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HAPPY NEW YEAR, LOWER HALKIN WALK!



Lower Halkin Walk seeks walkers for New Year's adventures!

Berkeley's newest path, Lower Halkin Walk, is ready for exploration

Earlier in December, volunteer crews finished Berkeley's newest path: Lower Halkin Walk. All 145 steps are in and this beautiful new path is ready for you to enjoy! Lower Halkin, from Cragmont Avenue to Euclid Avenue, was a "missing link" path, and it completes a pedestrian corridor from Grizzly Peak Boulevard to Spruce Street in the area north of Marin Avenue. It opens up new possibilities for fun walks and loops in the hills and secures a pedestrian option for emergency evacuations in this area. [Read more](#)

Your support helps us build paths

With [Lower Columbia Path](#) completed earlier this year (*shown, under construction*), and now recently completed [Lower Halkin Walk](#), BPWA is proud to have finished two challenging new paths (despite this crazy year)! None of our work would be possible without your support.



If you enjoy walking the paths, please consider supporting our work so we can keep building paths like these. Each eucalyptus step is \$25 and a path with a 50-foot rise needs 100 of them. A new path also needs to be surveyed, a \$1,500 to \$3,500 expense. Handrails are the most expensive item on our wish list: \$15,000 to \$25,000 per path.

Please consider making the paths part of your year-end contributions. We are a nonprofit organization that is 100% volunteer-run, so every dollar of your tax-deductible gift goes toward our cherished paths. Thank you for supporting the paths!

DONATE

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Thanks to our outgoing board members for their volunteer efforts in support of Berkeley paths: Jacob Lehmann Duke, Abby Rutchick, Erika Wilson, and Caroline Swinehart.

For 2021, we're thrilled to welcome 3 new board members: Petra Biddle-Gottesman, Zuzana Ikels, and Lisu Thachet. Welcome, new board members!

Petra Biddle-Gottesman

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I am a junior at College-Prep, the same school that Jacob, a previous board member, went to.

How did you become interested in Berkeley's paths?

A few years ago I started taking walks throughout the Berkeley hills, trying to find...

[Read more about Petra](#)



Petra takes a break from walking Angel, Honey, and Piper at Pt. Isabel.



Zuzana Ikels

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I am litigation partner at the international law firm of King & Spalding. I have two daughters that I cherish and hope will discover the paths earlier than I did. I live in Albany.

How did you become interested in Berkeley's paths?

I have always known about the paths, but I only “discovered” them because of...

[Read more about Zuzana](#)

Lisu Thachet

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I have lived in Berkeley on and off since 2002. I’m originally from Chicago and have also lived in the Washington, D.C., area. Workwise I’ve mostly been in the nonprofit and government world. Currently I work for the City of San Francisco.

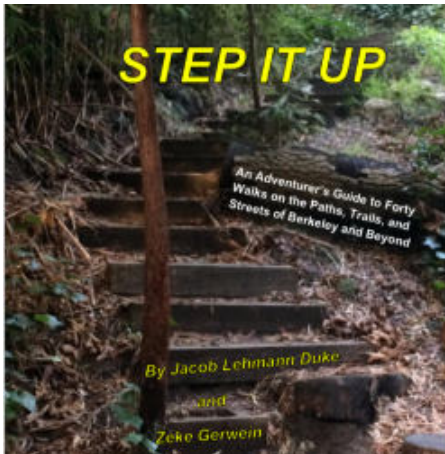
How did you become interested in Berkeley's paths?

I discovered the paths while...

[Read more about Lisu](#)



STEP IT UP



Last chapters of 'Step it Up' book posted

BPWA is proud to post the final chapters of *Step It Up*, a new book of 40 original walks in Berkeley and beyond by Jacob Lehmann Duke and Zeke Gerwein. The book includes walks on all of Berkeley's paths, with levels of difficulty ranging from easy strolls to challenging, all-day rambles. We've been posting 5 new walks every month, and this month marks the final installment. Our deep

gratitude to Jacob and Zeke for taking us on many adventures and for sharing their walks with all of us in their wonderful book.

New in January:

[The Trails of Albany Bulb](#) (1)

[A Shoreline Stroll](#) (1)

[The Albany Hill Traverse](#) (2)

[From Solitude to Shattuck Avenue](#) (4)

[Through Six Parks: Downtown Berkeley to Oakland and Back on the Bus](#) (5)

To read the entire book and download PDFs of all 40 walks, go to [Step It Up](#) on the BPWA website.

VIRTUAL BERKELEY HISTORY WALK

Gourmet Ghetto History - Virtual Walking Tour Sunday, January 10, 2021, 3 p.m.



Left, North Shattuck Avenue at Rose Street (looking north) around the turn of the 20th century. Below, the Gourmet Ghetto in the 21st century.

This virtual tour on Sunday, January 10 at 3 p.m., sponsored by the [Berkeley](#)

[Historical Society](#) in conjunction with their [Berkeley's Fascination with Food](#) exhibit, explores the North Shattuck Avenue area, where many claim a revolution in how Americans eat was born. You'll see historic photos and hear stories about the pioneering establishments Peet's Coffee (the first one), the Cheese Board, Chez Panisse, and the locations of other noteworthy food businesses past and present. The virtual tour will also cover earlier history of the North Shattuck neighborhood, including the steam train and early commercial development as well as novel housing developments and the homes of famous Berkeleyans.



Tour leader Bob Johnson, co-author of [Berkeley Walks](#), has led walks for Berkeley Historical Society, Berkeley

Path Wanderers Association, and other groups. Advance registration on [Eventbrite](#) is required, with sliding-scale donations to Berkeley Historical Society requested.

SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Online resources for self-guided Berkeley walks



Many folks are walking closer to home these days, and our [self-guided walks](#) page is getting lots of traffic. We are happy to provide these resources, and hope you are enjoying your solo and/or socially distanced explorations.

Left, Tamalpais Path, accessed from Codornices Park.

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association

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

The BPWA board meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month, 7:30 to 9 p.m., virtually until further notice. Guests are welcome! Please contact info@berkeleypaths.com for



more information.

Your generosity enables us to build more paths and to hold fun events on the paths. [Donate now](#)

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