

NEWS RELEASE
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**The Women's Foundation of Colorado To Host Alfre Woodard as
Keynote Speaker for 2010 Annual Luncheon in November
Announces Annual 2009 Luncheon Raised \$700,000 and Hosted Over 2,000 Attendees**

DENVER, CO (February 1, 2010) – The Women's Foundation of Colorado (WFCO) announced today that critically acclaimed actress and social activist, Alfre Woodard, will be the keynote speaker at this year's annual fundraising luncheon to be held Nov. 4, 2010 in Denver. The organization also announced that nearly \$700,000 was raised during the 2009 luncheon last November. This funding will help to further promote self-sufficiency among Colorado's women and girls through WFCO-sponsored research and education initiatives, public policy reform and grantmaking.

Woodard has graced the screen with her commanding performances, winning Emmy Awards for *Hill Street Blues*, *L.A. Law*, the television movie *Miss Evers' Boys*, and *The Practice*. She is also the recipient of a Golden Globe Award, Cable ACE Award, and a Screen Actors Guild Award.

Off screen, Woodard is an activist who supports many great causes, and is passionate about mentoring girls. In November of 2009, just days after last year's luncheon, Woodard visited the Governor's Mansion and several local Denver schools alongside Michelle Obama, to help initiate the First Lady's national girls' mentoring effort. Woodard also helped found Artists for a New South Africa, a nonprofit organization dedicated to democracy and equality in South Africa and civil rights in the United States. Her presentation at the 2010 WFCO annual luncheon will be titled "*Empowering Girls to be Next Generation Leaders*."

"We're extremely honored to host Alfre Woodard as our guest speaker," said Eve Powell, interim president and CEO of The WFCO. "The insights shared at our annual luncheon and the money raised provide the perfect foundational support to take action for the women and girls in our community. We look forward to another powerful event."

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 21st 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 www.wfco.org or call 303-285-2960.

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