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WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



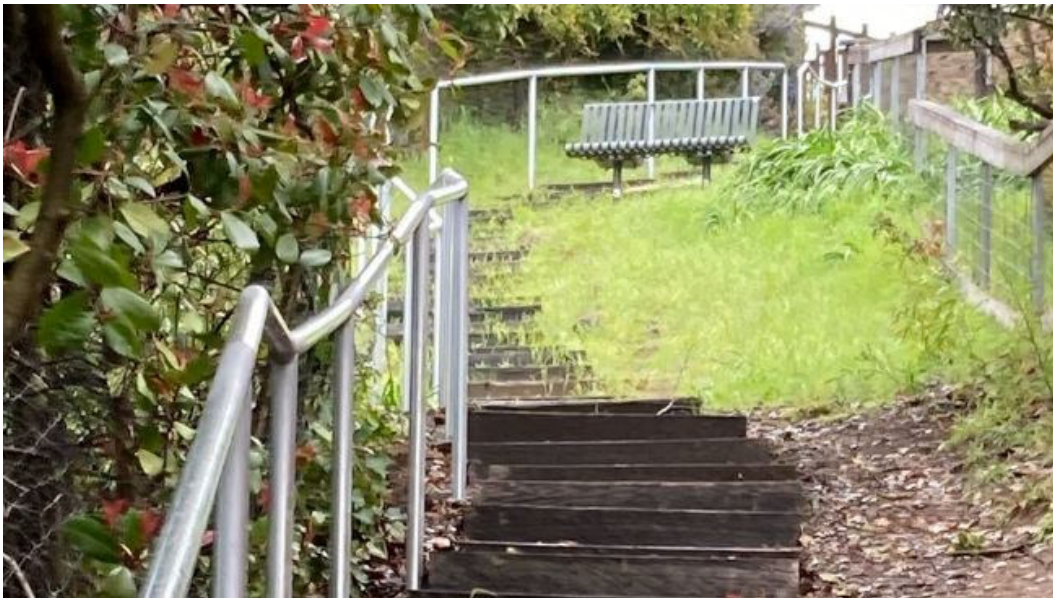
Left to right: top row, Eileen Chen, Dhara Desai; middle, Lori Kohlstaedt, Desmid Lyon; bottom, Kirsten Mickelwait, Emma Morris

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association board members serve for 2 years, with an option to renew one additional term. This board member structure keeps our leadership stable while bringing in new faces, ideas, and enthusiasm. In 2023, we say farewell — and many thanks! — to Janet

Byron, president; Karen Ebadi, treasurer; John Ford, walks coordinator; and Jennifer Pellman, newsletter editor.

[CLICK HERE](#) to meet six new board members, who were voted in at our annual meeting in November.

LOVE BERKELEY PATHS???



Your annual donation helps us make them even better!

Thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is going strong. We use your donations to directly improve paths; one way is by purchasing and installing handrails. Over the past year we've put handrails on Acacia, Atlas (*shown above*), Lower Stephenson, Middle Glendale, and Upper Halkin paths. Berkeley's paths require dozens more handrails, which cost \$15,000 to \$25,000 each.

Many repairs and improvements are needed to maintain our paths. The board worked with the City of Berkeley to estimate that it will cost nearly \$5 million to do the work required: repair crumbling, 100+-year-old, concrete steps; construct new concrete paths on public rights-of-way; and install much-needed handrails, lighting, signage, and pedestrian safety improvements.

Please consider making a tax-deductible, year-end donation in support of Berkeley's paths. If you've donated in the past few years, you will receive a letter in the mail soon; or you can always donate online at www.berkeleypaths.org/donate. Donors of \$250 or more are eligible to receive a limited-edition poster (*shown left, on outgoing president Janet Byron's wall*) by Berkeley artist David Lance Goines, designed especially to support Berkeley's paths (posters will be provided on request). Supplies are dwindling — get yours now! [READ MORE](#)



DONATE NOW!

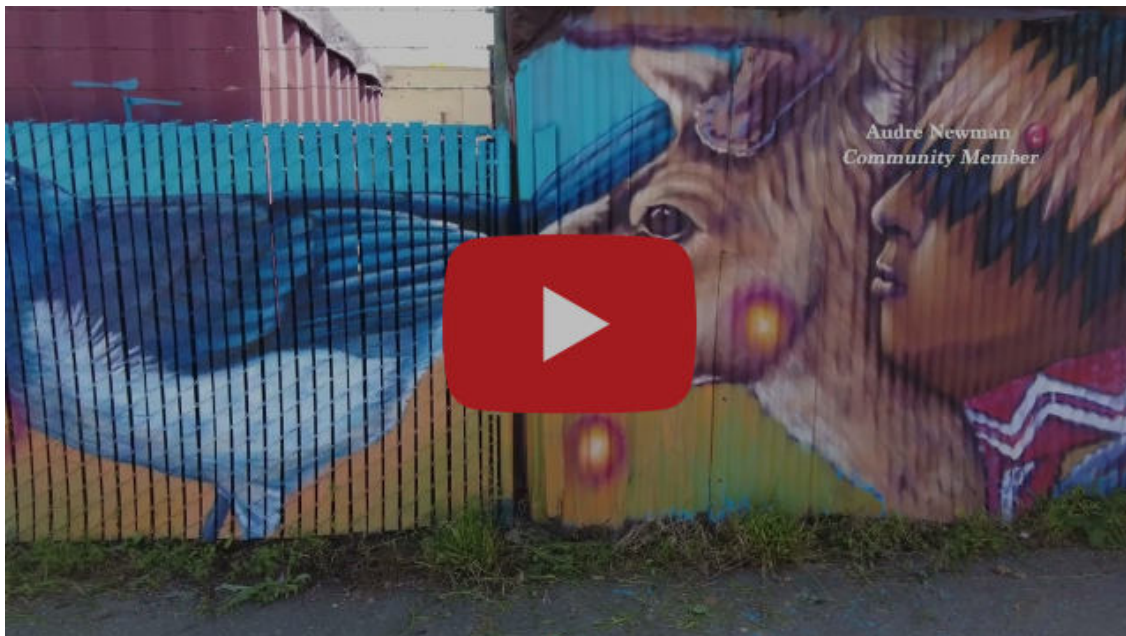
25TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEOS



In honor of our 25th anniversary year, Path Wanderers Association partnered with [Berkeley Community Media](#) to produce “[Paths are Magic,](#)” a 30-minute video highlighting the origins of our organization’s efforts to preserve, build, and maintain Berkeley’s beloved paths. The video features co-founder Jacque Ensign, and early board members Charlie Bowen, Janet Byron, Tom Edwards, Austene Hall (daughter of co-founder Eleanor Hall Gibson), Karen Kemp, Paul Mahue, Emma Morris, and Susan Schwartz.



Berkeley Community Media also did a fun short video about our [25th anniversary celebration](#) at Live Oak Park in August.



In March 2023, we celebrated the completion of a mural on Jeronimus Alley, in partnership with [Commotion West Berkeley](#) and [Youth Spirit Artworks](#). The mural was designed by [Pancho](#)

[Pescador](#) and painted by young people with Youth Spirit Artworks. Berkeley Community Media was there to film a [short video](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY PATHS BUDGET INCREASE: Councilmember Susan Wengraf's [item](#) of \$150,000 for paths was included in the City of Berkeley's [Mid-Biennial Update](#) (bottom of page 67, fourth bullet under Significant Changes from FY 2024 Adopted Original), and the funds are now in the current Public Works department budget. This is three times the previous annual paths budget of \$50,000. Many many thanks to Councilmember Wengraf for bringing forth this item and all the path supporters who wrote to the city council to support the funding increase! BPWA board members will continue to work closely with the Berkeley Public Works department to ensure that the path budget is spent where it is most needed.

SEEKING BOARD MEMBER FOR DEVELOPMENT: Berkeley Path Wanderers Association has identified [\\$5 million](#) in needs to bring the Berkeley paths up to code with repairs and the installation of handrails, construction of new paths, clearance of encroachments, and lighting and wayfinding additions. We are looking for a board member to take the lead on elevating our fundraising efforts to help the city and paths community to achieve this long-term goal. Board members serve 2-year terms with the option to renew once. Our fun board meets about once monthly. Write to info@berkeleypaths.org to volunteer for Berkeley paths!

BERKELEY PATHS BANDANAS



Our friends in the Berkeley Public Works department sure know how to wear the 10th-edition map bandana!

Berkeley's Public Works department loves our bandanas

Our new map bandana features the 10th edition of our best-selling Berkeley and Its Pathways map, now in 4 colors. This stylish, 22-inch-square, 100% cotton bandana features Berkeley paths on the northeast and central side of town, from the Ohlone Greenway to the UC Berkeley campus fire trails and Panoramic Hill to Kensington, and everything in-between!

[Available now](#): \$20 for 1, \$90 for 5, or \$175 for 10 bandanas

Berkeley paths maps and bandanas make a great holiday gift! Each purchase helps our mission to maintain and build our treasured pathways, and purchase and install handrails.

SHOP PATHS SWAG

UPCOMING WALKS

NOTE: Heavy rain cancels; watch email for cancellation notices.

[Mural Walk with Light Yoga](#)

When: Sun., Dec. 10, 9–11 a.m.

Leaders: Rachel and Roopa

Distance: 5 miles with optional 1.2 miles



Start/End: [MLK Middle School](#)

Accessibility: Relatively flat, moderate pace. Coffee shop with a restroom. No dogs.

Starting at MLK Middle School, observe the murals and then walk via Northbrae neighborhood to Ohlone Greenway. We will do standing and sitting yoga at at the start and end of the walk. [READ MORE](#)

December Festive Hike: Choose [Friday](#) or [Sunday](#)

When:

Fri., Dec. 15, 5:30–7:30 p.m., *or*

Sun., Dec. 17, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Leader: Alina Constantinescu

Distance: 2+ miles

Start/End: [North Berkeley Library](#)

Accessibility: Expect hilly streets and staircases.

Bring a flashlight and your holiday spirit to explore North Berkeley on this 2-mile, 2-hour fun walk. We'll pass houses that go all out decorating for the season. We'll go at a relaxed pace to enjoy the sights. Because this walk will be popular, we're offering it twice. [READ MORE – Dec. 15](#); [READ MORE – Dec. 17](#)



[Panoramic Hill to Jordan Trail](#)

When: Sunday, Dec. 17, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Leader: John Ford

Distance, Elevation: 9 miles, 1,300 feet

Start/End: [Corner of Euclid and Hearst Avenues](#)

Accessibility: Well-behaved dogs on leash permitted, but must be comfortable on narrow path with lots of people. Not wheelchair-accessible. Mud is likely!



After walking through campus, we will take paths on Panoramic Hill and then a well-built single track path connecting Jordan Trail. [READ MORE](#)

[Step into the New Year](#)

When: Mon., Jan. 1, 1–3 p.m.

Leaders: Glen Lindwall and John Ford

Distance: 3–4 miles

Start/End: [Dorothy Bolte Park](#)

Welcome the new year with a walk along the Berkeley/Kensington border including Ye Olde School Path, with its views of Wildcat Canyon, as well as paths of Berkeley and Kensington. Dorothy Bolte Park offers its famous concrete slide and picnic area for sharing treats with those who wish to linger. [READ MORE](#)



[Rocky Berkeley](#)

When: Sun., Jan. 7, 8:30–11 a.m.

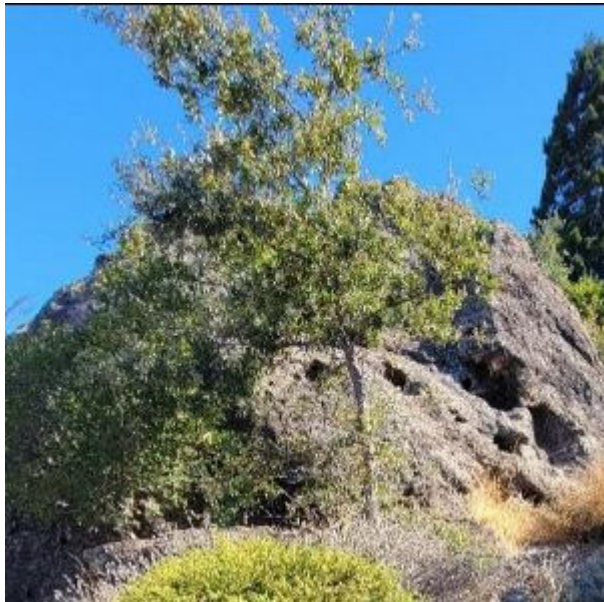
Leader: Tamara Gurin

Distance/Elevation gain: 4 miles/817 feet

Start/End: [The Alameda and Solano Avenue](#)

Accessibility: Some steep steps and uneven trails, 10 stairways. Dogs on leash welcome, and well-supervised kids.

We'll visit 7 of Berkeley's wonderful rock parks by following the [Rock Parks walk](#) (walk 10) in *Berkeley Walks*, by Janet Byron and Bob Johnson. We'll enjoy the views, talk about park history and geology,



and do a little climbing (optional!). [READ MORE](#)

PATH MAINTENANCE WORK PARTIES

Join us for a path maintenance work party!

Sunday, December 10, 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 28, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

The work is mostly weeding, sweeping, raking, and clipping. We will have gloves and tools available, but feel free to bring your own. Please bring your own water; we won't be offering water or refreshments. Please RSVP to receive an email with the time, date, and meeting place by writing to Mary Lynch at path.maintenance@berkeleypaths.org.



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is a community organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. [Learn more](#)

The BPWA board generally meets monthly. Our next meeting is Thursday, January 18 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Guests are welcome! Please contact info@berkeleypaths.com for more information.

To support Berkeley's paths, you can [donate online](#). All donations are tax-deductible and go toward building new paths, repairing and clearing paths, purchasing handrails, and advocating for paths and walkers.

Above, happy participants in our Every Path in Berkeley walk series.



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