



The Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona Newsletter is published three times a year by the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona. Volume - Fall 2009

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A Support Organization of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona

Fostering equity and opportunity for women and girls. Today and Tomorrow.

## Giving (Circles) With Style!

Join the Women's Foundation and Merrill Lynch for a mother/daughter afternoon tea with an introduction to a growing trend in philanthropy – "Giving Circles" – while enjoying some of the latest fall fashions from Piece by Piece Wear, Butz Jean Co. and Tiffany.

Mothers and daughters of all ages are invited to learn the impact of collective community giving, involvement and social networking as a means to create positive change for women and girls.

The tea will be held Sunday, October 18, 2009 at 2 pm at the newly remodeled Lodge on the Desert, 306 N. Alvernon. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Linda Pedrigi, linda.pedrigi@ml.com or 520-747-6131.

Thanks to our generous corporate partners who helped make this event possible: Merrill Lynch, Butz Jean Co., Piece by Piece Wear, Salon de Nouveau and Tiffany. ✨

### Save the Dates!

Two great events to support the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona!

**"A Rare Pattern"**  
**An evening with Margot Kidder**  
**Saturday, March 27, 2010 • 7 pm**  
**The Berger Auditorium**

Margot Kidder joins Chamber Music Plus in a performance of women's music, poetry and literary readings from the 1880's through the 1940's, including the works of Fanny Hensel, Clara Schumann, Emily Dickinson and Dorothy Parker, in this benefit performance for the Women's Foundation.

**17th Annual Women's Foundation Luncheon**  
**Wednesday, April 28, 2010 • 11 am – 1:30 pm**  
**Tucson Convention Center**

Join us as we again celebrate the achievements of women and our 2009 grant recipients, and announce our 2010 grant awards. ✨



## Changing the Face of the Fire Service

By Deputy Chief Laura Baker, TFD

**Women account for only 3.7% of the career firefighters in the U.S.** That startling statistic prompted two Tucson women to create a three-day, two-night fire camp for girls ages 14-17 with financial support from the Women's Foundation.

Both Northwest Fire District Division Chief of Operations Cheryl Horvath and Deputy Chief Laura Baker of the Tucson Fire Department were accustomed to being in the minority during their long careers in the largely male-dominated fire service profession. But as the President of the International Association of Women in Fire and Emergency Services, Chief Horvath also knew that the percentage of women in the fire service was actually declining nationwide. She was determined to inspire the next generation of female fire professionals. Thus the 2009 Fire Camp was born.

To make the experience as realistic as possible, the fire camp was held at the Tucson Fire Department's Training Academy in southeast Tucson. All 14 girls who dared to enroll completed the camp, conquering the challenges they faced throughout the weekend.

The girls' first day was a combination of hard work and fun. Beginning at 6:30 am, their schedule included physical training and drill stations such as ladder evolutions, the maze



room, emergency medical skills, the mud bog and a bucket brigade! They all encouraged each other to push themselves. The girls also received teambuilding training from YMCA Triangle Ranch staff. That evening they learned to use fire extinguishers and self-contained breathing apparatus! By "lights out," they were more than ready for bed.

Day two of the fire camp focused on water safety (after physical training, of course!), but the girls' real test came on the final day of the camp, when they had the opportunity to take the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), a physical test used by many fire departments across the nation. It consists of eight events

that must be completed while wearing a 50-pound weighted vest throughout the course. All eight events must be done in a time of 10 minutes and 20 seconds. All the girls participated at some level, and ten girls ran the entire course.

Participants gave the camp rave reviews, and several declared themselves ready to pursue a career with the fire service. Chief Horvath and Deputy Chief Baker are convinced that by giving young girls the opportunity to participate in a fire camp and showing them a door that exists into a world as a firefighter, the future of the fire service, and that 3.7% statistic, will change. ✨

FALL 2009

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# OUR MISSION

The mission of the Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona is to foster equity and opportunity for women and girls.

## How we spent our summer...vacation?

It's been a busy summer at the Women's Foundation! In addition to welcoming seven new Board members and planning for the fall, we've embarked on a number of new initiatives.



In June, we introduced our 2009 grantee partners to a new evaluation tool, Making the Case (MtC), developed by the Women's Funding Network. MtC is used by dozens of women's funds across the country, as well as the Nike Foundation, and uses a social change

framework to assess program progress and success. We're excited by the initial positive response we've received from our partners. If you're interested in learning about the logic model that drives MtC and our grant-making, please sign up for one of our social change workshops (see below).

In July, we renewed our partnership with Every Voice in Action Foundation® to provide another year of our award-winning girls' philanthropy program, Unidas. Applications for the Unidas class of 2009-10 are being accepted through September 18. If you know of a high-school aged girl who is passionate about social justice for young women, please refer her!

## Social Change Workshops

What is social change grant-making? Attend one of these workshops to learn the logic model that drives our grant-making. Registration is required and space is limited; contact Kesha Dawson at [kdawson@womensgiving.org](mailto:kdawson@womensgiving.org) or 622-8886 to reserve a seat.

August saw the launch of our newly re-designed website through a partnership with LP&G, Inc. and Anchorwave Internet Solutions. If you haven't been to our website lately, I think you'll find the new design to be contemporary, user-friendly and a great introduction to our work in southern Arizona.

In conjunction with the website launch, we are now on Facebook. If you've yet to become a fan, please join us. You'll get updates on Women's Foundation activities, and those of our grantee partners.

Coming this fall: an update to the Status of Women in Southern Arizona, published earlier this year. This snapshot of women's education, employment, earnings and health in our region informs our grant-making, and can be used by non-profit organizations and government agencies to determine community needs. We'll also be gauging community interest in mother-daughter giving circles (see page 4), looking at the impact of state budget cuts on women and girls, and, of course, initiating our 2009-10 grant round.

We hope to see you at some of our upcoming events, and we look forward to working with you!

**Laura Penny** ✨

Organizations interested in applying to our 2009-10 grant round are encouraged to attend. Our on-line letter of intent opens October 26; letters must be submitted by November 13. Grant guidelines are available on our new website, [www.womensgiving.org](http://www.womensgiving.org) ✨

## Got Points?

Did you know that American Express cardholders can convert their accumulated credit card points into tax-deductible cash gifts in support of the Women's Foundation? Through Giving Express, our partnership with American Express and JustGive, AmEx customers may donate points to JustGive, which will issue a check to WFSA in your name.\*

We know these are tough economic times. Donating your surplus points is an easy way to support the Women's Foundation without depleting your

checkbook. Just click on the Donate button on the home page of our new website, [www.womensgiving.org](http://www.womensgiving.org), and look for the Giving Express icon.

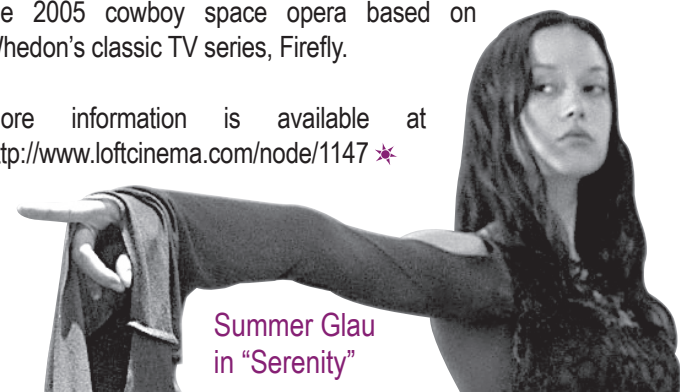
Of course, you can always use your American Express (or Visa, Mastercard or Discover) to support the Women's Foundation the old fashioned way, by making a gift through our new website! ✨

\* Donors will receive an IRS substantiation letter issued by JustGive, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Gifts may be made anonymously. There is no administration fee for gifts of points.

## CAN'T STOP THE SERENITY 2009! Thursday, September 17 at 6:30 pm

The Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona is proud to again be the local beneficiary of Can't Stop the Serenity, a film event inspired by Screenwriter/Director Joss Whedon. Presented by The Loft Cinemas and Bookmans, Can't Stop the Serenity 2009 is double-feature that includes the Tucson premiere of Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog on the big screen, as well as Serenity, the 2005 cowboy space opera based on Whedon's classic TV series, Firefly.

More information is available at <http://www.loftcinema.com/node/1147> ✨



## Unidas Applications Now Available

Unidas, the Women's Foundation's award-winning girls' philanthropy program, is accepting applications for the 2009-10 school year through September 18.

Unidas applicants should have an interest in women's issues and philanthropy, and be between the ages of 14 and 19 years old. The program is open to young women who attend any high school in the greater Tucson area, those who are not currently enrolled in school, and home-schooled students.

At the conclusion of this comprehensive training, the young women will be more knowledgeable about community needs and resources and how to take action. Participants will graduate with valuable

leadership and consensus-building skills and will be empowered by their ability to fund programs that they believe are doing compelling work for young women and girls in the community.

Unidas participants discuss social justice issues facing young women and girls with community experts and conduct additional research and analysis before selecting a focus issue for their grant. They will lead a grant-making process, including creation of a request for proposal, application review, site visits, and allocation of up to \$7,500 to local agencies.

Applications and information are available on our new website, [www.womensgiving.org](http://www.womensgiving.org) ✨

## Thanks to Our Donors!

The Women's Foundation gratefully acknowledges these tribute and memorial gifts received between May 22 and June 30, 2009:

### GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

**Richard Catt**  
Darla Supowitz  
**Kathy Curley**  
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### GIFTS IN HONOR OF...

**Sarah Gellman's graduation and master's degree**  
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