

*Colorado Women's
Educational Foundation*



2021 Annual Report



From the Board of Trustees

Colorado Women's Education Foundation's (CWEF) mission is to invest in women who are transforming their lives through education... for themselves, their families, and their communities. Since its inception in 1976, CWEF has provided over 600 scholarships to women totaling more than half a million dollars.

Development and adjustment, including continuing to manage the challenges of the worldwide pandemic: COVID-19, define CWEF's 2021 fiscal year (June 2020 – May 2021). This 2021 annual report showcases the Foundation's successes and achievements, which include board announcements and trustee bios, fundraising events and networking, happenings, memorial scholarships, outstanding scholarship recipients, recipient graduations, and much more. CWEF is pleased to document its significance, value, and accountability as well as taking the opportunity to express its deep gratitude to our growing tapestry of supporters, donors, sponsors, partners, and volunteers. CWEF's Board of Trustees are delighted to share the most significant activities accomplished by the Foundation during this past fiscal year.

Foundation Board of Trustees

CWEF's collaborative trustees are dedicated to achieving the mission and cause of the Foundation. These intelligent, forward thinking, dedicated, and passionate women work hard and contribute in many ways to help CWEF flourish. As volunteers they bring a wide variety of skill sets and function synergistically. The tangible benefits of all their efforts are demonstrated in the number of women the Foundation is able to assist financially and the amazing achievements of these outstanding scholarship recipients.

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2021 Annual Report created by Kevin Reardon

From the Board of Trustees

CWEF Board of Trustees

Karen McGee	President
Deb Fischer	Treasurer
Christine White	Secretary
Jess Dewell	Trustee
Stacia Harris-Shorts	Trustee
Jen Hinderliter	Trustee
Rebecca Komarek	Trustee
Glenda Mostek	Trustee

CWEF Staff

Roxanne Brickell-Reardon
Business and Program Manager (halftime)

Newly created Memorial Scholarships

Memorial charitable donations made to CWEF, in honor of someone special who has died, are a powerful and lasting way to give the gift of education and economic self-sufficiency to Colorado women in the name and memory of a loved one. At a loved one's passing, it can be suggested that donations be made to CWEF in lieu of flowers or gifts. Memorial donations provide tax benefits for one's generosity and provide a legacy for many generations to come.

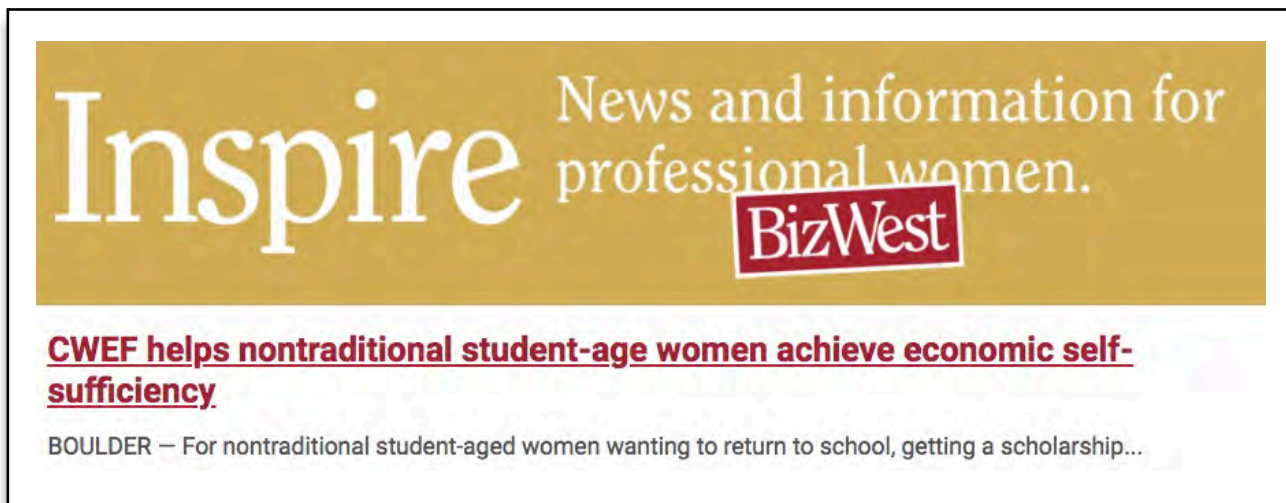
Several of the fall 2020 scholarships distributed had the unique designation of being a memorial scholarship. You can read about two newly created scholarships in the loving memory of Jean Brickell on page 9 and Marcia McLagan-Clark on page 10. There is more information about creating a memorial scholarship at CWEF's website www.cwef.org on the "Memorial Scholarships" page.

"The good that we do together surpasses the good we can do alone."

~ Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)

From the Board of Trustees

CWEF featured in BizWest's October Inspire Newsletter



BizWest reached out to interview CWEF's Business and Program Manager, Roxanne Brickell-Reardon, after she completed the annual BizWest's Survey of Nonprofit Organizations. This survey provided an opportunity for her to highlight CWEF's newsworthy achievements in the last 12 months and stated that the editor would take these entries into consideration when looking for new ideas for editorial features.

Roxanne was able to describe CWEF's mission, the scope of its services, and kinds of impacts over the years. As well, when asked what's on CWEF's wish list she replied, "We're always looking for fundraising opportunities and new donors. We're actively seeking more trustees, male or female." Rebecca Komarek learned about the amazing work of CWEF from this well-timed article and took the opportunity to reach out to CWEF and joined the Board of Trustees. You can read more about Rebecca on page 7. In addition to Roxanne being interviewed, Alyson Powers, a 2020 BPW Boulder scholarship recipient, offered to be interviewed for this article. You can read more about Alyson on page 18. This inspirational article can be accessed at CWEF's website www.cwef.org under the "About Us" header and "CWEF Media" tab.

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more."

~ H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

From the Board of Trustees

Participation in our sixth Colorado Gives Day



CWEF has raised more funding with the help of more donors each annual Colorado Gives Day (COGives Day) since becoming part of Community First Foundation's (CFF) nonprofit website listings. For the 2020 COGives Day effort, CWEF set a goal of raising \$55,000, through the generosity of 180 donors, ensuring it could expand its efforts to empower women by helping them achieve economic self-sufficiency. For a second year, CWEF took advantage of the opportunity to set up and use individual fundraising pages on CFF's website.

A total of 13 fundraising pages were developed to increase awareness about COGives Day and promote donations by trustees, supporters, staff, and scholarship recipients.

We received an extra helping hand when Carol Grever (below), CWEF sponsor and donor for years, pledged \$10,000 for life-changing scholarships. In a COGives Day fundraising email campaign, Carol explained, *"It has been my privilege to support this organization since its inception. Every year, my commitment strengthens because of the excitement I feel in helping to educate such worthy women. Keep the fire of hope burning; I'll add fuel."* As well, Carol encouraged others to magnify their donation with COGives Day Incentive Funds to make an even greater impact for women.

For COGives Day 2020, with incredible generosity, 221 donors donated well over \$56,000 to CWEF, demonstrating steadfast optimism for the influence we can generate together for women transforming their lives through education. CWEF and the women we serve are honored to be the beneficiaries of your charitable giving!

Eighteen former scholarship recipients worked together to raise a total of \$1,320 to fund a 2021 scholarship for another woman! Through social media, emails, and three personal fundraising pages they asked colleagues, friends, and family to make donations as well as making individual donations. Tamara shared, *"I love CWEF's work and am happy to help raise funds to support more women reaching their academic and professional goals!"* A big thank you goes to Andrea, Violeta, Samantha, Tamara, Rachel, Holly, Kaitlin, Alyson, Tammara, Jennifer, Lisa, Nicie, Rita, Aspen, Milena, and Hanna for giving back to support CWEF's uplifting work and creating the joy of a scholarship for a future recipient.



From the Board of Trustees

BPW Boulder continues to be a CWEF Scholarship Sponsor

Business and Professional Women of Boulder donated \$2,000 again for fall 2020 scholarships. These funds provided scholarships for two women including, Alyson, who is earning a combined Associate Degree and Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Front Range Community College and Andrea pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies at Naropa University. You can read more about Alyson on pages 18 and 20.

CWEF Bids a trustee farewell

Jess Dewell joined the of board of trustees in March of 2018 with a personal mission of using her experience and giving her time to uplift others. CWEF had captured her attention and as she was already a supporter, increasing her involvement by joining the board and sharing her skills made perfect sense. Jess brought her experience as a consultant and advisor working with individuals and teams to CWEF and benefitted the organization in many ways. She served as our Technology Advisor, making sure we were broadening our use of technology and increasing our reach through social media. Jess used the platform of her Voice of Bold Business radio show to create videos for our website, providing an additional medium for sharing the value and impact of CWEF scholarships.

Jess was the emcee for the pandemic-induced virtual 2021 Celebration of Women: *The Power of Education for Women* event held in collaboration with Business and Professional Women of Boulder. She did a great job of running a fast-paced, engaging program. Jess' business acumen and leadership development experience were put to good use during her three years on the board.

Following her three-year board term, Jess left the board with the following words, "I love the work we do and the impact we make, and my support of the organization will continue albeit in a different way to match the needs of my life right now." We are grateful for Jess' tenure on the board and for her many and varied contributions to CWEF's success. We wish Jess well and will miss her greatly.



New Trustees Join CWEF

Rebecca Komarek is passionate about helping students navigate their unique educational, career, and life paths. She strongly believes that lifelong learning is one of the most valuable assets one can have, and she supports students in authentic exploration of all, even atypical, pathways. This ethos drives her current work at the University of Colorado Boulder as Assistant Director of the Idea Forge, the campus design and prototyping facility. In her current role, Rebecca strives to connect students from across campus in collaborative experiences, often outside of the formal classroom. She supports students in exploring their interests through self-driven and entrepreneurial projects, skill and knowledge-building workshops, and student groups. She is the advisor for the Design for America student group and founder of the Idea Forge Impact Design Initiative, which connects students with local community partners.



Rebecca's strong drive to support adult learners was developed during her previous role working as an academic advisor for non-traditional students at the Northwestern University School of Professional Studies in Chicago, IL. By working closely with adult students as they balanced classes with full-time jobs and family responsibilities, she learned how impactful scholarships and unique support truly are for these students. Rebecca learned about the amazing work of CWEF from a well-timed BizWest article describing CWEF's support of women choosing to pursue education as a way to provide economic stability for themselves and their families. She took the opportunity to reach out to CWEF and joined the Board of Trustees.

Rebecca earned bachelor's and master's degrees in structural engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign followed by a master's degree in education with a focus on higher education administration from Northwestern University. Through work with Engineers Without Borders, serving as a liaison between professional and student chapters, she realized that she could combine her interests to improve how the United States educates engineers. Armed with this insight, she pursued her current role and worked full time while earning her PhD in civil engineering/engineering education from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2020.

Rebecca could never have predicted her circuitous route to her current role and specialization when she started college and chose a major. She feels deep empathy and respect for women courageous enough to tackle higher education as an adult, regardless of circumstances, and believes they are worth our time, our financial investment, and our admiration. She and her husband hope to pass on this awareness and understanding to their young son.

New Trustees Join CWEF



Jen Hinderliter is passionate about supporting women's economic self-sufficiency and is honored to be joining the CWEF Board of Trustees. She strongly believes that furthering their education will set women on a path toward gender equality, building better livelihoods and earning more income—positively impacting their families and communities.

Jen has devoted her career to public service with an emphasis in executive leadership and resource development. She believes it is truly a privilege to connect individuals, organizations, and resources to the programs making a difference in our community.

After college, Jen did a year of AmeriCorps service and knew from that time she wanted to have a career in the public sector. Over the past 21 years, she has worked at a variety of nonprofit organizations—most of that time focused on providing exceptional educational

experiences for children. Most recently, Jen served as the Executive Director for WOW! Children's Museum in Lafayette, Colorado, and the Development and Community Relations Director for Family Star Montessori School in Denver. She has worn all the nonprofit hats at one time or another during her career and has officially seen it all when it comes to nonprofit management—from start up to wrap up and everything in between. In a field where it feels like there is never an end to the workload, she has learned that it's important to celebrate your successes along the way.

In early 2020, Jen founded a nonprofit consulting business, Mile High Nonprofit Solutions. She continues to support the nonprofit community that she loves by helping organizations with fundraising, communications, operations, and governance projects. She helps organizations build capacity, generate resources, and operate more effectively.

Jen has a Master of Public Administration Degree from San Francisco State University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon. She lives in Westminster with her husband and two children. Her family are avid campers and are working their way through all of Colorado's State Parks.

Memorial Scholarships

Jean Orten Brickell In Memoriam (1926 – 2020)

By Jean's family



Jean grew up on the family farm near McDonald, Kansas, and was the fourth of 10 children, eight girls and two boys. Her formative childhood years occurred during the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, and World War II. These trying and challenging circumstances served to make Jean stronger, work harder, and want to achieve a better life for her family.

After high school, Jean attended St. Anthony's in Denver and graduated with her registered nursing degree in 1948. During college, Jean met her husband, Dick, and they wed in 1950, going on to have five children. The family moved numerous times over the next 21 years, from Colorado, to Utah, back to Colorado, then to Kansas, Georgia, Wisconsin, and finally back to Colorado in 1971.

For decades, Jean enjoyed her career of serving and helping others as a registered nurse. While working in nursing homes, low-income clinics, and later as a visiting nurse, she provided hope, perspective, caring, empathy, presence, and dignity to all her patients. Even after retirement and for many years thereafter, Jean ran the toe nail clinic at her church.

For decades she volunteered with the Assistance League of Denver, a nonprofit organization whose members identify, develop, implement, and fundraise for on-going service programs to meet specific needs in the Denver Metro Area. Helping to form the membership in 1989, Jean was a charter member of the Mile-High Professional Auxiliary of the Assistance League of Denver.

Jean and Dick were both from very large families. No matter where they lived, every opportunity was taken to engage with their siblings and involve their children with the almost 100 first cousins. Jean was a wonderful cook, delightful hostess, and loved entertaining and celebrations, which created deep family bonds and many traditions. Over the years she created and passed down many family and holiday customs and rituals.

With a zeal for life, Jean had an enthusiasm for crocheting, gardening, singing, writing poetry, dancing, telling stories, laughing, and traveling. She was a classy, redheaded lady who always took great pride in her colorful personal appearance. Jean was always true to her values—a tenacious, adventurous, single-minded, passionate, thoughtful, Catholic farm girl from Kansas. Her contagious laugh and loving spirit will be greatly missed.

Scholarship Contributors

Roxanne Brickell-Reardon
and Kevin Reardon

Aundrea, AJ, Lochlan, and
Bowen Piper-Feldkamp

Marci Leger-Lovato
and Al Smith

Richard Brickell

Andrew Schwartz

Reed and Jean Brickell

Bryann Brickell

Renee and Jerry and
Maria Piper

Randy Brickell

Memorial Scholarships

Marcia McLagan-Clark In Memoriam (1946 – 2020)

By Evie Hudak/Deb Fischer

Friends and family of Marcia McLagan-Clark, who passed away December 14, 2020, are honoring her memory by funding a Colorado Women's Education Foundation scholarship in her name.

With a history of over 30 years with Business and Professional Women (BPW) in Colorado, Marcia served as President of the local chapter, Northwest Metro, three times: 1991-1993, 2001-2003, and 2008-2011. When not the President, she served as the chapter's first or second Vice President or Secretary. She always refused to serve as Treasurer, however, mentioning that money management was "not [her] strong suit."

Marcia was always the "life of the party" at BPW meetings, making the mood light and cheery with her frequent laughter. She met others with her smile and was there for anything others needed. She is certainly one of the reasons that the Arvada/Northwest Metro chapter has thrived over the last three decades.



Scholarship Contributors

Delores Shuster
Tom Clark
Karen McGee
Mary Harlow
Northwest Metro Business
and Professional Women
Lauri Householder
Deborah Fischer
Joyce Lansfield
Leslie Karnauskas
Cynthia Wieme
Anonymous
Becky Maurer
Ellie Gietzen
Marjory Hopper
Lisa McConnell
Jess Dewell
Kathy Kenney

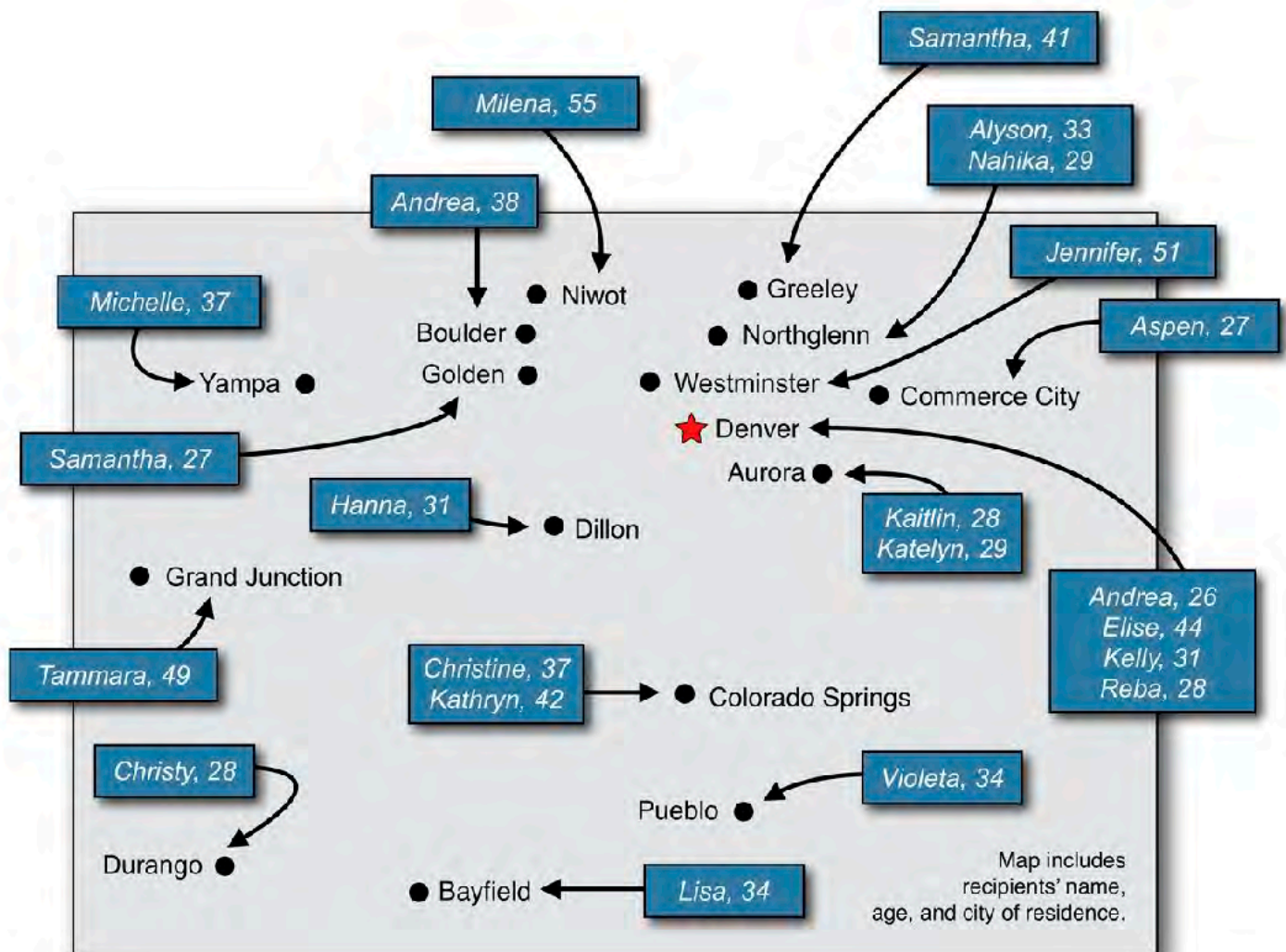
Honoring local businesswomen was a BPW activity that particularly motivated Marcia. For many years she served as the chair of the committee that selected and celebrated the Northwest Metro Chapter's Woman of the Year, and she orchestrated the annual Woman of the Year dinner. Many times, Marcia convinced the cities of Arvada and Westminster to issue a proclamation for Business Women's Week in October.

Marcia had a real passion for women's equal rights, often reading passages from articles about national efforts to pass the Equal Rights Amendment to the chapter. Another area of advocacy for Marcia was around early detection of breast cancer. She urged fellow BPW members to do monthly "breast checks" and even have a "buddy" to remind one another to do it. Ironically, Marcia developed breast cancer, but because of her concern in this area, she detected it early.

Marcia was born in South St. Paul, Minnesota, and lived in Arvada, Colorado, for the past 35 years. She is survived by her husband, Tom Clark, sons Patrick and Mickey Semantel, daughter-in-law Michelle, and granddaughter Becca. Also, stepson Tommy Clark, wife Kelly, grandchildren Taylor, Colton, and Stephanie, and great granddaughter Paisley.

CWEF Provides Scholarships for Women Across Colorado

CWEF awarded \$23,000 in scholarships in fall 2020 to 22 outstanding and high-achieving women. These 2020 scholarships provided 22 women more opportunity to pursue economic equity through education and a career. One recipient shared, *"Thank you so much for your investment in my future. Knowing there are organizations that believe in my goals and ability to make a difference serves as confirmation for the path I am on. I am watching my dreams become goals right before my eyes."* Since its inception in 1976, CWEF has provided over 600 scholarships to women totaling more than half a million dollars.



Another recipient wrote, *"I want to express how grateful I am that you have chosen to invest in my future. Gaining an education has been a dream of mine for many years. I feel especially honored that an organization such as yours saw potential in me."*

Recipients were selected from women who applied by the scholarship deadline of May 31, 2020. Scholarship funds were awarded in the fall and sent directly to the recipient's school. Applicants must be attending accredited educational institutions of higher learning or vocational training, be at least 25 years old, living in Colorado while earning their certification or degree, and demonstrate academic potential, financial need, career goals, leadership skills, and community involvement.

Scholarship Recipients during Fiscal Year 2020-2021

The statistics describing these women only tell part of the story! Many recipients tell CWEF their scholarships help them transcend serious financial constraints, but the most outstanding gift they receive is a sense of pride and emotional support because CWEF is investing in them and their future. Some recipients share that the communication and encouragement they receive from CWEF is equal to or even more significant in value to them than the funding they receive.

The review of each set of scholarship applications continues to be challenging and yet very gratifying for CWEF's Board of Trustees. The trustees review the applications and award scholarships without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual preference. The selection process is difficult given the number of applications the Foundation receives and the high quality of achievement portrayed by these women. Trustees find it heartening and reassuring for the future to financially invest in impressive and talented women working towards economic self-sufficiency through education.



Scholarship Application Deadline

The application deadline is May 31 for fall and spring semester/quarter awards. Applications must be postmarked by the deadline and mailed to CWEF. Scholarship funds awarded by CWEF are applied to the recipient's account at her school.

Statistically speaking...

The 22 outstanding and high-achieving women who received awards this year:

- ◆ Range in age from 26 to 55 with an average age of 36 years old,
- ◆ Are racially diverse: seven of 22 women, or 32%, are racially diverse,
- ◆ May be raising as many as six dependents: 13 of these women are caring for and/or supporting 31 dependents,
- ◆ Have military involvement, one is active military,
- ◆ Vary in marital status: 11 of them are single, four are divorced, and seven are married,
- ◆ Have an average GPA of 3.67 with eight women maintaining a 4.00,
- ◆ Can be first-generation college students: six or 27% of these women are first-gen students,
- ◆ Are in quite varied fields of study including business administration, communications, computer-aided drafting, counseling, dental hygiene, educational leadership and principal certification, English secondary teacher licensure, environmental studies, fire and emergency response, medical coding, Montessori certification, nursing, paramedic, project management, social work, special education, speech pathology, and more with their programs ranging from four women obtaining certifications, three working towards associates degrees, eight earning bachelor's degrees, six pursuing master's degrees, and one woman is in medical school to become a physician.
- ◆ Attend Colorado Mesa University, Colorado State University Pueblo, Community College of Denver, Front Range Community College, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Montessori Education Center of the Rockies, Naropa University, Pikes Peak Community College, Project Management Institute, Pueblo Community College, University of Colorado College of Nursing, University of Colorado School of Medicine, and University of Northern Colorado.

CWEF Celebrates Scholarship Recipients Graduating

The graduation of 12 scholarship recipients in summer and fall 2020 and spring 2021 is an astonishing success story for these high achieving women as well as for CWEF's investment in them. These graduations from various institutions across Colorado include three women achieving their master's degrees, six women completing their bachelor's degrees, two women earning their associates degrees, and one woman obtaining a certification.

As a result of accomplishing their educational goals and completing their degrees and programs, many of these women have begun new and higher paying jobs. Studies show that when you educate women, they continue to transform themselves and their families, communities, and society as a whole for the better.

Summer 2020

Rena graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies from the University of Northern Colorado. Upon graduation, Rena shared, *"By investing in my education, you have lifted a financial burden for my family and have created an atmosphere for my children to see that by working hard, anything is possible. I will always remember the faith you had in me to accomplish my dreams!"*

Already holding a Master's Degree in Leadership and Education, **Lindsey** earned a Certification in Project Based Learning from the University of Pennsylvania. Working in a rural community as a middle school teacher, Lindsey wrote, *"My certification is proving helpful and invigorating in my approach to teaching. In a project-based learning environment, I join my students on their journeys of inquiry, discovery, design, and presentation."*

Fall 2020

Attending Naropa University, **Andrea** graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Contemplative Psychology. She plans to work as a somatic therapy-based life coach, helping others to reconnect to their bodies and find their source of inner strength.

Spring 2021

Jennifer (right) was the 2020 recipient of CWEF's Essential Workers' Scholarship Fund. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Metropolitan State University of Denver with her Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Response Administration with a minor in Community Risk Reduction and Loss Prevention. Jennifer is in training as the Community Preparedness Education Programs Lead for the Red Cross Mile High Region and explained, *"I don't get paid but I am learning quite a bit."* She plans to apply to law school in the future.



CWEF Celebrates Scholarship Recipients Graduating

Spring 2021 continued



Samantha E (above) attained a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration - Computer Information Systems from the University of Northern Colorado – Monfort College of Business. She shared, *"Thanks again for the support in my education! My degree, along with my certification in User Experience (UX) design and work history in tech roles, will hopefully help me to obtain a role as a UX designer for a tech company. My son and daughter both also graduated—my son from college and my daughter from high school. I plan to begin my job search after celebrating their accomplishments."*

Graduating with her Masters of Arts in School Counseling from Adams State University, **Devan** (right) is beginning a new job with the Colorado Springs School District using her degree as a school counselor while continuing to work towards her Licensed Professional Counselor title. She has to complete 3,000 supervised hours in the field of counseling throughout the next two to three years in order to earn her license.



CWEF Celebrates Scholarship Recipients Graduating

Spring 2021 continued



Samantha D (left) completed her student teaching and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Metropolitan State University of Denver with her Bachelor's Degree in English with a Secondary Education Licensure, grades 7 - 12. She shared, *"I wouldn't have made it this far without this organization believing in me."*

Earning a degree she was passionate about, **Hanna** graduated with an Associates in Dental Hygiene from the Community College of Denver. While attending school she was also actively serving in the Colorado Air National Guard assisting with hospital administration, which helped cover some of her school expenses.



CWEF Celebrates Scholarship Recipients Graduating

Spring 2021 continued

Living in Pueblo and attending Colorado State University – Pueblo, **Violeta** (right) graduated Magna Cum Lade with her Masters of Business Administration. Completing this advanced degree facilitated her promotion from a Student Success Advisor to an Assistant Director with the TRIO Upward Bound (UB) Program, which is an academic and college preparatory program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Being a UB alumna herself, Violeta is passionate about her work empowering and advocating for first-generation/low-income students to break the cycles of poverty and low degree attainment.

Nicole graduated from the Community College of Aurora with an Associates in Fire Science. She responded, *“Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to grow in my new career and trusting me to represent your organization. I am so grateful for the opportunity and will not let you down.”*

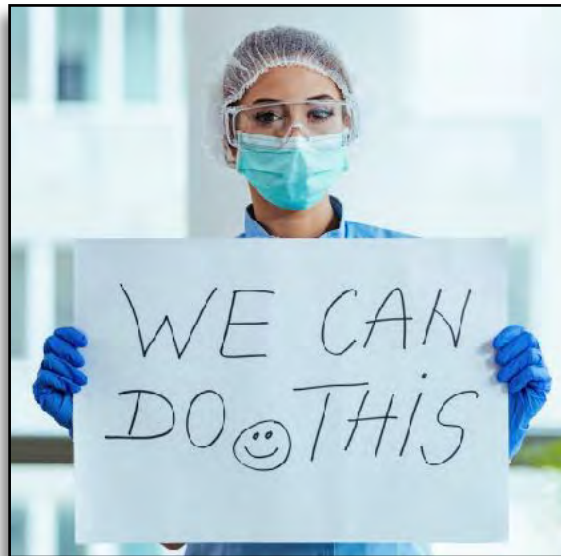


CWEF Celebrates Scholarship Recipients Graduating

Spring 2021 continued

Having already earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Special Education, **Kayla** pursued an Education Specialist Degree in School Psychology from the University of Northern Colorado. Upon receiving her scholarship she replied, *“This scholarship helps motivate me to finish my graduate degree and to maintain a high GPA. Thanks for providing financial help, but also the encouragement to achieve my dreams.”*

Attending Metropolitan State University of Denver, **Katelyn** completed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She explained, *“While the world is changing right now with the COVID-19 pandemic, it only strengthens my desire to get out into the field to start helping change people’s lives for the better. I look forward to being the person that is comforting and providing hope to my patients as they are going through such a difficult time in the hospital. My long-term goal is to be a traveling nurse within the United States, but also in areas in need abroad.”*



“There is no better investment than knowing you contributed to supporting a determined woman wanting to advance herself. She isn't doing it just for her—she's doing it for so many others around her.”

~ Christine White, CWEF Trustee

For Women, CWEF is One of a Kind

CWEF is the only organization investing in a special demographic—women of non-traditional student age. Since these women are older, they are often not eligible for financial aid, Pell grants, or are excluded by other scholarship programs. They are often single—some having been widowed, divorced, or abandoned—and may be caring for multiple dependents, including children and aging parents, and are challenged to support themselves and their families, in addition to completing their education.

These women may be starting or going back to school and/or earning a certification or second degree to increase their employability and income in order to earn a living wage and provide for their families. CWEF believes education is the key to helping women become more economically self-sufficient.

Alyson (right), a recipient of the 2020 BPW Boulder scholarship, is just such a woman. At age 34 she is simultaneously earning her associates and bachelor's degrees in nursing at Front Range Community College. Alyson already earned a bachelor's degree in biological sciences but wanted to return to school. She would not have been able to afford to start the online bachelor's program without the scholarship.

During her interview for the BizWest Newsletter article, Alyson said, *"It feels especially affirming to receive a scholarship from such an inspiring group of women whose values align with my own. The support from Business and Professional Women of Boulder not only secures the completion of my education as a nurse, and eventually a nurse-midwife and Doctor of Nursing Practice, but it also deepens my commitment to advocate for women's health, reproductive rights, and equal access to quality care. I am unspeakably grateful for this support."*

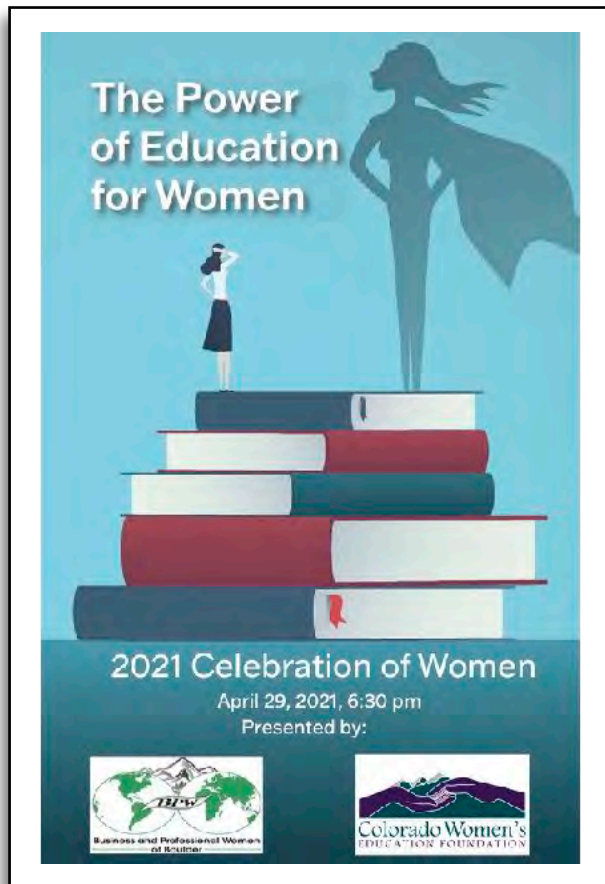
Additionally, Alyson agreed to record a scholarship recipient testimonial video to be shown during the virtual April 2021 Celebration of Women Event: *The Power of Education for Women*. In her recording, Alyson shared, *"Receiving this scholarship gave me the resources to enroll in online bachelor's nursing courses, and continue my education while waiting for the remainder of my nursing program to resume due to COVID."*

It's one thing to receive financial support, but it's an entirely different thing to receive support from your heroes. The Colorado Women's Education Foundation is created and managed by courageous matriarchs who embody the same qualities I hope to uphold as a future women's health professional. Thank you for investing in me and countless other women."



2021 Celebration of Women

The Power of Education for Women



The 2021 Celebration of Women entitled *The Power of Education for Women*, was a special collaboration between Business and Professional Women of Boulder (BPW Boulder) and CWEF. Originally scheduled for April 23rd, 2020, the in-person event was postponed twice due to the COVID-19 pandemic and then moved online in 2021.

The virtual evening event was held on April 29th and was a fast-paced and inspiring program honoring three incredible women and one wonderful organization for their impact in the community and on the lives of others through education. The professionals receiving these awards are energizing the power of education for women by providing leadership, advancement, and/or transformation in the educational arena.

Those planning to attend the virtual event registered online and received an electronic event program including more information about BPW Boulder and CWEF, a page-long description of each award honoree, sponsor advertisements, and more created by CWEF Trustee, Glenda Mostek. As well, a link was sent to a moving video featuring Reba McEntire's song, "Is There Life Out There," to set the stage for the program.

"Education should light a fire within us to improve us and help our world."

~ Sarah Josepf



2021 Celebration of Women

The program also included pre-recorded remarks from Barb Bashor, (right) a CWEF Ambassador who shared why she supports CWEF, and Alyson, a scholarship recipient who shared how CWEF has impacted her life.

Barb stated, "I've been such a strong proponent of CWEF because I think everyone has a right to a higher education if they have that desire. Women who are trying to be everything to everybody need to feel supported, and CWEF does that in a very caring, fundamental way. By giving them a chance. A chance to prove they can be more. Education trickles down throughout the generations, so when we help a woman in her quest to improve herself and her life, everyone in her world benefits. And beyond. It just feels like the right thing to do. We're meant to thrive in this world, not just survive. Education is the path."



Alyson (left) equated CWEF to being a helper. She shared, *"Saying that 2020 was a rough year sounds nearly trite at this point. On the evening news, there were reports about a novel virus that was quickly tightening its grip on the world. It seemed as if the world stopped. Everything shut down, including my nursing program."*

Unknowns are arguably the most difficult of human experiences. In these moments, I like to draw on the familiar wisdom of matriarchs—particularly, Mr. Rogers' mother. During tenuous times, she told her son to 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'

You may not know this, but you were my helpers last year. Receiving this scholarship gave me the resources to enroll in online bachelor's nursing courses, and continue my education while waiting for the remainder of my program to resume. Despite a global pandemic, I was able to continue being a student and work towards my dream of becoming a nurse-midwife, or rather... a helper. I similarly aspire to be a helper and a lighthouse for women as they navigate their own moments of the dark unknown."

2021 Celebration of Women

Jessica Dewell, a CWEF Trustee, served as emcee while Jenn Olson, a former CWEF Trustee, introduced the Celebration of Women honorees. Each honoree received an Educational Impact Award specific to their area of influence on the lives of others. The awards and honorees are listed below with a brief excerpt from their bio.



Leadership in Education: Christine DeLeon, (left) Founder and former CEO of the nonprofit, Moonshot EdVentures.

As the founder of Moonshot edVentures, a Denver-based nonprofit, Christine believed in creating opportunities that allow leaders to reach their full potential. Christine was responsible for surfacing and supporting a diverse set of leaders, representative of the communities they aim to serve, to design and launch the schools and programs of tomorrow in Metro Denver.

Transformation Through Education: Kathleen J. Gebhardt, (right) Adjunct faculty, University of Colorado and University of Denver.

Advocating for quality educational opportunities has been Kathy's work for more than two decades. Her work across the state has proven the transformational power of education. Quality public education for each and every student provides the cornerstone for our communities and our future. Kathy believes that focusing on improving our schools transcends many of our differences, can unite us in a common goal, and can transform our communities.



2021 Celebration of Women

Advancement of STEM Education: Gianna Sullivan, (right) Education Director for the Mobile Earth and Space Observatory at the National Space Science and Technology Institute.

Gianna is passionate about increasing gender and racial diversity in the sciences and creating an environment favorable for growing the percentage of women researchers globally. Her career as a science communicator and project manager has a long trajectory of connecting students directly with authentic science and scientists to help youth break down barriers and see themselves in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) careers.



Advancement of Environmental Education: Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE), Executive Director, Katie Navin (left) accepted on behalf of the organization.

For the last 30 years, CAEE has supported the many kinds of educators who teach concepts we all need to understand: how natural systems work, what we must do to interact responsibly with our environment, and how we can protect natural resources for future generations. CAEE is working to ensure environmental and outdoor learning opportunities are a fundamental right of every Coloradan and helping to create the decision makers and environmental problem solvers of today and tomorrow.

2021 Celebration of Women

Another CWEF Trustee, Stacia Harris-Shorts, shared information about the value of the work CWEF does in supporting women working to improve their lives through education and the impact education has on increasing women's participation in the work force and elevating their earning potential. Stacia invited program attendees to join CWEF in increasing our impact on women through scholarships.

The Celebration of Women honorees each received an Educational Impact Award specific to their area of influence on the lives of others. The honorees holding their awards are shown below. With their awards, each of the honorees had a few minutes to share some information about themselves or their organizations and the work they do. It was exciting to learn more about them and their passions.



2021 Celebration of Women

CWEF and BPW Boulder expressed their gratitude to their many sponsors and all the individuals who worked together so diligently to organize and present the 2021 Celebration of Women: *The Power of Education for Women*. It was a delightful event.

Click [here](#) to view entire event program. Click [here](#) to watch a video of the event.

THE ROSE HOUSE



Linda
Shoemaker

*Liftoff Strategic
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Contributions from June 1, 2020, to May 31, 2021

A sincere thank you to all of our contributors and supporters
for giving the gift of education during this fiscal year.

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Christine Wang
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Bohan Wei
Laura Whitfield
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Alyson Young

* In memory of Jean Brickell
** In memory of Ida M. Halasz
*** In memory of Aina Holland
**** In memory Marcia McLagan-Clark

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Our major supporters in prior years formed the bedrock of this Foundation.

Diamond Endowed Scholarship Sponsor \$189,000 and above

Carol Grever

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The Anchor Point Fund
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Named Scholarships \$5,000 and above

Alice DeBoer by Marion McDonald

Past Lifetime Sponsors \$1,000 pledge completed

The 1996-97 Business and Professional Women
State Executive Committee
American Express/IDS
DeWalt H. Ankeny, Jr.
Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation
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Boulder Business and Professional Women
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Major Contributions in Prior Years

Past Pledging Scholars

\$1,000 pledged continued

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Nancy Jarrell, Enterprising Communications
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Eva Kosinski
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Other contributions

Anonymous – In honor of Marion Dorothy Yost
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Business Professional Women/CO
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How You Can Help

CWEF benefits from the energy and skills of those who rally around it . . . from individuals completing the day-to-day tasks to supporters spreading the word on its behalf. CWEF has grown because of the enthusiasm, hard work, and financial commitment its supporters have displayed over the years. Our future growth is dependent upon the continued encouragement and financial support of individuals and organizations that believe, as we do, that education is the key to transforming lives. Below are some ways you can help support CWEF.

Encourage women you know to apply for a scholarship: The Foundation's scholarship program is as strong as its demand. We continue to receive a record number of applications each year. Our goal is to provide more and larger amount scholarships for women of non-traditional student age throughout Colorado. As the demand grows, so will our ability to increase our support.

Create a Named or Endowed Scholarship: These unique scholarships recognize and honor the individual and/or organization for which they are named. These scholarships are a vital form of funding for the Foundation. They can be a one-time contribution or a multiyear contribution providing financial sustainability through ongoing scholarships to worthy Colorado women.

Give the Gift of Education: We all know how hard it can be to find just the right gift for someone's birthday, anniversary, graduation, and/or wedding. A donation to CWEF is a great way to honor a friend, and it's a gift that will last a lifetime. We also welcome gifts in memoriam of a loved one. With a total donation of \$1,000 or more, your loved one will be recognized in CWEF's annual reports and on the website page "Memorial Scholarships." The listing of his/her name will include a link to a PDF page featuring information about and a photo of your loved one. As well, donors can also be listed on this page.

Financial Statements 2020-2021

Colorado Women's Education Foundation for the Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2021

CWEF's assets include a checking and two savings accounts. Also, an investment account managed by Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, an endowment fund, is held in the form of stocks and mutual funds providing a variable income. The CWEF Board of Trustees has protected this endowment, which has been contributed to by many, many supporters over the years, to preserve its legacy, ensuring the Foundation will continue into the future.

During fiscal year 2020-2021, CWEF revenues include nearly \$37,000 in donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations. Almost \$52,000 was raised during CWEF's participation in its sixth Colorado Gives Day in December 2020. The CWEF Board of Trustees conducted a virtual event, 2021 Celebration of Women: The Power of Education for Women, in conjunction with Business and Professional Women of Boulder raising over \$9,400. These revenues made it possible to fund 22 scholarships for women totaling \$23,000. Operating expenses include professional services and a half-time business and program manager.

Included in CWEF's current liabilities is almost \$14,000 restricted to the Ida M. Halasz Scholarship Fund.

Financial Statements 2020-2021

Colorado Women's Education Foundation for the Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2021

Statement of Activities - Cash Basis

Revenues

Donations - Business and Professional Women	2,463.31
Donations - Individuals	12,047.09
Donations - Memorial	16,975.92
Donations - Corporations and Foundations	5,277.20
Fundraising Events	9,466.59
Colorado Gives Day Donations	51,892.21
Dividends/Investment Income	7,287.72
Interest Income	18.16
Realized Gain on Investment	997.22

Total Revenues	106,415.42
-----------------------	-------------------

Expenses

Annual Report	450.00
Bank Charges	24.00
Computer Expenses/Website	107.87
Database Management	1,218.00
Depreciation/Amortization	695.00
Financial Management Fees	3,909.79
Fundraising Expenses	5,079.19
Insurance	1,628.00
Licenses and Fees	20.00
Miscellaneous	400.00
Office Payroll	30,813.33
Payroll Taxes	2,357.30
P.O. Box and Postage	284.80
Professional Services/Accounting	2,671.25
Scholarship Application Platform	1,075.00
Supplies/Printing	295.22
Telephone/Video Conferencing	411.29

Total Operating Expenses	51,440.04
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Scholarships	23,000.00
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Total Expenses	74,440.04
-----------------------	------------------

Net Operating Revenue	31,975.38
------------------------------	------------------

Other Revenue	124,102.18
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Net Revenue	156,077.56
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Statement of Financial Position - Cash Basis

Assets

Current Assets

FirstBank Checking	3,626.17
FirstBank Savings	70,003.53
Endowment Fund-Wells Fargo	526,945.62
PayPal	204.85
CWEF Database	7,500.00

Total Current Assets	622,116.28
-----------------------------	-------------------

Fixed Assets

Computer and Printer	5,665.34
Accumulated Depreciation	(5,665.80)
Accumulated Amortization	(7,500.00)

Total Assets	614,615.82
---------------------	-------------------

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

FICA	281.84
Medicare	65.92
Withheld Federal Taxes	168.00
Withheld State Taxes	158.00
Fundraising Expenses Payable	2,620.51

Total Current Liabilities	3,294.27
----------------------------------	-----------------

Net Assets

Net Assets	441,411.35
Donor Restricted Fund	13,832.64
Operating Income	31,975.38
Variable Gain/Loss	124,102.18

Total Net Assets	611,321.55
-------------------------	-------------------

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	614,615.82
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