

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTIES

★ Saturday, December 6

Plan to join us for Holiday Cheer at Barbara Bell's home in Orinda on Saturday, December 6 starting at 6 pm. Bring a dish and some great holiday memories to share. Barbara's address is 12 Mariposa Lane, Orinda. Contact her at b_mbell@sbcglobal.net or 925-788-6147. Carpooling is recommended.

★ Tuesday, December 9

Please join us for a Holiday Brunch on Tuesday, December 9, from 10 am to 12 noon at the home of Peggy Cabaniss, 743 Crossbrook Drive Moraga. If you would like to bring something (fruit, coffee cake, cookies, etc.), please email/call Peggy at pcabaniss7@gmail.com or 925-708-5178.



Special Note to New Members – we hope you will be able to join one or both of our holiday celebrations. It's a great way to meet other members, find out more about our AAUW branch and enjoy the holidays.

Remember to bring an unwrapped gift for the children at Burckhalter School. Turn to page 3 for suggestions.

There is no regularly scheduled General Meeting in December

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JANUARY
GENERAL MEETING
Focusing on DEI

TUESDAY,
JANUARY 20, 2026
Orinda Community Church
9:30 to 11:30 am

Ice Activity and Immigrant Rights in Contra Costa

What you Need to Know and What Can You Do

The DEI committee is in the process of putting together a panel to discuss a number of pertinent topics.

Turn to page 6 for some of their ideas.

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 2026
General Meeting

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS UNDER SEIGE

Beth H. Parker, Esq.

Join us for an eye opening delivery!

Please Note:
Our February 17 General Meeting will be held at the Serbian Church in Moraga.

... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Members,

Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Holidays. This time of the year is when we look back at the year coming to a close, look forward to the new year, to be with family and friends, and to be thankful. I am writing this in Nashville where both my daughters and their families live. I am very thankful I am healthy enough to visit them. I had a serious health scare on Aug. 31st, followed doctor's orders,

and I am now fully recovered. There is nothing like a health scare that reminds us the people who are important to us and for which we are thankful. My heart goes out to any of you that have struggled this year with health issues or loss. It is not easy. But I can say from personal experience that OML friends are kind, generous and want to help. I am so thankful for our board who all reached out, with many taking on my responsibilities while I was out of commission and the branch did not skip a beat. *Thank you board and my many friends in OML!*

We accomplished all of our community outreach projects in 2025, with your generous financial and volunteer support. Sixty percent of our members contribute financially, along with many of our family, friends, and local community organizations. And over 50 percent of our members volunteer for one or more of our community outreach projects: scholarship, Tech Trek, STEM Conference, Burckhalter Library, DEI, as well as public policy, the school board project, and the university partnership with Saint Mary's college. OML has a reputation among AAUW-CA Branches for our membership engagement and community involvement activities and impact. That is because of you, thank you!!

2026 will be another busy year. Our branch priorities are very busy. Burckhalter Library is open, STEM Committee is in full swing, planning the March 7, 2026 conference, Scholarship and Tech Trek committees are getting their applications ready so they can begin interviewing and selecting awardees early 2026. DEI is planning a great program on January 20th, AAUW Fund, Public Policy, Saint Mary's College Partnership – so many members working to accomplish our plan and making an impact in our community.

We have many new members and I am enjoying meeting you and excited to watch as you find your place in our branch and what you want to get involved in. I know any of our committees would love to have you, and there is plenty of work to do. We are currently looking for someone who would like to head up publicity (call me to learn more about it). Check out our website to learn about our community outreach projects and our special interest groups. Special because they offer unique social and educational opportunities based on members' interests.

And please read the other articles in the Triad. It has so much information in it. Members come up to me every month and tell me we should tell our members about such and such. I say we just had an article about that in the Triad last month.

Continued on page 5

BOARD MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS
NOVEMBER 11, 2025**December Holiday Fun**

Come celebrate AAUW-OML, our friendships and the holidays.

- December 6th, 6:00 p.m. at Barbara Bell's home.
- December 9th, 10 a.m. to noon at Peggy Canabiss's home.

Burckhalter Elementary School

Janette Maher is still collecting food and toys for Burckhalter children and families. She will be collecting items until December 7th. Please drop donations to her home.

2025-26 AAUW-OML Fundraiser

Watch for information on our exciting branch fundraiser to be held Spring 2026.

Public Policy/DEI

The committee has been working hard to create a "Meter of Participation" of our memberships' efforts in many areas of public policy. Watch and participate in the AAUW-OML Google Form to share with our fellow members all our collective hard work. Collaborate in your efforts, get great ideas and feedback...get motivation!

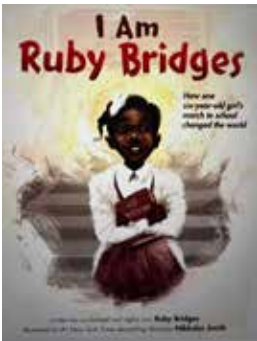
AAUW-CA has a "Resist Bot" to ease members' efforts to contact their lawmakers. Training opportunities will be announced in AAUW-CA online publications and, additionally, our Public Policy committee intends to share the training at one of our upcoming membership meetings.

STEM Conference

Exciting News: Diane Feinberg, of Pixar, has agreed to return as our keynote speaker at the STEM Conference – so lucky for our middle school attendees and volunteers working the event.

Continued on page 4

FOCUS ON ... THE BURCKHALTER COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM



Nov 14th was **Walk To School Day - Ruby Bridges Day**. We read the book *I Am Ruby Bridges*, written by Ruby Bridges. This book has been challenged or banned in Pennsylvania, Texas, Iowa, and Tennessee. It received a star review from School Library Journal. Teachers thanked us for reading the book and students enjoyed learning history. Fifth graders are studying human rights this semester, including the right to read.

We are looking forward to reading a variety of cultural and religious books in December like *Comet the Unstoppable Reindeer*, *My Family Celebrates Kwanzaa* and *Christmas Mitzvah*.

Christmas Mitzvah is a true story about Al Rosen, a Jewish man. On Christmas Eve and Day when his Christian friends had to work he would offer to do their jobs for them so they could instead be with their families. He would pump gas, make deliveries, and be a security guard so they could be home for their holidays.



When students return from winter break, we will look for books to celebrate Muslim American Heritage Month, Chinese New Year, Martin Luther King Birthday, Presidents' Day, and Black History Month.

Burckhalter School library has been our branch community outreach program for more than 30 years. The committee members who staff the library are **Diane Bell, Bonnie Fend, Pam Docherty, Dianne Faeta, Laura Monin, Mary Walfoort, Lisa Gedigian**, and our Oakland friend **Pat Hadley**. We see 10 classes each week for storytime and book selection.

Three times a year we have a book give away where students can choose books to take home and keep as their own. Your donations buy books for the students and books for the teachers. This year we expanded to donating Halloween costumes, food, and toys. **Thank you. Your donations make a difference in their lives.**



Thank you for your Halloween costume donations. It was a fun day for everyone!

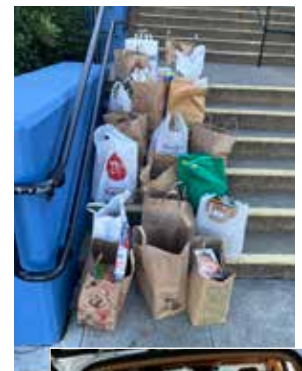


At left is AAUW member Lisa Gedigian who made her costume based on a movie character.



November Food Donations

Burckhalter families appreciated the food donations last month. The photos on the right represent just some of what you contributed!



Thank you so much for your generosity.



Please support the Toy Drive this month by bringing a toy to the Holiday parties.

Toy & book suggestions:

- Sports equipment like footballs, soccer balls, basketballs
- Baby dolls, mostly dark skinned
- Dinosaurs
- Craft Kits
- Legos
- Stuffed animals like squishmallows



Janette Maher, Chair, Burckhalter

PUBLIC POLICY

The Action Tracker is Available and Ready to Use

We now have an amazing way to track all of the political and community action that our members are participating in or leading, called the **Action Tracker**. The idea for the Action Tracker (a very easy to use Google Form) grew out of discussion at the Public Policy team's very first meeting back in October. It was designed and tested in November, and it is now ready for everyone to use. The intention is to be able to keep track – for the very first time – of all the ways that we are having an impact on our community outside of our typical AAUW-related work.

This will be great data for us to share with both AAUW and AAUW-CA, as well as with other organizations in our community. And it could make us eligible for grants to further support our core efforts. So please get in the habit of taking one to two minutes to complete the Action Tracker form every time you take, participate in, or lead a political or community action.

You can find the Action Tracker on the homepage of our website: oml-ca.aauw.net. If you have any additional questions/thoughts about how to use the Action Tracker, contact Shari at sharisimon55@gmail.com.

Embrace Action – Upcoming Webinars

• **AAUW Silicon Valley Branch Program on Higher Education at Risk - And How You Can Help Protect It** - featuring Meghan Kissell, AAUW Senior Director of Policy. Learn the latest repercussions for admissions, Pell Grants, student loan forgiveness, student civil rights protections, and the experiences of international students. Meghan will also discuss AAUW's response and ways for branches and individual members to help protect and strengthen the higher education system. Dec 3, 2025 4:00-5:00pm. Register by visiting the Public Policy page of the OML website. See link at the bottom of this page.

• **AAUW California School Board Project Half Day Symposium** - Saturday Jan 31, 2026 9 am- noon via Zoom. **SAVE THE DATE** - registration link coming soon.

Register to receive Action Alerts from AAUW-CA via Email

If you would like to occasionally receive email alerts about how you can take action to advance the American Association of University Women (AAUW) California's priority legislation (focused on CA state legislation), you can opt in by providing them with your contact information by visiting the Public Policy page of our website. Your contact information will only be accessible to the AAUW California state Public Policy committee. You can opt out of receiving alerts at any time by emailing publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org. Action alerts sometimes provide you with letters that you are encouraged to personalize and then send on to your Congressional or CA Legislative elected officials. Other times they encourage you to use ResistBot. To learn more about what ResistBot is and how to use it, visit the Public Policy page on our website: <https://oml-ca.aauw.net/public-policy/>

Shari Simon, Chair, Public Policy

SCHOOL BOARD
OUTREACH UPDATE**Upcoming School Board Meeting Dates for December**

- Acalanes Union High School District - December 17, 7 pm 1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
- Lafayette School Board - December 17, 6 pm in the District Board room at 1212 School Street, Lafayette
- Moraga School Board - December 9 and 16, 6 pm at Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
- Orinda School Board - December 15, 6 pm in the District Board room at 8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda

We are in need of a representative to monitor the Lafayette School District. Denise Burian and Karen Feeney have been the monitors for the last two years. However, since the Lafayette District meetings are the same night as the AUHSD meetings, they are not always able to attend both.

Please contact Karen Feeney if you are interested in monitoring the Lafayette School board meetings, kfeeney@gmail.com.

**Karen Feeney,
School Board Liaison**

BOARD MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS
continued from page 2

AAUW-OML Annual Fund Donation Watch for our Annual Fund Donation letter coming to your mailbox soon. Consider giving a yearend or first of the year donation to support AAUW-OML. Options are provided to direct your donation to priorities of your choice.

Marcy Place, Secretary

STEM CONFERENCE UPDATES

Planning is right on target for our March 7, 2026 STEM Conference. Stacia and Marie are working through the workshop presenter responses to prep for our 14 workshops. We have finalized our promotional material. Look for our flyer that



you can share with families with middle school girls and see the image of our STEM Committee during our October zoom meeting.

At our November ambassador meeting, our committees spent time planning out their role for the

conference. One of our lead ambassadors led us in a charades game about famous women in STEM. You can see some of them acting out their person in the photos.

Denise and Kim presented at the Rossmoor Rotary on Nov 12th. Since the meeting was at lunch time, our ambassadors were unable to attend, but two of our leads (Colbie Freese and Isabelle Culinco) recorded videos that we were able to share at the meeting.

If you can help volunteer at our conference, save the date of March 7. We will need adult workshop monitors from 8:30-3:30, morning check in volunteers, and lunch volunteers. *Thank you to all who are working to support our STEM Conference.*



Kim Lockett, Co-Chair, STEM Conference

TECH TREK

Plans are revving up for Tech Trek in 2026!

Our Tech Trek girls will be attending Camp Hopper at Santa Clara University again this year. Our three wonderful teams of volunteers plan to select seven girls from the Lamorinda middle schools who are nominated by their math and science teachers and complete an application and an interview. The tentative date for the camp is July 5-11. Fortunately, the cost per girl will be the same as last year - \$1,200. We plan to ask Tech Trek alumnae if they want to apply to be counselors at camp. Girls must be 16 years old or 3 years out of camp to be counselors at residential camp but only one or two years out of camp to be counselors at the virtual camp.

Last year's eight Tech Trek camps in California were a great success. In 2025, 780 girls registered for camps from 103 branches and 752 girls attended camp. Speculation is that some of the no-shows were related to immigration worries. There were 318 great volunteer staff who made the camps possible.

Jan Cushman, Chair, Tech Trek

... from DENISE'S PERSPECTIVE continued from page 2

Or – great idea– we have an article about that in this month's Triad. Every committee has an article in almost every Triad. And Mary Leigh Miller puts it all together in a great informative (and good looking) newsletter.

I am an active member of OML because my primary interest is advancing equity for women. Period. I believe all of our activities do that. Thank you for your membership and your time, talents, and donations. Together, we are making a difference.

Denise Burian, President

MEET OUR 2025-2026 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Introducing our second awardee from Saint Mary's College. This year's recipients have the goal of inclusion. These young women found ways to include others or help them feel acceptance, ensuring all voices are heard.



MAYRA JIMENEZ ALMARAS

**Graduating December 2025
Saint Mary's College**

Mayra volunteers at the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solana in Concord, CA. She has been involved in all areas of the organizations, assisting in food sorting, packing and distributing to ensure efficient delivery to local communities in need. Her bilingual abilities are an advantage in this role. In addition, Mayra has also dedicated much time to tutoring students for whom English is a second language. She is also active at Saint Mary's by being on the committee for Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations. She helped plan and execute a rosary event. This experience not only connected her to her cultural traditions but also deepened her appreciation for the power of community and collaboration.

Mayra feels these experiences have shaped her personal growth and strengthened her belief in the importance of service. She has learned that creating meaningful social change requires patience, compassion and consistent effort. She also has come to understand that leadership can take many forms – not always through a single figure, but often through collective action and the ability to inspire others.

Her plans will involve her commitment to continuing to connect finance, social justice and community involvement to create lasting impact. Mayra will be graduating this December of 2025.

The Scholarship committee will not be meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 8th @1:30. We will meet at Maryellen's house, 825 Reliez Station Road in Lafayette as we begin to prepare for interviewing of this year's applicants.

Bonnie Fend, Chair, Scholarship

DEI JANUARY 20th MEETING *HUMAN RIGHTS in C. C. COUNTY*

What you Need to Know and What Can You Do

Here is a tentative agenda and some questions we are hoping to have panel members discuss with the following purpose:

- To brief AAUW members on the current CCC ICE/Migrant Situation and Activity
- To call to action AAUW members with specific actions we can take to mitigate the effects of illegal ICE Activity

Potential Topics for Panelists' Expertise and Discussion

- Current scope of ICE activity in Contra Costa: e.g. number of agents, targeted cities, targeted individuals, number of immigration cases, detention centers locations and number of detained, impact on healthcare, etc.
- Impact on Children in schools, preschools and how schools are responding
- Impact on finances of impacted families: getting/retaining jobs, impact on local businesses (e.g. building trades, hospitality, landscaping, etc.), on food banks, non-profit organizations, local law enforcement, etc.
- Anticipated next actions from Federal government
- Current and planned response from California State and Contra Costa County leaders
- Panelists' recommended actions for AAUW-OML members to engage in support of families, children, lobbying the state and county leaders, etc. How to get on mailing lists, FB action lists for each of the organizations' rapid response activities. What about training for members to participate as each organization may offer some training?

Possible organizations to ask:

- Contra Costa Immigrant Rights
- Stand Together Contra Costa
- Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity
- Alternate Orgs (Laura M):
RCC – Indivisible Resisters Contra Costa
Jewish Family and Community Services of East Bay
Catholic Charities of the East Bay



**Denise Burian, Vera Potapenko,
Laura Monin – DEI Committee Members**

NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP



We were treated to a great deal of useful and interesting information during the recent November Meeting. Our professional guide and consultant, **Emma Bishopp**, shared important nutritional research results and her own professional knowledge. She packaged this guidance to help each of us think through the ways we are living, exercising (or not), eating well (or not) and staying hydrated (or not). Other emphasis highlights of her delivery included – finding ways to lessen stress and ways to sleep better.

We all hope for a substantial “life span” – however, a phrase coined by Emma Bishopp emphasized that it is a “health span” we should be focused on. The “health span” speaks to the quality of our lives and the ability to live healthier and with vitality. Good things to do at our age (at any age really): exercise enough, sleep enough, eat well, lower stress. Ms. Bishopp helped us recognize that 80 percent of the control over our “health span” is diet and lifestyle and that only 20 percent of our “health span” is the result of factors over which we have less control. Examples of those over which we have less control, including environment, culture, and genetically inherited contributors.

Handouts are available at our website <https://oml-ca.aauw.net/> On the right hand side of our home page, find the title: **Meeting Highlights** and use the **Click Here** directly under that to access the handouts. My personal favorite handout was the instructive *Mediterranean Diet* which helps the reader understand the fundamentals of this well-regarded diet. That diet is quite consistent with what many of us probably think is a good nutritional approach to food. For example, “Specific Foods to Focus On” includes examples of good vegetables, good fruits, whole grains, healthy fats, seafood, beverages, and so forth. This one page has an abundance of good information, as well as four reference sources with much more information.

I am a fan of the Q & A portion of all meetings and Ms. Bishopp handled our questions thoroughly and stayed around for conversations after the meeting. We are grateful for her knowledge and generosity of time, both earmarks of a good quality professional presenter. Those interested in a copy of the power point slides should contact her at EmmaB@holistic-health-nutrition.com.



MEMBERS' CORNER

AAUW is good for our Longevity!

AAUW-OML has had an exciting year with many new members joining the branch. We welcome you all and invite you to tell us your story. Members' Corner, established in April 2020, is meant to help us get to know more members of our branch – both new and long-standing. **Don't be shy.** Tell us your story. How did you discover AAUW? What would you like us to know about you?

One of the most valued benefits of AAUW is the lasting friendships we make. The best way to get to know more members is to take a job on the board and participate in various interest groups. That is where friendships begin. Those often become long lasting friendships for life as we do our work in the community.

AAUW is good for our longevity. Our members stay engaged and find purpose in AAUW—striving for equity for all. Many of our OML members live long productive lives.

This month we celebrate **Janet Mendenhall** who will be 105 on December 15th! She has been a member of AAUW most of her life – since she was at UC Berkeley. During her years as a CPA in Napa, Janet was active in the Napa branch where she was president. The branch was very active in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. After she retired, she rejoined the Oakland branch. When Janet moved to Rossmore, she joined AAUW-OML. She served as Finance VP, auditor and board member.

Happy 105th Birthday, Janet!

We celebrate your longevity. You are a great example of the vitality of our OML membership at all ages.

Lana Reichick,
OML member since 1989

GOOGLE DRIVE for NON-PROFITS

Our branch has been approved for a free version of Google Drive for Non-profits. We are moving into the 21st century. This means that we will have a central location to store all of our official documents, historical documents, and working documents. Currently, each board member and committee members are storing files on our personal computer. So our branch files and documents are scattered in various individual computers. Some of us are having space issues on our hard drives or the electronic drives in the cloud. You know how it is when your phone can't take any more pictures because you "ran out of space," and you have to either delete files or buy more cloud space. If someone moves, or God forbid passes, their files are usually lost to the branch. I, as President, have about 12 boxes of historical files in my garage, not a good thing. This shared Google drive is the solution we've needed.

What does it mean? For most of our members who are not creating documents or spreadsheets for the Branch, you won't notice any difference. A few key documents will be accessible via our website, just like they are now. This primarily affects Board members and community project committee members who are creating and sharing documents used in the branch. More information will be provided to affected members who need access to the shared drive. It will be a phased approach, with the goal of full implementation in a year. Eventually, all Branch files will be created, shared, and stored on this shared google workspace.

One change you will notice are new email addresses for members working within the google workspace, using our new domain address. For example, you can now reach me at my new email address: deniseburian@oml-aauw.org.

Denise Burian, President

2025-26 AAUW-OML SPONSORS/ ADVERTISERS

*AAUW members

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TUES-FRI 11 AM to 9:15 PM
SATURDAY 11 AM to 9 PM
SUNDAY Noon to 9:15 PM
Closed Monday



Mention AAUW Directory ad to receive 10% discount on Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

This information was left out of the current ad in the Directory

Mary H. Smith, DDS is a local dentist who has served the Lamorinda community for over 30 years. Her offices are in Orinda and her corporation offers general dentistry services, cosmetic dentistry services and Invisalign Braces.

Mary Smith and her staff pay particular attention to their patient's concerns so as to give them the best results when meeting their dental needs. I can attest to that as I have been her patient for over 20 years.

Renée Rosado, AAUW-OML member

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SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES

**ANYONE WHO HAS READ
THE BOOK**

Friday, December 19 • 10 am
Orinda Books
276 Village Square, Orinda

Due to illness, low attendance and a canceled meeting, we are repeating the August book choice. Book to discuss: *Tell Me Everything* by Elizabeth Stout, fiction, 326 pages. A cast of recurring characters who reside in Maine. In this novel a crime occurs, people fall in love and human desires are handled with empathy and compassion. It is a story of everyday life and the interactions people have. Mary Mlynek discussion leader. For more information, contact Mary at ml_mlynek@yahoo.com.

FINANCIALLY SAVVY WOMEN

Tuesday, December 2 • 1 pm
Home of Peggy Cabaniss
743 Crossbrook Drive, Moraga

Our goal is to review and understand **ESTATE PLANS**: wills, trusts, health care directives, general power of attorney for business transactions. We will also talk about sharing and discussing your estate plans with your family – does your family know how your estate will be divided when you pass, how to have a family meeting, pros and cons of sharing the details with family members. If you have missed earlier sessions of this special interest group, come join us for the December meeting. For more information, contact Peggy at pcabaniss7@gmail.com.

GREAT DECISIONS

The books have been ordered. They will arrive in early January and our first Great Decision meeting will be February 4. Here is the list of topics:

- America & the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy
- Trump Tariffs & the Future of the World Economy
- U.S.-China relations
- Ruptured Alliances & the Risk of Nuclear Proliferation
- Ukraine & the Future of European Security
- Multilateral Institutions in a Changing World Order
- U.S. Engagement of Africa
- The Future of Democracy & Human Rights in a Divided World.

For more information, contact Judy Helder: judyhelder@gmail.com or 925 980-0151.

EVENING SALON

Thursday, December 18 • 7 pm
Please note: 3rd Thursday this month only
Home of Janette Maher
31 Kent Ct., Moraga

Evening Salon is a casual discussion group trying to make sense of the current issues of the day. We share snacks and wine and enjoy each other's company. Contact Denise Burian, denburian@gmail.com or Marilyn Evans, marilynbevans@att.net for details or to get on the email contact list. Reminders will be sent prior to the meeting.

FUNDRAISING LETTER

By now you've received the annual fundraising letter. This is the letter we've sent out every year, probably for decades. We did not send it out last year because we had the "Raise the Bar" campaign. You responded with amazing generosity and we raised over \$25,000. Barbara Bell is chairing a fundraising committee to plan an in-person event for Spring 2026. In the meantime, we do need to raise money and here is why and the following are the reasons.

Our Community Outreach Fund budget is \$50,000 this year, needed to fully fund Scholarship, Tech Trek, STEM Conference, Burckhalter library, and DEI for the year. All of our projects work all year to do individual fundraising, and STEM Conference does charge attendees a fee to defray expenses. All of those activities are expected to raise almost \$30,000. That leaves a fundraising need of \$20,000 that does come directly from the generosity of our OML members. The spring fundraiser will raise some of that, but not all. So I am asking you to give as much as you can via our end of year fundraising letter.

Donate to AAUW Fund via this link:
<https://my.aauw.org/donation-product-detail>

Donate to our Branch Priorities via this link:
<https://oml-ca.aauw.net/oml-donations-form/>

Denise Burian, President

DISTINGUISHED WOMAN for 2026

**It is Distinguished Woman
Award time again.**

Who are the women in our branch that you think deserve to be honored as AAUW-OML Distinguished Woman in 2026? They are right there in your OML directory. Submit your nomination letters by email. Tell us why they

should be named. Submit your letters to lanasan@aol.com. Please use "DWA 2026" as the subject.

Don't wait. Make New Year's Day your personal deadline for writing your Distinguished Woman Award letters. Your heartfelt letter could become

a cherished memento in the memory book given to the OML Distinguished Woman named in 2026. Let her know you think she deserves this special honor. *Thank you for taking the time to write your important letters.*

Lana Reichick, DW, 2025

DECEMBER 2025 AT A GLANCE

1 MON – CRITICS CHOICE BOOK GROUP

Pass along your book.

2 TUE – FINANCIALLY SAVVY WOMEN

1 pm – Home of Peggy Cabaniss

Read more on page 9.

6 SAT – HOLIDAY PARTY

6-8 pm – HOME of BARBARA BELL

8, 22 – MON – GOLF GROUP

Contact Jan Gee for time and venue, jgee17@yahoo.com.

9 TUE – HOLIDAY BRUNCH

10 am - 12 noon – HOME of PEGGY CABANISS

18 THU – EVENING SALON

7 pm – Home of Janette Maher

Read more on page 9.

19 FRI – ANYONE WHO'S READ THE BOOK

10 am – Orinda Books

Read more on page 9.

24 WED – DEADLINE for JANUARY TRIAD

Send all articles to Mary Leigh Miller, mlmiller602@gmail.com



HAVE A
WONDERFUL
HOLIDAY
SEASON!

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL SPECIAL INTEREST COORDINATORS:

If your group decides to meet on a different day or time than normal, please contact our Calendar Coordinator, BONNIE GALLOGLY, so she can update the website calendar.

AAUW-OML
Database Coord.
7 Mariposa Lane
Orinda, CA 94563



January 2026

Look for more information in the January Triad

13 TUE – BOARD MEETING

1 pm – Orinda Community Church

20 TUE – GENERAL MEETING

Ice Activity and Immigrant Rights in Contra Costa

9:30 – Orinda Community Church

BECOME A TWO MINUTE ACTIVIST

Let AAUW help you *Make Your Voice Heard.*

Join AAUW's Action Network by signing upfront for the TWO-MINUTE ACTIVIST. AAUW will send you emails periodically about upcoming legislation. When you click on the link, they send a letter that will pop up that is already written to our two senators or our Rep. Mark De Saulnier asking them to vote either for or against a specific legislation. A recent example was one on voting no on the current budget bill going through Congress.

You will be asked to fill out your name and address (they want to know that you live in their district), and the letters will be automatically sent to them. You will even receive a follow-up response from the legislator a few days later. To sign up, click this link:

<https://www.aauw.org/act/two-minute-activist/>