



November 2024




### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As our branch membership grows and we continue our good work, it's nice to step back and assess our efforts. Using data is a good way to show progress. AAUW's mission to promote women and girls is slowly but surely being fulfilled. Here are some statistics from Pew Research about the percentages of women in some professional fields in the US, comparing 2010 to 2024:

	2010	2024
Physicians	30%	38%
Engineers & Architects	13%	15%
Attorneys	31%	39%
College & Univ. Presidents	24%	30%
Fortune 500 Members	14%	30%
State Legislators	24%	31%
US Senators	16%	23%
US Representatives	15%	27%

While we still have a long way to go (especially in engineering and architecture), I find these numbers very encouraging! AAUW North Tahoe members can feel that we're actively contributing to this positive growth, thanks to our Girls State and Tech Trek programs, our STEM college scholarships, and our donations to the AAUW Fund. Our daughters and granddaughters will see these numbers grow closer to 50%!

— Priscilla Mills



**AAUW NORTH TAHOE HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

Please mark Thursday, December 12th on your calendars as the date for our holiday luncheon. Sunnyside will be hosting us this year. An Evite will come out in November with menu choices. This is always a fun event!

### PROGRAMS

#### General Meeting – Special Presentation



On Tuesday, November 7 at 10 am in the lecture hall at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) in Incline Village, the AAUW North Branch is honored to host Mike Bruno. He will speak about the large-scale algae blooms that

have become increasingly frequent and widespread at Lake Tahoe.

This **General Meeting** is open to all members, spouses/partners, and guests. It is also being advertised to the public. Morning refreshments will be served.

TERC is located at 291 Country Club Drive, Incline Village. Here is their website:

<https://tahoe.ucdavis.edu/tahoesciencecenter>

Please see Dana Loury's instructions for parking at the end of this article.

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An RSVP to Barbara at [bj3ramsey@gmail.com](mailto:bj3ramsey@gmail.com) would be helpful as seating is limited to 50 people.

### About the Author/Presenter

**Mike Bruno** is one of the co-founders of [SaveTahoebeaches.org](http://SaveTahoebeaches.org) and a member of the Advisory Board at the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Resource Center (TERC). He is a tech executive, currently CEO at Hooked Wireless, Inc., and advisor/acting President at Peanut Robotics, Inc. He holds undergraduate degrees in Physics and Molecular Biology from UC San Diego and a master's degree in EECS (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science) from UC Berkeley. His career focus has been in digital imaging, computer graphics and machine learning. He splits his time between his residences in the Bay Area and Lake Tahoe.

### Parking Information for the General Meeting

On November 7, visitors of UC Davis TERC at the UNR Lake Tahoe campus must park in UC Davis Reserved Parking areas requiring permits. Parking is limited and carpooling is highly recommended.

We have 7 parking permits to distribute on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact **Dana Loury** at [dn.loury@gmail.com](mailto:dn.loury@gmail.com) to request one. She will send you a PDF of the permit with a map showing the parking locations. Please print and place on your dashboard.

There are also 10 Visitor Park & Pay spaces (in green on map) requiring payment with the "PaybyPhone" App. Instructions are on the Park & Pay sign.

– **Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen**



### AAUW FUND

AAUW Fund, a national program, provides fellowships and grants to women pursuing academic work and community projects to empower women and girls. **Please keep the AAUW Fund in mind when planning your end of the year giving.** Contact [Jo Ann Cobb](mailto:JoAnnCobb@aaup.org) for details on making contributions.

**Career Development Grants** supports the career progression of women by funding to women preparing to advance or change careers or re-enter the workforce. Primary consideration is given to women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in education, health, and medicine, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

### Selected Professions Fellowship Programs

promotes gender equity for women by providing funding in support of those pursuing a full-time course of study in targeted degree programs where women's representation has traditionally been low.

### General Eligibility and Preferred applicants:

- First in their family to attain a bachelor's degree.
- From or lead single parent household.
- From or attending graduate school in West Virginia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, Kentucky Oklahoma, Alabama, Tennessee or Indiana.

– **Jan Potter**



### & Stem Trek Day

**Thank you AAUW  
North Tahoe members  
for empowering girls!**

This year's presentations from **Girls State** and **Tech Trekkers** was a higher level! Thank you members, families, teachers, and our fabulous girls! On Thursday, October 10, we experienced a new level to our annual presentations, inaugurating a new venue at the beautiful library. Lots of comments to the superiority of the library setting! As we arrived to begin setting up, and asked students to vacate a portion of the library, who walks over but 2021 Virtual Trekker [Kaira Patton](#) to say hi with a hug : ).

When I arrived at the library [Vallerie Laguna](#) was already talking with [Christine](#) and [Linda](#), our long time Girls State coordinators who are handing the reins to [Shirley Nelson](#) and [Beth Sammis](#). Biggest

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thanks to you all! Thanks especially to Christine and Linda for navigating our relationship with ALA all these years to keep us in this wonderful Girls State program! New beginnings to Beth and Shirley!

Vallerie gave a beautiful recap of her Tech Trek journey from selection in 2020, then Covid and camp cancellation, uncertainty then opportunity to join the 2021 Virtual camp, then selection as a 2022 VTT social coach, then Girls State and her jam packed experiences before Senior year. Rather than rush off to a soccer game after her presentation, Vallerie (and her mother) stayed to listen to the Trekkers, because as she said, 'this is more important than a game'. Thank you Vallerie for your years with our branch. May you soar your senior year!

Besides a great new venue, there were two other additions to our TT presentations this year: a former Trekker as the Mistress of Ceremonies, and poster displays by our current Trekkers of their TT camp experience. Both were a hit! This year our MC was 2023 Trekker [Aleyda Alferez](#), with her cohort [Dana Valdez](#) in attendance.

The posters were a success too! Check out the photos of [Vallerie](#), [Carolina](#), [Dulce](#), [Kaydence](#), [Kelsey](#) and [Valeria](#), taken by our members [Maria](#) and [Jo Ann](#), (thank you!), plus a couple taken later at home by Carolina and Valeria with their posters. Current Trekker [Dulce Fernanda Garcia](#) volunteered to be MC next year. More encouragement next year using voice, and full names for the introductions. The girls used their posters as "cue cards" and told a story about their camp experience without reading. We have Great Girls! Thank you members for your support and attendance. Thank you [Pam Cosby Brandman](#) for joining the Tech Trek team!

**SEE ALL PHOTOS ON [PAGE 6](#)**

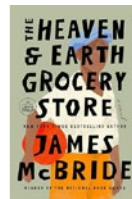
– [Meri McEneny](#)

## INTEREST GROUPS



### BOOK GROUP

On Tuesday November 26th, the Book Group will meet at the Tahoe Yacht Club from 12 to 2 pm. [Cheryl Allen](#) will lead our discussion on the book, ***The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*** by James McBride. [Danez Smith](#) of *The New York Times Book Review* describes the book as "A murder mystery locked inside a Great American Novel...Charming, smart, heart-blistering, and heart-healing." It was named a Best Book Of The Year by NPR/Fresh Air, *Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, and *Time Magazine*. Also it was one of Barack Obama's favorite books of 2023.



This novel is about small-town secrets and the people who keep them. The story begins with the discovery of a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. As these characters' stories overlap and deepen, it becomes clear how much the people who live on the margins of white, Christian America struggle, and what they must do to survive. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's white establishment played in it, McBride shows us that even in dark times, it is love and community— heaven and earth—that sustain us.

This will be a hybrid meeting. If you can't attend in person, you can join us remotely via Zoom. We will send a Zoom link in advance for anyone who would prefer to join the discussion from home.

– [Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen](#)

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## GREAT DECISIONS

Our November meeting will be held at Plumas Bank in Tahoe City on Tuesday, November 19, from 10 am to noon. Priscilla Mills will be our moderator and our subject will be **Pandemic Preparedness: Ending the deadly cycle of panic and neglect.** Our new books for 2025 have been ordered and we will email everyone with details when they arrive – usually after the holiday. We will start having meetings again in January and will keep everyone posted on the details.

– Ann Lyman and Jo Ann Cobb



## IN STITCHES

Our In Stitches group met at Julie Elmen's home to share our current projects and to discuss stitching problems. It is so inspiring to see the variety blankets, baby items and apparel! Felted items were shared and needle-felting will be discussed at our next meeting. Project Linus will be happy to know that our next colorful donation blanket, made up of knitted squares, is beginning to take shape!

**Please join us at our next meeting on November 20th at Martha Cirata's home from 2-4 pm.**

All levels of stitching skills are welcome.

Please contact Esther at [esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com](mailto:esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com) or Julie at [jdelmen@gmail.com](mailto:jdelmen@gmail.com) with any questions.

– Julie Elmen & Esther Sonnenberg



Photo from the most recent In Stitches meeting



## WALKING GROUP

The Walking Group will be taking a break in November.

Below are a few photos from our recent North Tahoe Regional Park hike.



– Rachael Swift, Jo Ann Cobb and Priscilla Mills

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*Very best wishes to our November Birthdays!*

**07 – Martha Russell**

**09 – Nancy Cline**

**10 – Amy Home**

**15 – Julie Elmen**

**16 – Janet Potter**

**18 – Meri McEneny**

**26 – Barbara Trow**



## CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

**07:** General Meeting

**19:** Great Decisions

**20:** In Stitches

**26:** Book Group

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Piano Classics for Leading Ladies - from Tahoe Music Alive, November 8

*Who were these women?*

- Marianna Auenbrugger
- Clara Schumann
- Princess Ludmilla de Beauvau
- Mademoiselle R. de Konneritz

Austin pianist **Tim Woolsey** will play lyric pieces written for these women – by Hadyn, Chopin, and Brahms – on November 8th. *Can you match the composers to the honorees?*

A Tahoe Music Alive concert in Incline Village at Cornerstone Church. Last concert of 2024.

Purchase tickets at: [eventbrite/tahoemusicalive](https://www.eventbrite.com/tickets/stash/tahoemusicalive)

See the full program at:

<http://www.tahoemusicalive.org/woolsey>

**TAHOE MUSIC Alive 2024 SERIES**  
FINAL PERFORMANCE OF THE SEASON

**TIM WOOLSEY**  
Presents piano classics in a deep-listening concert

November 8, 4-6PM  
Cornerstone Church, Incline Village

In this solo concert, an annual event presented by the gifted Tim Woolsey for more than 30 years, he describes the backstories of piano classics by Haydn, Chopin, and Brahms and presents them as a delicious listening experience with his inspirational performance. Tim has presented more than 100 performances and masterclasses at venues such as the Phillips Collection, National Gallery of Art, the Music Teachers National Association Convention, and the Texas Music Teachers Association Conventions, and he is celebrated for the many competitions his students have won.

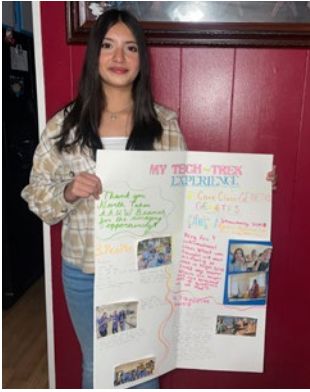
2024 GRANTORS  
BLAKE TAYLOR JEFFREY  
MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

SCAN FOR TICKETS OR VISIT  
[TAHOEMUSICALIVE.ORG](https://www.tahoemusicalive.org)

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## OCTOBER 2024 PHOTOS: GIRLS STATE CANDIDATE & TECH TREK CAMPERS



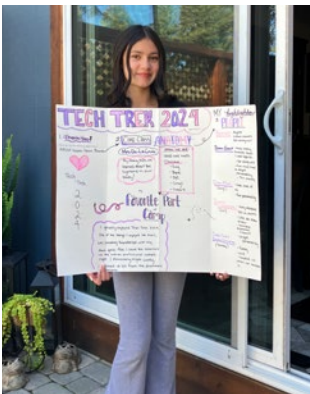
Carolina



Kaydence



Valeria



Valeria



Dulce



Vallerie



Cheryl and Christine



Aleyda



Our TT tri-fold her story



Carolina



Our wonderful AAUW NT members



Meri, Pam, Priscilla