



THE WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY
of COLORADO COLLEGE

Newsfocus

FALL 2015

FOUNDED IN 1889 TO GIVE ASSISTANCE TO THE STUDENTS OF COLORADO COLLEGE

Introducing Our New WES Scholars



Jessianne Blake



Karla Paola Figueroa



Valerie Maravilla



Emily Sussman



Katie Timzen

Jessianne Blake, a native of the Northwest, grew up in Burien, Washington, just south of Seattle. She came to love reading, writing, dance, and coffee through her years at Kennedy Catholic High School located in her hometown. She participated in fun clubs including Drill Team as team member and choreographer, and Creative writing club as the "Duchess." Such activities were balanced with more academic organizations like the National Honor Society, National Latin Society as Secretary, and Senior Class coordinator at Kennedy. She excelled in both sports and academics, going to District meets for gymnastics in her junior and senior years, and earning the Science Award from the American Association of University Women in her junior year. She also earned several Magna Cum Laude awards on the National Latin Exam, a 5 on the AP Literature and Composition exam, and was a commended student in the PSAT. Jessi's academic success earned her a spot in the Top Ten students in her graduating class and the English department award. Volunteerism is an important aspect of Jessi's life. She

has worked with the Museum of Flight in Seattle, the Youth Tutoring Program through Catholic Community Services, and as a Program Aide at Chinook Day camp. With dedication to her community, Jessianne upholds the words of her inspiration Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."

Karla Paola Figueroa was born in Guerrero, Mexico, moving to the U.S. when she was four years old. She grew up loving the outdoors, books, and science. She and her family currently reside in the Northern Chicago Suburbs. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Round Lake Senior High School. During her sophomore year, Karla began a program that focused on teaching kids about environmental sustainability and conservation efforts. Throughout high school, she was a part of the Schuler Scholar Program, a unique and enriching experience. She and her teammate held the number one doubles spot on the varsity tennis team. Karla participated in Vanderbilt University's Summer Acad-

emy and Carleton College's Summer Science Institute. She is ecstatic to pursue her many interests in science, humanities, and language, and cannot wait to participate in new activities such as climbing and skiing. She enjoys traveling throughout North America and Europe and hopes that her time at CC will bring many more adventures. Her favorite memories include road trips with her parents and younger brother. She enjoys reading, coffee, rain, hot soup, good music, volunteering, and hiking. Karla is more than excited for her time at Colorado College and is grateful to be a part of the Woman's Educational Society.

Valerie Maravilla was born in Bakersfield, California and grew up in Tecolotlan, Mexico. She moved back to the United States when she was 9 years old and later attended Independence High School in Arizona. Valerie graduated with an Honors Diploma and was number two in her class. During high school, she was involved in many clubs; Valerie was part of the French Club, the National Honor Society and was the president

continues on page 3...



The **WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (WES)** is an autonomous community organization founded on April 20, 1889, to foster support of Colorado College. Its purposes are to bring community and college together, to give assistance to students of the college, and to undertake programs and projects to benefit the college, particularly women of the college. Gifts to WES are tax-deductible. **Newsfocus** is published twice a year as a service to members and friends of WES.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

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Message from the Co-Presidents

Ann Burek and Meg Chojnacki

The 2015 – 2016 academic year is starting with a bang. Five new scholars joined our cadre of impressive young women at the Meet and Greet on Saturday, August 15. They will be introduced to the general membership at the Scholarship Tea on Tuesday, September 22.

The Historic Van Briggles Pottery Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 12. The original tour has many additional family friendly activities. Many thanks to Kathy Honea, George Eckhardt, Larry Tarrafranca, Dan Crossey, Fred Wills, and Sarah Healy and her committee members for their invaluable expertise and contributions to the WES scholarship program.

The 2014 – 2015 academic year ended with a flurry of activities. The Annual Meeting was held on April 21. After the business meeting, five graduating seniors were introduced by their mentors and gave presentations about their WES and academic experiences. Colorado College President, Jill Tiefenthaler adjusted her busy schedule to stay for the scholar presentations. One attendee reported, "This is why we have the Woman's Educational Society." Thanks to the mentors and to the Scholarship Co-chairs, Elaine Derbenwick and Helen Knight for their efforts.

Also in April, the Woman's Educational Society again partnered with PILLAR Institute for Lifelong Learning to plan and execute an educational and fundraising trip entitled "Tribal Trails." Board members who participated in the trip raved about their once-in-a-lifetime experiences and showed off their "Don't Worry, Be Hopi" tee shirts. These trips would be impossible without the leadership of two Members-at-Large, Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell. Thanks to them.

Every one of our numerous committees, including a temporary ad hoc Gifts to CC committee, and our officers work throughout the year to ensure the success of our many events and programs. We so appreciate all of your efforts. As we sadly say goodbye to long serving board members, we happily welcome new board members. We would especially like to thank Lana Coffman and Beth Zautke for their inspired and gracious leadership and their unending advice and unselfish help during this transition period.

Please consider joining our team as we continue to help our outstanding WES scholars. If you are already a member of our team, please return your updated membership form with your dues. Your active participation is a key factor in our program. 🌸

Introducing Our New WES Scholars

continued from page 1 ...

and co-founder of the AP History Club. She was on her school's swim team for three years and was captain during her senior year. Valerie also played the double bass in the orchestra and was part of the district's honors orchestra for two years. She volunteered at the city's library during the summers and was part of the Teen Library Council where she planned activities to promote reading for young children. Valerie loves to read, write and play instruments — particularly the ukulele. She has plans to study medicine and eventually participate in Doctors Without Borders. She is excited to start at CC, because it is surrounded by breathtaking natural landscapes and full of opportunities. She says she is also incredibly thankful that she will get to be part of the Woman's Educational Society.

Emily Sussman is an 18-year-old Arizona native and the oldest of four. When she is not working as a hostess at Grimaldi's Pizzeria, she is running, listening to music, or acting! Theatre has been an extremely important part of her life and she hopes that she can maintain her involvement with theatre in college. However, despite her love for the arts, she is majoring in neuroscience in the direction of pre-medicine. Her ultimate goal is to become a bilingual surgeon, fluent in both English and Spanish. At Colorado College, she hopes to learn as much as she can alongside her new colleagues through enlightening experiences and discussions.

Katie Timzen was born and raised in Gresham, Oregon. As an Oregonian, she grew up with an appreciation for all things wild and spent countless hours of her childhood chasing waterfalls and sunshine. Her time spent outdoors taught her to love and respect life in all forms, and inspired her to pursue an education in environmental science at the beautiful Colorado College. This year, Katie graduated as Valedictorian of Sam Barlow High School, where she was a Scholar of Distinction, athlete, debater, volunteer, and leader. Most of her free time was spent at the pool, where she was a 4-year varsity member of both the water polo and swim teams. Her water polo team placed third in the state during both her junior and senior years and Katie earned All-Conference recognition. When Katie wasn't in the water, she could be found in the school's newsroom, performing her duties as head editor of the bi-weekly newspaper, The Bruin Banner. Katie was also a public forum debater for Barlow's speech and debate team. Her team traveled across the western U.S. to attend tournaments, competing at schools such as Arizona State, Berkeley, and Stanford. Along with these activities, Katie gave back to the community. She was a Girl Scout for eleven years, as well as a member of the National Honor Society. Her favorite places to volunteer are the library and local wildlife areas. She has spent her last three summers working as a lifeguard and swim instructor at local pools. Katie is looking forward to meeting new and diverse people, traveling, and pursuing her passion for the outdoors. She is beyond honored to have been chosen as a WES Scholar and is ecstatic to start her adventurous journey at CC. 🌿

Scholar Event Held February 24th

Puppeteer, Patti Smithsonian presented a program on Folkloric Puppetry at Tutt House. Patti and scholars are pictured.



Van Briggie Memorial Pottery Festival

By Sarah Healy

Almost every year since 1997, WES has sponsored a one-day fund-raising tour of CC's architectural treasure, the Van Briggie Memorial Pottery Building. This year, WES has invited the Colorado Springs arts and history community to join us in celebration of the lives of Artus and Anne Van Briggie.

As in previous tours, participants will hear presentations by historians George Eckhardt and Dan Crossey; learn about master stone carver, Larry Terrafranca's wall and replica cat; and see Fred Wills, Van Briggie master potter from 1947 – 1988 perform pot-throwing demonstrations. American Art Pottery expert, Kathy Honea will date-authenticate your personal Van Briggie pieces (limit 2).

This year, enjoy the Festival before or after your tour with our Antiques Roadshow clip, guided tours of the adjacent Heritage Garden by the Horticulture Art Society, Hand-on-His-

tory activities and decorate your own paper tile with the Pioneers Museum, the Fine Arts Center's Bemis School of Art potters will also demonstrate throwing pots on a wheel, and the Historic Preservation Alliance will tell you how the Van Briggie Memorial Pottery came to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 29, 2009. There also will be a scavenger hunt of building details for kids of all ages.

You may purchase the lovely Van Briggie cards and walking tour books, as well as Patsy's yummy "Peanut Briggie" in commemorative tins, special issue Van Briggie blend coffee from Roasted!, and reprints of the 2002 Van Briggie issue of Kiva magazine.

Come celebrate the arts and history with WES at the Festival on September 12! Tours run every 20 minutes from 9:00am – 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 (kids under 5 free). All proceeds help WES provide scholarship funding to Colorado College students. ☘



The Historic Van Briggie Pottery Festival Saturday, September 12

Tours run every 20 minutes from 9:00-11:20am & 12:20-3:00pm
1125 Glen Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80905 (corner of Uintah St. and Glen Ave.)

Tickets: \$10, children under 5 free ☘ For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu/wes or call 719/589/7699
Proceeds fund WES scholarships at Colorado College

THANKS TO OUR FESTIVAL FRIENDS



COLORADO COLLEGE

TOUR THE POTTERY

- ☘ Guided tour of the Memorial Pottery includes a video of the lives of Artus and Anne Van Briggie.
- ☘ Presentations by George Eckhardt, Larry Terrafranca and Dan Crossey.
- ☘ Pot-throwing demonstration by Van Briggie master potter, Fred Wills.
- ☘ Date authentication of your personal Van Briggie pieces by expert, Kathy Honea (limit 2 pieces).

TOUR THE GROUNDS

- ☘ Guided tours of the Horticulture Art Society gardens.
- ☘ Pioneers Museum ☘ Hands on History activities and decorate your own paper tile.
- ☘ See the Fine Art Center's Bemis School of Art potters throw pots on a wheel.
- ☘ Join the Historic Preservation Alliance of Colorado Springs.
- ☘ Family-friendly scavenger hunt of building details for kids of all ages.
- ☘ Purchase self-guided walking tour books, special issue Van Briggie note cards, Roasted! Van Briggie blend coffee, Patsy's Peanut Briggie and reprints of the Spring 2002 Van Briggie issue of Kiva magazine. Cash and checks only.

WES Welcomes Our Newest Board Members

Three talented women joined the WES Board of Managers in 2015-16, filling open spots on the board. In a brief time, each has made significant contributions. They will officially begin their first three year term in July, 2015.

Nancy Baxter

After graduating from CC in political science, Nancy earned her MBA from Claremont-McKenna College. Prior to returning to her alma mater to serve as the Director of Planned Giving for the college, she worked in Los Angeles in the private sector as a senior philanthropic advisor for Wells Fargo's Charitable Management Group and as a VP for Scudder Stevens & Clark, serving as a private investment counselor.

A lover of the arts, Nancy served on various boards and committees in LA including the Shakespeare Festival, the Philharmonic and the Opera.

She is an avid hiker – and international traveler.

Emily Dean

Emily Dean moved to Colorado Springs and joined the Colorado College Advancement Office team in summer 2013. Prior to that, Emily lived in Chicago and worked in development at the University of Chicago. Emily is a former teacher of English and ESL at her alma mater, Indiana University. It is during her time at Indiana that her interest in helping students reach their potential grew. Through teaching, Emily says her eyes were opened to issues of access to education, and her interest in fundraising was born. Most recently, Emily became Managing Director of Atlas Preparatory School which serves low-income students. She enjoys hiking with her husband, Steve and dog, Barnaby. She looks forward to becoming more involved with WES and continuing to support students with both a curiosity for learning and need.

Caitlin Apigian

Caitlin is the primary staff liaison to the Colorado College Board of Trustees, strategizing on effective board governance and helping design engaging board programs. Caitlin also works on behalf of the president regarding student and staff issues, particularly with the President's Council — a group of student ambassadors and liaisons between the college's administration and student body — and the college's Staff Council. Additionally, Caitlin supports the college's positive relations with the Colorado Springs community as the principal CC staff aide and representative of the president to the Colorado College Business and Community Alliance (B&CA). Caitlin graduated summa cum laude from Clark University with a bachelor of arts degree in social science.

Elected to their first three year terms July 1, 2015 were:

Sheila McElroy

Sheila McElroy moved here from Texas seven years ago and sympathizes with the bumper sticker, "not a native, but got here as soon as I could." She enjoys hiking, snowshoeing and exploring Colorado. She retired from East Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse where she was assistant to the director. She worked for the Longview Museum of Fine Art and the children's section for the Longview Public Library. Interests include traveling, reading, guitar and art. She is a docent for the Fine Arts Center. After living in Singapore for two years in the 1980s, she caught the travel bug and has visited several countries. After the death of her husband of 45 years last August, she is looking forward to new responsibilities and welcomes working with WES.

Faye McQueen

Carolyn "Faye" McQueen was born and raised in North Carolina. She received her B.A. in Elementary Education from St. Augustine's University, Raleigh, NC, and her M.A. from Hampton University in Hampton, VA. She also holds a Colorado Principal License from the University of Denver. She spent 38 years as an educator in the Hampton public school system, the Department of Defense Dependent schools in Wertheim, Germany, and Colorado Springs District Eleven. She holds a life membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, a community service organization, is a charter member of The Links, Inc., and is involved in other community, civic and church organizations. She enjoys traveling, reading, sports and attending Broadway shows and theatre performances, and she volunteers as a docent at the Fine Arts Center.

Sharon Grady

Originally from Chicago, Sharon spent 31 years in the Air Force where she traveled extensively, counseled cadets, served in management positions and retired as a colonel. She moved to Colorado Springs 10 years ago and runs a child and family investigation service for the courts. She volunteers for CASA, for the BBB as a mediator, and serves as a docent for the CS Fine Arts Center. She enjoys reading, decorating and music.

Kerry Steere

Kerry Steere came to Colorado Springs to become director of the Colorado College Annual Fund in August of last year. A graduate of Skidmore college with a double major in Business Management and Theatre, Kerry was previously with the Wellesley Annual Fund, the school of the Museum of fine Arts, and MIT.

WES/PILLAR Tour: Tribal Trails Adventure

By Monique Michaud, Diane Benninghoff, Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell

WES and PILLAR again teamed up to sponsor a fundraising trip April 27 – May 5. This was a “Tribal Trails Adventure” mapped out by retired anthropology professor, Dr. Marianne Stoller and planned and executed by Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson O'Donnell. The trip featured visits to seven different Indian tribes. At each tribe the group was warmly received and briefed by either the governor or a council member or taken on a guided tour.

Sharon and Cathy shared a story about their pre-trip. At the Laguna Pueblo, they met Frank Cerno, who was very involved with tribal management and was most helpful in planning the visit. Both he and his sister were CC graduates!

After a welcome dinner at El Pinto, a favorite of Marianne Stoller's and an overnight in Albuquerque, the first visit was to Laguna Pueblo. The governor spoke to the group and entertained questions. Asked what he saw as the greatest problem facing the community, he said “Loss of the language.” He felt once you lose the language, the tribe loses its culture. This was to be a recurring theme throughout visits to other tribes. He also showed us

the four very important canes and we learned of their significance as treaties with Mexico, New Mexico, and the United States.

Next stop was the Acoma Pueblo and a visit to the Cultural Center, followed by a guided tour of “Sky City”, built in 1000 – 1200 AD. Following was a trip to the Zuni Pueblo, where the group was treated to a lovely lunch in a private home and then to a dance by Indian children. The governor and four council members welcomed the group.

In the Navajo Nation, there were two visits to the Hubbell Trading post, whose heyday was in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Then, at the Hopi Cultural Center, artists in various media demonstrated the craft and also sold their wares. This proved to be an expensive stop for many in the group.

The trip included a journey down Canyon de Chelly, which is spectacular!! There were also stops at the Ute Mountain tribe and the Jicarillo Apaches.

This was a most informative excursion! As always, \$100 from each participant's fee went into the WES scholarship fund. Thanks for your contributions: Lois Beardsley, Diane Benninghoff, Jim Bishop, Barbara May, Ann Burek, Gary Conover, Sally Conover, Carol



Erickson, Betty Fannin, Joan Frederick, Beverly Goodall, Ralph Roscoe, Marianne Katte, Jim Keene, Marty Keene, Joan Kincaid, Peter Knepell, Roz Knepell, Lucy McLeod, Lynn McLeod, Monique Michaud, Richard Waltman, Anita Paraday, Kirk Paraday, Joan Perkins, Barbara Potter, Jane Powell, Sandy Raudabaugh, Sharon Rice, Dorothy Turner, and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell.

Thanks to Sharon and Cathy for an outstanding job. Thanks also to Marilyn Panco, who is always “so much more than a bus driver.” ☘

Pictures: Walking through Acoma ruins; Group enjoying authentic Indian lunch in a Zuni home; Zuni students performing.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Would you like to become more involved with WES? Whether you are a part of Colorado College or from the Colorado Springs community at large, we invite you to join the WES Board and become involved with our activities which benefit outstanding students. We meet the first Thursday of the month except January, July, and August. You may choose from a variety of committees: Finance, Fundraising, Membership, Nominating, Program, Publicity or Scholarship. Board members are also mentors of the WES scholars. Another way to participate is by serving as a Member-at-Large on one of our committees. You CAN make a difference in a student's life. If you would like to join our efforts or have questions, please leave a message for us at (719) 389-7699 or at WES@ColoradoCollege.edu.



THE WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY *of* COLORADO COLLEGE

MEMBERSHIP FORM

WES Membership is open to all. Please select one of the following membership categories and make your check payable to WES. All contributions to WES are for scholarships, programs, and projects which benefit students of Colorado College and are tax deductible.

- ☐ Membership \$25 ☐ Baccalaureate \$50 – \$99 ☐ Cum Laude \$100 – \$249
☐ Magna Cum Laude \$250 – \$499 ☐ Summa Cum Laude \$500 – \$999
☐ Honorary \$1,000 and above

- ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Gift to WES Scholarship Fund

Name _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

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- ☐ I'd like for someone to call me about volunteering for WES

Send completed form with payment to:

THE WOMAN'S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY *of* COLORADO COLLEGE
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The Woman's Educational Society's (WES) endowment was established in 1989 with the Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the WES. The endowment supports the annual lecture "Women in the West." The 2015 lecturer on February 25 was Louise Myrland, VP Community Initiatives & Investments of the Women's Foundation of Colorado. Her topic was "The Status of Women and Girls in Colorado."



WES Annual Meeting: On April 21, WES held its 126th Annual Meeting. WES members enjoyed presentations from our six graduating scholars, remarks from CC President, Jill Tiefenthaler, and meeting some families of WES scholars.