

Board of Managers 2017 – 2018

Co-Presidents – Crystal Bryant
 First Vice President – Karen Henderson
 Second Vice President – Eileen Martin
 Recording Secretary – Judy DeGroot
 Corresponding Secretary – Rosalyn Knepell
 Treasurer – Barbara Mitchell
 Assistant Treasurer – Barbara May
 Immediate Past Co-Presidents – Anne Burek and Meg Chojnacki
 Board Members:
 Brittany Almeida Faye McQueen
 Ann Burek Monique Michaud
 Judy Casey Karen Rubin
 Sharon Grady Cindi Zenkert-Strange
 Helen Knight

The Woman’s Educational Society Scholars 2017 – 2018

Seniors, Class of 2018

Olivia Berlin	Bellevue, Washington
Isabelle Nathanson	Boulder, Colorado
Caley Nicholson	Brunswick, Maine
Emma Wilson	Steamboat Springs, Colorado
Kendra Wuerth	Colorado Springs, Colorado

Juniors, Class of 2019

Jessianne Blake	Burien, Washington
Karla Figueroa	Round Lake Beach, Illinois
Valerie Maravilla	Glendale, Arizona
Emily Sussman	Gilbert, Arizona
Katie Timzen	Gresham, Oregon
Natalie Waltrous	Seattle, Washington

Sophomores, Class of 2020

Cinea Jenkins	Ft. Lupton, Colorado
Eva Parra	Tucson, Arizona
Valeria Peralta	Miami, Florida
Jessica Ramos	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Kristie Shirley	Lake Worth, Florida

Freshmen, Class of 2021

Melissa Manuel	Homestead, Florida
Maeve O’Meara	Norman, Oklahoma
Grace Pantalone	Peoria, Arizona
Emileigh Grace Rafidi	Fullerton, California
Joy Ki Pum Ryoo	Minneapolis, Minnesota

**THE WOMAN’S EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY (WES)
 of Colorado College
 2017 – 2018**

Annual Report of the President

**129th Annual Meeting
 April 26, 2018**

To all members and friends:

This report summarizes the activities of the committees and officers of the WES Board of Managers.

STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Membership statistics as of December 31, 2017

Regular members.....	126
Life and Silver Special members.....	85
Ex-officio and Honorary members	8
Total.....	219

Board of Managers accounts as of December 31, 2017

Operating Fund.....	\$16,428.10
Scholarships – Fundraising.....	\$17,897.55
Dorothy P. Bryson Special Student Assistance Fund.....	\$3,550.00
Mary G. Slocum Founders Grant Fund	\$3,000.00
Gifts to Colorado College Fund.....	\$14,600.00
Marianne Stoller Gift Fund	\$14,500.00

Market Value of the Endowment as of December 31, 2017

Composed of the WES Irrevocable Trust and the WES Revocable Trust the Cook, Hinch, Campbell,Stone, and the General funds	\$4,695,653
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2017-2018 Scholarship funds allocated to 20 scholars \$152,000

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

- August 19, 2017 **New Scholar Reception, WES Room**
- September 9, 2017 **Van Briggie Pottery Festival**
- September 28, 2017 **Scholar Tea at Stewart House**
- September 15-22,
2017 **WES/PILLAR Tour: Splendors of the
Southwest Canyons**
- November 28, 2017 **Fall Lunch & Program – Barbara Sparks
Colorado photographer**
- December 6, 2017 **Scholar Event: Cookie Exchange**
- February 2018 **Winter *Newsfocus* mailing**
- February 27, 2018 **Winter Lunch & Program – Linda Broker
Rocky Mountain Women’s Film Institute**
- April 4, 2018 **Women of the West Luncheon
Maria Cotera – “Passport to the Homeland:
Maria Varela’s Journey from Civil Rights
To Land Rights”**
- April 26 2018 **WES Annual Meeting and Luncheon**
- May 2018 **Spring *Newsfocus* mailing**

Please read the committee reports for more details.

Contact us at:

**WES@coloradocollege.edu
(719) 389-7699
www.coloradocollege.edu/other/wes
Like us on Facebook**

Scholarship Committee

Chair: Sharon Grady and Brittany Almeida

Members: Judy De Groot, Helen Knight, Eileen Martin, and Crystal Bryant

Following are some details of a productive year for the committee:

- Selection of and notification to five (5) new WES Scholars, as well as the recruitment and assignment of mentors, was the initial focus of committee efforts;
- Provided photos and biographical sketches for each scholar for the NewsFocus. Additional photos and narratives were provided to the NewsFocus following other activities involving the scholars;
- Planned, organized and hosted the August Meet and Greet activity to welcome the scholars, meet their parents, and introduce scholar mentors and WES Board members;
- WES Scholars' Tea held at the Stewart House in September. New scholars were introduced to their mentors and to the broader Colorado College community. Framed certificates and small mementos were also presented to them;
- All scholars were invited to attend the September Van Briggle Tour and Festival;
- Goodie bags were prepared and distributed to the scholars during each semester. Additionally, the December holiday Cookie Exchange was planned, executed and well attended by scholars and mentors;
- Encouraged WES Scholars to attend the Fall and Winter luncheon programs and the CC sponsored Annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon;
- Disseminated WES Special Grant Application information to the scholars each semester. Accepted applications, reviewed and selected grant recipients;
- Advised WES Scholars of the April WES Annual Meeting and Luncheon and encouraged their attendance. Notified graduating seniors of the luncheon presentation requirement, and assisted them with preparation for this activity.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Crystal Bryant

Our year has been busy and productive. We welcomed new scholars and their families at a reception in August. It was wonderful to connect with the new scholars for the first time. With the help of Colorado College President Dr. Jill Tiefenthaler, we introduced the five new scholars to the membership at the Scholars' Tea in September. This year we had the unique situation of having an upper-class scholarship available. Finally, all of us thoroughly enjoyed the Cookie Exchange in December and the scholars were able to take a few minutes away from their studies to load up on cookies. What a wonderful way to start the holiday season! Our events and opportunities to interact with our scholars continue to be a focus and highlight of our activities. It is truly a joy to spend time with these immensely talented young women.

The WES/PILLAR trips continue and thrive. The fall trip, entitled "Splendors of the Southwest Canyons," started and ended in Las Vegas and included the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. The spring trip entitled "Unique Utah" is set to take place from April 29 – May 5, 2018. These trips continue to be a solid fundraiser for WES and provide a means to continue interacting with the community at large.

In addition to our foremost function of sponsoring our scholars, WES has a dual mission of also focusing on community outreach. Along with the WES/Pillar trips, our primary means of doing this is the annual Van Briggle Festival, which seems to grow each year. This year was no different! Held last September, we had record breaking attendance for the Van Briggle Pottery Festival. Tours were all sold out by early afternoon and we unfortunately had to turn some people away. We have grown many partnerships through this event and look forward to next September's Festival to continue the growth and success we've seen this year!

We once again co-sponsored International Women's Day. It was wonderful to be inspired by so many strong and successful women. We continue our strong partnership with Pillar and are grateful for their continued support of the trips. We value our connection with The Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies and look towards enhancing this partnership in the future. We have also decided to become an Opening Night Film Sponsor for the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival, which occurs in November 2018. This film festival is the longest continuously running women's film festival in North America. We feel this partnership will reap benefits for WES in the way of increased visibility in the community and the possibility of new opportunities for our scholars.

Our Board remains dedicated to our mission and to our scholars. Although the individual members change and how we achieve our goals evolves, the function and purpose of WES continues to thrive. I am so grateful to be the current leader of a wonderfully talented and accomplished group of women that are endlessly dedicated to serving our scholars.

Finance Committee

Chair: Barbara Mitchell

Members: Ann Burek, Rosalyn Knepell, Barbara May, Crystal Bryant

The Finance Committee evaluates the operating budget, monitors the endowment and determines funding available for scholarships. The Board of Managers' goal is to provide scholars no less than 10% of the total cost of attending Colorado College. For academic year 2018-19, the scholarship will increase from \$7,600 to \$8,000. This amount is 11.8% of Colorado College's cost of attendance. The total annual scholarship commitment for 20 students will be \$160,000.

Since the 1990s, John W. Bristol and Company has managed the WES endowment. As of December 31, 2017, it was valued at \$4,695,653.

The Assistant Treasurer (Barbara May) is responsible for attending Finance Committee meetings and maintaining hard copies of documents related to PILLAR/WES trips. These documents include:

- Trip Brochure
- Signed MOU - provided by PILLAR and Sharon Rice
- Participant List - provided by PILLAR
- List to be provided to Treasurer for tax letter purposes
- Trip Accounting - Provided by PILLAR within 3 months after trip
- NewsFocus follow-up trip article if available

We will again support five incoming freshmen and fifteen returning scholars for the 2018-19 academic year. This would be impossible without our Fundraising Committee and the loyal support of members and friends. We congratulate the entire WES community on its efforts to maintain the value of WES scholarships. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Publicity Committee

Chair: Karen Henderson

Members: Brittany Almeida, Patsy Aronstein

Newsfocus Editor: Cindi Zenkert-Strange

Newsfocus: One of the most important and sometimes challenging tasks is the publication of the *Newsfocus*. Cindi has done a remarkable job with special photos of our events and articles featuring our scholars. Publication of the *Newsfocus* will be in May and October.

The WES Board of Managers held discussions regarding the need to be more visible in the community. This would encourage membership and event participation. The Publicity Committee recommended that the Publicity budget be increased to facilitate more opportunities to be published making us more visible in the community. WES is among numerous nonprofits citywide asking for free publicity in local publications. We compete for the limited free available space.

The Publicity Committee recommended being a sponsor of the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival. The WES Board of Managers approved being an Opening Night Film Sponsor for the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival, which occurs in November 2018. This film festival is the longest continuously running women's film festival in North America. Colorado College is also a sponsor for this film festival.

Program Committee

Chair: Eileen Martin

Board Members: Brittany Almeida, Monique Michaud, Judy Casey

Scholars' Tea - September 28, 2017

The Scholars' Tea was held at the magnificent Stewart House. WES President Crystal Bryant made brief remarks about WES's work and introduced Colorado College President Jill Tiefenthaler, who spent time meeting the new scholars and greeting guests. The mentors each introduced their scholars, and the scholars provided some background about themselves and their study plans. It was a great kickoff of the academic year and a wonderful opportunity for the scholars to meet as a group and gather with WES members.

Fall Luncheon and Program - November 28, 2017

The Fall Luncheon and Program featured former WES board member and Colorado photographer Barbara Sparks, who displayed photos from her new book, 'For Purple Mountains: Colorado, A Journey of the Senses.' WES members, guests and scholars participated.

Winter Luncheon and Program - February 27, 2018

For the Winter Luncheon and Program, members, scholars and other guests were treated to a presentation by Linda Broker, Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Institute. Linda spoke about her organization and screened three short films. WES board members broached the topic of an ongoing partnership between the two organizations.

Women of the West Luncheon - April 4, 2018

This WES-Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies partnership event featured Maria Cotera discussing "[Passport to the Homeland: Maria Varela's Journey from Civil Rights to Land Rights](#)" which told the unlikely story of "Mary Varela," a Chicana from Chicago who went South with the Freedom riders, and then later, West, to Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico where she worked with Reies Lopez Tijerina and the land rights movement.

WES Annual Meeting - April 26, 2018

Once again the Annual Meeting will be held at the Taste Restaurant in the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College. Senior Scholars will highlight their Colorado College experiences and future plans.

Fundraising Committee

Chair-Faye McQueen

Members: Ann Burek, Judy Casey, Eileen Martin, Karen Rubin, Cindi Zenkert-Strange

Members-at-Large: Sharon Rice, Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell

Van Briggle Festival – Chair, Ann Burek

Co-chairs: Faye McQueen, Eileen Martin

The past year's attendance was a record breaker for the annual Van Briggle Pottery Festival. The opening event was a memorial tribute honoring Fred Willis, a forty-year Van Briggle potter, who proudly demonstrated his pottery throwing skills to the public as opportunities allowed.

A large number of participants attended the noon dedication ceremony of the Lorelei marble sculpture inspired by Artus Van Briggle's Lorelei vase. It was commissioned by the Horticultural Arts Society and sculpted by Larry Terrafranca. The dedication took place in the Horticultural Art Society's Heritage Garden with speeches by George Eckhardt, Kathy Honea, Matt Mayberry and others.

WES members and Fine Arts Center docents led tours of the Van Briggle Pottery throughout the day. WES Board members dedicated hours to organizing the event and working the day of the tour. Presentations by George Eckhardt, Dan Crossey, Larry Terrafranca, Kathy Honea, Gary Conover and Rob Wheatley provided visitors with information about the history and the art of the Pottery. An added attraction to each tour was a portrayal of Anne Van Briggle by three docents from the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College.

Our community partners, old and new, in attendance, included the Horticultural Arts Society, Friends of Monument Valley Park, McAllister House, Historic Preservation Alliance, Manitou Springs Heritage Center and the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. We are very grateful for the support of the Bemis School of Art in co-sponsoring the festival and look forward to their continued support. Bemis Art School staff and volunteers and members of the Fred Willis family provided pottery demonstrations that were one of the highlights of the Festival.

WES/Pillar Trips – Chairs, Sharon Rice and Cathy Wilson-O'Donnell

Splendors of the Southwest Canyons (Sept. 15 – 22, 2017). Starting and ending in Las Vegas, and viewing Zion, Bryce, Antelope Slot Canyons; taking a Lake Powell boat ride; learning about the Glen Canyon Dam; and finally experiencing the grandeur of the North Rim of the Grand Canyon was a memorable and special experience for the 35 participants. Gary Ladd, reknown geologist, astronomer, and photographer, added his expertise to this incredible journey.

The spring trip entitled Unique Utah is set to take place from April 29 – May 5, 2018. Twenty-two participants will travel to the top of Colorado National Monument, visit Arches National Monument and Canyonlands National Park, ride a jet boat on the Colorado River, take a jeep ride in Monument Valley, stay at historic Goulding's Lodge, visit the Anasazi Heritage Center, tour Hovenweep National Monument, and end with a day at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, undertaking real archaeology experiences will be another memorable chapter in their lives. WES and PILLAR will receive \$2700 in donations from this trip.

Membership Committee

Co-Chairs: Barbara Mitchell, Helen Knight
Members: Judith Casey, Judy DeGroot, Crystal Bryant

Membership statistics as of December 31, 2017

Regular members.....	126
Life and Silver Special members.....	85
Ex-officio and Honorary members.....	8
Total.....	219

The WES database was submitted for certification in August 2017, February 2018 and May 2018, thus ensuring that labels generated for all mailings would be updated and current.

Helen Knight did an incredible job maintaining the database. She added a couple new tabs in order to provide better organization to the database.

The committee continued to reply to pertinent email messages and to all WES voicemail messages.

Letters were mailed in November to members who had not paid dues or made contributions in 2017.

Tax acknowledgment letters were mailed in January 2018.

Nominating Committee

Chair: Karen Rubin
Board Members: Judy Casey, Judy DeGroot, Monique Michaud, Roz Knepell
Members-at-Large: Diane Benninghoff, Caroline Vulgamore

At the end of the 2017-18 academic year, the Board of Managers was comprised of 16 members. The Nominating Committee successfully recruited two members for the Board: Patsy Aronstein and Amy Dounay.

Slate of Officers to be approved at the WES Board Meeting on May 3, 2018

President: Crystal Bryant
1st Vice President: Karen Henderson
2nd Vice President: Eileen Martin
Recording Secretary: Judy DeGroot
Corresponding Secretary: Roz Knepell
Treasurer: Barbara Mitchell
Assistant Treasurer: Barbara May