

The Grapevine

March 2021

Volume 36, Number 7



**BUILDING KNOWLEDGE
& ENRICHING THOUGHT**

Spring 2021 Courses – Registration begins February 15

Don't forget to register for our Spring Forum classes.

Our Forum will present two fun and inspirational courses this spring, while continuing to earn funds to support our programs and scholarships

Remember our classes will be on-line and will be recorded, so students can easily view missed classes.





Instructor: Pete Elman

**Great Voices: An In-Depth Look at Six Iconic Rock and
Rhythm and Blues Singers:
Tuesdays 10-11:45 AM, March 16 – April 20**

First up, on Tuesday, March 16th, the talented and entertaining Pete Elman returns to the Forum to tell us about the lives and careers of six iconic Rock and R&B singers:

Mar. 16	Ray Charles
Mar. 23	Sam Cooke
Mar. 30	Tina Turner
April 6	Roy Orbison
April 13	Bonnie Raitt
April 20	Aretha Franklin

Pete will present captivating video clips, sing and play the piano and guitar for us. You won't want to miss the fun.



Instructor: Professor Heidi Chretien

**Leonardo and Michelangelo: Unfriendly Giants
Thursdays 10-11:45 AM, March 18 – April 22**

Wishing you could travel to Italy? We have a solution. On Thursdays, starting March 18th, Heidi Chretien, Ph.D., will lead us in an exploration of the magnificent works and lives of the two giants of the Renaissance, Leonardo Da Vinci and Michelangelo. Heidi is a much sought after OLLI instructor, with her extensive background in Art History and life experiences. She has lived and taught art history in Italy and often spends several months a year at her home in Provence, France.

Her insightful and lively classes will include stunning slides of the art work of these two artistic geniuses. Her weekly topics will include:

- Mar. 18 Leonardo: The Man and His Early Works
- Mar. 25 Leonardo: Middle Years, Theories and Science
- April 1 Leonardo: Final Years and the Importance of Drawing
- April 8 Michelangelo: Early Years in Florence and Rome
- April 15 Michelangelo: Middle Years and the Agony of the Tomb
- April 22 Michelangelo: Final Years in Rome

To register and learn more about the classes and our instructors go to our AAUW website:
www.healdsburg-ca.aauw.net.

Once registered you will be e-mailed a Zoom link which you will click on in order to join the classes. You will use the same link to sign into your class each week.

If anyone needs help with registering or accessing the Zoom Webinar site, please call me at 707-326-1999.

Thanks for supporting the Forum and our AAUW programs and scholarships!

See you in class,
Celeste Plaister, Forum chair



President's Message



Congratulations to Celeste Plaister and her hard-working Forum committee! Enrollment for the Winter Forum lectures was nearly 270 which is a significant increase over the Fall series. Many are crediting this increase to the recording factor included in this season's programs. Celeste, mistress of poise and patience, has created a smooth flow of Questions and Answers between our students and professors. Thank you, Celeste. Spring classes look amazing, so don't forget to sign up.

March is Women's History Month. Do you know about Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman in America to receive a medical degree? Her history is an inspiring story of grit and determination. To learn more, go to womenshistory.org, and click on biographies. I'm confident that our physician members know about her, but for the rest of us, her story is fascinating.

California AAUW has created a virtual Tech Trek program that will be available to both our 2020 selected girls, and current candidates for summer 2021. Thanks to the state Tech Trek leaders for making this happen.

By now, many of you have had access to the COVID-19 vaccine. The time when we can start meeting in person is on the horizon. In the meantime, please continue to be safe and healthy. I so look forward to seeing you face to face!

—Kate Van Ness

Political Action News

WOMEN MAKING HISTORY

Here & Now!

March is National Women's History Month. Because 2021 is turning out to be an historic year for women, instead of looking to the past, let us focus on the growing number of women leaders actually making history today. Click [here](#) to watch an inspiring YouTube video of today's leaders included in a recent California AAUW newsletter.

Here in the USA, our recent Inauguration Day was historic for women: Kamala Harris was sworn in as the first female Vice President of the USA. (*Finally!*) Confirmations for many of our 46th president's nominees are still pending, but it appears Harris will soon be surrounded by a similarly gender record-breaking Cabinet and administration.

Women powered Biden's victory, and his top tier picks for the new administration reflect this reality. Twelve of his nominations to lead our nation's top agencies are women. This number of females in top leadership roles is without precedent.

Significant strides were made by women in the 117th Congress, as well. By popular vote, 12 more women – the majority of them Republican – gained new seats in the House and Senate.

But you may be shocked to learn that women already hold the titles of President or Prime Minister - the highest positions of executive power - in a total of 23 countries around the world.* Certainly, that's at least an order of magnitude greater than electing a female running mate.

Here at home, it's good news that women are not only engaged in critical voter organizing efforts, they are also running for public office at the state and local levels in ever greater numbers.

AAUW is dedicated to women's empowerment and equity. We need to cultivate positive female political engagement at every level. When more women become involved in the political process, when women hold elected office and wield political power, it redefines our collective imagination about what power can and should look like.

This collective mindset shift is long overdue. Enough with the sexism, already! Future generations of women and girls deserve to believe that they, too, may aspire to make history.

*Reuters

-Diane Bartleson



Equal Pay Day – March 24, 2021

More than 50 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, women, especially minority women, continue to suffer the consequences of unequal pay. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, women working full time, year-round in 2017 typically earned 82% percent of what men earned, indicating little change or progress in pay equity.

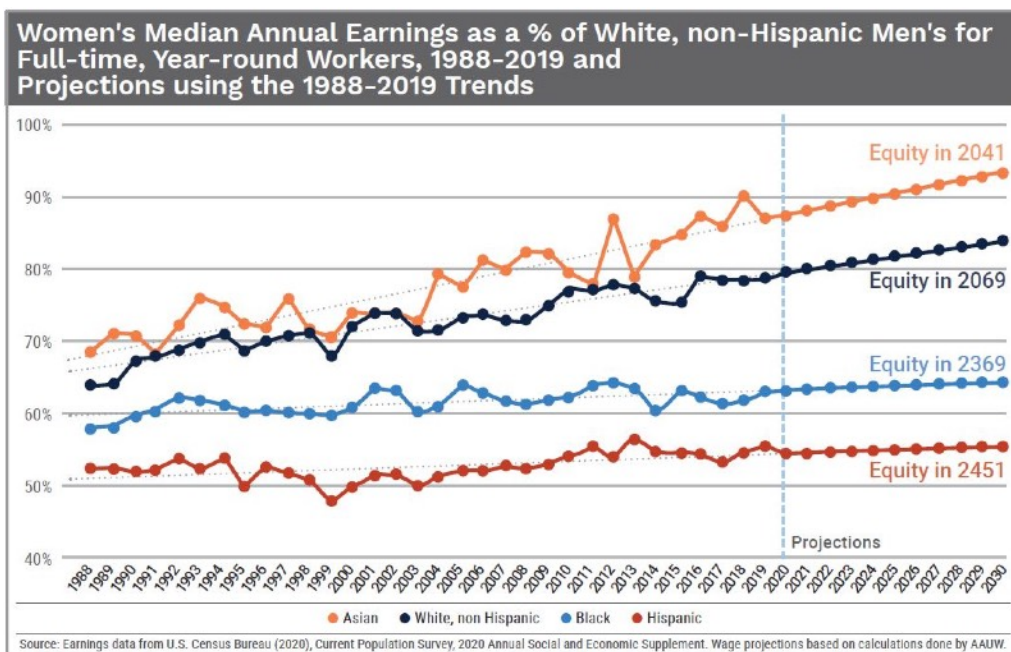
Equal Pay Day was originated by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages. Tuesday, 3/24/21, was selected to mark this day as it represents how far women must work into this year, 2021, to equate what men earn for the 12 months of 2020.

Here are more pay inequity facts...

- ★ According to *Graduating to a Pay Gap*, a 2012 research report by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the gender pay gap is evident one year after college graduation, even after controlling for factors known to affect earnings, such as occupation, hours worked, and college major.
- ★ According to one estimate, college-educated women working full time earn more than a half million dollars less than their male peers do over the course of a lifetime.
- ★ Nearly four in 10 mothers are primary breadwinners in their households, and nearly two-thirds are primary or significant earners, making pay equity critical to families' economic security.
- ★ A lifetime of lower pay means women have less income to save for retirement and less income counted in a Social Security or pension benefit formula.
- ★ According to *The Report of on the Status of Women and Girls in California™, 2020*, for every \$100 of wealth held by white men, white women (aged 18 – 64) have \$74, Latinas have \$3, and African American women have 80 cents.

Fair pay policies can be implemented simply and without undue costs or hardship in both the public and private sectors, can strengthen the security of families today, and can ease future retirement costs while enhancing the American economy.

Join AAUW Action Network to advocate for pay equality. Become a 2-Minute Activist. [Click here](#) to sign up.



Social Programs

Social Committee

The Social Committee and all its hard-working members are on hiatus right now because of COVID-19. We are still thinking about you and events to plan, but we are not able to currently organize and invite AAUW members to socialize at any of our wonderful, fun activities. Everyone has a favorite: Wine and Dine, meeting new people in a relaxed dinner setting; Happy Hour, discovering new wineries in a cocktail hour setting; Lunch Bunch, exploring new restaurants; Summer Picnic, great pot luck and bar-b-que; our annual Holiday Party, cultural events, and our fall Kick-off, and Installation Lunch. I am sure many of you didn't realize we had so many events! No wonder we miss them. We will not be resuming activities until it is safe for all - perhaps Kick-Off in September.

In the meantime, I have divided the AAUW membership into groups, or regions, to create Coffee Klatches. Windsor has been doing this for some time with a lot of success. We already have a few leaders for some of the areas, but I am still scouting out some leads to organize a few more sections. This too will have to wait awhile, but smaller groups will be more manageable than our full membership in attending functions. It will also serve to welcome new members into regional groups already in place. If you would like to be a leader, please contact me.

Look forward to seeing everyone again!

-Kathryn Henderson

Join a Great Decisions Discussion Group!

The Great Decisions group is having another great year reading and discussing articles on global affairs and major foreign policy issues facing the United States.

The group that meets on the third Monday of the month from 10 am to 12 noon has some openings and extends an invitation to join the group.

There are eight meetings during the year and a booklet is sold by the Foreign Policy Association, which sells for \$32 plus tax, shipping and handling. The booklet provides the topics with questions as a guide for the group discussions. The discussion provides for an educational adventure into world issues and challenges. The FPA also provides informative videos to supplement the book.

Interested? Curious? Needing more information? (Just a reminder that current AAUW membership is required.) Please contact Phil Wright at 707-433-5752.

Thank you.

-Phil Wright

Membership

Member Profile

Pat Bertapelle



Pat Bertapelle was born near Niagara Falls, New York and is the second of three sisters. Due to her father's job, she attended six different schools, including three high schools. Frequent moves were challenging but also helped Pat to be outgoing and friendly, traits she still exhibits. She attended Michigan State and majored in child development and education. Her first job was teaching kindergarten in Detroit where she taught a morning class of 36 children and then, at a different school location, an afternoon class of 38. She earned "combat" pay of the second highest teachers' wages in the US (behind Chicago). Once the children were inside, the doors were locked and there was no outside recess.

She met Dick (Bertapelle) at Michigan State and they married six days after her graduation. After her first year of teaching, they moved to Burlingame, where Pat taught kindergarten with 28 children, in a beautiful classroom, and a huge playground. She and Dick raised their two sons in Foster City. Pat started a parenting class called "Little Hands" that she taught for ten years and then was director for a Co-op preschool for ten years.

In 1997, she and Dick purchased the Haydon Street Inn in Healdsburg and ran it for ten years. In 2004, they completed their lovely home and established their vineyard. In 2013, Pat replied to an open invitation to apply to join the nearby West Side Elementary School's board of directors. She was happily accepted, and soon, her vast education experience led the Board to select her as their President, a role she filled for five years. She remains on the Board today.

Pat continues her love of education and children as the Reading Rocks volunteer coordinator for West Side School. In her free time, she enjoys golfing, playing mahjonn with friends (currently online), gardening in her beautiful gardens and visiting her grandchildren online. Once the pandemic situation is resolved, Pat and Dick look forward to resuming their in-person visits with their family and traveling.

-Theresa Cabral

If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had an operation or an accident, has passed away or had a close family member pass away, please notify Heidi Blumenthal so that a card can be sent to the person or family from AAUW. Email - heidiblu@aol.com. Phone - 707 433 7445.

The Grapevine is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles and announcements in WORD or PAGES in Calibri font 12 pt, justified, and photographs in Jpeg by the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which you want them included. Remember that the Grapevine is available to the general public, so be cautious about including your personal information. Send to Donna Riley at dldrldh@gmail.com.