



Humboldt Inc. (CA) Branch



The Branch

December 2023-January 2024

Vol 74. Issue 4



Holiday Re-entry Scholarship Event

Saturday, December 2
Baywood Country Club
3600 Baywood Lane, Arcata

This is your opportunity to "kick off" the holiday season, enjoy time with friends and have a delicious brunch in the beautiful atmosphere of Baywood County Club.

10: 30 a.m. Social
11:00 a. m. Buffet Luncheon
Chicken Pasta
Pesto Pasta (for Vegetarian)
Hot Vegetable
Green Salad
Chocolate mousse
Coffee & tea

Price per person \$35.00

This includes food, taxes, gratuities, podium & room for our event

Beverage only, \$8.00

Program 11:30 a.m.

Each year the Humboldt Branch raises funds to support re-entry women students at Cal Poly Humboldt. Our Scholarship Committee will tell us about the difficult process of choosing the winners of our scholarships.

Then we will meet the women selected for 2023 (see below for their bios). We will hear about their projects and their lives. Many of these re-entry students have worked very hard to return to college after a break of at least five years and we are always uplifted to hear about their successes and how our support has impacted their lives.

You have already received an invitation to donate in the mail. Hearing their stories will inspire all of us to be generous!

Reservation deadline is Monday November 27. There are two ways to register. You may click [HERE](#) to register online, or you may contact [Maggie Augustine](#).

Four Talented Cal Poly Humboldt Students Selected for Re-Entry Scholarships

The applicant pool for this year's Re-Entry Student Scholarships was very strong, and the students really have significant financial needs! So of course this made it very difficult for the Re-Entry Scholarship

Committee to select the winners, there were just so many worthy candidates!! We ended up awarding FOUR scholarships, something we were able to do because of the high level of donations you all made these last few years. We cannot wait for you to meet the four students selected. They have all been invited to speak at the December meeting, and we hope you can come and hear their amazing stories. Many, many thanks to all who have made donations make these scholarships possible. And yes, donations are still being accepted!!

Here are the winners, each received a \$2,000 scholarship award.

Julia Cavalli is a Master of Science candidate in Natural Resources (Wildfire Behavior), while also working in community wildfire planning for the County of Humboldt and as the lead coordinator for the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council. Her thesis will focus on strategies for environmentally responsible land management and wildfire risk reduction especially at wildland-urban interfaces. Julia also serves on the Board of the Northcoast Regional Land Trust.

Michelle Long, a candidate for a Masters in Social Work, is a first generation college graduate student who understands the challenges that underrepresented students face. She has ten years' experience working in rural healthcare, and has been an intern with the Cal Poly Humboldt Health Education team, supporting students around food insecurity, soliciting donations to Pop-up thrift stores, and developing a peer-to-peer support group for parents.

Keana Richmond is working on her Masters in Coral Ecology. She is a climate change warrior, helping organize a major climate change conference during her undergrad years at UC Berkeley, with goals of developing rigorous scientific research to help address threats facing this vital marine species. She loves teaching and has demonstrated skills communicating scientific concepts to the public.

Tina Taylor is a senior majoring in Business Administration, with a current concentration in New Venture Management. She has demonstrated skills as a connector among people from disparate groups, has been a powerful advocate for the survivor community, and is such a poised speaker! Tina has been a passionate voice with the N. CA Tribal Court Coalition, developing creative outreach strategies, and she and her husband run a small service business.

Don't forget to return your donation to the Re-Entry Scholarship fund in the envelope provided (the mailing went out in early November). Or feel free to bring it to the December meeting. If you didn't receive the mailing or can't find it, just send a check made out to Humboldt AAUW and write Re-Entry Scholarships in the Memo Line. Mail to: AAUW Humboldt Branch, P.O. Box 5116, Eureka, CA 95502

Monthly Meeting Registration

Thank you for using the Google form to register for our December meeting. It is difficult finding enough callers and we are trying this more automated method. I know it doesn't have the personal touch, but we hope it will make it easier for you to register. Some of you have mentioned that you don't use email. You can always call Maggie Augustine to let us know if you are coming. We are working on improving the system, so we have added a request for you to add your email address. With that, you will receive an email acknowledging your reply. You may need to look in your junk/spam folder to find it. With that email, you can make any changes to your reservation, or it will be a reminder that you have already registered. If you have any questions about registration, please contact Maggie Augustine.



President's Message

Nancy Dean, Branch President

AAUW Humboldt Branch – Presidents Message Dec 2023

We are in the holiday season, and I hope you enjoy it with family and friends. Our reentry scholarship event is coming up on the first Saturday in December and it is our time to honor our re-entry scholarship grantees and provide funding for those we will acknowledge next year. If you can, please provide financial support to these women. I am sure you remember your time

going to school balancing school tuition, books, housing, work, and family and with your help you can provide a little relief to our current students facing similar challenges after having a large break in the school routine. Thanks to Karole Ely and Donna Hauser for arranging our event at Baywood and for Margaret Wallace and Gina Rogers and their committee members in advertising the scholarships, reviewing applications, interviewing students, and ultimately selecting the grantees. We will not have a meeting in January, so see you all in February 2024.

Thanks, Nancy

***Find out if YOU
have what it takes
to run the world.***



GOV TREK
AAUW California

7 SATURDAYS OF EMPOWERMENT

- Engage on issues that matter to YOU! Gun control? Climate change? Voting equality?
- Interact in two-hour virtual sessions.
- Hear from women changemakers in politics.
- Work in teams to create a campaign simulation. You could be a candidate, campaign manager, speechwriter or communications director, field and volunteer manager.

LIVE

Virtual

Join other high school junior and senior girls in a free virtual program to learn about careers in public service and elected office.

**INFORMATION SESSION
(OPTIONAL)**

JAN. 8, 2024 7PM

Session Dates

SAT

We'll be gathering every Saturday from February 3rd to March 16th.

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
March 16th from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**Register today!
Space is limited**

govtrek@aauw-ca.org
aauw-ca.org/gov-trek




REGISTRATION FOR THE 2024 GOV TREK IS NOW OPEN.

We're off and running and looking forward to another successful year. The program was launched with a well-attended, information-packed presentation.

Click [HERE](#) to view the recording.

Click [HERE](#) for all the details and information your branch will need, including the link for the student registration.

GOV TREK 2024 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! BE A PART OF IT!

Be a Zoom Breakout Room Facilitator! Breakout Room Facilitators manage a group of up to 14 students in a Zoom breakout room. You will help them stay on task, assist with the understanding and implementation of assigned activities, and facilitate collaboration among the group for active participation. It's likely that the groups will be mostly self-directed. Click [HERE](#) for more information and [HERE](#) for the application.

What I need to know: Gov Trek is open for student registration. Details are in the recorded Zoom presentation and on the website.

What I need to do: Appoint a Gov Trek coordinator to promote this innovative program to high school girls in your community.



California Enacts Law Prohibiting Book Bans and Curricula Censorship

Kathi Harper, Chair Public Policy School Board Project

On September 25, 2023, Governor Newsom signed AB 1078 into law, officially preventing school districts from banning books and censoring curriculum based on the materials' depiction of inclusive and diverse perspectives. Specifically, the new law:

- Reaffirms, in the Introduction, that:
 - California supports accurate and inclusive education;
 - the California Constitution guarantees pupils equal protection under the law;
 - California schools have an obligation to combat bias against pupils within their schools;
 - and accurate and inclusive education are essential to ensure the educational success of all pupils
- Requires the Department of Education to develop guidance and public educational materials to ensure that all Californians can access information about educational laws and policies that safeguard the right to an accurate and inclusive curriculum
- Requires all school districts to have sufficient instructional materials for all students that align with approved content standards
- Adds to list of included topics in social sciences textbooks: the role and contributions of people of all genders, Latino Americans, LGBTQ+ Americans, and members of other ethnic, cultural, religious and socioeconomic status groups
- Reduces a school district's funding formula allocation if the district does not provide sufficient instructional materials pursuant to these provisions
- Prohibits governing members of school districts from refusing to approve or prohibiting the use of any book or instructional material on the basis that it contains inclusive and diverse perspectives

It is not certain at this point how school districts will respond to the new law. We anticipate that most will comply, but suspect there are some that will not. Please note that the script in the School Board Project (SBP) ToolKit has been modified to reflect the new law, and please keep your SBP liaison apprised if your district is in violation (you can find your liaison in the ToolKit).

You can find the text of AB 1078 [here](#).

You can find the SBP ToolKit [here](#).



March 2024 AAUW Women's History Tea

The Women's History Month Tea will be here before we know it. Would you like to help by hosting a table for the Tea? Last year, each member brought her own place setting and the hostess provided everything else that was needed. This approach was easier for the hostess and still resulted in beautiful tables. If you would like to be a hostess, please let me know by email or phone. Thank you for helping make the Tea memorable for all.

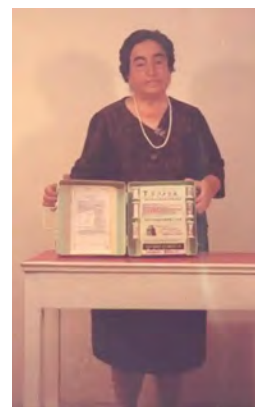
Rosemarie Weaver

roseweave52@gmail.com or 707-786-7019

Angela Ruiz Robles Invented the Ancestor of the e-reader

More than 60 years before Kindles, Nooks, iPods, and other electronic devices that revolutionized ways of reading, a gadget invented in a village in Spain had the potential to do the same.

Encyclopedia Mecanica was not the brainchild of a multinational corporation, like Apple or Amazon. It was invented in 1948 by Angela Ruiz Robles, a widowed teacher who wanted to make learning easier for her students and her three daughters. Her invention was about the size of a textbook which allowed a user to read words in any language and on any topic. She created the device "to get maximum knowledge with minimum effort."



Angela was born in 1895 in a small town in northwestern Spain. She graduated from a teachers college in Leon and taught there until 1916. In 1918 she moved near to the coast and taught there until 1926, when she founded the Academia Elmaca, named for her three daughters. She offered classes in day and at night, which served as a training ground for students of little means. She developed effective methods for students with disabilities, sometimes going to their homes to offer extra help. In 1934 she became manager for orphans and girls who might otherwise be disadvantaged to thrive in society. She found great meaning in working on behalf of others.

In 1947 Angela was awarded the Cross of Alfonso X the Wise for her innovations in the field of education, research, and social work. In 1952 she was awarded a gold medal at an exhibition for Spanish inventors.

She could not persuade financiers to fund her creation, and it was never widely produced. Decades later in 2007 Amazon introduced Kindle. This year it's reported that 15.92 million e-books are produced every month.

New York Times, November 13. Condensed by Jean Guthrie. Part of a series on Overlooked Women, which will soon be published in book form.

The Humboldt Branch of AAUW publishes *The Branch* eight times each year

<http://humboldt-ca.aauw.net>

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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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