

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 30, 2009

**Contact:** Patricia Dilks, Branch President  
pdilks@yahoo.com (510) 205-2678

**AAUW Oakland-Piedmont Branch Announces  
Local Scholarships For Community College Women**

*Oakland, CA* – The Oakland-Piedmont Branch of the American Association of University Women announces funding for local scholarships for women students at Laney and Merritt Colleges in Oakland. “Despite the tough economic conditions, our members worked together and pooled our resources to fund these scholarships,” noted Patricia Dilks, Branch President. “We are committed to helping other women achieve their academic goals.”

Scholarship candidates will be (1) a female student attending Laney or Merritt College who resides in either Oakland or Piedmont; (2) who demonstrates financial need but who is not necessarily receiving financial aid; (3) has a GPA of at least 2.9 earned in at least 18 units of degree-applicable coursework; and (4) has a commitment to a course of study leading to an associate or bachelor’s degree and a plan for completing at least 6 units in the semester of award toward the requirements for graduation or transfer. An awardee shall only be eligible to receive one scholarship from AAUW Oakland-Piedmont Branch.

It is the Branch’s goal to award one scholarship at each campus (Laney and Merritt), for each of the class years 2009 and 2010, and to sustain the program into the future, funds permitting.

AAUW Oakland-Piedmont has selected the [Peralta Colleges Foundation](#) as its administrative partner to screen applications and disburse the funds; applications will be available online within a few days.

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AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. Since 1881, AAUW has grown to a nationwide network of more than 100,000 members, 1,300 branches, and 500 college/university institutional partners. AAUW's commitment to educational equity is reflected in its public policy advocacy, community programs, scholarships and grants. Visit the AAUW Oakland-Piedmont website at [www.aauw-op.com](http://www.aauw-op.com).

