



Join us... for the
AAUW Fremont Branch

Fall Brunch

... and the 25th Anniversary of Tech Trek in the Fremont Branch

Saturday, October 19th • 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Location: Niles Discovery Church, 36600 Niles Boulevard, Fremont, CA

Get ready for a delightful morning filled with great food,
engaging conversations, and inspiring speakers.

Breakfast and the section of most good tables

Keynote speaker: Marie Wolbach, Tech Trek Founder

Meet our 2024 Tech Trekkers and learn about upcoming programs.
Hear from Katelyn Mendivil Woods, Fremont Branch's first Tech Trekker.

Payment: \$10

- Deadline: Saturday, October 12th
- Advance payment is strongly recommended, by Zelle or Check
- Log in to your bank's website to find Zelle
- Zelle payee info is: Judith Wolf, bigbadwolfie@juno.com, cell 510-468-2002

Mail Checks payable to Fremont AAUW
Judy Wolf
2411 Corriea Way
Fremont, CA
94539



Marie Wolbach



Katelyn Woods

AAUW advances equity for women and girls
through education, advocacy and research.



Click [here](#) to see the story

Co-President's Message



Hello Readers,

Thank you for picking up this *Twig* issue. Fall season is off to a swing. There are still many more events to look forward to before 2024 is over. I hope many of you went to the OBOCR event featuring *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, I heard it was informative. Our Coffee Meet & Greet social was a lovely time getting together.

I unfortunately will not be able to attend our annual Fall Brunch on October 19th to celebrate 25 years of Tech Trek! We need volunteers to help, so please reach out to Judy Wolf.

There are so many events in October and I only wish I could be in multiple places at once! Our branch is teaming up with the League of Women Voters of Fremont to host a Pros & Cons of California Propositions on October 12th. Click [here](#) for more information. Speech Trek is also making a comeback this season. Click [here](#) to see the story.

I am looking forward to the Death by Chocolate Bingo fundraiser on November 1st. There is a lovely flyer for the event; click [here](#) to see it. Volunteers are still needed for the event so please reach out to Randy Fewel to join us in the fun as we raise funds for Ohlone College scholarships!

Also, check out our interest groups and join us in social gatherings that may not be a part of our daily agendas. Looking forward to the holidays coming up and sharing quality time with this group!

Alice Manfredi

Board of Directors

Co-Presidents - **Alice Manfredi & Jeanne Delp**
Vice President & Membership Chair - **Jo Szeto**
Secretary - **Carolyn Hedgecock**
Branch Treasurer - **Phie Dai**
Program Chair - **Judy Wolf**
Membership Chair - **Jo Szeto**
Membership Treasurer & AAUW Fund Chair -
Jennifer Foster
Public Policy Chair - **Jeanne Delp**

Note: Co-presidents include Jennifer Foster, Carolyn Hedgecock, and Remy Parmar

Foundation for Local Scholarships

President - Kathy Garfinkle
Secretary - Randy Fewel
Chief Financial Officer -
Bonnie Kellogg
Programs Officer - Sowjanya
Vutukur
Development Officer - Open

Public Policy

Gender Bias in Education Holds Women Back

By Jeanne Delp

The following is from "Katrina Sun Breese, AAUW" (memberinfo@email.aauw.org)

"Boys are more likely than girls to be identified as gifted students? Girls are often steered away from math and science fields as early as elementary school?"

"These biases have real, lasting consequences on the next generation. That's why AAUW is actively leading the fight for gender equity in education.

"Here's how:

- We fight for inclusive schools by combating harmful book bans and other restrictions undermining inclusive education. We host informative webinars and provide materials that empower members to engage with local school boards.
- We advocate for safe and harassment-free educational environments by supporting the new Title IX rules that strengthen protections for student survivors of sexual harassment and assault and ensure equal education opportunities for pregnant and parenting students.
- We support making colleges more affordable through our advocacy to double Pell Grants, which would significantly increase financial aid for low-income students, many of whom are women and underrepresented minorities."

AAUW's advocates for a strong public education system that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity, and vigorous enforcement of Title IX.

And from "Gloria L. Blackwell, AAUW" our CEO at memberinfo@email.aauw.org:

"This season, we face a troubling setback: unfortunately, the gender pay gap has widened. Women working full-time now earn just 83% of what men earn — a decline from last year's 84%. This amounts to a loss of \$11,550 annually for each full-time working woman. While there have been gains in real earnings for both men and women, women, especially women of color, continue to be pushed into lower-wage jobs.

"This pay gap hurts us, our families, and our communities. As I've said before, the pay gap should be shrinking, not growing.

"We must address the systemic barriers that keep women from earning their fair share — like the lack of paid leave, affordable childcare, and strong pay equity laws.

"Remember: Voting is how we make ourselves heard."

As we head into our November election, let's remember the following phrase.

"When women vote, we change the conversation."

Changemakers

Dr. Judy Baca Mural Artist, Educator, and Social Activist

By Phie Dai

Mi abuela (grandmother) believed people who are rude to others had been treated wrongly before by someone else. She taught me to always treat people *con respeto*.



I was born in Watts, California and *mi familia* came from the country of Mexico. Because I spoke English poorly, my kindergarten *maestra* would let me sit in the corner and paint. I found a way to express myself without words.

I majored in art and minored in history and education at Cal State Northridge. After graduation, I found a job with the City of Los Angeles and taught art at parks and *escuelas*. During lunch time, I would watch inner city youths hang out at the park expressing their creativity and individualism through tattoos, special clothing, and graffiti. The idea for *The Great Wall of Los Angeles* was born.

I recruited 400 young people *de todos colores* to paint a mural that depicts the multicultural history of California on a half-mile-long stretch of concrete wall along the Tujunga Wash in the San Fernando Valley. This project took 9 years to complete. Through art, I discovered that politically and culturally marginalized groups who are invisible to society can assert a positive visual presence in their communities.

I co-founded the Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC) with Donna Deitch, a director and filmmaker, and Christina Schlesinger, an artist and teacher. We created *The World Wall: A Vision of the Future Without Fear*, a movable mural project that traveled the world. Each nation's artists added their own visions of global peace. I believe the artists have the power to spread ideas and the responsibility to dream.

Today, I am a professor of fine arts at UCLA where I teach classes on murals and public art. One of my latest projects is *Cultural Explainers*. Doorways and bridges will be turned into art to showcase the different cultures of our city. *Como mi abuela* taught me when I was a little girl, when we learn to accept others, we stop spreading hate and start spreading peace.

Adapted from AAUW Thousand Oaks *Profiles of Women Past and Present*, 2018.

AAUW-CA Happenings

Charmen Goehring is the new state president; her term runs from 2024 to 2026. Her top three priorities are increasing AAUW accessibility to the public, sustaining the state branches, and strengthening the connections among the state, the branches and National. . . . The National office has created a voter's guide for the upcoming election.

The state AAUW has also said that four propositions align with our public policies and deserve a "yes" vote: Propositions 2, 3, 4, and 32.

Be sure to attend our local Pros and Cons event on October 12 to hear a discussion of these propositions and more, co-hosted by the Fremont branch and the League of Women Voters of Fremont-Newark-Union City. . . .

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) held its first ever peer group meeting in September. If you would like to be a member of the state group, let the Fremont board of directors know. . . . State prize money for Speech Trek has been increased to \$2,500 for first place and \$1,000 for second, and two honorable mentions will receive \$500. The topic this year is to take one aspect of climate change and discuss how this will affect women in the United States and around the world.

Click [here](#) to see how Fremont is sponsoring Speech Trek. . . . Behind the scenes work has already begun for Tech Trek 2025. Nearly 800 campers and 250 staff members attended Tech Trek 2024. **If you would be interested in being part of Fremont's 2025 Tech Trek season, contact Sowjanya Vutukur.** Also, don't miss our Fall Brunch, where our guests of honor include both our very first Tech Trekker, Katelyn Woods, and the founder of Tech Trek, Marie Wolbach. Click [here](#) to see the story.



Pros and Cons of the November 5th Ballot Measures

On Saturday, October 12th from 10 AM to 11:30 AM, the League of Women Voters Fremont, Newark, and Union City is proud to co-host with the American Association of University Women Fremont Branch on the Pros and Cons of the November 5th Measures at the Niles Discovery Church, located at 36600 Niles Boulevard, Fremont, CA.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots nonprofit dedicated to empowering everyone to fully participate in our democracy. With active Leagues in all 50 states and more than 700 Leagues across the country, you can trust that this event will provide valuable information to help you make an informed decision when you cast your vote. Mark your calendar, bring a friend, and gain confidence in your choice to vote for what is right for you and your community.



Saturday, October 12, 2024
10:00 am – 11:30 am



Niles Discovery Church
36600 Niles Blvd, Fremont, CA

Founded in 1880, the American Association of University Women is the nation's leading voice in promoting education and equity for women and girls.

The LWV of Fremont, Newark, and Union City sponsors the [Youth Voter Movement](#), a project focused on increasing voter registration among young people in the Tri-Cities area. <https://lwfvnuc.org> <https://youthvotermovement.org>

BRANCH NEWS

Editor's Note: Due to security concerns, members' home addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses are not printed in the Twig unless permission has been explicitly granted. Check your roster for member information.

Notes for the Fall Brunch

The Fall Brunch is Saturday, October 19. The flyer on the front page has most of the important information. This is just a recap.

First, the cost: \$10 a person. This can be paid via Zelle to Judith Wolf. You will need her email, bigbadwolfie@juno.com, or her mobile phone number, 510-468-2002, to send the Zelle payment to her. You can also send a check to her home address made out to AAUW Fremont.

Guests: The Fremont Branch is honored to have as guests Marie Wolbach, the founder of Tech Trek in California and in many other states throughout the US, and Katelyn Mendivil Woods, our first Tech Trek attendee, who, in the summer of 1999, went to the Stanford camp. And if that is not enough, this year's Tech Trek attendees will be reporting on their summer experiences at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

There will be an interest and section display table so all can sign up for their particular AAUW interests. There will also be a short business meeting as part of our program.

Donations: I need some "Simply Orange" 52-ounce containers, rinsed out, to use as water carafes.

Please plan to be there by 9:30 am, mingle a bit, then eat and hear from our speakers and various award winners.

Membership: An Easy Way to Sign Up

After two years of trial and error, the Fremont membership team has refined and enhanced our online enrollment process to allow us to sign up new members on our website rather than requesting them to use AAUW National's Community Hub. New members must fill out an application, but they no longer have to go to the National website to pay for their membership.

Our website (<https://fremont-ca.aauw.net/>) now includes a portal that allows you to use a credit card, Apple Pay, Venmo, or PayPal. You do not need a PayPal account to use the portal.

AAUW MEMBERSHIP
JOIN ONLINE



Members wanting an easy way to renew their memberships can also use the portal, but be aware that a \$4.50 fee is added to cover transaction charges. Renewing members might instead want to use National's Community Hub: https://my.aauw.org/NC__Login.

JOIN BY MAIL

The more traditional ways of signing up or renewing your membership by using pen and paper and checks still work, but using your credit card is easier than ever.

A Week at the Sonoma Tech Trek Camp 🍁

By Jessica Gong, co-director of the Sonoma Camp

Editor's Note: On this, the 25th anniversary of Tech Trek in Fremont, Jessica gives us a glimpse into life as a Tech Trek camper in the Sonoma camp. To learn how our current Tech Trekkers, based at the University of California, Santa Cruz, fared in their week away from familiar surroundings, attend the Fall Brunch on October 19.

A Tech Trek camp requires year-round effort that takes a community and countless volunteers to support. It is not just the branch coordinator or the core class teachers that make a camp successful; it is the teamwork that makes this week-long camp run smoothly and, most importantly, for the campers to have a fun and fulfilling week. I once saw Tech Trek through the eyes of a camper, and recapping my experience in my second year of co-directing Camp Rosalind Franklin at Sonoma State (SSU), here is a bit about the camp.

First Day



Checking out their Galileoscopes are Tech Trek campers who built the telescopes themselves from a kit.

On the first day of camp, the campers are off to the races with balancing how to bond with their new friends and an intense course workload. The teachers of their core classes (Forensics, Civil Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Bio/Chem, Natural Sciences) set their expectations for the week on how to work with each other and the high school/college-level material they will be learning for the week.

In addition to their core classes, the campers have a variety of workshops in the afternoon that focus on Jiggy Bots (building and wiring moving toys), Arduino Coding (writing a program to perform specific functions), and Galileoscope (working in teams to rebuild Galileo's refractor

telescope from a kit).

As the campers are eating dinner and proud that they completed their first day, they look forward to their guest speaker for the evening as the women structural engineers (from ZFA Engineering) will give their overview on how to build structures that will benefit their final project night.

Second and Third Days

On the second and third day of camp, half the campers are exploring water reservoirs and looking for trout in the Russian River's fish ladder. Our wonderful partners at Sonoma Water Agency participate in our camp every year so the campers can learn more about our precious water resources, and campers get to collect samples from the Russian River and see all the plants and animals under a microscope.

The other campers are on a campus tour of the biology and engineering labs. The campers learn about the state-of-the-art microscope with the biology department and get to build a small pocket light with the engineering department.

As the morning comes to a close, the campers are tired but excited to head back to their core classes in the afternoon. The day comes to an end with a presentation about our stars from the head of the astronomy department at SSU and a walk to the SSU observatory. At the observatory, the campers learn about the several telescopes and processes it takes to study stars.

Fourth and Fifth Days

On the fourth and fifth days, the campers are starting to feel tired from this week as they have been up and running from 8 am to 10 pm every day. Thursday is an exciting day since they have core classes in the morning and an all-camp activity called Bite of Reality (hosted by our wonderful partner Redwood Credit Union) that focuses on the importance of personal finance and managing budgets. Campers are paired up and given a hypothetical job and a monthly budget. Volunteers stationed at various tables represent the everyday living expenses, such as rent/mortgage, groceries, utilities, day care, after school programs, and the like. The campers receive a crash course in how much money their parents spend to raise them, and I think the campers exited that activity with a deeper understanding of the value of money.

The evening program is called Professional Women's Night, which is reserved for the campers to learn more about the female speakers who have careers in various fields including an engineer who designs heart replacement valves, a firefighter with Calfire, the head of the SSU stem cell research lab, and an environmental scientist who is working tirelessly to maintain our air quality. There is no shortage of insightful questions from the campers to the speakers, even autographs are signed!

Sixth Day

On the sixth day, the campers are excited because their final projects are due for their core classes and for their dorms. Each core class has a project to complete to show their classmates how they have taken the theories they learned and turned them into applications. For example, the aerospace engineering class (led by the amazing Kelley R, who is an engineer at Northrop Grumman) works on building propellers and turning bottles into rockets. Using a bicycle pump, the aerospace class took turns launching their rockets. All the rockets launched and a few reached 40 feet into the air!

As the campers wrap up their core classes, they buzz with excitement about the afternoon program. The lineup includes math escape rooms, yoga flow, dance and



The campers are in the labs of the Sonoma Water Agency viewing the plants and animals that they collected from the Russian River.

origami. It is so important for the campers to move and stay creative with different outlets.

The final night, called “Build It Night,” is an exhilarating evening. The campers have been working with their dorm groups to come up with a design and plan to create a free-standing structure with just newspaper and masking tape. The campers have one hour to bring their imagination to life, and, as expected, the room roared with instructions, shrieks, laughter and screams. All the while energetic music is playing in the background.

This is my favorite time of camp week as I see how the campers have become more outgoing, confident, and sure of themselves. Our campers this year built an igloo, the Eiffel Tower, a camp site, a rocket ship and Wall-E. The creativity of the campers never ceases to amaze me.

Last Day

Post Build It Night energy, the campers are treated to a cake and dance party. As the campers enjoy their last night, the staff are buzzing to make sure all the campers are staying safe and having fun. Fast forward to 8 am on the last day: it is breakfast time and as pickup time nears, the hugs and tears start to flow among the campers who just made lifelong friends. The staff are in disbelief that the week is over and from our long days and tired nights, seeing all the camper’s smiles makes the long hours worth it. Not only does this week benefit the campers, but the staff, including counselors and dorm monitors, all learn something new about managing workloads, people management, and leadership.

As for myself, I learned a great deal about how to keep STEM fun and interesting to our campers. Most importantly, I continue to learn that it is in the company of phenomenal women that I know that anything is possible.

Death by Chocolate Bingo Fundraiser Planned

Death by Chocolate sounds like the ultimate culmination of a murder mystery. But it's no mystery; Everybody loves chocolate, and we're willing to take our chances for a taste of the divine.

Friday, November 1, doors open at 6 pm in the community room of the Niles Canyon Mobile Home Estates (NCMHE) at 711 Old Canyon Road, Fremont.

Bring your money (\$25 entrance fee) and your chocolate mania to AAUW's Death by Chocolate Bingo fundraiser. Our master Bingo caller will lead us through 10 bingo games, each one offering a decadent chocolate prize.

Buy a ticket at \$1 each to win a chance for a gift basket (\$20 for your height in tickets) and you may may win a basket put together by one of our AAUW interest groups, or the grand prize, a walking tour of Dandelion Chocolate in San Francisco. There will be treats and drinks to imbibe with a Chocolate Monster looking over your shoulder.

Proceeds will go to AAUW Ohlone College Scholarships for students continuing at Ohlone (\$750) and (\$4000) for a student transferring to a four-year college.

Our newest student AAUW member, Suzanne Reinlib, has offered to prepare the baskets.



AAUW Fremont Branch hosts

DEATH BY CHOCOLATE BINGO

Friday, November 1st!

Doors open at 6 PM
Bingo starts at 7 PM

Niles Canyon Mobile Estates
711 Old Canyon Rd, Fremont CA
94536

Proceeds go to AAUW Ohlone College Scholarships

\$25 per person /
\$15 for NCME residents
includes one free beverage

AAUW Fremont Inc. (CA) Branch Est. 1963
4 Star Branch

Volunteers Needed

It wouldn't be an AAUW event if we didn't need help from AAUW members in making our fundraiser a success. The day of the event, we are going to need help setting up at 5 pm.

We need bottles for water (19.6oz), cans/bottles of soda (12 oz), cans/bottles of beer (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), and money for wine. We also need prizes--chocolate, of course. Bring your donations to the Fall Brunch.

Please reach out to Randy Fewel to volunteer. Check your membership roster.

New Member 



Nishi Goyal

Before introducing myself, I want to say thank you to the entire AAUW team for encouraging and helping me in becoming a member. I am Nishi Goyal and I am a homemaker. I am the mom of two kids. My younger one is 10 years old and my elder one is a freshman and 14 yrs old. My husband is an IT professional. I have been living in Fremont for the last 7 years.

I came to know about AAUW when my daughter Shanvi was selected to attend Tech Trek summer camp when she was in seventh grade. That was a life-changing experience for her. After that, she remained connected with AAUW, and now she is an intern, too.

When I was a young girl, I dreamed of the experience that Shanvi is having right now. Now I get to live it through her eyes, and am a part of it too now, which is such an exciting thing for me. I'm extremely grateful for this opportunity! That's the one thing my daughter and I love and enjoy: working together.

I am looking forward to learning lots of new things working with a wonderful group of people. I want to say only one thing to today's young generation, love yourself whoever you are. Work hard to achieve your dreams and always stay strong!

In Memoriam



Patty Allen 

Long-time AAUW Fremont member Patty Allen died at home September 5, surrounded by her family.

Patty Allen was born on Aug. 14, 1951, in Winneconne, WI, and was one of six girls. She was a National Merit Scholar and attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison, on a full scholarship. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in English.

She taught for several years at James Logan High School and later, at Mission San Jose High School, following several transcontinental moves where she taught at community colleges in Texas, Virginia, and California. She organized and chaperoned an annual Mission San Jose High School field trip to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival for years before her retirement in 2016.

Before and during her retirement, Patty remained very active in non-profit organizations geared toward advancing educational opportunities for young women: AAUW, Alpha Delta Kappa, and P.E.O. Sisterhood.

A memorial service is planned for October 27 at the Niles Veterans Memorial Hall.

Speech Trek 2025 Begins!

By Remy Parmar

AAUW Fremont Branch is excited to officially kick off our fifth consecutive season of Speech Trek!

AAUW-California's signature high school program, Speech Trek, began in 2007. The contest, which begins at the branch level, requires students to prepare an original five or six-minute speech on a mission-based topic. First place winners' videos from each participating branch are uploaded into the semi-finals for judging. The top three contestants advance to the state finals and compete for significant cash awards.

This season's topic is about how climate change affects women in the U.S. and around the world.

AAUW Fremont Branch Presents:
Speech Trek 2025

TOPIC: What is the effect of climate change on women in the USA and around the world?
Open to High School Students in the Tri Cities Area
Saturday, March 1, 2025 • In person, TBD

Local Prizes:
1st Place \$750 and a chance to compete at the state level
2nd Place \$550; 3rd Place \$350

State Level Prizes:
1st Place \$2500; 2nd Place \$2000; 3rd Place \$1000;
4th Place \$500; 5th Place \$500



Deadline to Return Application:
Friday, November 22, 2024

Contact: Remy Parmar,
Co-Pres. and Speech Trek Chair
for the application and contest rules:
rdparmar.esq@gmail.com
OR
aauwfremontbranch@gmail.com

AAUW California
Speech Trek

A 2022 UN Climate Change report released at the Bonn Climate Change Conference stresses that extreme weather events disproportionately affect women and girls. For instance, in some countries, collecting firewood and water is traditionally done by women and girls, but climate change forces them to travel farther from their homes for resources. This can lead to displacement, an increase in school dropout rates, and even an increase in the exposure to gender-based violence.

Students know how important public speaking skills are regardless of the field. Hiring managers in STEM fields consistently state that effective communication skills (both oral and written) with peers, supervisors, and the public is highly valued.

Our branch started Speech Trek during the pandemic. Two of our Fremont students have won at the state level. See: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/category/aauw-ca-projects/speech-trek-internal/> And, others

have won locally.

Speech Trek is possible through our dedicated members who volunteer as timekeepers, judges, and speech mentors as well as member donations at both the State and local levels. I'd like to thank our member donors: Jo Szeto, Judy Wolf, and Pauline Weaver for supporting Speech Trek, as well as both the Foundation and branch board of directors for their enthusiasm and support. Please contact us if you want to get involved!

Opioid Addiction Topic of OBOCR Program

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver was launched as One Book, One Community Read's (OBOCR) showcased work of the year at the September 16 program at Washington Hospital.



Dr. Larry Nordhoff demonstrates the way to use Narcan.

As opioid addiction is one of the plot lines of the book, Dr. Larry Nordhoff, board member of the National Coalition of Prescription Drug Abuse, demonstrated how to administer Narcan nasal spray, a life-saving antidote to opioid poisoning, and attendees had the option of taking home a free Opioid Overdose Rescue Kit.

OBOCR chair Marge Leonard said, "Program Chair Jeanne Delp organized an exceptional program. The information and overdose treatment has been shown to save lives.

"The OBOCR Team will meet in November to discuss the possibility of a follow-up program in the spring, and to discuss ways to grow the audience. This is invaluable information, and we must find ways to broadcast it to our community. I hope people read *Demon Copperhead*, which is an exceptional Pulitzer Prize-winning book, but one can benefit from the program even without reading the book."

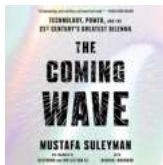


Jeanne Delp

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Interest Group News

Afternoon Lit



Afternoon Lit will meet October 15 at 2 pm at the home of Cora Assali. She will review *The Coming Wave* by Mustafa Suleyman. Please let her know if you plan to attend.

Book Talk

The next meeting will be November 11 from 3-4:30 pm. The book, place, and discussion leader are yet to be determined. (Book Talk's schedule conflicted with *Twig* deadlines for October. Up-to-date information will appear in the *Twig* in November, or you can contact Marge Leonard for the details.)

Cultural Cuisine



We will be going to New Yong Kang Seafood Restaurant at 40900 Fremont Boulevard. 6:30 pm is the time on Tuesday, October 15. The restaurant extends off Fremont Blvd in the strip on the north side of Bay City Health Center complex formerly where 24 Hour Fitness used to be.

The restaurant only accepts cash.

Please RSVP to Judy at judyjudyjudy1940@gmail.com or 510-657-5589.

Exploring the Arts

By Karen L. McCreedy



Hello, arts enthusiasts/supporters!

At the Fall Brunch October 19 at Niles Discovery Church, please show your interest by signing the Exploring the Arts list and providing your contact information. This will put you on the email list for event information.

After a brief pause, the Exploring the Arts group will continue, with more emphasis on group events. It needs to be more than a list of activities to do on your own or share with friends and family. Many members have appreciated the lists; AAUW thrives, however, when we share a form of art with a few others to “oh” and “aww” together and then spend some time later to compare impressions.

What’s Happening in our Local Galleries?

Olive Hyde Art Guild olivehydeartguild.org

123 Washington Blvd., Fremont, CA 94539

Olive Hyde Art Guild proudly presents
Holiday for the Arts 2024

Gala: Friday, October 18, 5:30-9 pm Tickets for the Gala are \$20, and may be purchased online or at the door.

Show & Sale: Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20, 10am-5pm
On Saturday and Sunday, the show is open to the public without charge.

Fremont Art Association <https://www.fremontartassociation.org>

37697 Niles Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94536 510-792-0905

Earlier on Saturdays to enjoy the Farmer’s Market across the street!

Regular Hours: Sat & Sun 12-5pm

The Fremont Art Association is a unique long-lived institution in Fremont. Since 1959 it has offered local artists, collectors, students and art enthusiasts a venue that combines a showcase storefront gallery and a working studio. As a cooperative enterprise, the gallery is staffed by member volunteers who bring in new work on a quarterly basis. At the same time, the FAA mounts special exhibits throughout the year.

Each monthly meeting (first Wednesday at 1 pm on Zoom) offers a demonstration or speaker free of charge. To sign up for the Zoom meetings, click on general meeting & art demo on the home page.

<https://youtu.be/BjUC7OcHNqY> Visit the gallery online!

Gifts to Give

Members of Gifts To Give are keeping busy as the holiday season gets closer. Members are busy knitting/crocheting hats, making fleece scarves, making blankets, and gathering items for our annual Holiday Project for Abode Homeless Shelter and for the Homeless Camps.

High School Students and Men and Women

Needed items are socks, pajamas, underwear, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and T-shirts. Word search books, colored pencils, games, and gift cards to Target or Walmart also make great gifts. Shelley Bartley will be collecting gifts at her home until October 19. Please email, call, or text Shelley before you come.

We will be delivering our gifts to Abode Homeless Shelter at 588 Brown Road in Fremont on November 7. We will meet at Shelley's home at 12:15 pm and caravan to the shelter. RSVP to Shelley if you would like to help deliver our gifts.

Homeless Camps

We still need 32 pairs of large men's black socks, 77 containers of deodorant, 32 bottles of shampoo, and 10 tubes of toothpaste.

Our new date for our Sorting and Packing party is October 20, from 1 to 3 pm at the Pearsons'. We would love to have your help sorting and packing our toiletry items, hats, scarves, socks, and washcloths for the Homeless Camps. Please join us with a RSVP to Linda Pearson.

Fleece Scarves

Our scarf project is moving right along. Thank you to those who have already given their time and help to this project. If you would like to help make these warm scarves, you may pick up some panels of fleece to fringe at home. We also



Sharon Yool (left) and Mary Fuchs show off their matching scarves and hats.

need one gallon Ziploc bags, men's large black crew socks, and yarn. Please contact Mary Fuchs if you can help.

Kindergarten through Third Grade

Everyone was so generous that everything on the list has been filled. Thank you for providing such things as knitted hats, glue sticks, fabric bags, boxes of colored pencils, small containers of bubble solution, small pullback cars, and books to name a few. You've helped make the holiday season very special.

Tuesday Chat With ESL Students



Tuesday Chat meets every Tuesday afternoon from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fremont Main Library, 4200 Stevenson, Fukaya Room A, to chat with ESL speakers about everyday topics. The program is to help people from foreign countries improve their English conversational skills.

People new to the USA living in the Tri-City area come to the library and meet with native English speakers and work on conversation. Several of the tutors have been AAUW members. During the covid pandemic, the group met on Zoom. Now the ESL chat is back at the library.

If you enjoy talking and meeting people of other cultures, this is a way to expand your world-wide experiences. Please consider joining the group.

For more information, call Jui-Lan Liu at the Fremont Main Library at 510-745-1467, or email her at jliu@aclibrary.org.



Yoga for Body and Spirit

This group meets every Thursday at 11:15 at Jo Szeto's house. Lunch is included. For more information, call Jo.

Money, Money, Money

Plastics Recyclable? At What Cost?

By Judy Wolf

Inflation and rising prices--maybe they are the same thing! It comes in very subtle ways.

Perhaps you have noticed in the past month that the plastic bottles of orange juice have decreased from 52 ounces to 46 ounces in volume. This is a more-than 10% decrease, but the price remains the same. And to top it off, consumers are now paying a CRV fee for the plastic bottle.

While it is great that the plastic bottles can be recycled, what ever happened to frozen juices that you could reconstitute yourself? The tin ends and cardboard containers could

be placed in your blue bin at no additional cost to you. And you did not have to find a recycling location.

Why are we so caught up into convenience and not common sense? I would rather bring home 4 cans of frozen OJ at a weight of 48 ounces (a 7-week supply of juice for me) than a 46-ounce plastic bottle with just a 12-day supply. One way is easily disposable waste while the other involves looking for a recycling center.

Note: I am looking for empty and clean Simply Orange (52-ounce) OJ plastic bottles to use as water carafes for the Fall Brunch. Please save 1 or 2 for me and bring to the event. Thanks.

Special Interest Chairs

Afternoon Lit - **Joyce Ruiz**
Book Talk - **Margery Leonard**
Cultural Cuisine - **Judy Wolf**
Exploring the Arts - **Karen McCready**
Gifts to Give - **Shelley Bartley**
One Book, One Community Read - **Margery Leonard**
Tuesday ESL Chat - **Jui-Lan Liu**
Yoga for Body and Spirit - **Jo Szeto**

Important Dates

Deadlines for articles: 25th of the month before publication

Send items for The TWIG to Jennifer Foster at jejenfo@yahoo.com

- Our next board meeting is planned for **October 4** at 10 am at Artist Walk. If you would like to attend a board meeting, but can't meet at 10 am on a Friday, email us at aaufremontbranch@gmail.com and let us know your availability.
- Pros and Cons, a discussion of the propositions on the state ballot, will be held **October 12** at the Niles Discovery Church. Click [here](#) for the flyer.
- Our annual fall brunch will be Saturday, **October 19**. Click [here](#) for the story. The flyer is on the front page.
- Death by Chocolate Bingo, a fundraiser for Ohlone College scholarships, will be held November 1 at the Niles Canyon Mobile Home Estates. Click [here](#) to see the story and the flyer.
- The 2025 Speech Trek season has begun. We are seeking participants for the Fremont branch competition on **March 1**, focusing on the global impact of climate change on women. Click [here](#) to see the story and flyer.

Support Our Members



Enjoy new and bestselling titles for all ages personally curated by Amy and her staff at Banter Bookshop in downtown Fremont! **AAUW Fremont book club titles receive a 15% discount.** Click on the photo to browse Banter's in-store events.



Katryn Bury is the author of the 'tween detective series *Drew Leclair Gets a Clue* (nominated for 3 book awards), and *Drew Leclair Crushes the Case*. Katryn's third title, *We Are Not Alone*, will hit shelves October 29th, 2024.

Alice's Photoland, your Twig Curator Alice Manfredi's professional portrait studio, covers all types of shoots such as: Family, Mother & Child, Maternity, Engagement, Graduations, and more. Reach out to her either by email or text to book a session.

