



Humboldt Inc. (CA) Branch



Meet our Scholarship
Recipients
Join us at our Branch
Meeting
Saturday, December 4

Many thanks to all of our members who have made these scholarships possible by donating to the fund-raising that supports them. At our Branch Zoom meeting on December 4th you can meet

our wonderful recipients and hear about their achievements and goals.

Program is 10 am and social time 9:30 to 10

If you have not received the Zoom link, contact Rosemarie Weaver

AAUW Re-entry Womens' Scholarships

Our Scholarship Committee is really pleased to have received more than 30 inquiries about our scholarships, with 21 students actually completing the application process. Upon review we narrowed our selection base down to those we felt best met the requirements of the scholarships, would benefit the most from a financial award and would also contribute to our community in the future. Needless to say, this was a difficult process as many were excellent candidates and a credit to the programs at Humboldt State University.

After in-person interviews by the Committee, five students were selected for awards and have been invited to attend our Dec. 4th membership meeting via Zoom so that we can present them to our members. A brief bio of each follows with the amount awarded to each student. Without the very generous support of our membership, it would not have been possible to recognize these outstanding women. We thank all of you who have made donations to our Scholarship fund and hope your continued generosity will enable us to continue this outreach in the future.

Asia Anderson - \$2,000: Asia is on track to complete her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry in 2022 with a plan to work toward her PhD in the Biosciences and continue in research and teaching, with a goal of possibly returning to HSU as a professor. As a single mother returning to education after 20 years, she has a passion for learning which she shares with other students as an academic coach and STEM tutor in the Umoja Center at HSU while carrying a full academic schedule which includes ongoing research in the Biochemistry Dept.

Juhi La Fuente - \$2,000: Juhi has chosen to complete a Master's degree in the challenging field of Fisheries Biology (May, 2023), complementing her strong interest in the marine sciences with the intention of continuing her education as a research assistant in the Fisheries Dept. With previous experience as an AmeriCorp volunteer and working in community outreach and science education programs, Juhi has developed a strong desire "to ensure that the next generation of women and girls feel seen, encouraged and represented" in the field.

Liesl Gustafson - \$1,000: Having to overcome serious health and personal problems has not deterred Liesl from pushing to accomplish her goal of completing a Bachelor's degree in Botany with a minor in Ecological Restoration (May, 2022). Having graduated from HSU with a Fine Arts degree (2006) Liesl is a strong student with clear and substantial goals to work at protecting and improving our environment. Her future holds a desire to complete a Master's program, become a Master Gardener and continue in her goal of being a benefit to her community in whatever the future holds for her.

Natalie Arroyo - \$1,000: With all that Natalie does in her day-to-day life, we would possibly need to describe her as an over-achiever. Returning to school to complete an M.S. in Environmental Science and Management, she is also working part-time, serving as a Coast Guard Reserve Officer, is a member of the Eureka City Council and an instructor in the undergraduate Environmental Science and Management Department.

Natalie's "dream is to continue a life of public service and to make well-informed decisions

about land, water, and natural resource management for the rest of her career".

Julia Neuman. - \$1,000: Having acquired a BA in Fine Arts and Child Development in 2002 at HSU, Julia has worked as a Classroom Supervising Teacher at the HSU Children's Center, and a Mental Health Case Manager at the Humboldt Dept. of Health and Human Services. Her work with children has motivated her to return to school full time to achieve an MSW (2022) and then an LCSW so she can become a credentialed play therapist for the community. As part of her program, she is working (non-paid) as an Intern for the County while providing for the needs of her son.



President's Message:

Our November Branch Meeting with Dr. Jenn Capps from HSU was highly interesting and informative. 36 members joined the Zoom meeting to hear about HSU's change to California's 3rd Polytechnic University. Dr. Capps presented us with an overview and answered many questions from members about the change and the effect it will have on the University and the community. Thank you, Alex Stillman and Connie Stewart, for arranging the speaker and contributing to the program.

Here's some exciting news: There were 17 qualified applicants for this year's scholarships. As you can imagine, the narrowing down and selection processes were difficult for the committee, but it is wonderful that so many re-entry women are working hard to accomplish their goals. It is inspiring to meet them and hear about their plans and accomplishments. Thanks to committee chair Margaret Wallace, Gina Rogers, and Connie Stewart for doing a great job publicizing the scholarship. Thanks to Becky MacQuarrie and Mary Lou Lowry for joining the selection committee this year. Thanks also to Sharon Ferrett for hosting the meetings and interviews at her wonderful home.

We will meet the scholarship recipients at our December 4th zoom Branch meeting. There will be time to get to know them and ask questions. The meeting will also include the raffle ticket drawing for 6 gift certificates from various local businesses. If you send in your scholarship donation in time for the meeting, your ticket will be in the drawing. Let's be generous so we can continue this good work again next year.

The next Board meeting is Jan 15, 2022. We will be selecting the Women's History Tea Honorees, so we need your nominations. Please send your nomination form to me by mail or email by then. The form is included in this newsletter.

I hope you will be able to join us by zoom on Dec. 4th. I know you will be impressed by our scholarship recipients!

Rosemarie Weaver, Branch President

Member Input Needed

On January 15, the Board will have to decide what kind of meetings to have from February to May of 2022. We need input on what members want to do, so we want to hear from you on whether to have virtual or in-person meetings.

Phone chain callers will contact you before the December meeting and ask for your input. You can also put your input in an email and send to Rosemarie Weaver.

Please think about the following:

Are you likely to attend in-person meetings if we have them?

What kind of food service would you like to have: buffet, box meal, no food?

Should members be vaccinated and/or wear masks?

Do you prefer to continue virtual meetings instead of in-person?

For information on AAUW's recommendations on in-person meetings, go to <https://www.aauw-ca.org/> and click on Covid Reminder.



2022 Women's History Tea Honoree Nomination

Each March we celebrate women from the past and present who have made a difference in Humboldt County. If you would like to nominate a recipient of this honor, please complete this nomination form. The Board of Directors will be making a selection by the end of this year. Please nominate a person or persons that you feel should be considered for this honor and explain why.

Your Name _____

I would like to nominate _____

In what way has this person/group made a positive difference in Humboldt County through her activities, education, occupations, or professions?

Please provide the contact information for your nominee:

EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR NOMINATION to:

Rosemarie Weaver, Branch President

(roseweave52@gmail.com)

PO Box 473, Ferndale CA, 95536



Being Thankful for AAUW

AAUW National is 140 years old!

AAUW began in 1881, 140 years ago. Today, 170,000 members are dedicated to the mission of gender equity through education, research, and advocacy.

AAUW California is 100 years old!

The first California branch began in 1884 in San Francisco. In 1921, the state organization was formed with 13 active branches. Today, AAUW CA has 9,500 members in 119 branches.

We can all be thankful to be part of an organization with a rich history, a huge membership, and an important mission. I am thankful that AAUW gives me a sense of purpose, the chance to meet and get to know amazing women and men, and time for us to work on common goals and explore many interests together.

Rosemarie Weaver

Evening Book Group

Monday night we discussed our pick for October, *The Nightwatchman* by Louise Erdrich. We all liked the way the author was able to blend a real-life story with humor, magical realism, description of the Chippewa beliefs, the sex trade and the trauma inflicted on Indian children by the boarding school system. It looked back to the mid 1950s which was the "golden age" of white America but portrayed a bleak picture of poverty and living conditions of the tribe. The story focused on a group of native Americans, who got together to present their case to Congress to fight a proposed bill to "liberate" or do away with their tribal designation. This push was actually an attempted land grab and described the ongoing effort to exterminate and force the indoctrination of the native population. While the book at times was tough to read, the characters were wonderful. We all especially liked the tribe's relationship with nature.

Our pick for next month was any work by Abdulrazak Gurnah, the British-Zanzibarian author who recently was awarded the Nobel prize for literature. OK, now, the bad news. Apparently, his works are somewhat obscure, and some were out of print. Gina and I had no luck finding any titles at the local Eureka/ Arcata bookstores or the county library. On top of that, the "supply chain" problem has also caused a shortage of paper! While some of his books are on order, they won't be available until next year. So, I'm thinking late spring/early summer might be a good time to try to revisit this. Maybe by then there might be some used copies floating around!

In the meantime, Sharon has requested that we take a break and read something fun or feel good for a change! For our November 27 meeting, report on your favorite feel good book! I think we're all due a break! I'm looking forward to hearing what everyone comes up with. I'll send a link out a few days before the meeting.

Chris Stenlund

AAUW MYSTERY BOOK INTEREST GROUP

For the November meeting, there was a good turnout and we had a delightful discussion of novels by authors from Afghanistan or the Middle East or the locale of the mystery was in those areas.

The following were presented: Chaos in Kabul by Gerard de Villiers is from the author's Malko Linge series (Afghanistan)
The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown by Vassem Khan (India)
Vanished by Nancy Baker (Afghanistan/Iran)
The Burning Gates by Parker Bilal (Jamal Mahjoub) is from the author's Makana series (Cairo).

As usual there was discussion of other matters. There was mention of TV mystery series such as Baptiste and Grantchester. Basis for Baptiste is a spinoff from The Missing and Grantchester is a series of short stories by James Runde.

The calendar was updated and for December, novels based on Holiday themed mystery is the choice. BTW, for December there are numerous holidays other than Christmas ie. Bodhi Day Buddhist, Jamhuri Day Kenya and Day of the Virgin of Guadalupe Mexico. So there is a wide variety for us to select from. Also during this holiday meeting, by all means enjoy your favorite holiday drink or food item.

For the AAUW Mystery Book Interest group, the pattern of Individual Choice, Genre and Author is followed. If this piques your interest, please join us. We welcome your participation. Contact me at mag3022@gmail.com.

Maggie Augustine  
11.17.2021

Page Turners

In November, Page Turners book group read and discussed Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer. As always, the discussion was spirited and wide-ranging. The title really says it all about the book. The author shares stories and beliefs from her Native American background interwoven with her science training in botany and life experiences. The book is rich in appreciation for the earth and the gifts it gives us. It makes you want to protect and take care of the beautiful world around us. Join us on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am for good books and interesting discussions.

Rosemarie Weaver

**Remember: No Newsletter or branch meeting in January.
Stay tuned for details on the February meeting.**

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Editor:
Shelley Mitchell

Submissions welcome: deadline is the 20th of each month

Mission. To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision. Equity for all.

Values. Nonpartisan. Fact-based.

AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Since our founding in 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

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