate change. This November is the “*world’s best last chance to get runaway climate change under control!*” ~ COP26

The United Nations Association’s three western regions have joined together to present a groundbreaking Forum in anticipation of the United Nations’ 26th Climate Conference (COP26) to be held in Glasgow in early November 2021. Renowned climate experts representing the UN, federal and state governments of the western region of the United States, NGOs and the academic community will provide in-depth information about the context, content, and potential results of COP26. (COP= Conference of the Parties – for more detail see UNA update in August Spokeswoman).

The Western Region Climate Forum will explore the critical and urgent need for all nations to demonstrate their political will with greater commitments and robust action plans – imperative due to current impacts of climate change and the existential threat of potentially irreversible global warming that the UN’s IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) scientists recently reported. The unique leadership role of the United States and its western states to mitigate the climate crisis over the decades, as well as plans for future action, will be highlighted.

Join a community of people concerned about the future of our planet, including many youth climate advocates, as we come together for this thought-provoking event and leave mobilized to make a real and lasting difference.

A document titled ***DECLARATION AND APPEAL TO COMBAT INTENSIFYING GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE*** addressed to the U.S. Government, all participating governments at COP26, and other stakeholders will be presented on behalf of all participating UNA chapters and possible partners.

BONUS EVENT. **The ABCs of UN Climate Conferences**, a one-hour primer, will be offered on Friday, September 24, 2021 from 3 to 4 p.m. PDT to provide vital information about the genesis and evolution of UN climate conferences to prepare you for the Forum.

Free registration for both events at www.unawestclimate.org
Zoom links will be provided prior to the events.



Fall Yard Sale Scheduled for October 23rd

Start cleaning out your closets and garages for the Davis Branch Fall Yard Sale to be held on Saturday, October 23rd! Profits from the yard sale will be allocated to our Tech Trek and Branch Projects funds. We are now looking ahead to 2022-2023 to provide scholarships for four incoming 8th graders to attend the UCD Tech Trek camp. The Branch Fund supports our Mission in a variety of ways, including providing funds for our UCD Student Organization members to participate in AAUW leadership opportunities, offering stipends to help members attend National or State conventions, and local projects like Sahaya Walks. The Board can also direct those funds to supplement a Tech Trek scholarship or an AAUW Funds donation.

What to donate? Please be sure that donated items are clean and gently used. Items should be priced except for the items that are grouped. Popular items include tools, jewelry, bicycles, toys, and student-oriented furniture. If you are not sure how to price items, this article may be helpful: [Learn the Dos and Don'ts of Garage Sale Pricing](#) Yard sale tags are available locally at the Dollar Tree store (for \$1) or at OfficeMax. Costume jewelry will sell for \$0.50 to \$1; however, nicer items (e.g. a pair of sterling silver earrings purchased for \$30 or more), might sell for \$10 to \$12 at a yard sale. Items that will be grouped and not individually priced include: paperback books, hardbound books, CDs, DVDs, cups/glasses, plates (\$.50), flatware, kitchen utensils, and plush toys. Clothing will be group priced (tops, pants, children's shoes, etc.). If you feel an item has greater value (e.g., 100% silk blouse), you may price it accordingly. Any items that are not sold at the end of the sale will be donated to a charity such as Goodwill or the SPCA, unless other arrangements have been made in advance.

Further information on where and when to bring your donated items and how you can help (yard sale preparation or day of sale) will be coming in the October Spokeswoman.

AAUW National Statement on Supreme Court Ruling on Texas Law Restricting Reproductive Rights

The following is a statement from Kate Nielson, AAUW's Senior Director of Public Policy, Legal Advocacy, & Research:

“AAUW strongly condemns the U.S. Supreme Court’s refusal to suspend implementation of a dangerous Texas law that would virtually strip individuals of their well-established, Constitutional right to control their bodies and erode their economic security. The nation’s highest court is enabling a vicious system of vigilante lawsuits that aims to turn citizens against one another in furtherance of the most extreme anti-choice agenda. This ruling, which bypasses Constitutional review, effectively abolishes a pregnant person’s ability to make personal choices. Curtailing reproductive rights is a seismic affront to all Americans and AAUW vows to ferociously fight to ensure quality, affordable, and accessible health care for all.”

Upcoming Webinars

Thursday, September 16, 2021 4pm ET

In Conversation with Dr. Rajika Bhandari

America Calling: A Foreign Student in a Country of Possibility

Join us for a discussion with AAUW fellowship alumna Rajika Bhandari, PhD., a nonprofit executive and an international higher education expert, to discuss her upcoming book, *America Calling: A Foreign Student in a Country of Possibility*, which will be released on September 14. *America Calling* is both a deeply personal story of Dr. Bhandari’s search for place and voice, and an incisive analysis of America’s relationship with the rest of the world through the most powerful tool of diplomacy: education. Dr. Bhandari is a sought-after speaker on issues of international education, skilled immigrants, and educational and cultural diplomacy. An author of five academic books and one previous nonfiction book, Dr. Bhandari's writing has appeared in *Ms. Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *HuffPost*, and *The Diplomatic Courier*, among others.

Register Here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ouEj9TsZRzmylFjzHmBc8w?emci=0bb08245-2c0b-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&emdi=1e0e07eb-7611-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&ceid=20301557

Upcoming Webinars

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 4pm ET

Iterative Thinking and Active Listening: Getting to Common Ground

With the world in flux and the economic security of millions threatened by the ongoing pandemic, we know we can't return to the "old normal." How can innovation and iterative thinking help us bridge divides on the best path forward and find common ground on major social issues? Our panel of experts will share real-world examples of different sectors and generations effectively working together to address inequities and ideas for how we can continue to work towards new norms for us all even when the future is uncertain

Register Here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sNxBQLGfSLG6ZI5CU9yZsw?emci=0bb08245-2c0b-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&emdi=1e0e07eb-7611-ec11-981f-501ac57ba3ed&ceid=20301557

Thursday, September 23, 2021

Implicit Bias Webinar

Denial of bias is common. However, each of us has some implicit or unrecognized bias. Being able to own this and talk about such bias can open opportunities for branches to grow. This can be a magical opportunity.

AAUW National will present a webinar on implicit bias on September 23, 2021. National will be sending out more details, including the link for the webinar, shortly.

BE AS ACTIVE AS YOU CAN, BUT STAY A MEMBER.