

## Branches and Clubs Committee Report- December 2022/January 2023

Since our last report, the Co-Chairs of the Branches and Clubs Committee continue to reach out to individuals in various regional areas, who have expressed an interest in serving as point persons for alumnae in their respective regions. We are also in touch with alumnae who would like to be part of the Committee. We have explored how we might connect with and provide support to local groups, particularly the newest branches and those who wish to form or revive one.

The Committee just purchased a Zoom account for the benefit of all branches and clubs to use regionally.

We wish to express our continued full support for keeping Branches and Clubs under the AAMC as the organization rewrites its bylaws. In December 2022, the Co-Chairs requested for Julia to join the Bylaws Committee, but were told our help was not needed at that time. We now renew our request for at least one of our Co-Chairs to be involved in crafting the section of the bylaws that addresses Branches and Clubs. As Co-Chairs we believe it is crucial that we participate in any and all discussions dealing with Branches and Clubs and the bylaws. Any attempt to remove the Branches and Clubs from the AAMC negates the history of branches within the AAMC which dates back to the late 1800's, their bylaws (affirmed in 2013), and would be extremely objectionable to the majority of the body, which has shown support for the AAMC to remain an independent, autonomous organization as envisioned by its founders in 1879.

Following is an update of branch activity since our last report to the Board.

**Contra Costa Branch-** *Contact Sharon Taplin '83 and Moya Stone '03* [contracostamillscollegealums@gmail.com](mailto:contracostamillscollegealums@gmail.com). The Branch had planned a visit to the Oakland Museum of Art for the "Hella Feminist" exhibit in January, but this was canceled due to weather. They have another event planned for February 11th- a sewing workshop with alumna Rahni Bigay '14 at a library in Walnut Creek.

**East Bay Branch-** *Contact Vicki Luibrand '75 and Kristen Caven '88* [eastbaymillsbranch@gmail.com](mailto:eastbaymillsbranch@gmail.com)- The Branch held their second annual online Holiday Tea on December 4, where alums shared Teacup Toasts, conversation, reconnection, and a rousing rendition of "Fires of Wisdom." The Branch is also co-hosting a fundraising concert at Reinhardt Alumnae House on February 4th. Monthly online check-ins will continue.

**Los Angeles Branch-** *Contact President Julia Almanzan '92* [MillsWoman92@gmail.com](mailto:MillsWoman92@gmail.com) or the branch email at [LAMillsCollegeAlums@gmail.com](mailto:LAMillsCollegeAlums@gmail.com) In December the branch held its annual board luncheon at the Beverly Hills Plaza Hotel. On January 28, 2023, the branch held a well attended Zoom lecture by Suzette Davidson '94 entitled Fires of Wisdom: Mills College Alumnae Oral History Project. Suzette's presentation was followed by Dr. Karen McNeill, an expert on Julia Morgan's life, work, and legacy. Dr. McNeill discussed Julia Morgan's two decade relationship with Mills College, integrating the history of her career, history of the college at that time, and history of Oakland. The branch plans to attend another Julia Morgan lecture by Dr. McNeill on March 5, 2023 at the Annenberg Community Center in Santa Monica, followed by lunch. On March 18, 2023, the branch will host a plant and paint event (paint a Mills design on a plant box), including lunch. Adult and child size boxes available. The branch will also continue monthly Board meetings.

**Mt. Diablo Branch-** Contact Robin Moore '75 [robinamoore54@gmail.com](mailto:robinamoore54@gmail.com). The book club held an online New Year's check in. They will meet in February to discuss their next literary selection, *The Book of Form and Emptiness* by Ruth Ozeki.

**New York Branch-** Contact Annette Chan-Norris '65 [achannorris@gmail.com](mailto:achannorris@gmail.com) and Margot Mabie '66 [mcjmabie@gmail.com](mailto:mcjmabie@gmail.com). The Branch hosted a social event at the Community Room in New York City on January 22, 2023. Light refreshments and conversation were enjoyed by attendees.

**Orange County Branch-** Contact Courtney Long '01 [courtneylongstocking@gmail.com](mailto:courtneylongstocking@gmail.com). The Branch held its annual holiday tea at the home of alumna Jacki Brown '71 on December 4th. Alums enjoyed connecting with each other and nibbling on tasty treats, including Jacki's special Mills College apple tart!

**Palo Alto Branch-** Contact Kathy Roskos '80, Leslie Fried Behar '79, and Anna Wilkins Henderson '82 [PAAMCC@gmail.com](mailto:PAAMCC@gmail.com). The Branch held a holiday tea on December 17th at the home of Lorinda Bader Reichert '67. They are also co-sponsoring the aforementioned fundraising concert with East Bay Branch at Reinhardt Alumnae House on February 4th.

**Puget Sound Branch-** Contact Christina Hannan '91 [pugetsoundmillsclub@gmail.com](mailto:pugetsoundmillsclub@gmail.com). The Branch has returned to in-person events and held a social at the Woodinville Black Raven Brewery. They will be hosting quarterly online socials and are going to set up a tour of the brewery as an event later this year.

**San Joaquin Branch-** Contact Angela Adams DeMoss '99 [millsieangela99@gmail.com](mailto:millsieangela99@gmail.com). Alums attended a performance of *Lysistrata* at San Joaquin Delta College in December. Plans are in the works for events in the months to come.

Respectfully submitted by Julia Almanzan and Angela Adams DeMoss, January 31, 2023