



## **Cancelled—Wednesday, April 29**

### **Scholar Recognition Reception with Deputy Chief Reba Gonzales, Seattle Fire Department**

We are so proud of our scholars and regret that we cannot meet them personally and celebrate their success in math, science, and technology. We will miss our keynote speaker Reba Gonzales.

**AAUW does social distancing...spring cleaning, feeding chickens, knitting, sorting papers, reading books, and teleworking & homeschooling.**



The Coronavirus has turned all our lives upside down. Sadly, social distancing has meant we have had to cancel our Scholar Recognition reception. Due to uncertainty of the duration of this directive, the Executive Inn has cancelled bookings through April. School closures also have challenged our standard channels of communication with the girls, but we are pleased to still recognize most of these stellar scholars in this *Catalyst* issue. To maximize the number of student biographies we could include, you are receiving this issue a week later than usual. Award packets will be distributed to the girls through the schools or mail within the next month.

**Stay home and stay healthy. We are hoping we will be able to meet again in May!**

## **And Next Month...**

**Annual Meeting and Elise Hooper, Author of *The Other Alcott* & *Learning to See***

Saturday, May 16, 2020  
AAUW-Seattle Meeting  
9:30-noon

**Executive Inn by the  
Space Needle**  
200 Taylor Ave N  
Seattle

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## Leadership Corner—CJ Nash

These are strange times, ones that provoke reflection in the moments not spent standing in grocery lines. For me, one theme has been AAUW-Seattle as I approach the end of my board term as co-chair of Marketing and Communications.

I like to think of all that team has accomplished: Gay Armsden improving the Branch pages on Facebook; Heather Dohan keeping *The Catalyst* vital no matter what curves she was thrown; team co-chair Tonna Kutner working on everything from buying ads to solving graphic problems to figuring out why Google search was ignoring our website; working with others to set a target audience, and regular promotions to reach it. All while they did lots of other things, both in and out of the Branch.

Inspiring. And that's what I like to think about most – how much these women, other board members and every day AAUW members like Marianne North, Amy Klosterman or our soon-to-be *Catalyst* editor, Cathy Anderson, contribute to supporting AAUW-Seattle without making a fuss about it. When I work with them, I'm energized myself. You would be, too.

Right now, Marketing and Communications is looking for help, especially someone who can help lead us in new directions. But other areas always welcome help, too. Just email one of the officers listed in the back of this issue. You don't have to be a superwoman, you just have to care.



**This newsletter is a publication of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Seattle Branch.**

Page one [Seattle cityscape](#) by Michael Tompsett

### Mission Statement

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

### Vision

Equity for all.

### Values

Nonpartisan. Fact-based. Integrity. Inclusion and Intersectionality.

## Update on renewing your AAUW Membership—Judy Waring

With the Coronavirus outbreak disrupting everyone's lives, we will be delaying the emailing of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 dues invoices until late April. Receiving a request for payment right now is probably not what you want to see in your inbox. If you would like to pay your dues when you receive this April issue of *The Catalyst*, please e-mail: [membership@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:membership@aauw-seattle.org) and your invoice will be sent to you. Otherwise be on the lookout in late April.

## Give Every Grad You Know the Gift of AAUW Membership at No Cost! - Heather Dohan

Do you know a woman graduating college? Did you know you, as an AAUW member, can gift a one year national membership to as many recent college graduates that you like at no cost to them or you? Well you can! I have in the past. This is a great way to introduce the AAUW to our members of the future. Anyone who has completed an undergraduate degree in the past two years can receive a free membership. You need some basic information from the graduate, and then enter the information online. Shortly, the graduate will be an AAUW member! It is that easy. For more information and the form visit: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/>.



## Tech Trek—Tonna Kutner

Tech Trek is an exciting week-long, residential, hands-on science, technology and STEM camp for girls currently in 7th grade who show promise in math science and/or technology. All girls attending the camp are "sponsored", which means their way is paid by AAUW. The program is particularly focused to serve girls who might not otherwise be able to afford this kind of enrichment. We are currently interviewing all the girls who have submitted applications via Zoom. Applications will be accepted through mid-April. Contact Tonna if you have any questions [techtrek@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:techtrek@aauw-seattle.org).

## Scholar Recognition—Our 2020 High School Scholars

Congratulations to our scholars in math, science, and technology! Thanks to the support of their parents, schools, and our Scholar Recognition coordinators who make this program possible! This year's scholar recognition awards are made possible by a generous bequest from beloved member Maureen Kremers.

### Ballard High School—Joan Peterson

**Hannah Janeway** (Math) is planning on pursuing a degree in theoretical mathematics and a degree in creative writing. She loves reading, writing, logic problem solving, and puzzles of math. She currently tutors several students in math and hopes to become as good a math teacher as the one she has right now at Ballard High School. Hannah is also looking forward to writing novels and traveling.



**Aneesa Roidad** (Science) want to combine her love for all things STEM with her deep interest in social justice. She plans to combine engineering and social justice into a career of public policy to better society. As a student at Ballard High School she loves running, reading, traveling and just generally learning. She supports many social justice causes in her community.

### Chief Sealth High School—Rachel Foe

**Alma Lopez** (Science) plans to go to Seattle Central Community College for two years and then transfer to university. She wants to pursue public health. After university, Alma wants to volunteer for UNICEF, The Red Cross, or another similar big organization. Her goal in life is to make a friend in every country.



**Lola Taylor** (Math) was unanimously elected the Chief Sealth International High School (CSIHS) Girls Swim Team Captain for the past two seasons and was one of CSIHS fastpitch softball team captains last year as well. She plays water polo in a summer league and plays trumpet in the school's jazz and symphonic bands. Lola is a member of the National Honor Society and is the treasurer of the school's chapter. She has been a Rotary Club Scholar of the month and earned the Seal of Biliteracy. Lola volunteered over 300 hours at the Seattle Aquarium as a Youth Ocean Advocate. She is deciding between attending University of Washington to study Marine Biology or Washington State University Honors College to study wildlife ecology and conservation, with the ultimate goal of attending veterinary school.

### Cleveland High School—Barbara Sando

**Lilli An** (Math) will graduate from Cleveland STEM High School this spring. She plans to attend the University of Washington in the fall and will major in Bioengineering.



**Angelina Tran** (Science) will graduate high school with an Associate of Science degree. She plans to attend a 4-year university in the fall, most likely studying something in the STEM fields. She enjoys art (drawing, painting, etc) and volunteering. Angelina also likes to learn and explore by traveling the world.

**Denise Mar** (Technology) grew her passion for science during high school and plans on merging her love for neuroscience and computer science into one. Her interest in STEM connects to her drive to close the gap between those living in different parts of Seattle. Denise plans to go into either a computer science or neuroscience major to pursue a career in technology or neurotechnology, such as a career in designing artificial intelligence to simplify life for future generations.



**Franklin High School—Barbara Sando**

**Allysa Peredo** (Math) loves solving calculus problem, because of the real-life connections to calculus. Her family has emphasized that education is the door to her opportunities, which is why she joined Team Read, a program that tutors 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders who are behind in literacy. Team Read and calculus have inspired Allysa to plan to major in math, in hopes of becoming a teacher. She wants students to see the beauty in math and to reveal the inner mathematician in everyone. Allysa has also run cross country since 10<sup>th</sup> grade, volunteers at Engageables at Southshore K-8, and enjoys solving Rubik's cube.



**Sofia Ngoc Nguyen** (Science) plans to continue her education by applying for summer internships, specifically the Neurological Surgery Student Summer Program. She plans to attend a four-year college, majoring in biochemistry or molecular biology. After graduation, Sofia would like to expand her travel experiences through volunteering or studying abroad. She will also continue running as a member of Fleet Feet.

**Helen Kuang** (Technology) is currently in the University of Washington Math Science Upward Bound program. She plans to major in computer science in college and pursue a career in technology. Helen ran cross country for two years. Outside of school, she also enjoys tutoring kids in reading at a local library.

**Garfield High School—Sandra Wheeler**

**Natasha Wozniak** (Math) is looking forward to exploring STEM subjects in college next year. She is a National Merit Finalist and when not studying hard loves to swim, participates in gymnastics, and plays Ultimate Frisbee. Outside of school Natasha teaches skiing and volunteers year-round at the zoo. She also plays the violin and is a music tutor with the Seattle Music Partner.



**Anisa Robinson** (Science) Congratulations on your achievements!

**Angelina Torres** (Technology) will be attending California Institute of Technology and plans to major in mechanical engineering, with a minor in aerospace. Her goal is to earn a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering and work for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. For the past 4 years, she has participated on two competitive robotics teams through the FIRST Program. She specializes in mechanical and systems engineering, but as a senior took on the role of team lead for both teams.

**Holy Names High School—Katherine Cleland**

**Mathilda Vary** (Math) has been a NASA high school scholar, NCWIT regional winner, and a Presidential Service Award recipient. She took classes through the Museum of Flight and UW. She plans to study Aerospace Engineering and Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Mathilda loves that there are still so many unknowns about Space. She is involved in FIRST Robotics, as team president, and is on the robotics engineering team. In addition, she mentors younger robotics teams, and helped start a girl's FIRST robotics team in Africa, mentoring them remotely. Mathilda is also the manager of the theatrical backstage program at school and works in the sound booth for Holy Names and O'Dea theater productions. And just to round things out, she's also a Frisbee player.

**Ingraham High School—Judy Waring**

**Elizabeth Vanderberg** (Math) is in her second year of the International Baccalaureate program at Ingraham High School. She is a captain of the varsity cross country team and also runs track in the spring. She is an officer of the Environmental Club and treasurer of the National Honor Society. Elizabeth plans on attending the United States Naval Academy in the fall and hopes to major in Cyber Operations.



**Ingraham High School—continued**

**Sonia Yuan** (Science) became hooked on synthetic biology after completing a program at Fred Hutch the summer of her sophomore year. She returned the next summer as an assistant to that program, teaching students lab techniques and cancer treatments. As the wetlab lead of the bronze-winning SoundBio iGem, she worked on the functionalization of bacterial cellulose via optogenetics as a novel material for wound bandaging. Sonia is the experimental lab manager of SoundBio Lab, where she completed a gene therapy project addressing muscular dystrophy and is currently working to improve lab protocols. She is part of Hugo House's Young Writer's Cohort and emcees for their monthly open mics. In her free time, she enjoys reading and running. Sonia plans to pursue bioengineering in college.

**Maya Outhred** (Technology) completed the International Baccalaureate diploma program junior year and is currently dual enrolled at North Seattle College. She was the co-president of Ingraham's Girls Who Code club for two years. Maya is a nationally competitive fencer and was named to the USFA All-American and All-Academic First Teams. She also recently joined her school's sailing team. Maya received an Affiliate Award for the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing and interned on Microsoft's Education Products Team over last summer. Maya plans to major in computer science in college.

**Making Connections—Senait Habte**

**Heven Desalegn-Ambachew** (Math) is a senior at Mount Rainier High School and attends Highline Community College as a full time Running Start student. Heven's aspiration is to obtain an education in Human-Centered Design and Engineering. She envisions using technology as a tool for social justice and developing platforms for under-represented communities. She is involved in many extracurricular activities such as Highline College's Black Student Union participating as the Vice-President and serves on the King County Youth Advisory Council.



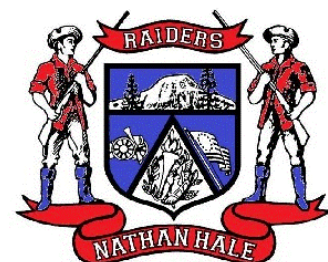
**Samrawit Alebachew** (Science) attends Charles A. Lindbergh High School. An engineering career has always been imaginable for her because both of her siblings graduated with engineering degrees. As she entered high school, she took classes that broadened her knowledge on different types of engineering and grew a love for the field as well as more of an interest. Volunteering at the Ethiopian Community Center, Samrawit had realized that many of the kids she mentored weren't given the same representation she was given in terms of seeing people who look like them with careers in STEM. She plans not only to get a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering, but serve as a representative-- a woman who looks like them-- to other young people of color.

**Loza Gebremariam** (Technology) attends Ingraham High School and after high school she wants to go to a 4-year university and major in something related to information systems, computer science and marketing. When Loza graduates, she is also interested in learning Amharic (her family's mother tongue). During high school, she was part of identity-based clubs (BSU) and leadership (ASB). Loza enjoys being with her friends and family, testing out new recipes and cooking, and playing tennis. She is a member of the International Baccalaureate Program and received the Wellesley College Book Award during her junior year.

**Nathan Hale High School—Cynthia Sheridan**

**Katrina Doerflinger** (Math) will attend Western Washington University to study environmental science. She loves the outdoors and nature and hopes to work outdoors after college. In her free time, Katrina likes to run, bike, hike, and camp with her family and friends, in addition to reading, playing the piano, watching TV shows, and of course, doing her homework.

**Adelle Koenig** (Math) is a senior at Nathan Hale High School. She received scholar recognition for mathematics, but has interests in sciences, music, arts, and languages. Adelle plans to attend Western Washington University with an undecided major, but a minor in music. In her spare time, she enjoys playing flute, running, reading, and writing music.



**Brenda Ruvalcaba** (Technology) enjoys practicing sports like basketball and volleyball at Nathan Hale. She loves spending free time with her mother, watching real-life documentaries, and listening to her stories of growing up in 20<sup>th</sup> century Mexico. In the future, Brenda hopes to work at NASA as a programmer or data specialist. She also hopes to own her own tech company that protects and respects the environment and the people.

### Rainier Beach High School—*Renée Agatsuma*

**Genesis Carrion Estradai** (Math) plans to learn a new coding language and participate in a hackathon. She will major in computer science. Genesis enjoys playing softball and painting in her free time.

**Science scholar** Congratulations on your achievements!

**Tam Nhu Le** (Technology) plans to learn how to drive, if she still does not know how. Tam Nhu will study computer programming in college. She recently came to Rainier Beach High School from Everett High School, where she received student of the month for demonstrating a characteristic of a champion. Tam Nuh enjoys reading and playing games and this year she joined Team Read.



### Roosevelt High School—*Heather Dohan*

**Emily Hinds** (Math) is captain of the cross-country and track teams and a member of the National Honor Society. She is a member of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts through All That Dance, where she also teaches dance classes to underserved community centers and the Ronald McDonald House Seattle. Emily has also competed in FIRST Robotics Competitions since 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She plans to study mathematics and French at college.

**Allison Crossland** (Science) Congratulations on your achievements!

**Grace O'Connor** (Technology) participates in several STEM-based school clubs, completed engineering courses and plays varsity softball, where she has been captain during her junior and senior years. She volunteers with the Youth Ocean Advocate Program at the Seattle Aquarium and is lifeguard and swim teacher at the Sand Point Country Club. Grace loves the outdoors and spending time with family and friends. She plans to attend the University of Washington or Cal Poly to study bioengineering or microbiology with hopes to pursue a career in biotechnology or attend medical school.



### West Seattle High School—*Marilyn Mears*

**Laura Reed** (Mathematics) plans to attend a 4-year university majoring in chemistry, with a minor in mathematics. After undergraduate school, she aims to pursue a graduate degree in medicine or environmental science. In 2019, she received the Outstanding Junior Student and Academic Achievement awards for her high school studies from the Education Council of Alki Masonic Lodge #152. In January, 2020, she began tutoring math to students at South Seattle College. In her free time, Laura likes to play tennis, the violin, and spend time with friends and family.

**Zoe Steers** (Science) hopes to major in Biology in college. While currently wait-listed for University of Washington, at this time Zoe is undecided on the specific college she will attend. Involved in the West Seattle High School chapter of Students Demand Action, Zoe also works with the HPV Awareness Club. She is a long-time soccer player and is currently a member of the softball team.

**Brielle Martin** (Technology) plans to major in Environmental Studies in college. She holds a deep fascination with the natural world. Brielle has been a Youth Ocean Advocate volunteer at the Seattle Aquarium since ninth grade, as well as a participant on a conservation-focused study abroad program in Gaborone, Botswana, last summer. She also enjoys volunteering as a member of the WestSide Baby Youth Board. Other interests include writing, drawing, and playing on the varsity tennis team. In 9<sup>th</sup> grade, Brielle received the History Department Award and was named one of West Seattle High School's Top Eight Most Outstanding Juniors in 2019 by the Alki Masonic Lodge. Brielle aims to address environmental and conservation-related issues with a combination of writing and technological knowledge.







The Seattle Branch has three very active interest groups and hopes to add new ones in the near future, so stay tuned. Check this space each month to learn what's happening with each interest group and consider joining one or more.

### Writers' Group—Marianne North— [writing@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:writing@aauw-seattle.org)

The writing group meets on the first Thursday of most months at 10:30 am. We will be meeting via Zoom for the next few months. Members share and critique their writing, which can range from memoirs to fiction to short stories based on writing prompts. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Marianne.

**Art Smart and the Book Group are cancelled until further notice. Members will be emailed when it is safe to resume events.**

### Equal Pay Day 2020 —Lynn Dissinger

Equal Pay Day was March 31<sup>st</sup> this year. With the average woman earning \$0.82, for every \$1 earned by a man, a woman must work until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to earn the equivalent that men earned as of December 31, 2019. The gap is even more significant when broken down for women of color (*Data from website: [www.equalpaytoday.org/](http://www.equalpaytoday.org/)*).

Asian Women February 11 <sup>th</sup> (\$0.88)	Native American Women October 1 <sup>st</sup> (\$0.57)
All Moms' June 4 <sup>th</sup> (\$0.70)	Latina Women October 29 <sup>th</sup> (\$0.54)
Black Women August 13 <sup>th</sup> (\$0.62)	

### March Board Meeting—Lynn Dissinger

The board reviewed the Branch calendar for March and April and made decisions on cancelling Branch meetings, including Scholar Recognition due to the Coronavirus.

The Marketing Committee recommends moving the website from the National AAUW platform to one we host ourselves. The board authorized proceeding with a Request for Quote (RFQ) to providers to design a new website.

### Branch and Regional Cancellations and Postponements Due to Coronavirus Outbreak

*March 21*—Branch meeting with Michele Matassa Flores cancelled

*Late March*—2020-21 Program Planning Meeting postponed until late April

*April 15*—Scholar Recognition Reception cancelled

*April 17-19*—Washington/Oregon Regional Convention cancelled (rescheduling possible in August)

### AAUW-Seattle Branch Officers 2019-2020

#### Elected

##### Co-Presidents:

Lynn Dissinger & Fiona Goodchild -  
[president@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:president@aauw-seattle.org)

##### VP Finance:

Beverly Fogle - [finance@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:finance@aauw-seattle.org)

##### VP Programs:

Cynthia Sheridan - [programs@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:programs@aauw-seattle.org)

##### VP Membership:

Judy Waring - [membership@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:membership@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Secretary:

Rachael Foe - [secretary@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org)

#### Appointed

##### Web Site:

Heather Dohan - [website@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:website@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Catalyst Newsletter Editor:

Heather Dohan - [catalyst@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:catalyst@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Public Policy:

Katherine Cleland - [publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-seattle.org)

##### College/University Relations:

Renée Agatsuma & Robin Hendricks -  
[c-u@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:c-u@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Scholarship Program:

Gay Armsden - [scholarships@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:scholarships@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Scholar Recognition:

June Arnold - [recognition@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:recognition@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Tech Trek:

Tonna Kutner - [TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:TechTrek@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Marketing & Communications:

CJ Nash - [marketing@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:marketing@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Nominating Committee:

[nc@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:nc@aauw-seattle.org)

##### Board Members at Large

Gay Armsden - [scholarships@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:scholarships@aauw-seattle.org)

June Arnold - [recognition@aauw-seattle.org](mailto:recognition@aauw-seattle.org)

### Connect with us!



Timeline About Photos Likes More ▾

**Seattle Branch AAUW**  
**4127 SW Kenyon St.**  
**Seattle, WA 98136-2332**  
**Address Service Requested**

***Upcoming Events...***

Date	Day	Time	Location	Program
April 13, 2020	Monday	7 pm	Contact Secretary— ( <a href="mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org">secretary@aauw-seattle.org</a> ) for information	Branch Board Meeting— <b>Teleconference</b>
April 29, 2020 <b>CANCELLED</b>	Wednesday	7 pm	Executive Inn by the Space Needle, Seattle, WA	Scholar Recognition with Seattle Fire Department Deputy Chief Reba Gonzales
April 17-19, 2020 <b>CANCELLED</b>	Friday— Sunday		Heathman Lodge, Vancouver, WA	Washington-Oregon State Convention
May 2020	Monday	7 pm	Contact Secretary— ( <a href="mailto:secretary@aauw-seattle.org">secretary@aauw-seattle.org</a> ) for information	Branch Board Meeting
May 16, 2020	Saturday	9:30 am	Executive Inn by the Space Needle, Seattle, WA	Annual Meeting with Elise Hooper, author, & Scholarship Winners