



### Co-Presidents' Report

Fall is my favorite season! I love it when it's.....**sweater weather**. If you love Saturday Night Live like I do, click the link below to a classic skit.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLcB\\_Nca68](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLcB_Nca68)



We've had fantastic things happening at our branch and more excitement is on the horizon.

While the weather is cooling down (hopefully), the political campaigns have been heating up. And with that, our nonpartisan, dual language forums, on which we have collaborated with the League of Women Voters of North Santa Barbara County and Future for Lompoc Youth, have been planned and one has been successfully completed. The Lompoc School Board forum was held on September 26 and over 70 people attended in person and 26 attended via Zoom. The questions and issues posed by the public in the online registration process were probing and timely. AAUW's own Dinah Lockhart did an outstanding job as the co-moderator of the Forum (fellow co-moderator, Carmen Martinez, a student at AHC and Future for Lompoc Youth member) and she did a beautiful job of keeping the program on track and on schedule. Feedback from the community has been outstanding as our forums continue to be a vital and trusted source of nonpartisan information so voters can make informed decisions. And CONGRATULATIONS to our DEI chair, Brenda Villa, who participated at the forum and will be appointed to LUSD school board representing District 4!!

Miss it? Don't worry, you can watch it here on our UTUBE channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3Im8Z1JIw0>

**Co-Presidents' (continued)**

The next forum is for the Lompoc City Council and Mayor races and will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. A lot of hard work went into the planning and coordination of these forums. Thank you to everyone who made them a success: Marell, Wynn, Alice, Barbara, Terry, Pam, Dinah and Janet. Thanks to Terry and Pam for also staffing the National Voter Registration Day table at the library in Sept.

Speaking of voting, there is an important meeting coming up for our branch on October 11 at 4pm. Please mark your calendars to attend via Zoom so we can electronically vote on two questions: approval of the 2024-2025 budget (published again as an attachment) and approval of the board motion to endorse Measure M – the LUSD School Improvement Bond. (See Diversity Equity and Inclusion section of the newsletter for more info).

And wrapping up October is “Harvesting the Future” on Sunday 10/27. This is a terrific event hosted at the famous FLYING Goat Wine Production facility and sponsored by our own Kate Griffith along with her husband and renowned wine maker, Norm Yost. Proceeds from the event go to fund our local scholarships to high school females majoring in STEM fields at a 4-year college. See scholarship section of the newsletter for details.



School Board Forum Co-Moderators:  
Carmen Martinez and  
Dinah Perez Lockhart



Action shot of Marell, Janet and  
Wynn...they have paddles and aren't  
afraid to use them!



Brnda Villa, newly appointed School  
Board Member-District 4.



**Lucy Thoms-Harrington: Co-President**  
**Kay Duffy Taylor: Co-President**

Programs

We are hosting 2 critical forums and invite all members to register regardless of how you plan to attend. Please also help us by sharing this flyer widely to your friends, neighbors, colleagues, and family in town!

The AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg branch, along with the Fund for Santa Barbara, Future-For Lompoc Youth, and the League of Women Voters of SB County, are sponsoring Forum 2 on Thursday Oct. 3, 2024 for Lompoc City Council and Mayoral candidates. The forum is from 6:30-8pm, and will be held in person at the Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc and via Zoom webinar. Prior to the forum, a community/candidate meet up will be held from 5:45-6:15pm where candidates may distribute literature. Attendees are encouraged to register by using the QR code on the promotional flyer (see below). The first 100 registrants will receive a \$20 gift card.

**Lompoc Nonpartisan**  
**CANDIDATE FORUMS** 



**Forum 1 - will start at 6:30 pm**  
**Thursday September 26, 2024**  
**Lompoc Unified School Board Candidates**

**Forum 2 - will start at 6:30 pm**  
**Thursday, October 3, 2024**  
**City Council and Mayoral Candidates**


**The forums will be in person (100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc) with live interpretation (Spanish and English) and on TAP TV Channel 23, on KPEG 100.9 FM, and via Zoom Webinar with live interpretation.**

**A Community/Candidate meet up will proceed each forum at City Hall from 5:45 - 6:15 pm where candidates are invited to bring campaign literature. All voters and community members are welcome to attend. The forums will begin at 6:30 pm and conclude at 8:00.**

Funded By

**Please Register to Participate Today!**



**A \$20 gift card to a woman-owned small business in Lompoc will be awarded to the first 100 people to register for the forums; a maximum of one gift card per person.**





## Membership

Wow! What a month we had in September!

We had so many great additions and renewals to our membership! We had three new members join us: **Denise Robles** (Shape the Future), **Sarah Barthel** and **Megan Good**. We also had renewals of two very special long-time members, **Pam Buchanan** and **Bridgette Angulo**. We still have a **few members that need to renew membership**. It's easy to do, and we are counting on you to continue the great progress that was made in the past year and into the future!

If your renewal is up, you should have received an email from the [American Association of University Women](#) with the subject line: AAUW: It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

You can renew at the links below - or in your AAUW renewal reminder email. You can also write a check and we will be happy to do the rest for you.

On line at: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/why-join/>

By mail: By Check: As always, making a check payable to your AAUW branch and mailing it to: AAUW, Lompoc-Vandenberg, P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438

Have questions on renewing? Please call or email Mischa Dalcerci, Membership VP at 805.588.0645 or [mischadalcerci@gmail.com](mailto:mischadalcerci@gmail.com). **We very much value your membership in AAUW!!!**

We have 81 Total Members (+4 from State).

We have 4 Memberships that are Expired.

We have 7 Memberships that are due in Now and are in a Grace period.

***Mischa Dalcerci: Membership VP***



## GOV TREK

Gov Trek will be on hiatus for the current 2024-2025 AAUW California year. According to the AAUW California State President, Charmen Goehring, a member willing to take on chair or co-chair duties was not found. It was hoped that a Chair or Co-Chairs would to be identified at the end of the summer, but that did not occur. It is hoped someone will step forward in the next few months to continue the program next year.

***Kay Duffy Taylor: Co-President***

## **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

### **Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month: Honoring a Rich Legacy of Culture and Contributions:**

Hispanic Heritage Month, observed annually from September 15 to October 15, is a time to celebrate the profound contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities in shaping the social, cultural, and economic fabric of the United States. This month-long celebration recognizes the influence of the more than 60 million Hispanic Americans whose roots trace back to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America.

The date September 15 is significant as it marks the independence anniversaries of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico follows with its independence day on September 16 and Chile on September 18. These dates reflect the spirit of freedom, which is central to the Hispanic experience in the U.S.

Hispanic Heritage Month provides an opportunity to recognize the diversity within the Latino community. From the vibrant traditions of Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba to the distinct customs of Colombia, Peru, and beyond, the Latino community represents a beautiful tapestry of languages, cuisines, music, and art. This cultural richness has profoundly shaped American culture, from introducing Latin beats like salsa and reggaeton to the everyday influence of the Spanish language and food.

Latino culture is also woven into the nation's history. Figures like Dolores Huerta and Sonia Sotomayor have become icons of justice and empowerment. Their efforts toward civil rights, labor equality, and representation have inspired countless others to advocate for their communities. More recently, the contributions of Latino front-line workers during the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted their essential role in the healthcare, agriculture, and service industries, demonstrating resilience and dedication in the face of adversity.

While Hispanic Heritage Month is a time for celebration, it is also an opportunity to reflect on the challenges Hispanic Americans continue to face. Issues like immigration reform, education equity, and healthcare access remain critical. In states like California, where Hispanic communities form a large portion of the population, advocacy for bilingual education and programs that address health disparities are more essential than ever.

As we celebrate the contributions of past generations, we must also invest in the future. Hispanic Heritage Month offers a platform to uplift young Latino voices and empower them to take leadership roles in their communities. From fostering STEM opportunities to expanding access to higher education, encouraging the next generation is key to sustaining the growth and influence of Hispanic Americans.

Hispanic Heritage Month is more than just a celebration—it's a recognition of the enduring contributions that Hispanic Americans have made to the United States. It's a time to honor the achievements of the past, acknowledge the challenges of the present, and inspire hope for a future where Hispanic and Latino communities continue to thrive and enrich the cultural landscape of this country. By embracing diversity, we move closer to creating a society that values every voice, every story, and every contribution.

***Brenda Villa: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion***





# Community Forum

Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

6:30pm - 7:30pm (doors open at 6pm)

Lompoc Grange • 435 N G St, Lompoc, CA 93436

*Spanish Translation Services will be Available*

## WHY IT MATTERS

Join us on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to learn more about Measure M and why voting YES is critical for the future of Lompoc kids.

Our schools are the foundation of our community, but many of them are over 60 years old, with aging classrooms, outdated science labs, and facilities that haven't seen upgrades in over two decades.

Let's come together to discuss how this measure can transform our schools and what it means for the entire Lompoc community.

[www.yes4lompockids.com](http://www.yes4lompockids.com)



Scan the QR code to RSVP and submit questions or visit [tinyurl.com/cjfxz2k](http://tinyurl.com/cjfxz2k)





**NOVEMBER 2, 2024**



**2:00-7:00PM**

**EL CAMINO COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**320 N J ST, LOMPOC, CA**

- ALTARS
- STUDENT ALTARS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- FACE PAINTING
- CONCURSO DE CATRINAS
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- PAN DE MUERTO & CHOCOLATE
- INFORMATION BOOTHS & FOOD FOR SALE



**HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ARE NOT PERMITTED**



**LOMPOC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
 Trusting Relationships + High Expectations  
 = Every Student Achieves

|  |  |  |   |  |   |  |  |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <br>Buena Vista Elementary School | <br>Clarence Ruth Elementary School | <br>Crestview Elementary School | <br>Fillmore Elementary School | <br>Hagwood Elementary School | <br>La Canada Elementary School | <br>La Honda STEAM Academy            | <br>Los Berros VAPA Academy                   |
| <br>Lompoc Valley Middle School   | <br>Vandenberg Middle School        | <br>Lompoc High School          | <br>Cabrillo High School       | <br>Maple High School         | <br>Mission Valley School       | <br>Bob Forinash Community Day School | <br>LASCC Lompoc Adult School & Career Center |

## [AAUW Funds](#)

I just received our quarterly update from AAUW Funds. Thank you to those members who have made contributions. When you donate online remember to include our branch # (CA0130).

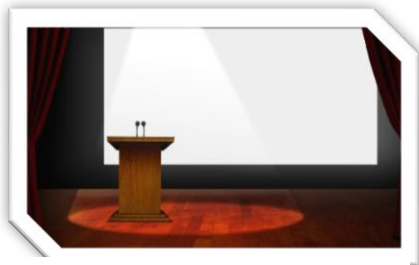
## [Donate Now](#)

The AAUW Fund advances AAUW's mission by sustaining all our programs and activities. Your unrestricted gift to the AAUW Fund helps incubate and disseminate programs that

- above all, advance equity for women and girls
- strengthen AAUW's role in the global community
- respond to and eradicate the persistent challenges facing women and girls
- leverage new opportunities and attract new audiences to our mission.

In short, the programs listed here get results for women and girls. And that's AAUW's top priority, now and in the future.

Gifts to the AAUW Fund are dispersed as needed to impactful projects that advance the mission of AAUW. Your undesignated donation will be used to support worthy programs.



***Marell Brooks: AAUW Funds VP***

## [Speech Trek 2025: One Last Rodeo!](#)

AAUW CA is holding its last Speech Trek program and the topic is climate change. Here is the prompt.

*“Climate change is happening. The effects are widespread and touch upon almost all aspects of our life on this planet. Select one area of impact and explore the effect climate change is having on women in the USA and around the world.”*

Speech Trek is open to high school aged students regardless of gender. The branch has money set aside in the budget for 2025 Speech Trek for prize winners at the local level. State has increased the prize money for the top 5 winners.



To participate, we'll need 3-5 volunteers to form a committee. It's fun to recruit and mentor the students through the Speech Trek process and arm the students with the tools they will use for the rest of their lives as they advocate for themselves and others on important issues. Time needed ~ 5 hours total spread out during the timeframe of February to early months. Our branch has had its winners go on to win the competition or place at the state level so there is a proud legacy from a small but mighty town! Interested? Call, text or email Lucy (Thoms-Harrington) by 5 November. (Cell: 805-729-7951 and email [lth.terralink@gmail.com](mailto:lth.terralink@gmail.com))

***Lucy Thoms-Harrington: Speech Trek***



**Local Scholarship**

Our local scholarship fundraiser will be a wine tasting afternoon at **Flying Goat Winery** (production facility, not the tasting room) on October 27, located at: 1251 W. Laurel Ave., Lompoc.

Please come and enjoy an afternoon of good conversation and learn about a local winery. This fundraiser will support **AAUW's** two \$1000.00 scholarships whom we award deserving recipients in May.

In the meantime, all donations for the scholarships are welcome.

***Julie Schneringer, Scholarship Chair***



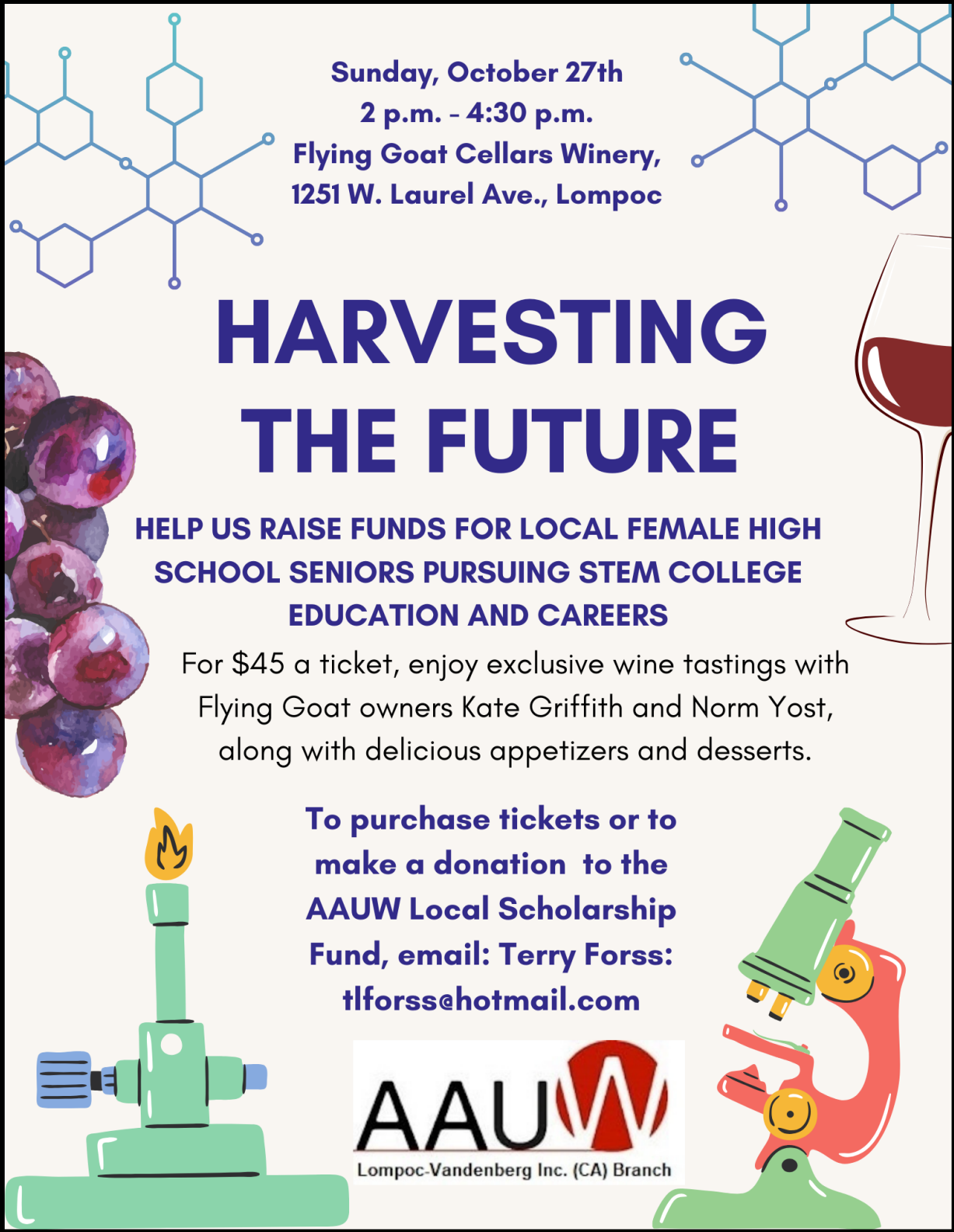
Sunday, October 27th  
2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Flying Goat Cellars Winery,  
1251 W. Laurel Ave., Lompoc

# HARVESTING THE FUTURE

HELP US RAISE FUNDS FOR LOCAL FEMALE HIGH  
SCHOOL SENIORS PURSUING STEM COLLEGE  
EDUCATION AND CAREERS

For \$45 a ticket, enjoy exclusive wine tastings with  
Flying Goat owners Kate Griffith and Norm Yost,  
along with delicious appetizers and desserts.

To purchase tickets or to  
make a donation to the  
AAUW Local Scholarship  
Fund, email: Terry Forss:  
[tlforsse@hotmail.com](mailto:tlforsse@hotmail.com)



## Public Policy

### **2024 Ballot Propositions - Support AAUW California Public Policy Priorities**

By Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko, Co-Chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

This November, California voters will decide the fate of 10 statewide ballot propositions. While we encourage members to support additional propositions that may capture the spirit of AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities (PPPs), we suggest that four of the propositions on the ballot in 2024 deserve a YES vote from our members for their explicit alignment with AAUW California's PPPs.

**Proposition 2**, Public Education Facilities Bond Measure (2024), proposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of California's public education facilities. \$8.5 billion would be allocated to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion would support improvements at community colleges. Many school facilities are over 50 years old and require significant upgrades to meet current technological and education needs. Research shows that modernized school facilities correlate with better test scores, higher attendance, and improved teacher retention rates. The last time districts received state funding for infrastructure improvements was in 2016, when Prop 51 authorized \$9 billion in bonds. That money has now run out, and Prop 2 would help fund school projects totaling \$3.5 billion that have already been approved and are awaiting funding.

**AAUW California supports "Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 2.**

**Proposition 3**, Constitutional Right to Marriage, would amend the California Constitution to recognize the fundamental right to marry, and would remove the language banning same-sex marriage, passed by voters in 2008, from the state constitution. In practice, the ban has been nullified since a Supreme Court ruling in 2013 which allowed same-sex marriages to resume in California. Proposition 3 will enshrine the fundamental right to marry and protect against any potential future changes to federal marriage protections.

**AAUW California supports "Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 3.**

**Proposition 4**, Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure, would allocate the state to issue \$10 billion in bonds to fund various environmental, energy, and water projects. While there are a range of projects that ballot measure would fund that would benefit all Californians who are confronted with the impacts of sea-level rise, extreme heat, wildfire dangers, and air/water pollution, proposition 4 would also require that 40% of the bond revenue be used to fund activities that benefit communities with lower incomes or that are affected by environmental



changes or disasters. Also, as AAUW California's Public Policy Committee has pointed out in the past, addressing climate issues and advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability, and vice versa.

AAUW California supports "Social and racial justice for all members of society, including equal access to quality affordable healthcare, housing and a healthy environment," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 4.

**Proposition 32**, Raises Minimum Wage, would raise California's current minimum wage of \$16 per hour. Employers with 26 or more employees would pay \$18 per hour beginning in 2025. Employers with 25 or fewer employees would pay \$17 per hour in 2025 and \$18 per hour in 2026. California has a high cost of living and our current \$16 minimum wage is well below the estimated living wage needed to support a household's basic needs. Women and communities of color bear the burden of low-wage jobs. The California Civil Rights Department (CRD) released data showing that in 2021, roughly half of all Latino, Black, and Native American workers earned \$32,329 or less - \$10,000 less than the state's per capita income. 54 percent of all workers in California earning \$32,239 or less were women.

A minimum wage of \$18 will reduce income inequality and improve the standard of living for millions of California workers, especially women and people of color.

AAUW California supports "Economic Security for All Women", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 32.

For guidance on additional ballot measures that are adjacent to, but not directly within, the scope of AAUW California's PPPs, please see this excellent guide provided by [the League of Women Voters of California](https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2024/09/public-policy-news-september-2024.pdf/).

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2024/09/public-policy-news-september-2024.pdf/>



**Mary Schaefer, Public Policy Chair**

***Who wants to go to "A Trip to the Moon" (a live performance at LHS October 3-5)***

Welcome one of our newest members, Sarah Barthel, Chair of the Theater department at LHS and advisor to the National Honor Society! Word has it the first play of the 2024-2025 season will resonate with our love for girls in STEM. **See flyer for details.** I am going to the Saturday October 3 show which starts at 7:30. Tickets are only \$10. Text me (Lucy 805-729-7951) and I'll save you a seat by me!! Who knows? *This may be the start of a Theater Interest group??*

**Lucy Thoms-Harrington**



# 2024-2025 SEASON

OCT. 3-5



DEC. 12-14



MAR. 7-9, 14-16



Book by  
**Terrence McNally**

Music & Lyrics by  
**by Marc Shalman & Scott Wittman**

Vocal Music Arrangements by  
**John McDaniel & Marc Shalman**

Dance Music Arrangements by  
**Marc Shalman**

Orchestrations by  
**Marc Shalman & Larry Blank**

MAY 15-17

## COMEDY TONIGHT! 2025

*the 23rd annual student-directed,  
student and staff-written  
night of laughs*

**Interest Groups*****Mission Walkers Group (Weekdays)***

Join the AAUW women who walk the La Purisima Mission every Monday through Friday at 8:15 am. Just show up to enjoy the walk and great company. If you need more information, contact Marell Brooks. If you are interested in walking on the weekends, please let the group know.

***Dine-out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)***

This month, we're going to try again to visit a restaurant in Solvang called **Whiskey & Rye**. It's on Atterdag at the end of the street but there is public parking next to and behind it. It's basically a barbeque/smokehouse restaurant but has burgers and salads. There is outdoor seating and the menu is available online. <https://www.whiskeynrye.com>

The date is **Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**. Reservations are for 12:30 so we will meet at the church at 11:50 a.m. and carpool. *It is important that you call Billye or Leslie and let them know you are attending not later than Tuesday October 15<sup>th</sup>.*



***Billye Iverson and Leslie Sevier, Co-Chairs***

**Roaming Readers (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month)**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| October 7:  | Tears of the Giraffe (Alexander McCall Smith) Betty Staight |
| November 4: | Prequel (Rachel Maddow) Gail Meehan                         |
| December 2: | Last Devil to Die (Richard Osman) Janet Shiers              |
| January 8:  | Reader's Choice   |



**Interest Groups (continued)**

Roaming Readers is open to all AAUW members; we welcome anyone interested to visit a meeting. We meet at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of each month (on the second Monday if the first is a holiday). We meet in rotating members' homes in person and via ZOOM. For general information or to arrange a visit to a specific meeting, please call Cathy Rudolph.

***Carol Ann Johnson and Cathy Rudolph, Co-Chairs***

**Communications****Phone Tree**

We are looking for a few additional volunteers to join the mighty Phone Tree Committee which makes calls 3 or 4 times a year to members to remind them of upcoming programs/events. Have a few minutes to spare? Please email Samantha (Scroggins) at [syale82@gmail.com](mailto:syale82@gmail.com) or text (805)

***Samantha Scroggins: Communications***

**Calendar of Events**

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Oct 3   | Candidate Forum 2: City Council and Mayoral Forum: City Hall, Zoom Webinar, TAP TV and KPEG |
| Oct 27  | Fall Harvest Wine Tasting Scholarship Fundraiser: Flying Goat Cellars, 2-5pm.               |
| Nov 2   | Dia de Los Muertos: Build an Ofrenda. 2:00-7:00pm, El Camino Community Center               |
| Dec 1   | Holiday Party   |
| Jan TBA | Where in the World Brunch: Through a Feminist Lens: 138 North B Street                      |



## Spotlight



*Welcome our **new members!** So glad you are part of AAUW, Lompoc-Vandenberg!*

***Denise Robles  
Megan Good  
Sarah Barthel***

## Recipe Corner



### Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake Dip

#### Ingredients

- 3/4 cup International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer
- 1 3.4 oz package pumpkin spice instant pudding
- 1 8 oz package cream cheese softened
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 cups frozen whipped topping thawed
- Graham cracker crumbs for garnish



#### Instructions

1. In a bowl, whisk together the International Delight Pumpkin Pie Spice Creamer with pumpkin spice instant pudding. Set aside for about 5 minutes.
2. In a mixing bowl, beat together the softened cream cheese and sugar.
3. Add in pudding to cream cheese mixture and beat.
4. Once well combined, fold in the 2 cups of thawed whipped topping and refrigerate.
5. When ready to serve, fill bowl with Pumpkin Pie Cheesecake Dip topped with graham cracker crumbs.

#### Recipe Notes

If you can't find pumpkin spice instant pudding (it is seasonal), you can use either vanilla or cheesecake instant pudding with a teaspoon of pumpkin pie spice.

### [Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch Information](#)

LV Branch Website: <http://lompocvandenberg-ca.aauw.net/>

LV Branch Mailing address: P.O. Box 2523. Lompoc, CA 93438

LV Branch e-mail address: [lompocvandenberg-ca@aauw.net](mailto:lompocvandenberg-ca@aauw.net)

Facebook: [Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW](#)

Instagram: [@aauw\\_lompocvandenberg](#)

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There is no barrier to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

***Scattered Seeds Editor: Kari Rosson***

