



NEWS from the

ALICE PAUL INSTITUTE

Honoring her legacy • Preserving her home • Developing future leaders

Corporate Grants Boost Alice Paul Leadership Program

The Alice Paul Institute has received two major gifts to support *Alice Paul Leadership Program* activities for girls: a \$20,000 grant from the Comcast Foundation (for programs through summer and fall 2009) and a \$15,000 grant from Capmark Finance, Inc., based in Horsham, PA.

The *Alice Paul Leadership Program* combats the diminished confidence and self-esteem that is documented among many adolescent girls.

The Comcast grant helps sup-

port two *Lead-A-Way* workshop series in Burlington Township and Camden City, a *Looking at Careers* workshop for 30 10th and 11th grade students at Willingboro High School and a *Girlblazers* summer camp at Paulsdale for 20 5th and 6th grade students from Camden City.

“Comcast is dedicated to investing in and enriching the communities where we live and work,” said Barry Taylor, Director of Government Affairs, Comcast. “API’s *Leadership Program* is a

tremendous adolescent outreach initiative from an organization that has already demonstrated a profound impact in South Jersey.”

“API is grateful to The Comcast Foundation for its generous grant and for supporting the *Alice Paul Leadership Program*, which will provide leadership development opportunities for young women and men in Burlington and Camden counties throughout the year,” said Rhonda DiMascio, API president.

The Comcast Foundation was established by Comcast Corporation in 1999 to provide charitable support to Section 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. Since its inception, the Comcast Foundation has donated more than \$50 million to organizations in the communities that Comcast serves nationwide.

Capmark Grant

The Capmark grant funds a new initiative, the planning of *Leadership a la Carte*, a full-day leadership development boot camp designed to provide girls 13 to 16 with practical skills and confidence and helps support the Burlington Township *Lead-A-Way* series and the *Girlblazers* summer camp.

“We are pleased to support the

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Burlington Township Middle School at Springside girls participating in a Lead-A-Way workshop series recently visited Paulsdale. Shown here with James Mallon, Area Manager of Government Affairs, Comcast, are from left, Tamara Grasty, Nina Rodriguez, Jocelyn Sanabria and Tess Reynolds.

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.

API Today

by
**Nancy J.
Mirfin,
Chair, API
Board of
Trustees**



Greetings to all of the friends of the Alice Paul Institute.

It is an honor and a privilege to be named chair of API's Board of Trustees, and I look forward to my service with great excitement. It's encouraging to know I stand on a firm foundation set by women who brought strength, vision and purpose to this organization. I especially want to thank our members, donors and supporters for their continued support. Even in these difficult times API has not skipped a beat. Thanks to you, we ended last year with a flurry of activities, and we will begin 2009 with even more programs and initiatives.

This spring, we will conduct 18 *Meeting Alice* Programs for 400 elementary school students, 12 tours of Paulsdale and ten Alice Paul Leadership Program activities. These programs keep us in the forefront of young women's leadership development while honoring Alice Paul's legacy and the preservation of Paulsdale. We will also host our second wine tasting with our Community Partners initiative and sponsor a second non-event event to support our programming.

As we move forward into 2009, I would like to remember and thank the Board members who have left our service: our chair, Janet Lindman, and Board members Kim Moon and Beena Sukumaran. Over the years, these Board members helped to make a positive impact on API's organizational and financial development, and we are grateful for their contributions. They will be missed.

Hats off to our volunteers, members and benefactors for your continued support of API. Rest assured, we will continue to move forward with our mission and goals and continue with our planned programs and activities.

Paulsdale Opens Doors to Public

If you've never explored *Paulsdale*, Alice Paul's birthplace and childhood home, you'll have plenty of opportunity this year.

On Saturday, March 21, *Paulsdale* will be part of *Women in History*, a self-guided driving tour of six historical sites, sponsored by the Burlington County Board of Freeholders in honor of Women's History Month.

Tours of *Paulsdale* are scheduled for 11 a.m., 12 noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.

Save the Dates.

Leadership a la Carte

API's first *Leadership a La Carte* program takes place Saturday, March 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Paulsdale.

The program, open to girls aged 13 to 16, is a leadership development boot camp designed to provide girls with practical skills to use for life.

A registration fee of \$50 includes patch, workshop materials and a light lunch. Registration deadline is Monday, March 9.

For information about scheduling a *Leadership a La Carte* program for your Girl Scout troop or youth group, please e-mail ddmilstein@alicepaul.org

Presentation Skills Workshop

Dr. Gordon A. Jacoby, a specialist in speech, voice and movement, will lead a workshop on presentation skills on Tuesday, April 21, 8:30 - 10 a.m., at Paulsdale.

The workshop is designed to provide guidance and practice in the physical and intellectual activities necessary for strong, authoritative presentations.

A continental breakfast is included in a \$10 registration fee. Register by Tuesday, April 14.

Mother and Daughter Workshop

In honor of Mothers Day, mothers and daughters are invited to join author Catherine Gourley on the porch at Paulsdale on Saturday,

Tours include a brief show about Alice Paul's life and work; a talk about the Paul family's daily life in the house, the restoration of the site and its present day use as a girl's leadership center; and a guided tour of the property.

Additional open tours are scheduled for Saturdays, March 21, April 18, May 23, June 27, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 26, Oct. 27 and Nov. 21., at 12 noon and 1 p.m.

Tours cost \$5 for adults and \$4 for children.

May 16, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Gourley will discuss her new book, *Gibson Girls and Suffragists*, the first volume in a five book nonfiction series, *Images of Women in the Twentieth Century*.

Written for girls ages 10 and up, the series explores how popular culture has portrayed women in the early twentieth century, from Gibson and Christy girls and suffragists and flappers to college girls and factory girls.

Books will be available for sale and signing.

Register by Tuesday, May 12.

Wine Tasting

Women Winemakers of the Napa Valley, a gala event, takes place at Paulsdale on Friday, May 29, 6 - 8 p.m. The celebration includes an educational presentation and tasting of wines produced by women winemakers of the Napa Valley accompanied by a selection of appetizers and desserts.

Wine educator Mary Cammarata has studied wines for more than 20 years. She regularly travels to the Napa Valley to enhance her wine tasting knowledge. She is the owner/manager of the liquor store Hops and Grapes in Glassboro and of two family restaurants.

Cost is \$50. Register by Wednesday, May 20.

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Save the Dates

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Penning on the Porch

Penning on the Porch, a writer's workshop on the art of journal writing, takes place Friday, June 12, 6 - 7:30 p.m., on the porch at Paulsdale.

Journals are an art form in their own right. Keeping a journal provides the raw material for poetry, short stories, novels, lyrics, and visual art.

Bring your journal and join writer Joann Wright to learn about some of the great diarists of literary history while you explore the art of keeping a journal.

Wright, who has written two

novels, many short stories and poems, has kept journals since 1975.

Registration is \$10. Register by Wednesday, June 10.

Women's Equality Day

API will celebrate the 89th anniversary of women's right to vote in the United States on Wednesday, Aug. 26, with a celebration at Paulsdale. Watch for more details.

For information or to register for any of these programs, contact the Alice Paul Institute at 856-231-1885 or info@alicepaul.org or visit our website at www.alicepaul.org.

API Goes Green

To become more environmentally responsible, we are changing our printing and distribution policy starting with this issue.

If you have provided us with an e-mail address, you will receive a message with a link to the newsletter on our website. If you have an e-mail address but have not provided us with it, we ask that you do so by e-mailing API at info@alicepaul.org.

In addition, we will print a limited number of copies in-house and will continue mailing them to those who have no e-mail address or who have let us know that they prefer to receive a copy by mail.

Alice Paul Institute Values Its Dedicated Volunteers

In 1992, Dottie Fresco of Cinnaminson noticed a photo of Judy Buckman, a founder of the Alice Paul Institute (then the Alice Paul Centennial Foundation), discussing women's issues such as "keeping" one's name after marriage and generational differences between women with her daughter Laurie, then 17, in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

"I became very interested in the article because I was already involved in making presentations on women and art to school class-

es and approaching issues of discrimination through art projects," Fresco said. "I knew women were invisible in history."

Fresco contacted Buckman, and the contact led to a visit to Paulsdale, where Fresco met founding president Barbara Irvine, and to her joining the Alice Paul Leadership Committee in its very early days.

As a member of the Leadership Committee, Fresco worked along with the other members to develop the curriculum for *Share Your Voice*, a one-day leadership workshop for eighth-grade girls, and to organize the first workshop, which took place at Rutgers, Camden, in the fall of 1995.

As the program evolved and the Committee sponsored more workshops over the years, Fresco developed and presented one of the *Share Your Voice* segments, an interactive activity in which the girls work in teams to build a monument to women of their generation.

"The monument activity stresses team work," Fresco said.

Later, Fresco was a member of a sub-committee of the Leadership Committee that developed the curriculum for the *Lead-A-Way* workshop series that takes place at area schools.

After API was able to hire a professional staff and the Leadership Committee (now known as the Educators Advisory Council) became advisory in nature, Fresco continued her commitment as a volunteer.

Today, she serves as a tour guide and speaker and gives presentations on the artist Georgia O'Keefe for *Girls Overnight Leadership Development* (G.O.L.D.) programs and *Girlblazers* summer camp.

Through her experimental paintings of flowers, O'Keefe is saying it's O.K. for girls to express themselves, Fresco explained.

"Like O'Keefe, before 1970, girls had no role models," she said. "I tell the girls that if they have goals, they must be determined to overcome barriers."

Today, Fresco's commitment to API is as strong as ever. "Participation in API gave me the confidence to become an activist," she said.

"We can use more volunteers like Dottie," said Dana Dabek-Milstein, director of leadership programs.

For information about becoming a volunteer, contact API at kmyers@alicepaul.org, call 856-231-1885 or visit our website at www.alicepaul.org.



Dottie Fresco

API Measures Member Satisfaction

by Emily J. Kronenberger, Membership Chair

The Alice Paul Institute values its dedicated members, especially in the current economic climate, and strives to be responsive to their feedback and experiences within the organization.

As a way of accomplishing this, we recently conducted a membership satisfaction survey that included questions on membership services and reasons for continued support among current members.

Nearly 25 percent of the approximately 400 API members who were given the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on how to improve member experiences responded, a notable return for any voluntary survey.

Responses were very positive, and members remain committed to continuing their API membership, as well as to advancing women's leadership. Overall, members were satisfied with the services they receive, including the periodic newsletter and discounts to API events and products.

In addition, as an outcome of the survey, API is committed to creating more opportunities for members to network and meet up. Stay tuned to find out more about opportunities for members at upcoming API events. For information on API membership, visit www.alicepaul.org/membership.

Corporate Grants

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leadership development work of the Alice Paul Institute," said Suzanne Quigley, vice president-community initiatives director at Capmark. "API not only aligns with our community focus area of youth and education; it also actively engages our employees in meaningful volunteer activities."

"We are grateful for Capmark's continued support and for funding our new initiative, *Leadership a la Carte*," DiMascio said. "Capmark has been a partner of the Alice Paul

Institute for three years, and we are delighted that it is helping us to develop the next generation of women leaders and assisting us with our efforts to reach out into the community and build strong relationships with other corporations and business."

Capmark is a diversified company that provides a broad range of financial services to investors in commercial real estate-related assets. It has three core businesses: lending and mortgage banking, investments and funds management, and servicing.

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