




# CU Parent

Parents  
Supporting  
Students

Newsletter for CU-Boulder Parents

Volume 9, Number 3  Fall 2003

## Skyview High School student awarded CU Parents Association scholarship

**G**abriel Meraz, a senior honors student at Skyview High School in Thornton, is this year's recipient of the CU Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, and Diversity scholarship awarded by the Parents Association.

The scholarship consists of \$10,000 divided into four annual supplements of \$2,500. The award was presented to Gabriel at a July 18 banquet.

Gabriel has maintained a 4.0 grade point average throughout middle school and high school and is ranked number one in his class. He is also Head Boy, or student body president, and is a member of the National Honor Society.

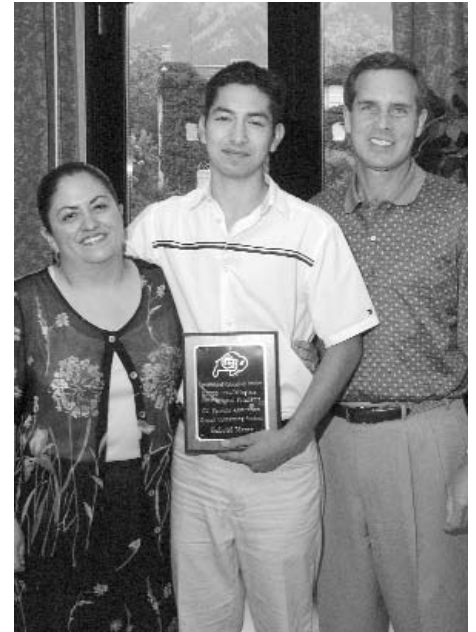
He has been a student in the CU-Boulder Pre-Collegiate Development

Program since seventh grade and plans to major in aerospace and aeronautical engineering at CU. His goal is to become an astronaut.

Gabriel will be a first generation college student—the first person in his family to attend a university—and is the eldest of six boys in his family. His first language was Spanish and he learned to read and write in English in three months. Since then, he's been involved in many gifted and talented programs throughout school.

According to Peter Simons, director of the Office of Parent Relations, Gabriel has captured the hearts of everyone he works with at CU-Boulder and exemplifies the goals of the CU-LEAD scholarship.

*Right: Johanna Maes, director, Pre-Collegiate Development Program; Gabriel Meraz, scholarship recipient; Ralph Brainard, president, CU Parents Association.*



## Students meet people, have fun, and build leadership skills in "The Herd"

**S**tudent involvement in clubs and organizations can be one of the most enriching aspects of the university experience. If your son or daughter is looking for a group that sponsors a variety of recreational and entertaining activities at a reasonable cost, "The Herd" has a lot to offer.

The Herd is the Student Alumni Association at the University of Colorado. It is dedicated to promoting school spirit, encouraging student interaction, and creating memorable and exciting college experiences for students. Herd members are students who foster pride in their CU academics and athletics, and a sense of camaraderie with each other.

Benefits include free rides on the CU

Ski Bus, events at the Recreation Center, golf and paintball tournaments, alumni mentoring opportunities, free food at football and basketball pre-game events, discounts with local businesses, special event invitations, and much more. Student membership is \$15 per year.


At the head of The Herd are Herd Leaders, students who help plan and carry out the great events that keep The Herd vital and growing. Being a Herd Leader provides an opportunity to grow as a person and to gain important leadership skills.

For more information about The Herd, or becoming a Herd Leader, visit the web site at [www.cualum.org/theherd](http://www.cualum.org/theherd) or contact John Sanders at 303-735-1132

## Join us for Family Weekend, October 10–11

It's fall again and as the trees turn colors, it is time to head back to Boulder to visit your student for Family Weekend! Take a swing in our golf tournament, attend tours, lectures, and presentations about campus life, cheer the football team to victory against the University of Kansas, and get serenaded by The 17th Avenue Allstars at our fabulous Saturday evening closing concert.

CU's Family Weekend is one of the largest in the country attracting nearly 6,000 family members in recent years. To register and get all the information you'll need, visit our web site at [www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents](http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents).

Don't wait too long! The deadline to register is October 1. For recorded information call The Family Weekend Information Line at 303-735-4020. 



## New student apartments open at Williams Village

A grand opening was held August 15 for Bear Creek Apartments at Williams Village, CU-Boulder's newest student housing project. The apartments are designed for upper-division and graduate students and feature a mix of private and shared bedroom accommodations with private and semiprivate bathrooms, academic support services, and laundry and recreational facilities.

Services include a business center on the main floor that allows students to log on to a network for color printer and fax services, card-controlled access to the building, 11 units designed for wheelchair access, bike storage, social lounges and study areas, a 24-hour courtesy patrol, and on-site management and maintenance staff.

The apartment project is constructed and managed by a private developer, American Campus Communities, a national provider of student housing.

A group of students served as advisers on design features for the project. They visited American Campus Communities properties at universities in Houston and Austin, Texas, to view completed student housing projects and advised Boulder's Oz Architecture on interior design elements, including color, carpet, and product selection.

Rental rates include telephone, Internet and premium satellite television services, utilities, and furnishings. Bus transportation to and from campus is provided.

Leases for this year are almost sold out, but it's never too early to plan for next year! Applications are accepted and tours are available throughout the year. For more information, call the American Campus Communities leasing office at **720-406-0300** or visit the web site at [www.bearcreekatwilliamsvillage.com](http://www.bearcreekatwilliamsvillage.com). 🏠

*Grand opening of Bear Creek Apartments at Williams Village, August 15, 2003*



## Parent Fund tops \$500,000

For the first time, the University of Colorado Parent Fund reached the half-million dollar mark. Despite the downturn in the economy, this marks the ninth year in a row in which the Parent Fund has experienced an increase. Over 3,800 families supported the Parent Fund with gifts from \$50 to \$50,000.

These numbers are no surprise to Parent Fund Coordinator Tara Friedman. "The remarkable growth in Parent Fund dollars is simply a reflection of the generosity of CU parents and their commitment to the programs the Parent Fund supports," Friedman remarked. "I think CU parents understand and endorse programs such as leadership development, civic engagement, and the new Honor Code." For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, the Parent Fund hopes to reach \$600,000. Parent Fund gifts support the Division of Student Affairs and fund programs such as the Honor Code, scholarships, Career Services, and Parent Relations activities.

For more information on the Parent Fund or charitable giving, please contact Tara Friedman at **303-735-5019** or give online at [www.colorado.edu/cufoundation](http://www.colorado.edu/cufoundation). 🏠

## Financial aid dates to keep in mind

It's not too late to apply for financial aid. Your student must submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form to the federal processor. This form is available in the financial aid office. Also, you and your student must provide our office with signed copies of the first two pages of your 2002 federal tax returns. Please call us if you have questions about applying.

After November 1, your student may apply for 2004-05 CU-Boulder scholarships online at [www.colorado.edu/finaid](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid). Using their student identification number and CU-Boulder personal identification number (PIN), your student can submit the application, resume, and essays online. Let your student know about this convenient resource.

After January 1, 2004, the FAFSA may be submitted on the Web as well as in hard copy, to the FAFSA processor. We strongly encourage students to submit their FAFSA on the Web, by going to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). The FAFSA is required to apply for financial aid, including scholarships, from CU-Boulder.

For more information about the above or any financial aid questions you may have, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at **303-492-5091**, [finaid@colorado.edu](mailto:finaid@colorado.edu), or visit our home page at [www.colorado.edu/finaid](http://www.colorado.edu/finaid). 🏠

## Reward an exceptional CU faculty or staff member

Has your student ever mentioned a CU faculty or staff member who made her or his university experience special? Nominate that person for the Marinus G. Smith Recognition Award, which is given to faculty and staff members who play an important role in the success of CU students. The award is sponsored by the CU Parents Association and is named after the famous pioneer whose land and financial contributions made it possible for the university to be in Boulder.

The nomination form is available from the Office of Parent Relations ([parents@colorado.edu](mailto:parents@colorado.edu) or **303-492-1380**) and will be in Family Weekend registration packets. Nominations are due by December 31. A ceremony will be held in the spring to honor winners of the award. 🏠

# Addressing tough topics head-on: taking action against violence on campus

**A**s in the broader world, the community at CU is not immune to social problems like sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. These events can have a profound effect on individuals and communities, and can directly impact students' ability to stay in school and get the most out of their educational experience. Students deserve to feel safe on campus, and if bad things do happen, they deserve the support they and their families need to deal with the medical, legal, academic, housing, and emotional fallout.

CU has been described by one consultant as a leader nationally in acknowledging and addressing these problems in creative ways, and in building a working network of allied programs across campus and in the Boulder community.

The Office of Victim Assistance addresses not only sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking, but also bias related incidents, deaths of community members, serious accidents, and sexual harassment. Free, confidential, professional counselors help people explore their options and make their way through systems with emotional support and information.

In addition, the COURAGE program trains peers to do presentations on how to recognize and reduce risk of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking. The students and professional staff coordinate Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence Awareness months, and work with campus groups to get the word out about reducing the impact of violence in our lives.

The Interactive Theater program is another innovative program that opens community dialogue through the use of realistic theatrical scenarios to present pressing community issues for discussion. Student actors help develop and present scenarios about how sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, and a host of other community problems play out in real life beyond simple dogma and prescriptions.

This is just a brief overview of some of the programs working against violence on the CU-Boulder campus. The staff members of these programs are glad to talk more in depth about their work, so please feel free to call Victim Assistance at 303-492-8855, COURAGE at 303-735-0474, and Interactive Theater at 303-492-4307. 📞

## PARENT PERSPECTIVE

*We hope this column will support the ongoing education of you, the parents of CU students. We are continually learning through our son's CU experiences and our membership on the CU Parent Association (CUPA) Board of Directors.*

Heard of FERPA? It stands for the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. If you want to learn more, log on to the excellent CU web site ([www.colorado.edu](http://www.colorado.edu)) and look at [registrar.colorado.edu/Support/privacy.htm](http://registrar.colorado.edu/Support/privacy.htm).

In a nutshell, by federal law and university policy, college students must be permitted to inspect their own educational records, BUT school officials may not disclose personally identifiable information about the student or permit inspection of their records by others, even by parents. Both FERPA and university policy treat students as adults and protect their right to privacy.

However, FERPA does allow parents to access their student's records if one of the following processes is completed:

- Your student visits the Registrar's Office site (<http://registrar.colorado.edu>), clicks on Forms in the left column, completes the "Student Permission" form, and submits it to the Office of the Registrar, OR
- You complete and submit the "Parent Request" form along with pages 1 and 2 from your most recent federal tax Form 1040 (to show that you have claimed your student as your dependent).

Now you can check the current tuition and fee status, see if scholarship monies have been applied, and check your student's course load and academic standing.

This Newsletter's Tip: Communicate with your student. 📞

by Lowell and Margie Lewis, Parents Association board members.

## THE NUMBERS: Freshmen count at CU!

Freshman applications for the 2003 class . . . . .	20,937
Approximate size of freshman class . . . . .	5,500
States sending freshmen . . . . .	50
Top states after Colorado . . . CA, TX, and IL tied	
Foreign countries sending freshmen . . . . .	46
Top foreign countries . . . . .	Korea and India
Average SAT score . . . . .	1200
Average ACT score . . . . .	26
Average GPA for admitted freshman class . . .	3.56
Top major (excluding open option) . . .	Psychology
Percentage receiving aid including loans . . . .	50%

*Statistics provided by Barbara Schneider, Executive Director of Admissions/Enrollment Management.*

## National Council visits cities across the United States

A team of faculty and top-level administrators from CU-Boulder will be visiting 11 cities across the nation to host admissions programs for prospective students, alumni receptions, and events for parents of current CU students. These breakfasts and luncheons provide you as parents an opportunity to learn more about what is happening on campus, meet a faculty member and/or administrator, and become more involved in the university.

The National Council is funded in part by the Parent Fund. For additional information, please contact Tara Friedman at 303-735-5019 or [Tara.Friedman@CUFund.Colorado.edu](mailto:Tara.Friedman@CUFund.Colorado.edu).

**Atlanta:** Sept. 18, admissions evening reception; Sept. 19, parent breakfast

**Tallahassee:** Sept. 20, CU-FSU football game

**Los Angeles:** Sept. 24, admissions evening reception; Sept. 25, parent breakfast

**San Francisco:** Sept. 25, admissions evening reception; Sept. 26, parent luncheon

**Boston:** Oct. 1, admissions evening reception; Oct. 2, parent luncheon

**Chicago:** Oct. 8, admissions evening reception; Oct. 9, parent breakfast

**Minneapolis:** Oct. 9, admissions evening reception; Oct. 10, parent luncheon

**Costa Mesa:** Oct. 15, admissions evening reception; Oct. 16, parent luncheon

**San Diego:** Oct. 16, admissions evening reception; Oct. 17, parent luncheon

**Houston:** Oct. 28, admissions evening reception; Oct. 29, parent luncheon

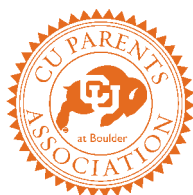
**Dallas:** Oct. 29, admissions evening reception; Oct. 30, parent luncheon

# Parents Association

## Office of Parent Relations

A-4 University Club  
972 Broadway  
120 UCB  
Boulder, CO 80309-0120

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[www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents](http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents)

## Changing your address

To update your address, e-mail Judy Myers in the Office of the Registrar at: [judy.myers@colorado.edu](mailto:judy.myers@colorado.edu) or call her at 303-492-5821 (e-mail is preferred). Be prepared to provide the following:

- Your name, and, if applicable, your spouse's
- Your student's name
- The last four digits of your student's ID number
- Your old address
- Your new address

To add a parent or additional address, your student must e-mail Myers with the last four digits of their ID number and the name and address of the parent they wish to add.

## Important dates for 2003-04

### Fall Semester 2003

Fall Break	Oct. 2-3
Family Weekend	Oct. 10-11
Thanksgiving	Nov. 28-28
Last day of classes	Dec. 11
Final exams	Dec. 12-18
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.)	Dec. 19
Commencement	Dec. 19

### Spring Semester 2004

Residence halls open (10:00 a.m.)	Jan. 7
Classes begin (8:00 a.m.)	Jan. 12
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Jan. 19
Tuition deadline (6:00 p.m.)	Jan. 21
Spring Break	March 22-26
Last day of classes	April 30
Final exams	May 1-6
Residence halls close (10:00 a.m.)	May 7
Commencement	May 7

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CU Parent is published quarterly. Spring and fall issues are mailed to parents of CU undergraduates, while all four issues and back editions are available online at [www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents](http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents); click the newsletter link.

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# YO

Due to increased printing and mailing costs, the CU Parent Newsletter will be mailed only twice a year (fall and spring). We will continue to publish four issues, all of which will be on our web site at [www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents](http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/parents). So look for us in your mailbox AND on

# Colorado

University of Colorado at Boulder

The University of Colorado at Boulder is an equal opportunity/nondiscrimination institution.



# A brick . . . a gift that will always be remembered!

Honor your graduating student, alumni, teachers, loved ones, and friends of the university with a custom engraved brick on the CU-Boulder campus.

Your brick will be a lasting, visible tribute and commemorate your contribution to the University of Colorado Parents Association Scholarship program.

Each brick will be installed in the walkway of the Norlin Quadrangle, a historic area adjacent to the original campus buildings. The brick pathway will grow for generations and recognize those who have contributed to quality and excellence at the University of Colorado.

## Take a moment to make a permanent tribute

PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Today's date                      Your last name                      Your first name                      MI

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone                      Street address                      City                      State                      ZIP

Make your \$125 check payable to the CU Foundation or charge:

VISA  MasterCard  American Express  check  \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit card #                      Exp. date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name as it appears on card                      Signature

You will receive a certificate acknowledging your contribution. If this is a gift, please write the name of each person to be acknowledged, including yourself.

Please write your message as you would like it to appear on the brick. Limit 20 characters per line, including spaces.

**Line 1**

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**Line 2**

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**Line 3**

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CU Parents Association reserves the right to edit all requests. Mail this form to:

**CU Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 17126**  
**Denver, CO 80217-9155**

Questions? Telephone the Office of Parent Relations at **303-492-1380** or e-mail **parents@colorado.edu**.

Contributions benefit the CU Parents Association scholarship program. You will receive a certificate for the person being honored. If you would like the names of the gift givers, including yourself, to appear on the certificate, please list below:

\_\_\_\_\_