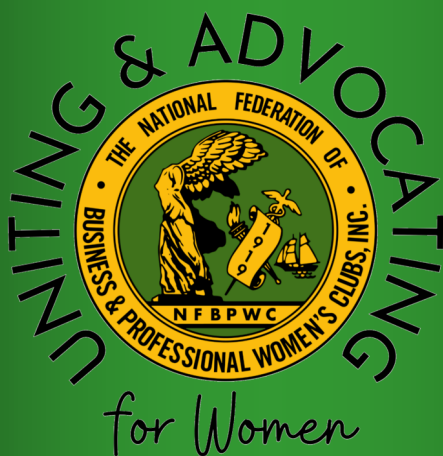


BUSINESS and PROFESSIONAL WOMEN



BERKELEY CLUB



1922—2022

100th Anniversary

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WELCOME from

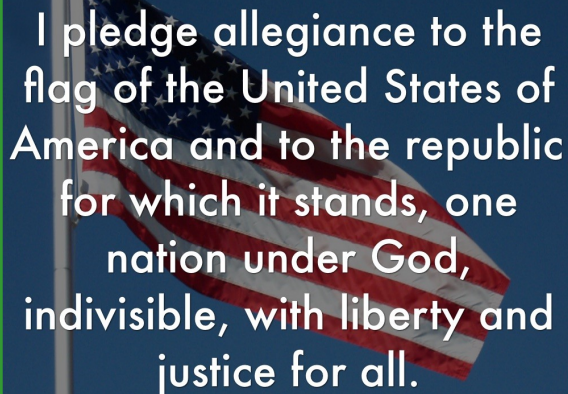
Ms. Maria Cecilia DeSousa, President

Berkeley Business and Professional Women's Club

It is my honor and privilege to share with everyone the celebration of Berkeley Business and Professional Club's Centennial event.

This is a major milestone in the history of Berkeley for the women who have stood up for their rights throughout the years.

We look forward to continuing our efforts as we move forward.■

An American flag is shown waving in the background of the text. The flag is partially visible, showing the stars and stripes.

I pledge allegiance to the
flag of the United States of
America and to the republic
for which it stands, one
nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

Supervisor John Gioia

County of Contra Costa, California

Certificate of Recognition

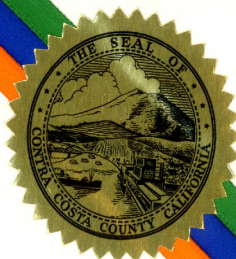
Awarded to

***CALIFORNIA FEDERATION
OF BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN***

*Contra Costa County congratulates
the Berkeley Business & Professional
Women's Club and Patricia A. Daniels
in the celebration of your
100-year anniversary.*

*Thank you for your continued commitment
and contributions that have improved the
lives of many communities.*

*Presented: Saturday ~ May 21, 2022
"The Economic Evolution of Women"*



John Gioia

*John Gioia, District 1
Contra Costa County
Board of Supervisors*



**BERKELEY BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
CELEBRATES ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- WHEREAS,** the Berkeley Business & Professional Women's Club was formed in 1922 and serves portions of Alameda County and Contra Costa Counties; and
- WHEREAS,** the Berkeley Business & Professional Women's Club is part of the international, national, California and Bay Capital District for business and professional women; and
- WHEREAS,** the overall purpose and mission of the Berkeley Business & Professional Women's Club is to elevate the standards of women; and
- WHEREAS,** on Saturday, May 21st, the Berkeley Business & Professional Women's Club is celebrating one hundred years of community service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Jesse Arreguin, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, recognize the one hundred year celebration of the Berkeley Business & Professional Women's Club and thank the Club for their service to our community.



Jesse Arreguin

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor

May 21, 2022



Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Congresswoman Barbara Lee has been representing California's 13th District since 1998. She is the highest ranking African American woman in Democratic Leadership, serving as Co-Chair of the Policy and Steering Committee. She also serves on the Budget Committee and the powerful Appropriations Committee, which oversees all federal government spending.

Congresswoman Lee received her Masters of Social Work from the University of California, Berkeley, specializing in psychiatric social work. During her graduate work, Congresswoman Lee founded the Community Health Alliance for Neighborhood Growth and Education (CHANGE, Inc.) which provided mental health services to many of the East Bay's most vulnerable individuals.

Currently Congresswoman Lee also serves on three subcommittees (Chair, State and Foreign Operations; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education; and Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration) of the Appropriations Committee. In January 2021, she became the first African-American to chair the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs.

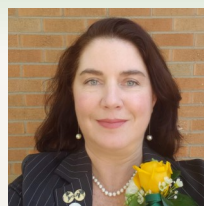
On this Centennial of the Berkeley BPW Club, its members wish to thank Congresswoman Barbara Lee for her support and the most encouraging words delivered through her video message.



**Dr Catherine Bosshart,
BPW International President**

President Catherine Bosshart congratulated Berkeley BPW on its Centennial and has sent her message via video.

**Megan Shellman-Rickard,
President National Federation's BPW Clubs
2020-2022**



Dear President Maria DeSousa and BPW Berkeley Members,

Greetings from Durango, Colorado, and best wishes for a successful Centennial Anniversary Celebration!

Congratulations from The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NFBPWC) to all the members of the Berkeley Business and Professional Women for 100 years of working to promote and support equity for working women in all phases of their lives and to promote personal empowerment and professional development. Please accept our wishes for a successful anniversary program on "The Economic Evolution of Women."

Our history and charge to empower working women is what inspires us to work toward a better future. We encourage members to participate at our national events. Please accept this special invitation to join us and continue celebrating this monumental anniversary in Sacramento, CA at our biennial General Assembly.

NFBPWC has a strong membership focused on reclaiming, flourishing, and growing our national organization. Our leaders have a dedicated sense of service to our members – welcoming them, including them, and creating an equitable space for all. Our national organization was founded in service to this idea 103 years ago. Despite having to meet virtually these past years on Zoom due to the time of COVID, we are still able to celebrate each other. Our dynamic response to this pandemic has allowed us to connect locally, nationally, and internationally as we continue to grow.

I would like to personally invite each of you to participate with NFBPWC as we continue our pursuit to engage our members in innovative ways. Together we are stronger. We have been sharing programs that highlight our commitment to our focus issue for this term - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - while continuing to push forward the goals of our robust national advocacy platform. Our events are intended to welcome all members and to help us grow together.

Congratulations again on your Centennial Celebration! As President of NFBPWC, I look forward to working with Berkeley BPW on joint projects and efforts. I envision a BPW that is a beacon of light for all working women. Let us light the path for our future so that we may illuminate the path for others along our way.

Kind Regards,



Megan Shellman-Rickard
NFBPWC, President 2020-2022
E: president@nfbpwc.org



Bessie Hironimus, President

California Federation of BPW

Congratulations BPW Berkeley on your 100th anniversary.

We are proud of your accomplishments and the work you have done to improve the lives of working women in your community, the State and Nationwide. Thank you for a century of dedication and success. We are looking forward to a bright future.■

**Lynn Brandstater,
Immediate past-President
BPW California Federation**



100 year and counting!

Congratulations Berkeley on your legacy, and vision of the economic evolution of women going forward. The prior leadership team hoped we could celebrate your anniversary together. You've shown the BPW spirit and flexibility to finally bring your celebration forward. I know your club will be a BPW beacon to fulfill the State Federation's 100th anniversary commitment to diversity, global connectivity and human rights advocacy.

Celebrate your history and your momentum going forward for the next 100 years.■



Carole Christ, Chancellor University of California, Berkeley.

Carol Christ began her term as the 11th chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley on July 1, 2017. A celebrated scholar of Victorian literature, Christ is also well known as an advocate for quality, accessible public higher education, a proponent of the value of a broad education in the liberal arts and sciences, and a champion of women's issues and diversity on college campuses.

Christ spent more than three decades as a professor and administrator at UC Berkeley before serving as president of Smith College, one of the country's most distinguished liberal arts colleges, from 2002 to 2013. She returned to Berkeley in January 2015 to direct the campus's Center for Studies in Higher Education, and was appointed interim executive vice chancellor and provost in April 2016 before being named chancellor in March 2017. Since her return to Berkeley, she has worked to foster community and improve the campus climate for people of all backgrounds, celebrate the institution's longstanding commitment to free speech, strengthen Berkeley's financial position, address a housing shortage, and develop a ten-year strategic plan for the campus.

As president of Smith for more than a decade, Christ supervised the development of the nation's only accredited engineering program at a women's college, oversaw a significant rise in student diversity, expanded Smith's global activities and reach, managed a major campus capital

planning program, and shepherded the college through strategic planning exercises designed to improve its academic and financial models within the context of changing trends in higher education.

Prior to joining Smith, Christ served as UC Berkeley's executive vice chancellor and provost from 1994 until 2000. During her six years as the campus's top academic officer, she sharpened Berkeley's intellectual focus, strengthening many of the institution's top-rated departments in the humanities and sciences as well as advancing major initiatives in areas including neuroscience and bioengineering.

Christ received her B.A. (1966) from Douglass College, and her M.Ph. (1969) and Ph.D. (1970) from Yale University. She joined the Berkeley English faculty in 1970, and in addition to her other roles, has served as chair of that department, dean of the Division of Humanities, and provost for the College of Letters and Science. Christ has authored two books, *The Finer Optic: The Aesthetic of Particularity in Victorian Poetry* (1975) and *Victorian and Modern Poetics* (1994), and has edited or co-edited several others, including *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.

Christ was married for 21 years to Paul Alpers, a professor of English and founding director of UC Berkeley's Townsend Center for the Humanities, until his death in 2013. She has two grown children, Jonathan and Elizabeth Sklute, from a previous marriage, as well as two grandchildren. She lives in Berkeley.■

'The Economic Evolution of Women



**Maria DeSousa, President Berkeley
Business and Professional Women's Club**

Women entrepreneurs are a growing market force serving as critical source of innovation and job creation which fuels economic growth.

Benefits of women in economy are substantial. A healthy global economy is crucial to America's economic viability. There is growing evidence of women's low participation in the formal labor markets of many developing countries which impedes economic growth and poverty reduction.

The United States is committed to increasing women's economic empowerment through various initiatives such as The Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) and Women and Girls Empowered (WAGE) to provide a platform for women and girls to fully participate in their societies including economic empowerment initiatives.

I congratulate Business and Professional Women's club of Berkeley (BPW) for celebrating their centennial in operation to support the cause for women's advancement and look forward to future efforts in promoting equity and inclusion for all women.■

With Best regards,

Maria Cecilia DeSousa



The aims of our Club have been and will always be

- ♦ **To promote** the interest of business and professional women and achieve combined action by them.

- ♦ **To work** for high standards of service in business and the professions.

- ♦ **To stimulate** and encourage in women a realization and acceptance of their responsibilities to the community — locally, nationally and internationally.

- ♦ **To encourage** women and girls to:
 - acquire education, occupational training and advanced education;

 - use their occupational capabilities and intelligence for the advantage of others as well as themselves.

- ♦ **To work for:**
 - equal opportunities and status for women in the economic, civic and political life of their country;

 - The removal of discrimination.

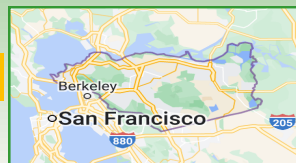
- ♦ **To promote** friendship, co-operation and understanding between business and professional women of all countries.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women (BPW/USA) was organized in July 1919 in St. Louis to promote the interest of business and professional women.

August 1920: the 19th amendment passes and women acquire the right to vote.

1922: Formation of the Berkeley Club,

Serving the Contra Costa County and portions of the Alameda County.



1930: International Federation of Business and Professional Women formed in Geneva, Switzerland.

1937: BPW/USA formally endorses the Equal Rights Amendment.

1947: The International Federation acquires consultative status at the United Nations.

1948: Through action of members, Equal Pay bill becomes law.

1951: Through work of members, California passes 'Wife Pay Check' bill which allows married women to pick up their own paycheck.

1965: California Commission on the Status of Women established through the efforts of BPW.

1993: BPW members witness the signing of the Family Medical Leave Act.

2009: BPW/USA merges with the BPW Foundation.

2009: Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act passes.

2016: Enterprising Professional Women, EPW-USA is renamed National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. The California Federation continues to work on passage of the pay equity issues, the federal Paycheck Fairness Act, encouraging the federal government to pass CEDAW, keeping choice an option for women and allowing the building of a National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C.

**Lenor Reese**

Lenor Reese has been a member of Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Incorporated for almost 25 years. She has served at the local, regional, and National levels of the sorority and now currently serves as the National President.

She was employed by the Federal government for more than 30 years and retired from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC, as the Director of the Human Resources Policy Development Division. She also worked at other Federal agencies in the areas of equal employment opportunity, staffing, recruitment, pay administration, position classification, employee relations, and labor relations. While working in Federal service, she earned awards recognizing her outstanding performance.

She resides in Alexandria, Virginia with her husband, Charles. Their son, Jason, and daughter Jennifer and seven beautiful grandchildren also reside in Virginia. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, listening to many genres of music, and serving others who may need a helping hand.■





Peg Carlson-Bowen, *Past President* American Association of University Women (AAUW) San Jose

Peg Carlson-Bowen is a South Bay native and Past President of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), San Jose Branch.

She has also advocated for local, state and national legislation as Vice President of Public Policy. Her ongoing work includes equity initiatives, financial literacy for women, youth voter registration and promoting civic engagement.

She is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara and the University of Poitiers and spent her career in Information Technology at Unisys, Activision, Apple and Cisco. She and her husband both serve on AAUW San Jose's Board and are proud parents of a daughter who is a teacher and coach.■



AAUW is a local, state and national organization that has been advocating for women and girls through education, advocacy and research since 1881, beginning with its research in 1913 on Pay Equity in the Federal Workforce and continuing through its recent report [Broken Ladders: Barriers to Women's Representation in Nonprofit Leadership](#). We are one of the largest providers of scholarships for women's education, having dispensed over \$70 million for graduate studies and fellowships. Though we are a non-partisan organization, we are not values neutral. **AAUW's Public Policy priorities align closely with those of the CFBPW**, including Economic Equity, Increasing Women in Leadership Positions, Choice and Equality in Women's Healthcare, Freedom from Sexual Harassment and the United National Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women **(CEDAW)**. ■



Dr. Joanne M. Jensen, DDS, MS



Dr. Joanne Jensen has been practicing endodontics in Contra Costa County since 2005. She is a California native, growing up in Santa Cruz, CA, graduating from Santa Catalina High School for girls. She attended the **University of California, Berkeley** for her undergraduate education, majoring in Biochemistry. As an undergraduate, Dr. Jensen worked part-time for Chiron Corporation helping to engineer a novel DNA sequence.

Dr. Jensen then switched to a more academic research laboratory at UC Berkeley, under the direction of Prof. Jack Kirsch, investigating rate-limiting steps of enzyme mechanisms. Upon graduation, Dr. Joanne Jensen was hired at Genencor International, an industrial enzyme research company. She worked for several years on protein engineering of proteases used in laundry detergent.

Her work resulted in 18 patents, including, a method for assaying a preferred enzyme and/or preferred detergent composition. This patent was for a novel detection method of enzymatic activity. Working on this project has only strengthened Dr. Jensen's skills of meticulous and inventive thinking when working on endodontic cases.

In 1999, Dr. Jensen began her journey into the dental profession by entering the class of 2002 at the **University of the Pacific School of Dentistry**. After graduating as a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Society (the Phi Beta Kappa of Dentistry), Dr. Jensen completed a general practice residency (GPR) at the **Ohio State University**.



There, Dr. Jensen gained valuable experience in medically compromised patients, complex restorative cases, treating patients in active cancer treatment, and advanced care of pediatric cases. Dr. Jensen was on staff at Columbus Children's Hospital, helping in the clinics and emergency room with children.

Dr. Jensen quickly realized that endodontics was her passion and continued her education at Ohio State University. She earned her endodontic certificate and a Masters of Science in Oral Biology in 2005. The endodontic program at Ohio State takes pride in being the leader in pain management and local anesthetic research. The title of her thesis was *The anesthetic efficacy of a repeated intraosseous injection given 30 minutes following a primary intraosseous injection*. Her research ultimately leads to publication in the *Journal of Endodontics*.

Dr. Jensen's thesis project enabled her to gain extensive experience in local anesthesia administration and pain management. Dr. Jensen has also taken continuing education courses furthering her education regarding oral sedation. She feels her technical training with anesthetic administration combined with her education in oral sedation is paramount to her practice of endodontics so she can provide a comfortable, compassionate, and understanding approach to root canal treatment.

Dr. Joanne Jensen is proud to share that she is a Diplomate of the Board of Endodontics. To become a Board Certified Endodontist, Dr. Jensen successfully completed a series of steps, including a comprehensive oral and written exam, and submission of cases from her practice demonstrating an exceptional level of knowledge. Earning board certification shows the highest level of education in the field of endodontics which translates to a commitment to providing the highest quality of patient care.

In addition to being Board Certified, Dr. Jensen is also on the Scientific Advisory Board for The Journal of Endodontics.

Dr. Jensen has been living in Moraga with her husband, Derek, and three children, Peter, Evan, and Adelyn since 2005. She is very active in the St. Perpetua school community as well as on the sidelines of the many sports her children play. She loves cooking, traveling, and being with her huge family (she is one of 8 siblings).■



THANK YOU to our Brilliant Guest Speakers!



The Economic Evolution of Women

[California Federation of Business and Professional Women](#) (CFBPW)

1. Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

CFBPW has a long history of creating and supporting the Commission. Soon after the creation of the (SWC), CFBPW set up a committee to work for the establishment of a Status of Women Commission within the State government. In 1965 the California Advisory Commission of the Status of Women became a reality. In 2012 the Governor proposed eliminating the Commission. CFBPW had a phone-in along with other organizations in support of keeping the Commission and to continue its funding. These efforts saved the Commission, which is now called the [California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls](#) and which continues to receive State funding for its operations.

2. Pay Equity

In 1938, CFBPW supported bills for equal pay for equal work. In 1945 CFBPW sponsored an Equal Pay bill. Following many amendments and a great amount of work, this became law three years later in California. In 1969 CFBPW sponsored and supported, entirely alone, an amendment to the Equal Pay Law, which changed the wording from “Women shall not be paid less than men” to “Members of one sex shall not be paid less than members of the opposite sex” – thus removing the discriminatory features of the California law. In 1971, we supported the effort to extend the Minimum Wage in California to cover men as well as women. In 2015 CFBPW actively supported SB538, [the California Fair Pay Law](#), which was introduced by Assembly Member Hannah Beth Jackson and which was passed into law and signed by Governor Brown on October 6, 2015.

3. Women’s History museum

In 2012 CFBPW passed a resolution in support of the establishment of a [National Women’s History Museum in Washington, D.C.](#) This resolution was sent to Congress. CFBPW also joined the National Women’s History Museum as a charter member. December 2020 Congress enacted the Smithsonian Women’s History Act, which established in the Smithsonian Institution a comprehensive women’s history museum.

The Museum will be funded by a combination of federal and private money. The Smithsonian projects that it will be ten years before such a museum opens.

4. Education & scholarships

In 1947, CFBPW adopted the Philippine Scholarship, awarding this scholarship to women college students to come to California for graduate study at our universities. This scholarship was in existence from 1947 to 1972, at which time it was terminated. In 1950 the California Memorial Scholarship was established. Either grants or loans are made to assist women in furthering their training and education. In 1987, articles of incorporation were adopted, and the fund was renamed [California BPW Education Fund, Inc.](#) It is a loan program that can become a grant to awardees.

5. Equal Rights Amendment

In 1937, "the first national organization to support the ERA was the National Federation of Business and Professional Women. In 1972, the California Legislature responded to CFBPW's efforts and ratified the Federal Equal Rights Amendment. During the late 1970s BPW-USA contributed \$250,000 to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. CFBPW supports eliminating the deadline on ratification of the ERA and has written support messages to members of Congress to do this.



**Gwen Marie Austin**

2022 Berkeley BPW's

Woman of the Year.

Prior to 2000, Gwen's professional background consisted of working for Fortune 400 companies (mostly accounting and insurance) as an Administrator. Gwen also worked for the American Bar Association as a Staff Director, and since then, she returned to college to finish her studies in education (double major Education/English) and a minor in Human Resource Development which involved andragogy (retraining our adult population for our ever-changing society). Gwen continued onto graduate school where her concentration was primarily on law/social & criminal justice-research on social policy and the juvenile justice systems. Gwen briefly taught social justice and ethics at the college she graduated from.

Since moving back to California, Gwen have moved away from the corporate and educational workplaces to now working for a non-profit that works directly with individuals and families struggling to turn their lives around through circumstances which oftentimes are no fault of their own.

In her own personal and professional growth, Gwen has spent a great deal of time learning about the community she lives in, the communities that surround her and the people who make up those communities. Gwen has involved herself as the president of the board of directors for an organization that worked with the homeless community and served as a commissioner for Alameda County's Commission on the Status of Women.

Gwen Marie Austin (Cont. ...)

The Commission's role is to maximize parity for women and girls by supporting the elimination of gender-discriminatory services and practices in the areas of housing, employment, health services, childcare, elder care (areas of focus domestic violence, sexual harassment, affirmative action, reproductive rights, and legislative issues). Gwen has also served as a board member for a local organization (Berkeley Community Scholars) that provides scholarships, mentorships, and support to first generation college students. Gwen's passion is to work to strengthen and help to make our society more equitable. She has spent a great deal of time, through her current position as Community Engagement Manager with Building Opportunities For Self Sufficiency, visiting various universities and college campuses talking to young people, especially women, about their worth and value, and about social justice and a more equitable society.■



Lila Owens
Berkeley Business Woman of the Year

Lila Owens, cupcake connoisseur and owner of CupCakin Bakeshop, started her small business from humble beginnings. Working out of her home kitchen, she created her own event catering job in Berkeley (2007) and relied on friends, family, and social media to get the word out about her delicious little treats.

Lila wanted a fun culture, adorable décor and artisan baked goods made from high quality, sustainable ingredients. With the awesome support of some key people in her life Cupcakin Bake Shop became a reality, with the opening of the Berkeley location, in 2014.

With it's unique, creative and eco-friendly culture, Berkeley proved to be the ideal place for Cupcakin Bake Shop to take root. As an advocate for sustainability and the natural and local food movement, Lila found Berkeley to be the perfect place to set up shop.

Some questioned why Lila opened her business in Berkeley. She stated, "I am a local native and, since it's cupcakes, the target audience is younger. I like the liberal, light-hearted audience that's drawn to Cal and the Berkeley Area, so I thought it was the perfect opportunity to open here".

Lila's friends, family, and social media has led to her success. To date there are four Cupcakin Bake Shops with the Bay Area; Swan's Market, (downtown Oakland); Telegraph Avenue; Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto- (Old Virginia's Bakery) and in Walnut Creek.■





Usha Gongal

Woman of Achievement

Usha Gongal is an internationally acclaimed entrepreneur, a “green” manufacturer, and a scholar dedicated to improving the lives of women by helping them become self-sufficient. Usha is passionate about working towards women empowerment by creating employment opportunities for women.

She is the Proprietor of Young WoW Craft, Nepal. Young WoW Craft produces and markets natural fiber-based fabrics and clothes. It provides employment to over 35 women in Nepal. Usha has been recognized by the Department of Cottage and Small Industries, Government of Nepal for her work on gender equality and product innovation.

Usha has been **part of the BPW family since 1999**. She initially joined the **Young BPW Nepal** as a member after being drawn by the women’s wellness and solidarity work it champions and the networking opportunities that it offers.

The organization provided her with a platform to help improve the lives of women all over Nepal. Her passion and dedication ultimately led her to serve as the President of Young BPW Nepal from 2003 to 2007.

Her work and leadership earned her the International Outstanding Young BPW Leaders Award in June 2005 at the XXV BPW International Congress Luzern, Switzerland for BPW’s international competition called “Beyond 2000: Helping Women Help Themselves”.

Even after completing her tenure as the president, she continued to work with the BPW family as the Joint Secretary of Federation of Business and Professional Women, Nepal (FBPWN) from 2009 to 2011.

Usha Gongal (Cont. ...)

After moving to the US in 2011, she became actively involved with the Bread Project, a non-profit organization that helps immigrants and members of re-entry population by providing them baking and food preparation training and helps them find employment. Her affiliation with The Bread Project (TBP) spans nine years, beginning as one of the trainees of TBP's Commercial Bakery Program in 2013. She then worked as a TBP Production Specialist in 2014 and rose through the ranks to become the Production Manager in 2018. In 2020 she was selected to be the Interim Executive Director and led the organization through the uncertainty and challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, Usha is the Executive Director at The Bread Project.

Her education includes degrees in law, women's studies, sociology, and City and Gender from various universities in Nepal and Germany. She is also passionate about sharing her knowledge and her experiences. She has conducted multiple trainings and seminars in entrepreneurship and gender equality. ■



CONGRATULATIONS

30

to our
Awardees!



Berkeley BPW has provided financial assistance to the following Organizations for several years:

Women's Daytime Drop-In Center



... empowers homeless women and their children for a brighter future.

Established 30 years ago, the Women's Daytime Drop-Center, open weekdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. is set up to be a respite from the tough life in the streets, a place where women and children can come to get food, clothing, toiletries, books and referrals to help them transition into housing.

[Women's Daytime Drop-in Center \(womensdropin.org\)](http://womensdropin.org)

Berkeley Food and Housing Program



provides a comprehensive range of housing, food and support services to help homeless individuals and families.

Since 1970 Berkeley Food and Housing has helped thousands in need move from homelessness to a safe and affordable home of their own. This organization has a Women's Overnight Shelter for Women and Children and their services include showers, laundry facilities, breakfast, lunch and dinner.

[Berkeley Food and Housing Project \(bfhp.org\)](http://bfhp.org)



Remembering one of our dear Members,



Carolyne Louisa Stokes

Sujata Batra-Easton selected one of her most beautiful poems

Soul Faith

It's in our Souls

when we begin to see ourselves from within.

It's in our Souls

when we remember parents, heritage, and beliefs.

It's in our Souls

when we connect to those we love and share our lives.

It's in our Souls

when we forgive ourselves and others, then grow.

It's in our Souls

when we can imagine greater skills and traits, then learn.

It's in our Souls

when positive energy and thoughts feed our mind and actions.

It's in our Souls

when we rejoice to see the success of others.



It's in our Souls
when values, morals, ethics, and share-ability guide our plans.

It's in our Souls
when love enlightens us, and hatred frightens us, we change.

It's in our Souls
when healthy aging begins at birth, then frames our life.

It's in our Souls
when we understand our differences, and our similarities.

It's in our Souls
when we see the world as a space we share and try to get along.

It's in our Souls
when Faith is learning to listen to the Wisdom from our souls.

Written by Carolyn Ashe Stokes

<https://www.poeticous.com/carolyn-ashe-stokes/soul-faith>

With us in her later years





Manjul Batra

I have been a member of Berkeley BPW for over 50 years now. I was first introduced to the organization in India by my mother who was a dedicated member of BPW herself. Since I joined, BPW has been an integral part of my life's journey and I have had the privilege of belonging to this diverse group of women

whose rich experiences and activities have enhanced my own.

An active and enthusiastic participant, I have held various positions in the organization, including erstwhile State President and International Chair for Business, Trade, & Technology. BPW's international conferences opened my eyes to pressing women's issues and exposed me to UN agencies that are effecting changes in women's rights through the legislative process. As a result of the tremendous leadership and learning opportunities I have had that have honed my skills, I have been invited to join various Non-Profit Boards and to partner with various organizations. In addition, BPW members have supported my business ventures, shared in my growth, and widened my horizons with their own anecdotes. I am grateful for their friendship and for the great learning opportunities I have had through BPW.■



Sharon Braun

"I joined Berkeley Business and Professional Women's Club because it is a racially and culturally inclusive women's movement working toward unity and diversity. A national advocacy organization that focuses on economic justice, human rights, and the

health of women."■

**Patricia A. Daniels****Why I joined BPW?**

I joined the San Pablo Berkeley BPW in the early 1980's. I was at the beginning of a change in my career. I wanted to join an organization's whose purpose was to be engaged specifically in "Lifting the Voices of the business and professional Working Woman". BPW offered the provisions of full participation in leadership, communications, education and career opportunities. I fully participated, served on various committees; worked hard, learned, prepared, and was elected to several leadership positions. This was because of my knowledge, skills and abilities to become involved in all levels of BPW. I had mentors who guided, directed and taught me how to put into action my better impulses. Our relationships were to share the spirit of BPW, and build better bonds of sisterhood.

My studying, participating and earning my **I**ndividual **D**evelopment Certification was one of the high points of being a member of BPW. I am also proud of other high points, and achievements. 1989- Golden Nike Award ; 1990- Bay Valley District President; 1991-92- Bay Valley President's Meritorious Award; 1992- Outstanding Service. Serving as the District President in the 1990's proved that if you apply yourself, actively participate, further your education, and become a mentor, you can build sisterhoods. It can be an opportunity for making a difference in the lives of other women.

We should always remember that our Collect and the Emblem are good measures of how important it is to meet each other face to face. For our 2022 Centennial Celebration, let us work hard to share the spirit of BPW, lift our voices and continue to build a finer womanhood.■

If it is going to be, it should begin with me.

**Maria DeSousa, President****Berkeley BPW**

My long time BPW member friend and mentor encouraged me to join so that I would become a good public speaker and take advantage of Individual Development classes which would help me in future business endeavors.■

**Sujata Batra Easton, MPH**

I joined BPW initially inspired by my mother's passion to create a world where women can put forth their greatest gifts and be recognized equally for their contributions. After attending international conferences and mummy's many picnics over the years, I have grown to truly appreciate the dedication and mission of BPW platform and know that the level of equity and inclusion that my daughter and I have today is in large part attributed to the great achievements of BPW. I am truly honored to be a part of this amazing group of women.■

**Ellora Easton**

Growing up motivated by independent and trail-blazing women as role models, and after being introduced to BPW by my grandmother and mother from a young age, I joined BPW as a student member to help drive forward its mission of empowering women around the world. Following in the footsteps of inspiring women leaders and their great past improvements in women's rights, I still see today the deep-rooted issues that continue to unequally impact women of all statuses and



I am inspired to be part of an Organization that is tackling women's issues on numerous fronts and helping achieve a truly equitable world on an international scale.

Since joining BPW, I have attended both international conferences and chapter meetings, I have spoken about my student initiatives to tackle women's issues, and I was awarded a loan by the BPW California Education Fund which works to support women pursuing their degrees. Through these years of involvement, I have been beyond grateful for the support and encouragement I have received from current members. BPW provides an environment with well-spoken and driven women to uplift one another while making a large-scale impact and I am excited to see what the organization achieves going forward. ■



Cheryl Edora

"I wanted to join BPW to find mentors who could help me learn more about advocacy since I have great interest in policy work. Women's rights, women's health, and advocating for equity are important subjects for me. I would like to know how to get involved and engaged, and BPW is a group where I can do this."■



Usha Gongal

"Joined the BPW after being drawn by the women's wellness and solidarity work it champions and the networking opportunities that it offers by BPW" ■





Michelle Husby

I was invited to a dinner meeting and everyone was very nice. The Mission of BPW fit with my belief system and, at the end of the meeting, we said the Collect together and everyone squeezed hands at the end. It was a lovely prayer and a lovely ending. I was sold. That was December of 1989 and I've been a member ever since. ■



Monique Lee

My life circumstances have called for me to live in several different countries, and beyond its core mission, what I value the most in BPW is that it is an international organization. Throughout the years, I have found BPW and its members to be constant companions for global networking, mentoring, skill building, and economic empowerment.

Following a radio message from then BPW International President-elect Maxine Hayes (1980-1983) who was visiting Hong Kong, six friends and I took up the inspiring challenge and became the founding members of BPW-Hong Kong (1979). In this bustling cosmopolitan city, we grew quickly to 104 members representing 14 different nationalities.

After eventually moving to UK in 1999, I was privileged to be offered to run the 'BPW Network London', which I did for 12 consecutive years. There again, the club had a strong cosmopolitan membership, not to mention the many BPW visitors from all over the world we would meet as they passed through London, one of our global capitals.

Now in California (2012-now) where an international presence also reigns, I am again finding in the Berkeley-BPW club and all others clubs around, that warm, reliable, spirited friendship, where not only one feels welcomed but where that sense of BPW's 'raison d'être' is immediately evident. It is reflected in the support we bring to each other, our commitment to seeing women and girls evolving in their careers, as well as maintaining our place in a number of other international organizations such as ECOSOC/UN, and the government of our own country where our dedicated efforts are to ensure that our BPW voice in support of all women is clearly heard. ■



**Mary Payne Norcross**

BPW has been a part of my life since 1982 when I was Assistant Director of the Emeryville Senior Center. I received a Woman of Achievement plaque from BPW when I was promoted to Director. A group of my BPW friends spoke at my retirement party. I cherish the fact that I am still a member thru NIKE, a group of past BPW presidents.■

**Chauvenet (Chevy) Smith**

I joined because I see this as an opportunity to have mentors for future business endeavors.

I am a licensed phlebotomist currently working at Cal Berkeley. I am a student at Berkeley City college.■

**Frances Swingle**

I joined BPW in 1976 (I think) and the NIKE Club a few years later. I was President of Washington Township BPW in Fremont in 81/82 and was privileged to be sent by my Club to the National in San Antonio as their delegate.

I also have been a member of Livermore, Contra Costa and Isle City as well as Berkeley.

A BPW friend asked me to apply for a seat on the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women. I was accepted and served for 10 or 12 years. Commissioners volunteer to help with women and girls issues for the Supervisors. We investigate Domestic Violence Homes and recommend how funds be allotted. I have held one office or another for these groups. Most recently as Treasurer for the District.■





Linda Towers

BPW to me means Women helping other Women. We learn from each other and create great friendships.

Without BPW I would not have learned Roberts Rules of Order, learned how to preside over meetings and overcome shyness to speak in front of others.

The history of women and the suffrage movement needs to be known and remembered.■



Four generations of Berkeley-BPW Members

Shakuntala Malhoutra (1914-2003)

Shakuntala Malhoutra was born in India. Even as a young lady, Shakuntala was far ahead of her time. Breaking new ground and shattering glass ceilings, she attained a Master's degree in Sociology as a widow when she was 43 years old, and she then worked as 'Director of Social Welfare' for the Indian government, eventually becoming the first woman to be appointed "Chief Probation Officer" in New Delhi, India.

Sujata

... and **Ellora** now grown up and also a BPW Member!



Manjul

**Mrs Shakuntala
Malhoutra**

Shakuntala's genuine desire to uplift women in all areas made her join the newly established BPW Club of New Delhi in 1962. She persuaded her daughter, Manjul Batra, to join BPW at the same time. Two years later, in 1964, Manjul started the Mumbai BPW chapter.

Shakuntala attended numerous International BPW conferences. She migrated to the United States in 1980 and immediately joined the Berkeley Chapter of BPW. She was an enthusiastic supporter of the organization at all levels, including the National and International ones, and she felt a deep connection with other members of BPW, whom she felt a close affinity with, was greatly inspired by, and whose company she enjoyed.

In turn, she was loved by her fellow members, including the National President who called her "Mummy". Shakuntala was very proud of her daughter, Manjul, more so when she became the State President of California BPW. Three generations followed Shakuntala's footsteps and all attained membership of Berkeley BPW. ■

Manjul Batra (Shakuntala's Daughter)

has been a member of Berkeley BPW and the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce for over 50 years, since 1970. Manjul, one of India's first women to obtain a Chartered Accountancy license, worked for Friden, Inc. in San Leandro for one year as an accountant. Significantly, she was the company's first ever female accountant. Afterwards, she became an entrepreneur, running her retail/wholesale company and real estate business in Berkeley, which she continues to lead even today. ■

Sujata Batra Easton (Shakuntala's Granddaughter)

is a member of Berkeley BPW. Sujata graduated from UC Berkeley with a Masters degree in Public Health. She has worked for Kaiser Permanente for over 25 years and currently serves as Managing Director at its corporate headquarters in Oakland. Sujata has attended many national and international BPW conferences and has been an active supporter of the organization. ■

Ellora Easton (Shakuntala's Great Granddaughter)

is currently a junior at UCLA studying International Development with an emphasis in Global Health and Business.

Ellora is the youngest member of Berkeley BPW. Ellora enjoys music, travel, and business, and she feels enriched by her affiliation with BPW. ■





Random Voices Performance


"Random Voices is UCLA's premier all-female a cappella group with a mission to provide a creative space where women are empowered to shine in their musical endeavors and use their voices to impact others within and outside of the UCLA community.

They perform songs from a variety of genres ranging from classic rock and indie music to pop music, and use original arrangements composed by members of their group.

Random Voices has a plethora of experiences performing at both large-scale venues in the LA area, such as regional a cappella competition ICCA and the Women's Empowerment Expo which gathers women leaders from around the city, as well as popular UCLA events such as Spring Sing which showcases artistic talent among its students. Its members come from a variety of educational backgrounds such as in STEM, business and theater, yet they are all connected by a love and passion for music!



They are excited to be featured at Berkeley BPW's Centennial Anniversary and will be performing the song

"Tapestry", a mashup by Carole King.  [_tapestry with vp!.m4v](#)

Enjoy the show!





From Michelle, in the name of the Club

I received the Artwork as then President of Berkeley. We always had the largest per capita donations to BPW Foundation than any other club in the District, or State.

We were in the top five at National, too.



Awards!



Meet my mother
Shakuntala Malhoutra
Manjul



Proclamations!



Social gatherings!



Great Speakers!



Fun Outings!



Zooming along!



Bravo Ellora!

A day to celebrate with your grandmother



Sacramento Conference—May '22
How wonderful to meet in person again!





IN LOVING MEMORY

It would be unthinkable for us to celebrate the Centennial of our Berkeley BPW Club without having a thought for its Founding Members of 1922.

How enthusiastic those women must have been: The BPW Federation had recently organized a huge conference in St Louis to promote the interests of women (1919) and many 'ladies from Berkeley' had heard about it.

In 1920, the idea of women voting finally became a reality with the 19th Amendment. But it wasn't until the Cable Act of 1922 that US-born women who had married foreign men began to be allowed to keep their US citizenship and their right to vote.

Progressive times to start a club!

Since then a long chain of women have joined in, always vigilant of the laws, aware of their capabilities, and looking after each other.

We honor you BPW Members of the past, and we thank you.



Keep us, O God, from pettiness;

Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.

May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face — without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.

**Let us take time for all things; make us to grow
calm, serene, gentle.**

**Teach us to put into action our better impulses,
straightforward and unafraid.**

**Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create
differences, that in the big things of life we are at one.**

**And may we strive to touch and to know the great,
common human heart of us all, and O Lord God,
let us forget not to be kind!**

Mary Stewart (1902)



Manjul Batra
Sharon Braun
Patricia Daniels
Maria DeSousa
Monique Lee



The Planning Committee is particularly indebted to

Mrs Diane Rames

Recipient of the BBPW Woman of the Year Award 2013

who has been instrumental in the preparation of this event
and without whom we would never have had the chance to bring
together so many wonderful people to celebrate our
Berkeley BPW Club Centennial.

Thank you so much Diane.



A very special 'Thank You' also goes to

Mrs Monique Lee

Recipient of the BBPW Woman of Achievement Award 2021

for the Digital Production of this
Commemorative Berkeley BPW Club Centennial Booklet.

Saturday 21st May, 2022.

TIME CAPSULE

MESSAGE TO BPW MEMBERS OF 2122

ON THE OCCASION OF THE
BICENTENNIAL OF BPW BERKELEY

Dear Fellow BPW Members of 2122,

We salute you from our primitive epoch a century before your time, to let you know that we are already thinking of you, have great hopes for you, and trust that you are enjoying our future.

We imagine that you might be tackling novel issues such as whether or not to finally admit female professional women robots amongst BPW members, or whether it still even makes sense to distinguish women amongst other forms of humans in your time. But we are pretty sure you are still paying taxes, and maybe have an expiration date.

For BPW Berkeley members specifically, we hope that in the intervening century since our Centennial this year, the Bay Area has not experienced devastation in a big earthquake. We have been expecting the “Big One” any day now, but it could be another century before it strikes.

We hope that BPW in 2122 is still a welcoming, inspiring, relevant, and helpful society for you and your dreams, just as it still is for us in 2022. We wish we could be there with you to celebrate BPW Berkeley’ s Bicentennial, but in case we cannot make it, please know that we tried and are with you in spirit.

With our warmest wishes,

The 2022 Members of BPW Berkeley



California Federation of BPW Membership Form

(Please print)

Full Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip

Home Phone

Business Phone

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Employer

Title

Birthday (Month and Day) _____

Are you under 35? (Young BPW) _____

There are two ways to join BPW:

1. Member

Local Dues \$ _____

State/National/International Dues \$ 80

Total \$ _____

2. Student Member

Local Dues \$ _____

State Dues \$ 25

Total \$ _____

**Please mail your form and payment to: CFBPW Box 370, The UPS Store
1026 Florin Road Sacramento, CA 95831 Local Club Information**

[California Business and Professional Women - California Federation of Business
and Professional Women \(bpwcal.org\)](http://california.businessandprofessionalwomen.org)





Designed by Monique Lee

To fully commemorate this event,

the Berkeley BPW Club

has produced this

Centennial Mug,

as well as

Hard Copies of this Digital Booklet.



Our many thanks go to the two Companies which offered us their full cooperation in the manufacturing of these products.



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Percy



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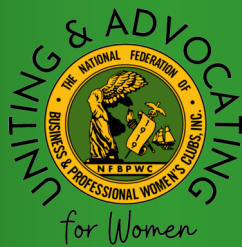
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