



**The Women's  
Foundation of Colorado**

Women Thriving. Colorado Rising.

**Contact Info**

Lisa Christie  
[lisac@wfc.org](mailto:lisac@wfc.org)  
303-285-2961

**For Immediate Release**

**The Women's Foundation of Colorado Announces  
Two Speakers, Many Stories, One Vision for 2019 Annual Luncheon**

**DENVER (April 24, 2019)** – The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO) announced today that its 2019 Annual Luncheon, the state's largest fundraising celebration for Colorado women and their families, will feature two dynamic speakers in a TED Talk-style format and joint interview. Noor Tagouri is a prominent Muslim-American journalist and documentarian and Maysoon Zayid is an actress, comedian, writer, and disability advocate.

In separate talks, Tagouri and Zayid will connect to the audience through heartfelt and humorous personal stories about their lived experiences. After, they will sit down together for a conversation with The Foundation's President & CEO, Lauren Y. Casteel, to ignite a shared commitment to The Foundation's vision of a future where women and girls of every background and identity prosper.

WFCO's Annual Luncheon is a renowned, nonpartisan showcase for diverse insights, ideas, and inspiration. It will draw nearly 2,600 attendees to raise critical funds for The Foundation's body of work that includes strategic statewide research, public policy advocacy, and grantmaking to help Colorado women reach economic security. Past Annual Luncheon special guests and keynote speakers include Billie Jean King, Octavia Spencer, Misty Copeland, Lisa Ling, America Ferrera, and Jane Fonda.

"The Women's Foundation is thrilled to have Noor and Maysoon catalyze community, philanthropy, and impact through their poignant storytelling," said Casteel. "Bringing both speakers represents our belief that it takes inclusive stories and voices to inspire a future where every woman thrives. Our luncheon is a space where women and men from all sectors of the community come together each year with a common goal of fueling that future for our mothers, daughters, sisters, colleagues, and neighbors."

-more-

**OUR MISSION**

Catalyzing community to advance and accelerate economic opportunities for Colorado women and their families.

**WFCO.ORG**

The Chambers Center for the Advancement of Women  
1901 East Asbury Avenue • Denver, Colorado 80208  
303-285-2960



While Colorado's economy continues to grow and prosper, not all Colorado women have experienced that momentum. 2018 research by WFCO grantee, Colorado Center on Law & Policy, found that nine out of 10 single mothers of color do not have the income needed to meet their families' basic needs. And the pay gap for all women who work full-time, year-round remains stuck at .86 cents on each dollar earned by all men who work full-time, year-round.

"When Colorado women are provided the resources to succeed financially, we know that children, families, communities, workplaces, and economies do better," said Casteel. "Our luncheon is a chance for Colorado to propel opportunities forward for all women and strengthen the future of our state."

**The Women's Foundation of Colorado's 2019 Annual Luncheon**

"Many Stories, One Vision"

Friday, October 11, 2019

Mile High Ballroom, Colorado Convention Center

11:30 a.m.

*Tickets available at [www.wfco.org](http://www.wfco.org)*

*Contact Kristina Vaio at [kristinav@wfco.org](mailto:kristinav@wfco.org) about sponsorship opportunities*

**About Noor Tagouri**

Noor Tagouri is a prominent Muslim-American woman, blazing a trail across mainstream media. In 2018, Noor released the documentary "Sold in America," investigating the sex trade in the U.S., with a podcast spinoff climbing to #8 on Apple's Podcast Charts. In 2017, Noor released her Hulu series "A Woman's Job," highlighting women in male-dominated careers. Noor has been featured at SXSW, TEDx, Create & Cultivate, and New York Fashion Week.

-more-



### **About Maysoon Zayid**

Maysoon Zayid is the cofounder/co-executive producer of the New York Arab American Comedy Festival and The Muslim Funny Fest and a guest comedian in residence at Arizona State University. She was an on-air contributor to “Countdown with Keith Olbermann” and a columnist for The Daily Beast, also appearing on Oprah Winfrey Network’s “In Deep Shift”, “60 Minutes”, and ABC News. Maysoon is an ambassador of the Cerebral Palsy Foundation, had the #1 TED Talk of 2014, has walked in New York Fashion Week, and is developing a comedy series called “If I Cancan.”

### **About The Women’s Foundation of Colorado**

The Women’s Foundation of Colorado is the only statewide community foundation dedicated to creating more pathways to prosperity for Colorado women and their families through the power of community, philanthropy, and impact. Since 1987, WFCO has funded more than 30 research reports that identify the systemic barriers that keep women from earning a livable wage, helped pass nearly 50 pieces of legislation that have created economic opportunities, and granted more than \$18 million to nonprofits that work with women and families in urban and rural communities statewide.

The Women’s Foundation hosts many communities of giving, including donor-advised funds, giving circles, the Power of Extended Philanthropy (PEP), Empowerment Council, Dads for Daughters, and more.

###