

Fall 2012

## Women's Research Institute of Nevada Newsletter

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Women's Research Institute of Nevada

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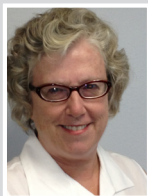
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## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Joanne Goodwin,  
Ph.D.

This issue is particularly exciting for me, as WRIN celebrates ten years of NEW Leadership Nevada (NEWL), our signature women's leadership program. The significant, measurable impact NEWL has had over the past decade is amazing and many successes of the program are highlighted in this issue. As you review these successes, know that none of them would have been possible without you. Whether you are one of the 211-plus NEWL alumnae working to improve your community or one of the individuals, organizations, or corporations who provides time, talent, and financial support to the program, the successes shared in this edition of the WRIN newsletter are because of you and you have accomplished a lot on behalf of women and girls.

In this issue, read about *Voices of NEW Leadership*, produced by Kristin Guthrie, 2010 NEWL

alum, which commemorates a decade of civic engagement leadership and is our newest website feature (see *Voices of NEW Leadership*). On our research page, there is great news for women business owners, good advice for women who are running for office, and information about research into aspirin and cancer.

WRIN was active this year, joining efforts with the Susan Love Research Foundation by participating in Las Vegas' first annual Love Walk to aid research studies on breast cancer prevention. We welcomed two new women to the WRIN team and we have updates for you on several NEW Leadership alum. Also, WRIN was thrilled when Caesars CEO and President, Gary Loveman, was honored at UNLV Foundation's Annual Dinner for supporting the university and WRIN's programs.



(l to r) Claudia Agbor-Bessem, Alicia Nunez, Leisa Smith Moseley, Karina Calderon, Atlantis Aubry

We have an overview of NEWL's summer institute training which, for the first time ever, was offered for credit - one

of only three in the NEW Leadership network to do so. Gwen Migita, our keynote speaker, shared her personal and professional growth from her work at Caesars Entertainment, inspiring new business

leaders among the students. The new format allowed time for students to complete community-based proposals demonstrating their ability to apply what they learned. As NEWL celebrates ten years with the aid of dedicated donors, new programs have started at the University of Arizona and Scripps College, clearly a testament to the benefits NEWL offers and an opportunity for UNLV and WRIN to contemplate how fortunate we are to have a well-established, nationally recognized NEWL program in place.

Support for women and girls continues to gain momentum, with a re-invigorated campaign emerging from the White House Office of Women and Girls, in collaboration with 12 founding countries of the United Nations. The initiatives established by this campaign (see inside) overlap with the work of

WRIN. We look forward to establishing community partnerships to bring it home to Las Vegas. Likewise, several other organizations continue to be a resource for women and girls which we have highlighted.

Las Vegas is a city of many images of women and WRIN continues to be a center of excellence for positive growth. I extend a sincere "thank you" to each of you who have helped WRIN achieve its goals and look forward to continuing our partnerships. So many women and girls have counted on and benefited from them and there are many more waiting their turn.

“For the first time ever,  
NEWL's summer institute  
training was offered for credit  
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## THE 2012 PROJECT IN LAS VEGAS

The Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) culminated its multi-year, non-partisan campaign to increase the number of women running for office with a Women's Public Leadership Summit in Las Vegas on August 21, 2012.

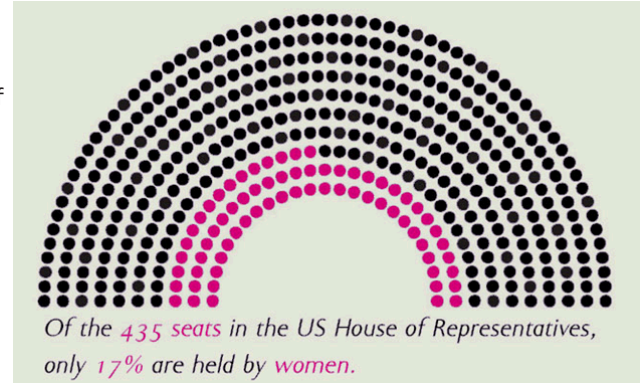
The U.S. ranks 79th in the number of women elected to political offices world-wide; this is behind countries including Angola, Serbia, Vietnam, and Afghanistan. Yet, U.S. women comprise 54% of registered voters in our nation. Speakers represented organizations committed to electing women, such as the Political Parity Project, Momentum Analysis, Lake Research Partners, and the Barbara Lee Family Foundation. Some research findings were:

- Women are more likely to run if they are recruited.
- Political parties matter; women who successfully reach the legislature do so with party support.
- When an organization supports a woman, her chances of getting elected are increased.
- Women can raise as much, or more, money than men.
- The majority of women and men believe there aren't enough women

candidates in office and the nation would be better off if there were more women in office.

- The strongest predictor of voting for a woman candidate is the perception that women govern differently than men and these messages move voters, especially younger women.
- Birth control and contraception engage women voters, especially younger women voters, and women have a clear advantage on the issues of birth control and women's health.

“*The U.S. ranks 79th in the number of women elected to political offices world-wide.*”



Courtesy of Shauna Shames, the Political Parity Project

- Many mothers are living with the economic crisis every day. They aren't thinking about the debt ceiling, the GDP, and official jobs reports; they are thinking about the day-to-day impact as they try to pay for gas, put food on the table, and make sure their kids can go to college when the time comes. Candidates who want their vote will need to speak to them in "their world" terms, not in Washington, D.C. lingo.

To learn more about The 2012 Project, visit [www.cawp.rutgers.edu](http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu). Access research at [www.barbaraleefoundation.org](http://www.barbaraleefoundation.org) and [www.walmartmomsresearch.com](http://www.walmartmomsresearch.com).

## STATUS OF WOMEN REPORT FEATURES FAMILY BENEFITS

In 2004, WRIN worked with the Institute for Women's Policy Research on its first *Status of Women* report. As we search for a sponsor for the next WRIN/IWPR report, readers can review the type of information provided in the recently published report: *The Status of Women and Girls in New Haven, Connecticut*, which examined the challenges and progress for women across the state.

For example, at the beginning of 2012, Connecticut became the first state to guarantee forty-hour paid sick time annually to workers to use for themselves or their child. Since a greater number of women than men are responsible for children when they get sick and are employed in jobs least likely to offer paid-

leave benefits, women are the ones who sacrifice a day of pay to care for their sick child (Williams, Drago, and Miller, 2011). However, in Connecticut they don't have to anymore.

The New Haven nonprofit, All Our Kin, began providing materials, training, and support to individuals so they can fulfill state requirements and become licensed childcare providers through the creation of a Tool Kit Licensing Program. This program generates \$18.4 million in additional state tax revenue, increases women's earning potential, and provides high-quality child care (Waite, et al., 2011). Every person licensed to become a childcare provider through the program makes it possible for four to five parents to enter the workforce – the majority of them women.

As seen in Connecticut, when policymakers, service providers, and stakeholders come together, the lives of women and girls can be improved. Access the report at <http://www.iwpr.org/publications/recent-publications>

“*...when policymakers, service providers, and stakeholders come together, the lives of women and girls can be improved.*”

## ASPIRIN AND CANCER

Aspirin may have the ability to change the environment surrounding a cancer or pre-cancerous cell and slow or stop a tumor's growth. Two studies published recently in *Lancet* seem to confirm this.

The first study focused on the benefits of aspirin for people with heart problems. Patients were randomly divided into two groups – one taking aspirin daily and the other taking a placebo. Participants diagnosed with cancer before, during, and after the study were identified, as well. After

following participants for six years, 987 were diagnosed with cancer. The study concluded that daily aspirin use for two years reduced the risk of developing metastatic disease by 36%, reduced the risk of an initial diagnosis, and reduced death due to cancer.

The second study examined short-term effects of taking aspirin and the risk of developing or dying from cancer. Cancer deaths recorded in 51 randomized trials comparing aspirin to a placebo were reviewed. The results showed those who took aspirin daily for

three years were 15% less likely to die of cancer and realized a 12% reduction in being diagnosed with cancer.

While research over the past few decades has focused on cancer treatments, these studies suggest the environment that surrounds cancer cells plays a key role in a tumor's growth, which presents new options for prevention. Access the report at [www.dsirf.org/breastcancer/content.asp?L2=1&L3=4&SID=130&CID=2260&PID=4&CATID=0](http://www.dsirf.org/breastcancer/content.asp?L2=1&L3=4&SID=130&CID=2260&PID=4&CATID=0)

## WOMEN OWNED BUSINESSES

While the effects of the economic downturn continue to negatively impact women, some good news came from the second annual *State of Women-Owned Businesses Report*, commissioned by American Express OPEN. According to the report, as of 2012:

- there are more than 8.3 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., up 54%
- women-owned businesses generate nearly \$1.3 trillion in revenue, up 58%
- women-owned businesses employ nearly 7.7 million people, up 9%

“... these numbers exceed the national average ... they are being generated by women competing in industries traditionally male-dominated...”

Not only do these numbers exceed the national average, but they are being generated by women competing in industries traditionally male-dominated, such as construction and transportation. Women business owners are just as likely as their male counterparts to generate more than half a million dollars in annual revenue in these sectors. Access the report at [https://c401345.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/pdf/State\\_of\\_Women-Owned\\_Businesses-Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://c401345.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/pdf/State_of_Women-Owned_Businesses-Report_FINAL.pdf)

## WOMEN TAKING ON GREATER FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

The National Council for Research on Women recently added a link on their website to Prudential's 2012-2013 Research Study, “Financial Experience & Behaviors Among Women.” This study concludes that women have more control over their finances than ever before. However, women are challenged when it comes to making financial decisions. The study also examined differences in financial perceptions, approaches, goals, and confidence between men and women, as well as cultural and geographical differences. Key findings include:

- 53% of women surveyed were primary earners.
- Only 23% of women feel “well prepared” to make financial decisions compared with 45% of men.

- Only 10% of female breadwinners feel very knowledgeable about financial products and services.
- Women are only half as likely to feel well prepared to make wise financial decisions than men.
- 33% of Asian American and 31% of African American married women are the higher-income earners, compared with 19% of white women.

Access the report at <http://www.ncrw.org/issues-expertise/122/Barriers%2B%526%2Bopportunities>





## WRIN RECEIVES RECOGNITION AT UNLV FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL DINNER



**Caesars CEO and President, Gary Loveman — Courtesy of Leila Navidi, LV Sun**

On October 9th, more than 1,000 people gathered at Bellagio Resort for the UNLV Foundation's Annual Dinner. Caesars CEO and President, Gary Loveman, was among the attendees and received an award, on behalf of the Caesars Foundation and Caesars Entertainment, for supporting UNLV for the past 40 years, including the Women's Research Institute of Nevada.

During the award presentation UNLV President, Neal Smatresk, spoke about what Caesars has made possible for UNLV and WRIN participants. "These are the people who committed to the university because they realized Las Vegas had to have a great university... they believe in the power of education to transform a region and the economy." WRIN echoes President Smatresk's sentiments and, on behalf of WRIN and NEW Leadership alumnae, we extend a sincere "thank you" to Caesars, too!

***“These are the people who committed to the university because they realized Las Vegas had to have a great university ... they believe in the power of education to transform a region and the economy.”***



**(l to r) Laurie Lytel, Monique Sulls, Dr. Goodwin, Dianna Payan, Jean Marie Pilario, Stephanie Olson**

## WRIN SUPPORTS BREAST CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

This fall, Dr. Susan Love, founder of the Susan Love Research Foundation, was intended to be our Women's Leadership speaker. When she fell ill, WRIN decided to join our research institute efforts with that of the SLRF and walk for the cure. The entire event was very successful for a "first" in Las Vegas. NEW Leadership alums joined forces with Advisory Board members to reach the 3rd highest donor level.

"The key to ending breast cancer is to learn how to stop it before it starts."



**(l to r) Jean Marie Pilario, Kristin Guthrie**

Dr. Love is a pioneering researcher and surgeon who has raised awareness about specific needs in breast cancer research for 40 years. The author of *Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book*, Love's recent campaign has been to build a reserve of women who will volunteer to participate in breast cancer research. The foundation's website is a wealth of information on current projects, breakthroughs, and challenges. Please visit it at: <http://dslrf.org/actwithlove/>

## FROM THE CREATOR OF VOICES

By Kristin Guthrie, *Voices* of NEW Leadership Nevada Project Manager



Strong, compassionate, ambitious, confident, hardworking – these adjectives describe the graduates of my 2010 NEW Leadership Nevada program. Every year since my entry into this diverse and powerful network, I have encountered more women like them. They have inspired and challenged me and, in a fully symbiotic way, I hope to do the same for them. This is the quality of this program. It weaves an unbreakable and seemingly never-ending thread through the hearts of Nevada women – connecting us, enabling us to better see and uplift one another.

Why have I remained so involved in this program? Because I have seen the impact it has had on the development of women. NEW Leadership hasn't just opened my eyes to the inequities women experience, but it has encouraged me to harness my strengths, my ability to demonstrate understanding for others, and be an active (rather than passive) citizen.

Trailblazers and women leaders in all sectors of government, business, healthcare, and politics, give of their money, energy and time to help mold these future leaders. Men who see the value added of women in leadership roles have moved the program ahead. I hope that through capturing, preserving and sharing the experiences of this program, the *Voices* of NEW Leadership Nevada will grow in power, number and reach.



(l to r) Constance Akridge, Immediate Past President of Nevada Bar, Dr. Joanne Goodwin

## GOODWIN RECEIVES MEDAL OF HONOR

Dr. Joanne Goodwin, Director of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, is a 2012 recipient of the *Medal of Justice* awarded by the State Bar of Nevada for the Black History Month issue of *Nevada Lawyer*. The *Medal of Justice Award* is given to individuals and groups who contribute to advancing the mission of the State Bar through exemplary programs and volunteer work. Recipients of this award are those who inspire by example, advance the administration of justice, and bring honor and integrity to the profession. Dr. Goodwin, along with other contributors, received the award for her contributions to the February issue of *Nevada Lawyer*. This historic issue, published in partnership with the Las Vegas chapter of the National Bar Association and the State Bar of Nevada, celebrates the contributions of African-

American lawyers in Nevada against the backdrop of the civil rights movement on a state and national level. The issue celebrates successes and achievements, while also acknowledging wrongs and injustices. Excerpts from the February issue may be viewed at: <http://nvbar.org/articles/article/february-2012>.

## NEW LEADERSHIP ALUM UPDATES

**Evelyn Garcia-Morales (2003)** joined the 2012 NEW Leadership class as a Faculty in Residence. She works in Washington, D.C. for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute as the manager of educational enrichment programs. She is married to Victor and they have a much loved son.

**Jennifer Lopez (2004)** still enjoys working for the Attorney General of Nevada.

**Alma Castro (2005)** taught the inaugural 2-credit NEW Leadership program in 2012. She moved to Guatemala City and is working with a human rights organization. Between 1960 and 1996, civil conflict in Guatemala resulted in the deaths and disappearances of approximately 250,000 people. Twenty-five percent of the victims were women. A national court is now hearing cases of rape and sexual slavery associated with the conflict.

**Emily Ann Powers (2005)**, after a job as Public Engagement Coordinator in the DC Public Schools, has moved to Chicago and is attending Northwestern University School of Law.

**Diana Rhodes (2006)** continues to impress as the Program and Policy Associate at the Center for Women Policy Studies in Washington DC.

**Alysia Peters (2007)** works as the Executive Assistant to the Secretary of the Senate in Carson City. She received her MPA in Public Administration at UNLV in 2010.

## OUR STAFF



### MEET TAMARA MARINO

In July, Tamara "Tami" Marino joined the Women's Research Institute of Nevada bringing with her twenty-five years of experience in mission-driven environments. Prior to joining WRIN, Tami worked in non-profit development serving performing and visual arts, educational, environmental, and healthcare organizations. In 2005, Tami joined the State of Nevada's Office of Veterans Services, where she served as assistant to the administrator gaining first-hand experience with the legislative process at the local, state, and federal level, securing federal grants, and managing public relations, marketing, and special events. When asked about joining WRIN, she said, "How lucky am I? I get to contribute to a mission that improves the lives of women and girls and work on a campus full of energy, surrounded by knowledge and innovation. I am a very lucky lady!"



### MEET SHIORI YAMAMOTO

Shiori Yamamoto has joined WRIN for 2012-2013. She is a doctoral student in History working on her dissertation which examines intermarriage and citizenship at the turn of the twentieth century in the U.S. West. Her teaching interests include gender, race, and law in U.S. Western history as well as world history. Shiori attended the University of Arizona, where she received BA and MA in Women's Studies and MA in Information Resources and Library Science. She worked for the Southwest Institute for Research on Women for five years while at UA. Although she was born and raised in Japan, the deserts in the Southwest are her second home as she enjoys sunny days throughout a year!

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## CELEBRATING TEN YEARS: VOICES OF NEW LEADERSHIP NEVADA



NEW Leadership Nevada (NEWL) is celebrating ten years of developing Nevada's future women leaders and, in celebration, the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) at UNLV has prepared *Voices*, an Oral History Project.

*Voices* captures the experiences and impact of the NEWL program on its 211 participants over the last ten years.

National Education for Women's (NEW) Leadership is an award-winning program developed by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers to educate and empower the next generation of women leaders. In 2003, WRIN held its first NEWL program after accepting Rutgers' invitation to join the NEW Leadership Development Network, making UNLV the first site in the southwestern and Rocky Mountain states to host this program.

The *Voices* project, consists of 24 oral histories, each demonstrating how beneficial the program has been for NEWL graduates, as well as the astounding impact the program has had on all stakeholders, including Nevada corporations, politicians, philanthropists, mentors, and grassroots organizers. The testimonials captured by the project attest to the program's positive impacts, which include the development of crucial skills, greater awareness, internships, and networking relationships leading to jobs. Longtime supporters, such as Frankie Sue Del Papa, Barbara Agonia, Gwen Migita, Valerie Wiener, Dr. Roberta Sabbath, and Dr. Juanita Fain, are a few of the narrators who add their voices those of alums. The *Voices* project clearly demonstrates the importance of a mentoring and leadership program for our students as they move into their careers. The skills gained and networks utilized have motivated many alums.

*Voices* brings intimate, first-hand accounts of experiences shared by program participants. From a young mother in college with

dreams of attending law school who credits her participation in NEWL with achieving this goal, to a young woman from an underprivileged family living in a high-crime area in North Las Vegas who participated in NEWL and went on to attend the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, *Voices* reveals NEWL's role in helping to change lives. The overwhelming theme is clear – NEWL participation has made it possible for women to overcome obstacles by opening new possibilities and building skills.

Kristin Guthrie, the project's producer and 2010 NEWL graduate, stated "An unexpected outcome of *Voices* was the documentation of the impact the NEWL program has had on our business community." The education NEW Leadership provides, including instructional workshops in leadership

*“In fact, business members point to the correlation between the economic impact of good leaders and the NEW Leadership program at UNLV – a message everyone wants to hear during these tough economic times.”*

theory, practicum experience, internship opportunities and, most importantly, exposure to women in power, is viewed as a significant asset to business interests in the state.

Gwen Migita, Vice President of Sustainability and Community Affairs for Caesars Entertainment, stated, "The value of community involvement is priceless to Nevadans because the program develops the next generation of leaders, not just here in Nevada, but nationally and even globally." In fact, business members point to the



(f to b) Treasure Watanabe, Stephanie Olson

correlation between the economic impact of good leaders and the NEW Leadership program at UNLV – a message everyone wants to hear during these tough economic times.

In addition to the interactive website resource (<http://wrinunlv.org/new-leadership-nevada/voices-of-new-leadership-nevada/>), Guthrie created an archive of the full interviews and a navigable digital archive for those with a deeper interest in women's leadership at UNLV. This project is part of the greater Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Donors to the Women's Research Institute and the NEW Leadership Nevada program made this possible.

Are you a NEWL alum who would like to *voice* how your participation in the program has impacted your life? If so, contact us at [wrin@unlv.edu](mailto:wrin@unlv.edu).

## N.E.W. LEADERSHIP NEVADA 2012

by Alma Castro, Program Manager



For ten years, WRIN has provided women across the state the opportunity to participate in the nationally-acclaimed NEW Leadership program emphasizing civic engagement and public service. The program draws from community supporters

to present high-quality, skill-building workshops, panel discussions, and thought provoking conversations. Participants learn to see themselves as leaders with the confidence to explore public leadership positions. This year, we continued to offer the five-day intensive summer institute training, but we were also able to provide a 2-credit course for the first time in our history. Following the first week of intensive training, the program continued for two additional weeks in the classroom where participants built upon the knowledge they learned during the intensive five-day institute. By the end of the summer session, each student had developed a complete community project proposal.

NEW Leadership Nevada is committed to decreasing the gender gap in politics and in professional/managerial workforces by connecting students with successful women leaders who can provide the skills and insight necessary for students to take the next step into their professional



(l to r) Terri S. Janison and Erin Bilbray consult with NEWL students

“**NEW Leadership**  
*provides participants with  
the necessary skill-set to  
become a mindful and  
reflective leader.*”

lives. Increasingly, leaders are expected to be able to navigate in an uncertain economic climate and learn how to effectively build bridges among their colleagues, supporters, and with unlikely partners. Further, NEW Leadership provides participants with the necessary

skill-set of becoming a mindful and reflective leader.

Community leaders led workshops, such as Marybel Batjer, Vice President of Public Policy & Community Relations at Caesars Corporations, who gave her personal testimonies on various leadership roles in her lifetime. Students were able to gain new skills with Rachel Rose, Talent Performance Manager at Pinnacle Gaming, through her workshop, “Presenting Yourself: Resume, Cover Letters, and Other Necessary Skills.” In addition, NEWL alumnae lead workshops and participated on various panels in their areas of expertise. This exciting opportunity allowed students to witness, first-hand, amazing leaders who had also participated in NEW Leadership Nevada.

## FACULTY IN RESIDENCE (FIRs)

Faculty in Residence (FIRs) are an essential element of the intensive residential week. Their purpose is to serve as mentors and engage with participants to help them process the information they are introduced to each day. We strategically decided to invite FIRs who had gone through the program themselves and who had developed into leaders with established careers. 2012 FIRs included Karoline Khamis (2004) who has been active for over ten years in anti-violence work in Nevada. She has worked as a victim advocate at the Rape Crisis Center of Southern Nevada and was the Coordinator of UNLV’s Peers Advocating Anti-Violence Education (PAAVE) team. Eva Rodriguez (2006) works full-time in commercial banking

and finance. She brought to the program her previous experience as a grassroots activist, an intern for the Hispanic Caucus, and with Harrah’s Entertainment’s Diversity Department. Our final FIR, Evelyn Garcia-Morales (2003) traveled across the country to participate in NEW Leadership Nevada. She works in Washington, D.C. for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute as the manager of educational enrichment programs. Students benefited from her wide experience in leadership development in many ways, but specifically in her “Mindful Leadership” workshop.



(l to r) Dianna Payan, Jennifer Stiles, Toni Vilka, Karina Calderon

Program manager, Alma Castro, also brought a particular focus on reflective practice to this year’s class. On the first-day, students participated in her workshop on the principles of journaling and its value to developing leadership skills. The practice of reflection offers students a practice in which they express themselves creatively, track personal learning and growth, and record workshop material. It assists one to develop their personal leadership style and goals. Finally, the practice offered participants a way to unpack the connections and synergy between what they were learning and link it to their overall professional goals.



## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Gwen Migita, the Vice President of Sustainability and Community Affairs, at Caesars Entertainment, was chosen to be the keynote speaker for our tenth annual NEW Leadership Nevada address. As a long-term support of NEW Leadership Nevada and of the overall work of the WRIN it was a great honor to have her speak on her professional journey and obstacles she faced being a woman in the corporate world and her commitment in advocating for LGBTQ rights. Gwen Migita directs corporate charitable giving, community relations, and the employee volunteer program for Caesars Entertainment. She oversees community relations and the community affairs for the Caesars Foundation.

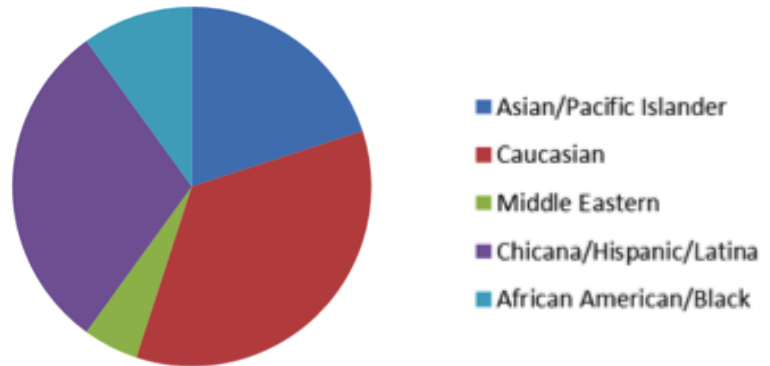


## DIVERSITY IN ACTION

NEW Leadership Nevada has kept its commitment to diversity among participants. Tomorrow's leaders will work in a world of diverse cultures and people. Any leadership training begins with valuing this aspect in all areas. Our program specifically targets students who have diverse race/ethnicity, class, sexuality, and public service interests. From 2003 to 2012, our participants met those criteria.

“*NEW Leadership Nevada has kept its commitment to diversity among participants.*”

Percentage of Students



## NEWL 2012 ACTION PROJECT PROPOSALS

A critical aspect of NEW Leadership is to take what they have learned and apply it. This year, students had the time to exchange ideas with their peers and create a community-based proposal of their own. A selection of those proposals

included: a city-wide plan to reduce drowning deaths among Spanish-speaking families; organization of a campus-wide anti-violence campaign called “Take Back the Night;” raising funds to develop a free vaccination

program for Kenya's malaria epidemic (by a participant from Cameroon); and hosting Self-Image Awareness events on the UNLV campus to raise awareness of healthy body images.

## IMAGES FROM NEWL 2012





NEW Leadership Programs, Courtesy of CAWP

## NEW LEADERSHIP NATIONAL PROGRAMS



NEW Leadership™ is a national bi-partisan program to educate college women about the political process and teach them to become effective leaders. Due to the overwhelming success, more colleges and universities than ever before are recognizing the value of the NEW Leadership program. This year alone, Arizona and Texas joined the program, and three new programs are underway in Mississippi, South Carolina, and

Southern California. More information can be found at [www.CAWP.rutgers.edu/newleadership](http://www.CAWP.rutgers.edu/newleadership)

## EQUAL FUTURES PARTNERSHIP ALIGNS WITH NEW LEADERSHIP NEVADA PROGRAM

*"While the world has made significant strides in expanding opportunity for women and girls, continued inequalities remain, particularly in the areas of women's political participation and economic opportunity. Growing bodies of evidence show that women's political and economic empowerment are critical to fostering international peace and security, growing vibrant market economies, and supporting open and accountable governance."*

This message from the White House and the United Nations launched an international commitment to women and girls. This Partnership seeks to address remaining issues with four broad initiatives:

- Expand educational and careers opportunities for women and girls in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields
- Expand economic security for domestic violence victims
- Support women entrepreneurs
- Promote public leadership for girls

As many WRIN supporters know, we have been a committed supporter of the fourth goal through our NEW Leadership NV program. The creator of that program, the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers, will be guiding this White House initiative. To learn more, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/09/24/fact-sheet-equal-futures-partnership-and-united-states-commitments-expan>

### DID YOU KNOW...

Our website - [www.wrinunlv.org](http://www.wrinunlv.org) - offers a variety of resources, including information on all of our programs, multi-media educational resources, and links to research, national news, and relevant organizations. Visitors to the site can read biographies of nearly one hundred Nevada women, many of which contain audio and images. Visit the site often, as new content is continually being added. For example, we recently added the Oral History Project, *Voices*.

### WE WANT TO KNOW...

WRIN is committed to delivering information you want in the manner in which you wish to receive it.

1. Do you prefer your WRIN Newsletter in your postal mailbox or your email box?
2. Do you visit the WRIN website and/or Facebook page?
3. Do you follow WRIN on Twitter?
4. Do you have a new address, phone number, email address, degree, and/or job?

Let us know what your preferences are and how to reach you so we can update our records and keep in touch.

**Respond to questions 1 - 4 above via email, at [wrin@unlv.edu](mailto:wrin@unlv.edu), or mail your responses to us at:**

Women's Research Institute of Nevada  
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 455083  
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5083

### AREA ORGANIZATIONS

**Bamboo Bridges** - a non-profit organization bridging the multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, and multi-generational Asian Pacific Islander (API) community by developing collaborations and building awareness of the issues that API women confront in their lives, families, and communities, with an emphasis on Anti-Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence Awareness/Prevention, Youth Leadership Development, and Coalition Building. The organization also trains multilingual/multicultural advocates for APA victims of violence; educating community organizations, law enforcement, and youth; and advocating for systemic change that will decrease the opportunities for women to be exploited. **Contact:** <http://www.bamboobridges.org> or (702) 527-2533

**The Junior League of Las Vegas (JLLV)** - an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. JLLV focuses on the community's most pertinent needs in health and welfare for children and women, education, cultural development, historic preservation, the environment and volunteer training. JLLV's projects include: "Care Fair" provides no-cost medical exams and inoculations to school children; "Grants for Teachers," gives monetary aid to local teachers; "Fashion Forward," supports high school students with technical skills and scholarships; the "Morelli House" rescue and restoration; and "Vegas Roots Garden," a community garden. **Contact:** [www.jllv.org](http://www.jllv.org) or (702) 822-6536

**Women Presidents' Organization (WPO)** - offers support and resources to successful Las Vegas women entrepreneurs who have achieved \$2 million or more in annual revenues. Only 3% of women in the U.S. achieve this revenue threshold. Members are part of a global "peer mentoring women's business owners' organization." The Las Vegas chapter, founded in 2005 by Shelia McKay, is one of 100 chapters throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Peru and South Africa. At once-a-month gatherings, WPO members connect deeply and consistently with each other, focusing on operational priorities like Finances, Growth Challenges and Strategic Hiring, not inspirational speakers, self-appointed coaches, image consultants, or the occasional politician. The annual national conference continues these activities, all of which move the members toward their main objective: business growth. **Contact:** [www.womenpresidentsorg.com](http://www.womenpresidentsorg.com) or (702) 275-3253

**Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada** - the preeminent leadership development organization open to all girls between 5 and 17 years-old. Girls build character and life skills for success in the real world in an accepting and nurturing environment. More than 10,000 girls and adult members participate throughout southern Nevada. In honor of its 100th anniversary, Girl Scouts has launched The Campaign for Girls which seeks to leap over the achievement gap in one generation. This multi-year effort will help break down societal barriers that hinder girls from leading and achieving

success in everything from technology and science to business and industry. Some of America's most accomplished women in public service, business, science, education, the arts, and community life are Girl Scout alumnae. **Contact:** [www.girlscoutsnv.org](http://www.girlscoutsnv.org) or (702) 386-3677

**Soroptimist International of Greater Las Vegas (SIGLV)** is part of an international organization of business and professional women who work worldwide to improve the lives of women and girls. Key issues are Health, Education, Gainful Employment, Safety from Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and Gender Equity. SIGLV projects include: Senior Stars takes senior women in financial straits for a day of food, Bingo, and socialization. Education about services, medical access, and nutrition is worked subtly into the day. Children in an "at-risk" elementary school participate in Live Your Dream, an art and reading project featuring women's history or women heroes. A scholarship of \$1,000 is given annually to a woman head of household who is advancing her potential in higher education or skills training. There is also a financial award given to a teen girl and recognition awards are presented to significant community women who work to advance the status of women and girls. **Contact:** <http://soroptimistlasvegasvalley.org> or (702) 872-5220

### MGM SUPPORTS WRIN'S WORK

In April, MGM Resorts Corporate Diversity convened the company's first Coffee Klatch to celebrate Women's History Month. Company executives, women leaders in business, and nonprofit organizations from throughout Southern Nevada gathered at Monte Carlo to participate in a discussion of women's progress in business. Dr. Joanne Goodwin, Director of WRIN, facilitated that discussion. WRIN was presented with a donation of \$5,000 - proceeds from the 2011 Women of Color Conference. This event was also the setting for the official announcement of the 2012 Women's Leadership Conference.

(l to r) Debra Nelson,  
Joanne Goodwin, and  
Jocelyn Bluit-Fisher





## 2011-2012 ROSTER OF DONORS

WRIN extends a sincere "thanks" to those who have donated to our mission over the last year. It is only with your support that we can continue our work.

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### Join the Women's Research Institute of Nevada

Only with the support of community members can WRIN reach its goals. Your membership gift helps to support our projects, educational outreach, and research.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Nov. 1** - Carol Graham, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, will discuss "Gender and Well-Being Around the World" as part of the **Brookings Mountain West Lecture Series**. For more, see:  
<http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2012/08/gender-well-being-graham>

**Nov. 15** - Constance Penley, film and media scholar, talks about her experience as an expert witness in the John Stagliano federal obscenity trial in 2010. Part of the Forum Lecture Series and sponsored by the **Women's Studies Program** (895-5451) For more, see:  
<http://go.unlv.edu/event/university-forum-defending-pornography-art-amp-pop-culture?delta=0>

**Dec. 1** - TEDx Fremont East Women, where leading thinkers and doers speak for 18 minutes in the spirit of ideas worth spreading. TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience, sparking deep discussion and connection in a small group. It is part of a larger movement, simply known

as TED. Tickets for the event will go on sale in November via Ticket Cake (which will have full details on the day, including speakers, location, and so forth). Everything will be announced via Facebook, so we encourage you to stay engaged in the conversation there. For more information, see their Facebook page or email [tedxfremonteastwomen@gmail.com](mailto:tedxfremonteastwomen@gmail.com).

**Apr. 2013** - The Southwest Oral History Association annual meeting, Reinventing Realities: Creating Identity and Community through Oral History will be held at the University of Nevada Las Vegas Las Vegas April 4-6; Conference keynote speaker will be John Valery White, Executive Vice President and Provost. For more, see: [www.southwestoralhistory.org](http://www.southwestoralhistory.org)

**Always - Keep WRIN Up-to-Date on You!** - Move? New email address? New degree? New job? Let us know what you are doing out there so we can keep our records current and celebrate your successes. [wrin@unlv.edu](mailto:wrin@unlv.edu)