



*NEWS from the*

# Alice Paul INSTITUTE

*Honoring her legacy • Preserving her home • Developing future leaders*

## Alice Paul Equality Awards Honor Outstanding Women

Five New Jersey women received the 2008 Alice Paul Equality Awards at a gala dinner at the Hyatt Regency, Princeton, in April.

The awards honored individuals who have demonstrated a strong and long-standing commitment to advancing women's equality in New Jersey and the Delaware Valley through advocacy, litigation, business leadership, education, scholarship or artistic expression.

The award winners were Kirsten Scheurer Branigan of Nutley, Jeanne M. Fox of New Brunswick, Roberta Francis of Chatham,

Lendel G. Jones of Cinnaminson and Dr. Ferris Olin of Princeton

**Branigan**, a lawyer in private practice in Nutley, has been an advocate of women's rights throughout her legal career. She has been instrumental in revitalizing the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association (NJWLA), of which she is currently president.

**Fox** has been a member of New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine's cabinet since 2006. In her roles in government agencies, she has worked to ensure that qualified women and minorities are given equal consideration for management positions.

**Francis** has worked for the advancement of women's equality in New Jersey and nationally for more than 25 years. She served as director of the New Jersey Division on Women and has worked as a gender equity consultant and writer advocating the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

In her 17 years with American Water, the largest investor-owned water and waste-water utility company in the United States, **Jones** has risen from secretary to vice president of communications and government affairs for the company's northeast region to director of government affairs for its national headquarters in Voorhees. Throughout her career, Jones has been a champion for women both by example and by direct involvement in mentoring women in her industry.

**Dr. Olin** is an art historian and librarian and the director of the Institute for Women and Art at Rutgers University. A leading advocate for women's equality in the arts she has been responsible for bringing the work of women artists to the public as curator of the Mary H. Dana Women Artist Series at the Douglass Library.

*(See page 4 for Alice Paul Equality Awards Dinner Sponsors)*



*Alice Paul Equality Award Recipients: from left, Jeanne M. Fox, Roberta Francis, Lendel G. Jones, Kirsten Scheurer Branigan and Dr. Ferris Olin*

*News from the Alice Paul Institute is published quarterly to promote awareness of the Institute's goal to educate the public about the life and work of suffragist Alice Paul, and to preserve and restore Paulsdale as a women's history and leadership center in Mount Laurel, NJ.*

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## API Today

by  
**Rhonda  
DiMascio  
API  
President**



This spring a record number of elementary school students visited *Paulsdale* for *Meeting Alice* (see page 3), and we honored five outstanding women at our second Alice Paul Equality Awards dinner. More than 200 people attended the dinner (see page 1).

Our spring was eventful, and summer is also off to a busy start. At the end of June we wrapped up our *Girlblazers Summer Camp* and launched *Days of Discovery*, API's first Elderhostel program.

Your support has helped us to offer these programs. We are grateful for your dedication to the Alice Paul Institute despite these very difficult economic times.

Enclosed is this newsletter is a planned giving survey that we would like you to complete and send back to the Institute. Your feedback is extremely important to us as we move forward with our planned giving initiative, which will help ensure the future of the organization for years to come. Thank you in advance for your help.

Finally, thanks to your efforts in advocating for history and the arts in New Jersey, the final state budget for FY09 restores \$606,000 to the N.J. Historical Commission bringing the total appropriation to \$3.306 million.

Enjoy your summer; we hope to see you here for Women's Equality Day on August 26. (See details on this page.)

***For news and information about API and its events and programs and to view our sales catalog, please visit our website, [www.alicepaul.org](http://www.alicepaul.org).***

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## Celebrate Women's Equality Day at *Paulsdale*: Program Features Women of the Civil War

Join us at *Paulsdale* for a celebration of Women's Equality Day and a ribbon cutting ceremony for the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail marker on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 6 p.m.

The celebration features a presentation by Trish Chambers, who will discuss her book, *Civil War Women: Their Roles and Legacies*.

Discover how women's will to survive the war and create a future for themselves and their families drove them from their traditional roles and into a new world for women.

Learn about the changes in society, economics and traditions that would redefine the roles of women forever.

Explore the amazing accomplishments of the brave women of the North and South who supported the war effort as nurses, spies, soldiers, government workers, authors, lecturers and fund raisers.

See how their legacies paved a pathway for women of the future.

The book will be available for purchase in the API gift shop throughout the summer and will be

available at the book signing table at the Women's Equality Day event.

Light refreshments will be served. Register for the celebration by Wednesday, Aug. 20, by calling 856-231-1885 or visiting our website at [www.alicepaul.org](http://www.alicepaul.org).

Registration is \$15 including the book or \$5 for the event only.



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## API Board of Trustees Welcomes New Members

Two new members have joined the Alice Paul Institute Board of Trustees.

Since joining Rohm and Haas Co. as a chemical engineer in 1980, **Michele M. Dorris** of Mt. Laurel has held leadership positions in the commercial, manufacturing and information technology areas. Today, she is business services project manager for the North American Region, where she is responsible for redesigning support services.

Dorris is co-chairperson of the Rohm and Haas Women's Leadership Network, an organization of more than 4,000 women. In addition, she supports the Society of Women Engineers and other non-profit organizations including

Career Wardrobe. She holds a bachelor of chemical engineering degree from Villanova University and an MBA from Temple University.

**Adriene K. Hobdy** of Philadelphia is deputy finance director for Public Safety and Services, Elkins Park. She served as Executive Board treasurer for the Greater Philadelphia Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. from 2006-2007.

In 2004, Hobdy was assistant field director for the Lois Murphy for Congress campaign. She holds a bachelor's degree from Xavier University, New Orleans, and a master's degree in budget and finance from Lincoln University of Pennsylvania.

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## Meeting Alice Introduces Children to Alice Paul

More than 700 young children from local elementary schools and scout groups visit *Paulsdale* each year to participate in *Meeting Alice*. Among them were the boys and girls in Christine Borget's fourth-grade class at Rush



Facilitator Lorraine Misek leads fourth-grade students on tour of Paulsdale's grounds.

Intermediate School in Cinnaminson who participated in the program in May.

*Meeting Alice* is a two-hour educational program that introduces elementary school students and their teachers to Alice Paul.

Before coming to *Paulsdale*, Borget's class read the book, *Alice Paul*, by Elizabeth Raum. When the children arrived, they became history detectives primed to listen and watch for clues during their program. They saw a presentation, "Children in the 1900's," then took a tour of the double parlor that houses some Paul family pictures and documents, discussed the historical importance of Alice Paul's life and home, enjoyed a mock voting activity and took part in a photographic timeline activity based on their knowledge of Alice Paul.

"It's an incredible program. It makes history come alive," said Borget, who has been bringing fourth-grade classes to *Paulsdale*

for *Meeting Alice* since the program began about five years ago.

"The children learn that a woman from right here in New Jersey made sure that everyone had the right to vote and that one person can really make a difference," she said.

Outside, the children toured the farmyard, following a map to learn about South Jersey farming and a child's life on a farm in 1900. A team scavenger hunt at the end of the program reinforced the information they learned on the tour.

Tatum Fowles, a member of Borget's class, said that she had learned a lot about how people lived in the early 1900s from the program. "And I learned that Alice Paul kept on working hard for women's rights even though she had to spend time in jail," she said.

*Meeting Alice* is sponsored by an educational grant from Subaru of America Foundation, Inc.

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### Intern to Assist Educators Advisory Council

Laura McGrath of Medford has been named a summer intern at the Alice Paul Institute. Her internship is supported by a grant from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) "to assist members in hiring a summer intern and to ensure a future public historian has an opportunity to gain real world experience in the field."



McGrath will work with API's Educators Advisory Council to research topics and draft lesson plans for the New Jersey Women's History website, <http://www.scc.rutgers.edu/njwomenshistory>.

McGrath is a student at Taylor University, IN, majoring in history and English. As an intern at API last summer, she organized and cataloged the Alice Paul Book

Collection, which was moved to *Paulsdale* last spring, and the new API Women's History Library.

McGrath was recently named a 2008 Gilder Lehrman History Scholar Finalist. She is one of 50 students selected by competitive application to participate in the program.

### API Launches New Program

The Alice Paul Institute has introduced a new program for children in grades one through three and Brownie Girl Scouts, *Alice Paul and the Leadership Parade*.

The two-hour program combines history, art and character development. Students learn about Alice Paul and how she used leadership skills to achieve women's right to vote..

Following a discussion on leadership skills, students work in teams to build a parade float model that displays leadership characteristics like courage, honesty, strength and fairness.

For more information or to schedule a program, contact Kris

Myers, director of heritage and outreach, at [kmyers@alicepaul.org](mailto:kmyers@alicepaul.org) or 856-231-1885



Rhonda DiMascio, API president, with bookcase that once belonged to Alice Paul

### Alice Paul's Bookcase Returns to Paulsdale

Thanks to a grant from the Indian Springs Questers, a bookcase once owned by Alice Paul has come back to *Paulsdale*. The six-foot high bookcase is the first piece of furniture that belonged to Paul to be owned by the Alice Paul Institute. Crafted by a Philadelphia cabinet maker in the mid 1800's, it was in *Paulsdale* when Paul was a little girl.



*In March, the Alice Paul Institute received a general operating grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. Rhonda DiMascio, API president, center, received a certificate of recognition for the award during a legislative breakfast in Trenton. With her are Dr. Larry Greene, left, Commission chair, NJ State Senator Philip E. Haines (R-8th District), Nina Mitchell Wells, NJ Secretary of State, and Marc Mappen, Commission executive director.*

### Alice Paul Equality Award Dinner Sponsors

Capmark Finance, Inc. was the event sponsor for the Alice Paul Equality Awards Dinner; Duane Morris, LLP was a Gold Table Sponsor; and Congressman Rob Andrews and Camille Andrews were Silver Table Sponsors.

Bronze Table Sponsors included American Water, Cozen O'Connor, law office of Kirsten Scheurer Branigan, McDonald Law Group, New Jersey Women Lawyers Association and Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey.

Benefactors were Amper, Politzner & Mattia, PC, Costume Gallery and Drinker, Biddle & Reath, LLP.

Supporters included Holman Automotive, PNC Bank and the

Career Wardrobe.

Co-sponsoring organizations were Association of Black Women Lawyers of NJ, American Society of Women Accountants (Philadelphia Chapter), WOMEN'S WAY, Lutheran Settlement House of Philadelphia, American Women's Society of CPA's, Mt. Laurel Rotary, Garden State Society of Human Resource Managers, Image and Attitude, Inc., Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI), South Jersey NOW, Women in the Profession Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association, American Friends Service Committee Women's Programs and eWomen's Network (SJ Chapter).

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**Alice Paul Institute**

**128 Hooton Rd.**

**Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054**

**856-231-1885 FAX 856-231-4223**

**info@alicepaul.org**

**www.alicepaul.org**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Alice Paul Institute  
128 Hooton Rd.  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

