



# Bulletin AAUW Colorado

Volume 74 Issue 1

Fall 2009



## FUNDING THE FUTURE: PUBLIC EDUCATION IN COLORADO

AAUW Colorado Public Policy Day

Saturday, February 6, 2010 — Holiday Inn at Lakewood

The future of Colorado lies in the success of its public education system. At the 2010 Public Policy Day on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at the Holiday Inn at Lakewood, dynamic speakers will focus on key factors critical in achieving educational excellence.



*Keynote Speaker*

*State Representative Karen Middleton* will present an overview of the state of public education in Colorado. A former member of the State Board of Education, Middleton was appointed to fill the seat in House District #42 in February 2008 and serves on the House Education Committee and Military Affairs Committee. Most recently, she chaired the Interim Committee on School Finance. She has extensive professional experience in K-12 and higher education.

will tell us how public education is funded in our state, has represented Senate District #20 for the past 8 years. Prior to that, Keller served 6 years on the Wheat Ridge City Council and 8 years in the Colorado House of Representatives. A fierce advocate for responsible funding of public education, she chaired the Joint Budget Committee and was vice-chair of the Appropriations Committee during the 2009 legislative session. She, too, has extensive experience as a teacher in Jefferson County Public Schools and Denver Public Schools

*Superintendent John L. Barry* has been with the Aurora Public Schools since July of 2006. Since then he has brought transformational changes to this diverse, urban school district in Colorado's third largest city. Under his direction, the staff and the APS Board of Education developed VISTA 2010 (Visionary



Instruction Shaping the Transformation of APS) — strategies to give every student the chance to attend college without remediation. Prior to coming to APS, Barry had a distinguished military and business career. Recently he was honored as Educator of the Year by Shades of Blue, recognizing his exceptional support of students.

Following lunch, our own AAUW Colorado lobbyists Amy Blackwell and Lindy Reed will provide a sneak peek at the 2010 Colorado legislative session, discussing equity-related state bills and mapping out the road ahead for public education advocacy.

Don't miss this opportunity to network with other AAUW Colorado members and to learn how YOU can help to create a bright future for our children and grandchildren — and ourselves!

*“What you make of your education will decide nothing less than the future of this country.”*

— U.S. President Barack Obama

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*State Senator Moe Keller, who*

# President's Message



AAUW Colorado President, Joan Peterson welcomes you to Public Policy Day!

*"Education is the single most important foundation for women to reach equality and to extend choice over their bodies and lives."*

— Graça Machel, member of The Elders and former Mozambique education minister



Visit [http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/briefings/briefng\\_leadershipPositions022609.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/briefings/briefng_leadershipPositions022609.cfm) to read the latest Leadership Corps briefing.

The Fall Leadership Conference was very informative this year. Thank you to those who attended and provided feedback on various topics. Thank you to the presenters who provided valuable information to us. Amy Blackwell kicked off the weekend with a presentation on the AAUW/WAGE Project Initiative. Amy explained how to conduct \$tart \$mart Negotiation Workshops on Colorado college campuses and welcomed 20 new volunteers eager to help. Lois Florkey provided a helpful perspective for adopting and implementing the new AAUW By-laws. Attendees viewed the latest DVD from AAUW on *Breaking the Barriers*. The new AAUW Public Policy Program and Priorities were presented by the CO Public Policy Committee. Lisa Maas-Martin updated everyone on Voter Education strategies.

You won't want to miss **Public Policy Day on February 6th**. The Public Policy Committee has lined up tremendous speakers. State Representative Karen Middleton, State Senator Moe Keller and Superintendent John Barry, Aurora Public Schools will address funding public education in Colorado. CO-AAUW State Lobbyists Amy Blackwell, Betty

Flaten and Lindy Reed will update us about the 2010 legislative session. Please read the details about the event in the bulletin and plan to attend.

We have added an "In Memoriam" section to the state website, [www.coaaauw.org](http://www.coaaauw.org). If you would like to list an AAUW friend no longer with us, please send the name, branch and date of death to the State Webmaster at [anneburkholder@q.net](mailto:anneburkholder@q.net).

Did you know that the Colorado AAUW Yahoo site has the most members of any other AAUW Yahoo group? You can receive action alerts, the electronic newsletter and other AAUW information. Colorado AAUW also has a growing presence on Facebook, a social networking website that is free for you to join at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). Our specific Facebook group is called AAUW in Colorado, and it is open to all AAUW members in Colorado, as well as non-member Coloradans who support the AAUW mission. Here you'll find equity news items, public policy action alerts, discussion threads, Internet links and Colorado AAUW

event postings. Please see directions in this bulletin to sign-up for Yahoo or Facebook or visit [www.coaaauw.org](http://www.coaaauw.org).

If you check the calendar on the state website, you'll see that our branches have been very busy with great programs, activities and events. The value of AAUW membership is the opportunity to join a community that is committed to breaking through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. Please keep up your wonderful work in working towards our mission of advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. *Congratulations to Amy Blackwell and Betty Flaten who have been selected to be in the AAUW Leadership Corp. It is an honor that two people were selected for this important function from Colorado.*

My best wishes to all of you for a peaceful and enjoyable holiday season.

Joan Peterson  
303.341-9275,  
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## Amy Blackwell and Betty Flaten named to AAUW Leadership Corps

The Leadership Corps is a new member involvement opportunity being created to support AAUW's grassroots. It is based in community-organizing principles and tactics and will provide a corps of trained member leaders, serving as grassroots liaisons to help us identify and address current needs, encourage branch leadership development, foster effective multi-way communication, increase sharing of resources and strategies, and assist membership growth.

# "The Winds of Change"

## AAUW Colorado State Convention

### Save the Date: April 23-25, 2010

Gaze westward from the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Leprino Building at the University of Colorado Hospital Anschutz Medical Campus as the Spring sunset slides behind the Rockies. You will enjoy your favorite libation and chatting with friends at the opening event of the 2010 AAUW-Colorado State Convention. Hosted by the Aurora Branch and led by site coordinator, Sue Bodis, the evening will showcase Colorado's third largest city and its amazing diversity.

Saturday we address "The Winds of Change" in AAUW when a nationally known keynote speaker addresses attendees. There are also great workshops on advocacy, bylaws, and creating new branch structures. An exciting workshop for the younger members, member's daughters, and young friends discusses "Riding the Mommy Track While Breaking Barriers on the Career Path."

Lunch features a fashion show by Coldwater Creek and author, John Shors will discuss his books and writing. We promise to have books for sale too.

Gain inspiration for fundraising during the afternoon "Finding Fun in Fundraising" presented by several branches. The state business meeting and a town hall will be followed by free time and time to see the sites and enjoy the shopping Aurora has to offer.

In 1995, the U.S. Congress targeted Fitzsimons for closure. That same year, officials with the City of Aurora, [University of Colorado Health Sciences Center](#) and the [University of Colorado Hospital](#) presented the U.S. Department of Defense with a plan to reuse the decommissioned base as a world-class medical campus. The [Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority](#) was formed through an inter-governmental agreement.



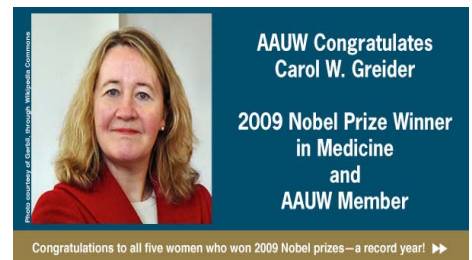
## Letter to Granddaughter Carys, from Grandma By Diane Norten, President, Douglas County Branch

Dear Carys,

This is grandma and I want you to know how much you are loved and how important your life is to our family and the world. Your life can be full and resourceful. There are things I wish for you that will make your life what it should be.

- I want you to have the same opportunities to participate in sports and educational opportunities in science, math, engineering and technology.
- I don't want you to be faced with any kind of harassment at school or in your future workplace.
- I want you to earn the same amount of money as your brother when you grow up and get a job.
- I don't want you to have to pay more for your insurance than your brother. That is not fair.
- I want you to have equal access to higher education.
- I want you to advance in your employment equally to your peers.
- I want you to be the one who determines your reproductive life.
- I want you to never fear violence in your home, workplace or community.
- I want you to care about others and know that you are a part of a larger community in the world.
- I want you to be able to choose and practice a religion of your choice.
- I want you to love yourself, know that you are special and loved by others.
- That is a lot of wants. I could have said "I wish for you," "I would like," or "I desire for you" but I really wanted it to be a strong word and "want" fits the bill as a good word. You will need to be strong.

I want you to know that there are women, including your grandmother, who have been supporting these things for years. We call it our "Mission". We belong to an organization called AAUW and we will continue on our journey to provide these things for you and your generation of women. Love, Grandma



## FUNDING THE FUTURE: PUBLIC EDUCATION IN COLORADO

AAUW COLORADO PUBLIC POLICY DAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2010

HOLIDAY INN AT LAKEWOOD

- 8:00-8:45           Registration/Coffee (Ballroom Atrium)
- 8:45-9:00           Welcome and Opening Remarks (Ballroom)  
                          Joan Peterson, AAUW Colorado President
- 9:00-10:00          Keynote: State Representative Karen Middleton, House District #42  
                          *"State of Public Education in Colorado"*
- 10:00 - 10:15        Break
- 10:15-11:15         State Senator Moe Keller, Senate District #20  
                          *"Financing Public Education in Colorado"*
- 11:15-11:45         Break and Lunch Set Up
- 11:45-12:30         Lunch
- 12:30-1:30          Superintendent John Barry, Aurora Public Schools  
                          *"VISTA 2010: One District's Transformational Strategic Planning"*
- 1:30-2:30           Amy Blackwell and Lindy Reed, AAUW-CO Lobbyists  
                          *"AAUW Advocates for Public Education"*
- 2:30                 Wrap Up/ Adjournment

### AAUW COLORADO PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Amy Blackwell & Sue Bodis- Co-Directors

Georgina Burns and Lisa Maas Martin - Voter Education Co-Chairs

Amy Blackwell, Betty Flaten, & Lindy Reed - AAUW-CO Lobbyists

Diane Fuchs, Elaine Gardner, Betty Hutchinson,

Mary Hassler, Sherry Hitztaler, Betsy Loague, Sally Mathewson,

Barbara McDaniel, Marybelle Menzel, Joan Peterson, Doris Wear

# AAUW COLORADO PUBLIC POLICY DAY

February 6, 2010

Holiday Inn - Lakewood

7390 West Hampden Avenue

FUNDING THE FUTURE: PUBLIC EDUCATION IN COLORADO

## Featured Speakers

*State Representative Karen Middleton*

*State Senator Moe Keller*

*Superintendent John Barry, Aurora Public Schools*

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2010

Cost: \$40 (includes registration, light breakfast, lunch)

Send this form with your check payable to AAUW Colorado to:  
Lisa Maas Martin, 6329 S Locust Way, Centennial, CO 80111  
720-221-7720

Overnight Reservations: Reservations must be arranged individually with the Holiday Inn no later than January 22, 2010 to receive the \$72.00 (plus tax) single or double occupancy rate. The Holiday Inn may be reached at 7390 W. Hampden Avenue, Lakewood, Co 80227, 303-980-9200. Take the Hampden Avenue service road east of Wadsworth (about a block) to the Holiday Inn.

**Public Policy Day is your opportunity to find out about critical legislative/public policy issues and to interact with members from around the state. All members and their guests are encouraged to attend. Working together, committed, involved AAUW members can make a difference.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City

State

Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_ MAL \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef & Cheddar on a French Roll

\_\_\_\_\_ Turkey & Provolone on a Croissant

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian on a Croissant

**(All meals include chips, fruit, pickles, peppers, chocolate chip cookie, and drink.)**

**Indicate special accommodations/assistance, if needed, by January 22, 2010:**

## Branch News



Aurora Branch: 2009 Scholarship winners. I to r: Lisa Ginn, Jewel Rissler, Scholarship Chair and Jody Weil. Both of the local scholarship winners are education majors at the UNC Center for Urban Education at the Lowry Campus.



2009-2010 Aurora Branch Board. I to r: Sue Bodis, Public Policy; Ingrid Lindemann, President; Pam Long, Historian; Betty Ann Budy, VP of Programs; Margee Cannon, Education Interests; Margaret Ann Foy, International Affairs; Carol Tobiassen, VP of Programs; Jewel Rissler, Scholarship Chair; Leslie Jenkins, Newsletter Editor and Special Interest. Back row: Debra Parcheta, Director of Communications and Cheryl Wilderman, Secretary.



Happy Hoopers Left to right: Roberta Smith, Linda McInay, Cheryl Wilderman, Carol Tobiassen, Ingrid Lindemann, Terry Campbell Caron, and Nancy Slinkard

**Lakewood Branch:** Copied from the AAUW.org website.

Denver Post columnist Tina Griego spoke about mentoring and education at recent AAUW branch meeting in Lakewood, Colorado. The National Association of Hispanic Journalists named Griego the Frank del Olmo Print Journalist of the Year in 2006 for her work at the *Rocky Mountain News*, where she exposed the challenges facing Hispanic youth in the Denver-area public education system. To learn more, visit: <http://www.coaaauw.org/lakewood/>

**Aurora Branch:** Excerpted from their newsletter

### "Happy Hooper's"

#### Excellent Adventure

By Carol Tobiassen

A gorgeous fall day greeted seven of the "Happy Hooper's" hiking group on Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The morning started out with naturalist Joy Thompson giving us a tour of the Morrison Nature Center at Star K Ranch off of Smith Road and explaining its colorful history. We were able to admire the new artwork by Douwe Blumberg that was placed a few weeks prior to the hike - a series of 12 life-size horses made of Corten and stainless steel galloping through grass near the building.

*Edited letter from Senator Bennet to Sue Bodis*

Dear Sue:

I wanted to take a moment to update you on a recent development regarding the Paycheck Fairness Act, an issue on which we have previously corresponded.

After examining this bill, discussing it with my colleagues in the Senate and hearing from people all across Colorado, I have signed on as a co-sponsor of this landmark piece of legislation.

During my time in the Senate I have been a staunch supporter of equal rights for women. One of my first votes as a United States Senator was in support of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, which will restore the rights of women in the workplace.

It is my hope that the Senate will act swiftly to enact this legislation with broad bipartisan support. In this day and age, there is no excuse for gender pay disparities.

I value the input of fellow Coloradans in considering the wide variety of important issues that come before the Senate, and your input on this piece of legislation has been invaluable to me. I hope that you will continue to inform me of your thoughts and concerns.

Sincerely,  
Michael Bennet  
United States Senator



The Chocolate Lovers Culture and Cuisine is one of the special interest groups in the Aurora Branch. They are pictured during a recent trip to the University of Colorado Health Sciences campus where they saw the traveling exhibition "Changing the Face of Medicine—Celebrating America's Women Physicians." To her delight, member Leslie Jenkins discovered that one of the women featured in the exhibition was a college classmate of hers. Those who attended were (I to r): Norma Gillett, Nancy Slinkard, Pam Long, Shirley Bengston and Marty Klotz. Kneeling: Jean Balint and Leslie Jenkins.

**Colorado Springs Branch:** Excerpted from their newsletter

The Colorado Springs Branch hosted their fourth annual Woman-to-Woman Dialogue Series on Women's Experiences: "Surviving and Thriving." They discussed such topics as Increasing Parent Involvement in Schools; Women and Economic Success; Hormones, The Balancing Act; Maintaining Hope in Spite of your Own Circumstances; Thriving Through Suffering with Grace and Heart; and Managing Caregiver Stress in workshops during the day.

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Association TY # for the Hearing Impaired  
202-785-7777  
Sales: Newton Manufacturing Co.  
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P.O. Box 927  
Newton, IA 50208-0927  
1-800-225-9998

# Legal Advocacy Fund Tools

The Legal Advocacy Fund has developed an incredible tool to help branch members inform their communities about Title IX compliance for high school athletic programs. The **Title IX “Know Your Score” Program in a Box** will allow branches to address recurring inequities to girls in high school athletics. Girls comprise 49% of high school populations, but only 41% of athletes. Clearly there still needs to be a push to ensure that girls are getting the opportunities they deserve. The Legal Advocacy Fund, in collaboration with the Legal Aid Society and the Women’s Sports Foundation, hopes to promote greater awareness of Title IX issues at the high school level. This toolkit now gives branches the perfect opportunity to work the AAUW mission and likely will yield new members as a result!

This new program in a box will allow branches to assess compliance with Title IX laws and then work with the schools to ensure equitable athletic opportunities for girls. Since Title IX is federal law, non-compliance can result in lawsuits, so helping local schools reach compliance is actually a tremendous community benefit. This toolkit is an incredible asset to help educate branch members and community members alike.

This program can be easily downloaded from the AAUW website ([www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)), under the advocacy section on the front page. There is information for branch member regarding the specifics of the Title IX legislation (Step 1) which can easily be a branch program. There is a detailed guide that allows branch member to assess compliance with Title IX (Step 2) and determine if there are any blatant inequities (an informal guide and also an in-depth guide for differing levels of time commitment). Title IX experts are available for consultation should the branch need additional guidance. The great leadership opportunity here is that individual AAUW members can use the information to become community activists. Finally there is a website where branches can share their experiences and successes!



AAUW supports equitable athletic opportunities for girls - the program motto is **Sports Help Girls Succeed!**

Please contact me at 720-221-7720 or [numismatist1@msn.com](mailto:numismatist1@msn.com) for more information. I would love to have at least one branch work on this project within the next year. Think of how exciting it would be to establish your branch in the community as a Title IX expert and to share the successes with other branches at next year’s state convention!

## Rocky Mountain Regional Conference

Save the Date: June 11-13, 2010

Aurora, Colorado

The AAUW Rocky Mountain Regional Conference which focuses more on the regional and global perspectives of AAUW programs. Colorado will share dynamic speakers and presenters representative of the six states in the Rocky Mountain Region and the national Leadership Corp.

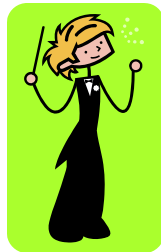
Diane Fuchs and Lisa Maas Martin head the local arrangements committee comprised of AAUW leaders throughout Colorado. Women’s economic self sufficiency, financial stability for women of varying ages, advocacy in the ever changing political arena, mission-based programming and projects that change the community are among the topics of conversation for the conference.

## Submit Young Leader Candidate

This is the 17th year that Colorado AAUW has offered the **YOUNG LEADER AWARD** to recognize one of its young members for outstanding leadership in AAUW, professional development and community service.

*Guidelines for this award suggest that the nominee:*

- be 40 years of age or younger.
- be a member of AAUW for at least three (3) years.
- be a resident of Colorado and a member in good standing of a Colorado branch.
- have made contributions to AAUW at branch, state and/or national level.
- have a distinguished record of education, career and professional development.
- be active in community service and other volunteer activities.



Please help us to identify young, talented and progressive AAUW members whose activities qualify them for this award. The nomination form is available from Lisa Martin or from branch presidents and may be duplicated if there is more than one nominee in a branch. Nominations may be made by either branches or individuals. The selection chair is Lisa Maas Martin, Boulder. Applications are due no later than **March 15, 2010** to Lisa Maas Martin, 6320 S. Locust Way, Centennial, CO 80111. Please call her at 720-221-7720, or e-mail her at [numismatist1@msn.com](mailto:numismatist1@msn.com) if you have any questions.

The recipient of the **COLORADO YOUNG LEADER AWARD** will be announced at the Colorado State Convention.



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# AAUW

AAUW Colorado  
Marilyn Thomas Leist  
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### AAUW's Mission

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

### AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

*The nation's leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls since 1881.*

*Find out the latest news about Colorado AAUW at <http://www.coaaauw.org>*



- February 6, 2010; Public Policy Day, Lakewood, CO – *Theme: Funding the Future: Public Education in Colorado*
- April 6, 2010; Pay Equity Day, Denver, CO
- April 23-25, 2010; AAUW Colorado Convention, Aurora, CO.– *Theme: The Winds of Change*
- June 11-13, 2010; Rocky Mountain Regional Conference, Aurora, CO

- BULLETIN BASICS
- All mailing labels are prepared at AAUW headquarters. Please send changes or corrections directly to: AAUW Records Office, 1111 Sixteenth St. NW, Washington, DC, 20038 or go to Member Center, Update Member Records at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).
- The Colorado AAUW Bulletin is published three times a year. The deadline for the next issue is February 1, 2009. To submit information, send copy to Marilyn Leist at [leistm@aol.com](mailto:leistm@aol.com) or call 720-771-2292.