Women Who Make a Difference

Each year, the Women’s Resource Center honors women-identified people on campus and in the community who are recognized by CU students, staff, and faculty.

This is a wonderful opportunity to nominate a women who makes a difference in one’s life. This can be any woman including mothers, grandmothers, mentors, advocates, friends, story tellers, professors, staff, and many more. This year, the Women Who Make a Difference dinner was held on December 3, 2015.

In 2000, WRC student staff conceived of the Women Who Make A Difference award to honor a woman from the community. They received 8 nominations of such quality that they decided to honor all the women — and a tradition was born. Annually, we celebrate women who have made a difference in our community and campus.

The women nominated and recognized this year include the following:

Vasudha Daver          Marah Quiñonez Dominguez
Lan Hayes              Hannah Jones
Stephanie Moon         Thuyi Vo
Emily Pfleghaar         Barbara Haggerty
Maria Castro Barajas    Jill Patterson
Kelsey Brown           Glenda Schofield
Dr. Glenda Russell     Johanna Karasik
Tanya Kears

The Cleopatra Jaramillo Estrada Activist Legacy Scholarship Recipient: Nataly Banda

The Cleopatra Jaramillo Estrada Activist Legacy Scholarship is a $500 academic annual award in the Women's Resource Center. Named for Cleo Estrada who has devoted her life's work to the struggle for social justice for underrepresented communities. Cleo was a farmworker and first generation student from the San Luis Valley who graduated from the University of Colorado with three degrees and worked as a counselor and student advocate for 40 years. She retired in February 2015.

Qualifications for this scholarship include demonstrated activism around issues of social justice and gender equity within the campus community. We received excellent applications in this inaugural year.

The first recipient of this scholarship for 2015 is Nataly Banda who is an activist on campus and in the community. In her letter of recommendation, her recommender states that:

“Nataly is a natural leader in that she is guided by her love for underrepresented communities and her passion to seek justice and equity for these communities…Nataly has said that she had the opportunity to access higher education, and thus, has the responsibility to help other people gain access as well as has the responsibility to give back to her community once she attains her degree.”

Congratulations Nataly!