

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE INTERVIEWS AND IMAGES AVAILABLE

Media contact: Katie Knoch Scream Agency for WFCO (303) 893-8608 ext. 208 katie@screamagency.com

## Women's Foundation of Colorado Announces 2011 Dottie Lamm Award Recipients and Girls Grantmaking Council Inductees

High School Girls From Across the State Selected for Philanthropic Training and Leadership Opportunities in Their Communities

DENVER, COLO. (May 18, 2011) — The Women's Foundation of Colorado announced today that Alicia Nikifarava of Grandview High School in Centennial, and Lizzie Pittman of Columbine High School in Littleton, are the recipients of this year's Dottie Lamm Award. As Dottie Lamm Award honorees, both Nikifarava and Pittman will receive a \$1,500 academic award to be used toward school-related expenses.

The Foundation also announced eight other young women as inductees to the 2011 Girls Grantmaking Council: Aspen Bellefeuille (Woodrow), Joanie Ellis (Fort Collins), Haley Long (Colorado Springs), Rocio Martinez (Avon), Kate Mooney (Boulder), Anica Neuman (Littleton), Jordan Shamon (Denver) and Abi Whitmore (Centennial). The council is designed to provide extensive training and hands-on experience for high school students in the areas of philanthropy, the grantmaking process and important issues facing women and girls in Colorado.

"It is young women like these individuals who inspire us to continue doing the work that we do here at WFCO," said Louise Atkinson, President and CEO of The Women's Foundation of Colorado. "We value philanthropy and dedication at every level and every age and truly believe that these women are an asset to the future of our state."

Created in 1987 by The Women's Foundation of Colorado, the Dottie Lamm Award was designed to honor Mrs. Lamm's years of service and dedication to issues related to women and girls throughout the state, in her role as a former First Lady of Colorado, social worker and first Board President of the organization. Each year, the award is given to two young women who are currently high school sophomores, in recognition of their active involvement within their communities and outstanding academic achievements. By engaging young women in community and nonprofit activities, it is hoped that the awardees will obtain a new skill set and engage in women-centered philanthropy as adults.

## The Women's Foundation of Colorado

Think Big. Be Bold. Make Change. This is **The Women's Foundation of Colorado's** mission. Since 1987, The WFCO has invested millions in nonprofit organizations throughout the state to dramatically change the lives of Colorado's women and girls. Through research, education, advocacy and collaboration, The WFCO sets the agenda and leads systemic change, creating greater opportunities for women and girls to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. The goal of the foundation is that every woman in Colorado is economically self-sufficient, and every girl in Colorado is on the path to economic self-sufficiency in adulthood. We believe that changes in public policy will have the greatest impact in assisting women in their efforts to achieve economic self-sufficiency. For more information visit <a href="https://www.wfco.org">www.wfco.org</a> or call 303-285-2960.