

# AAUW MAUI BRANCH

Advancing Equity for Women and Girls

---

## “Equal Means Equal” Documentary, Wednesday March 22

According to the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, “The Constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only question is whether it prohibits it. It doesn’t. Nobody ever thought that was what it meant. Nobody ever voted for that.” This statement and others motivated Kamala Lopez to create the documentary “Equal Means Equal,” which calls for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution in order to correct the Constitutional deficiency pointed out by Justice Scalia. The proposed Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is short and to the point: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.” Many reasons have been given for why the ERA has not been fully ratified, and these are explored in the film. “Equal Means Equal” will be sponsored jointly by AAUW Maui and UH Maui College. **It will be shown on Wednesday, March 22, 2022, at 5:00 pm in ‘Ike Lea Building Room 144 at UH Maui College.** Please bring your friends! The show is free and open to all members of the public.



---

### Dates To Remember:

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <a href="#">Book Group</a>      | Saturday, March 4, 12:00 p.m. (See pg. 4) |
| <a href="#">Great Decisions</a> | Friday, March 24, 1:00 p.m. (See pg. 8)   |
| <a href="#">Speaker Meeting</a> | Saturday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. (See p. 3) |

## President's Message

Aloha mai!

Wow, March is going to be a very busy month for AAUW Maui!  
Here's the list of events (more info in the newsletter)



1. March 2 "Just for Fun" Whale Watch.
2. March 5 Zoom presentation on 100 Women Who Changed the World.
3. March 7 "Happy Hour" at my house to talk story about AAUW.
4. March 9 Maui Branch Board Meeting.
5. March 15 "Lobby Day" at the State Capitol in Honolulu
6. March 19 Chocolate Laulima fundraiser in Lahaina
7. March 22 "Equal Means Equal" video at UH Maui College
8. March 25 Maui Branch Business Meeting

Our fiscal year ends on June 30 and we will have voted in some new officers by that time. If you are interested in your name being included for any position on the Board, or for more information, please contact either member of the nominating committee (Karen Grafe at 808-281-4458 or Jean Keating at 808-280-9024 ) as soon as you can. We are a volunteer-driven organization so we need your time, ideas and energy to survive and thrive!

The branch recently funded three \$2,000 scholarships for academic year 2023-24 at UHMC due to your generous donations. We received a letter of acknowledgement from UHMC which is included in the newsletter. Remember, all donations are tax-deductible so please consider making a donation so we can build up our funds for the following academic year's scholarships.

FYI, we now offer Paypal and Venmo links to make donations or payments if that is more convenient than sending a check. The links are on the last page of the newsletter.

Aloha and mahalo for all you do for AAUW!

Pat

***In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.***

## Some Calendar Changes in March

There is a **Board Meeting on Thursday, March 9th, at 9:30 a.m.** A Zoom link will be sent to everyone, and all members are welcome to attend. (This is rescheduled from Sunday, March 5).

We do not have a speaker scheduled for our usual 4th Saturday of the month Speaker Meeting. However, we will have a business meeting (via Zoom) on **Saturday, March 25, starting at 10:30.**

There is a presentation available to Maui Branch members in March, sponsored by two California AAUW branches. **Writer Preethi Fernando will discuss Amazing Women of Our Time on Sunday, March 5 at 2 p.m. Hawai'i time via Zoom.** She is the author of *17 Women Who Shook the World*. The presentation is limited to 100 attendees, so it's first come, first served. Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83832354283?pwd=dDc5SVRKcHJnSFBjVzBmaUNkRWdLdz09>

Meeting ID: 838 3235 4283

Passcode: 360130

Also due to all the other activities, we are skipping Lunch Bunch and Taste and Talk in March.

## It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for the March 2 Whale Watch

You're Booking



### Whalewatch • Ma'alaea

Thursday, March 2nd 2023 @ 2pm - 4pm

Vessel: Ocean Guardian BOOK AFTERNOONS AND SAVE!



16671 Reviewers

#4 of 13 things to do in Maalaea

TripAdvisor Traveler Rating  
According to TripAdvisor travelers as of January 2023

0 ▾	Adults - Afternoon Whalewatch Age 13 & Over	\$49.95
0 ▾	Children - Afternoon Whalewatch Ages 12 & under	\$39.95
0 ▾	Free Child Ages 0-4 - One per paying Adult	

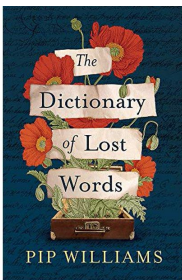
Make your reservations BY TELEPHONE to get the kama'aina or friends/family discount. Call PWF at (808) 249-8811 and use the "reservations" menu option.

## “Happy Hour” Tuesday, March 7

Pat Gotschalk is inviting all AAUW members to a “Happy Hour” at her home in Waikapu on Tuesday, March 7 from 4 to 6 pm. Beverages and light pupus will be provided. This is an opportunity to see one another face to face since we haven’t had in-person monthly meetings. It is also a time to “talk story” about the post-pandemic AAUW Maui and what our members would like to see happen. Alicia Hetman will be there to talk about public policy and more opportunities for engagement and advocacy. **Please RSVP by Sunday, March 5 by texting/calling Pat at 808-707-2001 or email Pat at [pagotschalk@gmail.com](mailto:pagotschalk@gmail.com)** The address is 1391 Ho’olako Street, Wailuku, in the Waiolani subdivision. Google maps will get you there or call Pat for directions. A hui hou!

## Book Group, Saturday, March 11

The next AAUW Book Group meeting will be held on **Saturday, March 11, at noon, via Zoom**. Please RSVP to Dorothy Tolliver so you can be included in the Zoom Book Group meeting. Email Dorothy at [2425047@gmail.com](mailto:2425047@gmail.com). The book for March is Infinite Country by Isabel Wilkerson.



For April the book selection is: [The Dictionary of Lost Words : A Novel by Pip Williams](#)

Motherless, Esme spends her childhood in the Scriptorium, a garden shed in Oxford where her father and a team of dedicated lexicographers are collecting words for the very first Oxford English Dictionary. One day a slip of paper containing the word bondmaid flutters beneath the table. She rescues the slip, and is told that the word means "slave girl." Learning that words relating to women's and common folks' experiences often go unrecorded, Esme begins to collect other words discarded by the dictionary men. As she grows up, Esme begins in earnest to search out words for her own dictionary: the Dictionary of Lost Words.

## Reminder: Lobby Day, Wednesday, March 15

You can still sign up to travel to Honolulu on Wednesday, March 15 to participate in the Lobby Day activities organized by the AAUW state of Hawaii public policy committee that we discussed in the February newsletter. So far we have 4 members attending from Maui Branch and airfare less than \$200 can be reimbursed. If you are interested, please contact State Public Policy Chair Younghee Overly at [publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net](mailto:publicpolicy-hi@aauw.net).

## The Life of Queen Ka'ahumanu



*By Dr. Charmaine Bissen, AAUW Maui Branch Member*

Queen Ka'ahumanu reigned in Hawai'i as Kuhina Nui (Prime minister or regent) from May 1819 until June 5, 1832 (Hawaii State Archives). She was born in 1767 in Hana, Maui and died in Manoa from an intestinal illness. Ka'ahumanu being of chiefly rank, daughter of Chief Ke'eaumoku and Princess Nāmahana, she was destined for great things in her life. In Hawaiian, her name meant "Bird of Feathers." Her name is a derivative of King Kahekilinuia'ahumanu's name, who was her ancestor. She took the Christian name Elizabeth upon being baptized on December 4, 1825.

Ka'ahumanu's mana (power) is said to have increased when she married Kamehameha I. His mana gave his monarchy legitimacy (Seiden 2005:17). Kamehameha married Ka'ahumanu in her teens. She was Kamehameha's favorite wife. In 1789, Ka'ahumanu wrote a mele of her love for Kamehameha (Nupepa 1927; Kamakau 1992:316)). Ka'ahumanu proclaims the "ocean swimming law" for all to enjoy (Kamakau 1992:315) because of her intense love for Kamehameha.

After Kamehameha's death in 1819, the 'ai noa kapu had been lifted (Kanahele 1986:77) and there was free eating (Daws 1974:59 and Sai 2011:27). With the lifting of the kapu (restrictions) on eating in November 1819, Ka'ahumanu ordered the destruction of the heiaus (Hawaiian temples) and once-feared gods (Seiden 2005: 20). She began to assume her influence as Kuhina Nui (prime minister or co-regent) in the religious, legal, and political structure of the Hawaiian social system. In her speech at Liholiho's installation, she proclaims, "... we two shall share the rule over the land" (Ka Nūpepa Kū'oko'a 1867). With that proclamation, Ka'ahumanu would begin her ascent to power. The abolishment of Hawaiian religion left the organization and stratification of the Hawaiian society in a political vacuum. Hawaiian religion had dictated this society for centuries (Sai, 2011: 27). Queen Ka'ahumanu now dictated society. With the arrival of the missionaries in 1820 from the American Board Christian Foreign Missions (ABCF), and their influence upon her, Ka'ahumanu gradually developed Christian utopian ideas (Gonshchor 2019:29).

[Continued]

In 1821, Ka'ahumanu married King Kaumuali'i of Kaua'i. She later married one of Kaumuali'i's sons Kealiihohou (Daws 1968: 67). However, Kaumuali'i was Ka'ahumanu's much beloved husband (Desha 2000:42). Peace was maintained within the kingdom with this union. In 1823, Ka'ahumanu dominated the governance through assumed control of the business government and including authority over land matters.

By 1825, Ka'ahumanu supported the Christian missionaries. She convinced the people of Hawai'i to follow Christianity through a series of speeches proclaimed by the chiefs throughout the islands. She presented her speech on December 10, 1825 to the people proclaiming the righteousness of being a Christian (Kamakau 1992:321).

By the summer of 1826, Ka'ahumanu with her retinue went to Waimea where she spoke to the people to prepare them for her new laws. Ka'ahumanu attempts to convince the people that "we must now become a Christian nation to build a stronger nation..."

The people listened to Ka'ahumanu and followed her because she provided harbors of safety or *pu'uhonua*. Anyone who committed crime could go to her or her *pu'uhonua* and seek asylum. Death was no longer the only option. Ka'ahumanu also tried to protect the women from sexual predators and abusers. (Silverman 1987:106). Her laws were against murder, theft, and adultery, distilling liquor, prostitution, and gambling (Silverman 1987:126-127).



By the mid 1820's the Hawaiian language was brought into written form and the term *kānāwai* began to be used for printed laws enacted by Ka'ahumanu in Kauikeaouli's name. (Gonschor 2019:24). These laws were based on Christian principles of behavior similar to the ten commandments. Ka'ahumanu wanted to believe that all her people would have the basic needs for survival. Hawaiians were dying from disease and starvation, and she wanted to reassure her people that there was a better way to live. Ka'ahumanu believed they needed to follow a Christian lifestyle based on her *kānāwai*. Ka'ahumanu altered the Hawaiian political, social, educational, and religious system. She replaced Hawaiian religion with Christianity because she thought it was "pono" "the right thing to do" while she maintained order and control in the kingdom. Her speech reinforces the purpose of following her God and Christianity (Gonschor 2019:24).

[Continued]

Ka'ahumanu also ensured her people would become literate and have access to books. Hawai'i had one of the highest literacy rates in the world. She gave land for Kawaiaha'o Church to be built and called it the Westminster Abbey of the Pacific. By 1826, she imposed a tax payable in sandalwood, cash, or woven mats to pay the national debt (Hawai'i State Archives). In 1827, she gave her proclamation of the first laws based on Christian principles.

Ka'ahumanu's literacy continued to strengthen her role in the Kingdom. Ka'ahumanu encouraged the building of schools and wanted her people educated. With the strike of a pen, laws were enacted, and proclamations declared. Her most significant contribution was not allowing land to be sold or given to foreigners without her authority. She was wise to maintain the cultural and financial value of land that brought her wealth and authority throughout the kingdom.

In contemporary times, Ka'ahumanu's memory remains alive positively through several institutions having been named in her honor. In 1876, Queen Ka'ahumanu Church was built in Wailuku, Maui on the grounds of King Kahekili's heiau. The stone walls of this heiau continue to surround the area today. In other areas of Maui and the state of Hawai'i, there are schools, shopping centers, roads and highways named after the Queen. In 1996, a bronze statue was dedicated in her honor at Queen Ka'ahumanu Center. Ka'ahumanu Christian Hou School in Wailuku, Maui was named after Queen Ka'ahumanu. There is also a Ka'ahumanu Elementary School in Honolulu. One of Queen Ka'ahumanu's legacy is the 'Ahahui Ka'ahumanu Society which is a royal society of dedicated Hawaiian women who keep the memory of Queen Ka'ahumanu alive through their acts of charity in servicing the less fortunate. Meles (songs) are written and sung in her honor.

In summarizing the remarkable life of Queen Ka'ahumanu, she protected the land and people whom she loved. She consolidated the national laws, implemented them, and maintained order within the Kingdom while adapting to Western customs and an influx of foreigners. She revitalized the political, religious, social, and economic system of the Kingdom. She was advanced for her time. Ka'ahumanu was a person born with the natural skills to be a leader without training. While ruling the Kingdom she managed to find time to enjoy swimming, surfing, kite flying and many other activities. It is the establishment of the pu'u honua that was a most significant contribution to the safety and well-being of the people. In her lifetime she was an amazing female ali'i (monarch) who had no formal education and yet ruled a Kingdom. Ka'ahumanu will always have her followers who recognize her for the greatness that she was and the legacy that she leaves behind.

## March is Women's History Month

This year's theme is Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories.



### **\*\*Special Women's History "Talk Story" \*\* with Carol Hogard, Saturday, April 1**

Carol Hogard is our resident expert on Women's Studies and was our February speaker. Everyone was so enthralled by her talk on Dr. Pauli Murray that we asked for more! We can sit down with Carol (in person) and learn more about Dr. Murray and other remarkable women in history who have so often been overlooked.

So please mark your calendars for a "talk story" with Carol before she heads back to Minneapolis. This will be on **Saturday, April 1, at 2:00 p.m. at Dorothy Tolliver's house.** Dorothy's address is 705 Pio Drive, Wailuku. Cake, coffee and tea will be served. Please RSVP to Dorothy by Wednesday, March 29 at 808-242-5047 or [2025407@gmail.com](mailto:2025407@gmail.com). Carol can talk more about the legal cases influenced by Dr. Pauli Murray, and her relationship to Eleanor Roosevelt, as well as about the "The Dinner Party" book, Judy Chicago's internationally acclaimed work of art conceived as a symbolic history of women in Western civilization. If you have other topics or themes that you would like Carol to touch upon, please give her a call at 612-481-5808.



## Who Wants Chocolate?

Who wants to contribute to AAUW Maui's fundraising efforts by eating chocolate? **Our AAUW chapter receives 100% of the \$35 registration fee paid by all attendees (AAUW related or not) to the March 12 and April 2 Laulima (translation: "many hands," tied to the idea of cooperation, of the power of people working together) Tastings at the [Maui Ku'ia Estate Chocolates](#).**

If you have not yet attended one of the tastings, it is a fascinating look into how the company came about and how cacao is grown and processed on our island. If you cannot attend the event on this date, just send everyone you know. We get the registration proceeds from everyone attending that day, regardless of whether or not they are members of AAUW.

[Submitted by Terry Rosenstock]

## Great Decisions - Friday, March 24

### War Crimes: What are they? How can they be prosecuted?

**Friday, March 24th at 1PM HST on ZOOM**....adjust for your time zone. Please confirm your attendance with Diane Pure - [dpure@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:dpure@hawaii.rr.com).

In the meantime, we welcome any research, articles, etc. you'd like to share with the group. Always nice to exchange ideas with new friends. So, if you know of anyone who would like to join us as an active member, please make contact and let Diane know. New ideas and opinions are always welcomed. We meet on the 4th Friday of each month.

Diane Pure  
(808)793-2661

Note: *Great Decisions is not an official AAUW Maui Branch interest group but there is a substantial overlap of membership and common concerns.*

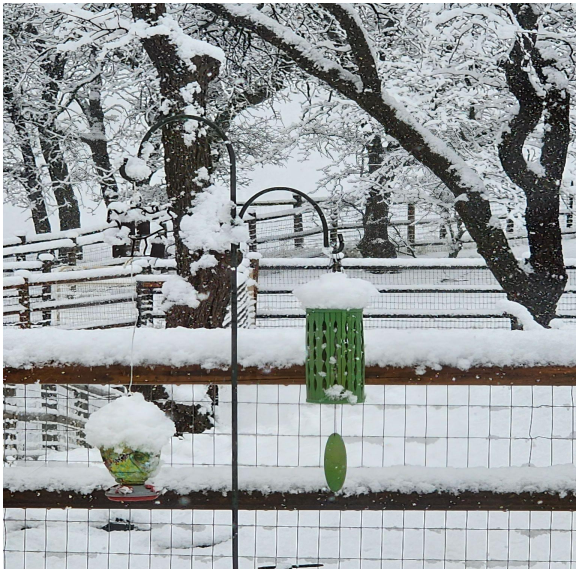


## Birthday Wishes for March

### “Hau’oli Lā Hānau”

March 4	Johanna (Jan) Moore
March 7	Nai’a Newlight
March 10	Rich Serbin
March 22	Sue Goldman
March 24	Margaret Simpson
March 24	Terry Rosenstock

## Reception for Past President Cathy Thompson



Greetings from your newsletter editor Janice Tietz, definitely not on Maui. Hello from Tehachapi California looking out my back window. Good news is that the snow is usually gone from roads at 4,000 ft within 24 hours. Have not had to use a snow shovel at all this year and better yet, ALL of California may emerge from a 3 year extreme drought this year!

**AAUW Maui Branch:  
PO Box 1352  
Pu'unene HI 96784**

**Online Donations:  
[paypal.me/aauwmauibbranch953](https://paypal.me/aauwmauibbranch953) (Paypal)  
@AAUWMaui (Venmo)**

**AAUW Maui Website:  
<https://maui-hi.aauw.net/>**

**AAUW National Website:  
<https://www.aauw.org/>**