



Thanks to You We Exceeded our Goal!

SV Literature, Leadership & Lunch: A Resounding Success



Featured authors Allyson Hobbs and Maggie Shen King with **close the gap CA** founder Mary Hughes.



Eleni Kounalakis, **ctgCA** Executive Director
 Susannah Delano, California State Controller
 Betty Yee, **ctgCA** Event Coordinator Elaine
 Andersen, and **ctgCA** Finance Director Cynthia
 Brantly Pierce.



The beautiful venue in Schultz Cultural Arts Hall
 at the Oshman Family JCC in Palo Alto.



Rachel Gibson, Susie Rothschild, Susie
 Richardson, Nancy Westcott, featured author
 Allyson Hobbs, Jessica Jerome, Nancy Cassidy,
 Megan Swezey Fogarty



SEIU UHW in the house: Angela Tamayo,
 Anastasia Garcia Bernal, Vanessa Thuonh,
 featured author Maggie Shen King, Liz Lopez,
 Rosalie Garcia Bernal, and Terry Sandoval.

View more photos

Last Friday, hundreds of **close the gap CA** supporters came together for a true power lunch. Our reflections on women's past, present and future were deeply enriched by **ctgCA** Founder Mary Hughes' expertly moderated conversation with authors [Maggie Shen King](#), **An Excess Male**, and [Allyson Hobbs](#), **A Chosen Exile**.

Sincere thanks to our fabulous authors and special guest, **State Controller Betty Yee**. To our intrepid volunteer team led by **Elaine Anderson**, **Elizabeth Beheler**, **Teresa Lyon**, **Nancy Sun**, **Kathy Torgersen**, and **Jackie Wheeler**:

your dedication and brilliance fueled the event's success, and **ctgCA** could not be more grateful for you all.

A special thank you to our **Patrons- Jennifer Carrico and SEIU UHW**, and our **Sponsors- UFCW Western States Council, James Baer, Anne Ream and Kavita Tankha**.

Our campaign has been small but mighty in its short history, and Friday's luncheon proved the perfect venue to announce with confidence that, after over a decade in decline, **2018 marks the year that women have begun the climb to parity in our state Legislature**. That's right-- with Asm. Wendy Carrillo's victory last December, and viable, progressive women running in 11 of 12 targeted districts for 2018, **we have stopped the slide and begun to increase the number of women in the Assembly and Senate**.

Thanks to your support, **close the gap CA** is positioned to ensure that **progressive women reach historic levels of representation by making the most of open seat opportunities**.

Donate

Give \$30 today and help fuel our lean operation to ensure competitive, progressive women run in every open Legislative seat from now through 2028.



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