October 6.

Save your place.

Save them from bullying.

The Women’s Fund presents best-selling author Rachel Simmons, nationally-recognized expert on bullying among girls.

Bullying among girls hurts today and impacts tomorrow. That is why The Women’s Fund is excited to bring to the Capital Region Rachel Simmons, New York Times bestselling author of Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls and the new The Curse of the Good Girl.

Offering inspiring and humorous presentations, Rachel Simmons has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Today, Dateline NBC and NPR, and will be featured on PBS shortly before her visit. (For more information on Rachel Simmons, please visit www.apbspeakers.com.)

This important event is both a community service to help middle and high school girls who struggle with bullying every day and a fundraiser for The Women’s Fund. We hope you will attend the presentation that is best for you and help us spread the word about this three-part October 6 program:

- **7 pm presentation**, open to all, but specifically geared toward middle and high school parents and girls, at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for girls under 19.* For tickets visit [www.womensfundcr.org](http://www.womensfundcr.org) or call Troy Savings Bank Music Hall at 273-0038. (*We offer a limited number of free tickets to eligible families. They are available through principals at area public schools.*)

- **Free after-school program**, 4-5:30 pm at NYSUT headquarters, for educators to learn and earn CEUs through the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. Space is limited; educators should register online at [www.womensfundcr.org](http://www.womensfundcr.org).

- **Morning session** at area girls’ high schools, underwritten by the Albany Academies, the Academy of the Holy Names, and Emma Willard School.

 Reserve your tickets for the October 6 evening program today! Visit [www.womensfundcr.org](http://www.womensfundcr.org) or call 273-0038.

This event is possible thanks to the following sponsors (see in-kind sponsors on page 3):

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Trailblazers Luncheon draws sell-out crowd
Third annual event recognized 2009 grant recipients, Trailblazers

The Women’s Fund hosted its Third Annual Trailblazers Luncheon on Wednesday, May 20, at Wolferts Roost Country Club to a crowd of more than 300.

Three outstanding women in our community were honored as Trailblazers: Shirley Ann Jackson, Ph.D., President of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Jan Smith, retired Manager of Public Affairs, GE Energy; and Lorraine Power Tharp, Esq. (posthumous award), formerly a partner at Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP.

Susan Arbetter of WMHT served as emcee. More than 300 people attended the event, and its success was due in large measure to The Women’s Fund’s Events Committee, chaired by Steering Committee member Alicia Lasch.

Shirley Ann Jackson, the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. from M.I.T., spoke of her commitment to ensuring opportunities for other women and for African Americans, particularly in the Greater Capital Region. She quoted an oft-repeated African proverb: “Educate a boy and you educate an individual. Educate a girl and you educate a community.”

Jan Smith emphasized the importance of “being true to yourself” as well as building competency and not being afraid to try something new “just because it seems impossible.” If one doesn’t know it is impossible, one is much more likely to try, and often to succeed, she said.

Russell Tharp, Lorraine’s husband, accepted the award on her behalf. He spoke of the discrimination Lorraine often faced (and overcame), beginning in law school, because she was typically the first woman to accomplish most of what she did in her life.

The Fund also announced its grants for 2009; each program was selected because of its ability to directly address the challenges faced by women and girls striving for financial stability and independence. Including these grants, The Women’s Fund has awarded more than $126,000 in three years to Capital Region programs. See descriptions of all the 2009 grant awardees at left.

Congratulations to the 2009 grant recipients:

- **Money Smart** — will assist low-income women in learning the basics of financial literacy. Collaborating partners are: Commission on Economic Opportunity and Capital Communications Federal Credit Union.

- **Project Independence** — enables domestic violence victims to develop skills and find employment. Collaborating partners are: YWCA of Schenectady and Schenectady County Department of Social Services.

- **St. Patrick’s Home-Based Child Care Partnership** — provides women living in low-income areas of Albany with one-on-one technical assistance to prepare to operate quality childcare businesses in their homes. Collaborating partners are: Catholic Charities, SEFCU, Holy Family Parish, and the Capital District Child Care Council.

- **Women Build Careers Initiative** — will provide resources to assist low-income women in finding a full-time, satisfying career. Collaborating partners are: Albany Community Action Partnership, SEFCU, and Equinox, Inc.

A special thank you to luncheon Honorary Co-Chairs Jane Golub and Susan Haigh Houpt.

Grants awarded during the luncheon included $5,000 for Project Independence at YWCA of Schenectady. From left are Women’s Fund Chair Susan Houpt, YWCA Board President Shirley Readdean and YWCA Executive Director Rowie Taylor.
Thank you to these in-kind sponsors for the Rachel Simmons visit:

Thank you to these in-kind sponsors for the Rachel Simmons visit:

Thank you to the Rachel Simmons event, and this spring then Junior League President Felice Devine Primeau (left) presented a check to Women’s Fund Steering Committee member Lorraine D’Aleo.

Yes, I want to contribute to The Women’s Fund!

Become a Member of the Founding Five Hundred

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Mail this form to:
The Women’s Fund of the Capital Region, Six Tower Place, Albany, NY 12203
OR, donate online at www.womensfundcr.org

It’s not too soon to plan for the holidays!

Make the season meaningful with The Women’s Fund.

The holiday season is just around the corner. Now more than ever, in these challenging economic times, we encourage you to invest in the lives of women and girls in our community. Here are some ways to include The Women’s Fund in your celebrations:

- Organize an office party around a fundraiser, or simply ask others to bring a donation instead of grab bag or other gifts. (Or hold a raffle to benefit the Fund.)
- Invite a Speaker’s Bureau volunteer to your organization’s meeting to talk about the value of The Women’s Fund and opportunities for sponsorships and giving. Email speakers@womensfundcr.org.
- When you entertain, encourage donations instead of hostess gifts. (After all, how many scented candles can you use?)
- Plan to honor family members and friends with a donation in their honor, or ask them to give in your name. (Again, better than candles!)

Get a headstart by contacting The Women’s Fund today, and share the warmth of the season when together we “invest in her future.”
Invest in her future.

Founding Five Hundred

Thank you to the 234 donors listed below, who have given a Founder’s gift (as of July 30).

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Key Foundation
Invest in her future.
Thank you from The Women’s Fund
Together generous organizations and enthusiastic volunteers invested in her future this spring:

KeyBank gives $5,000 at Key4Women event

Thank you to KeyBank for selecting The Women’s Fund of the Capital Region to benefit from the Key4Women Forum in June, entitled “Now Is Not the Time to Retreat.” This selection follows KeyBank’s long-standing support of The Women’s Fund, including as a gold-level annual sponsor for 2009-2010.

About 260 people attended the Key4Women Forum and were inspired by Nadja Piatka’s amazing story of creating a multimillion dollar food company, armed only with an idea and a $100 investment.

At the June event, Karen Bilowith, member of the Steering Committee of The Women’s Fund, gratefully accepted a check for $5,000 — $2,500 from event registrations matched by $2,500 from Key4Women.

Fresh Start Project benefits five area shelters

Thank you to everyone who contributed toiletries to the Fresh Start Project as part of the Third Annual Trailblazers Luncheon in May. Altogether five large boxes of supplies were collected, which were delivered to a domestic violence shelter in each of the five counties served by The Women’s Fund:

- Equinox Domestic Violence Services
- Unity House of Troy
- Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County
- YWCA Domestic Violence Program
- Domestic Violence Program of Schoharie County

Thank you also to The Women’s Fund Volunteer Committee, which organized the collection.

Women’s Fund Team raises awareness at Freihofer’s Community Walk

A team of 12 Women’s Fund volunteers participated in the Freihofer’s Community Walk on May 30, raising awareness of The Women’s Fund and more than $500, all while enjoying a sunny morning at The Empire State Plaza.

Those pictured are (from left): Paula Marshman, Sharon Lastique, Kim Cardillo, Laurie Gillespie-Allen, Bonnie Edelstein, Monica Allen and Megan Allen. Also participating were: Amy Clinton, Jessica Clinton, Lou Carol Comley, Mary Holloway and Sharon Rende.
New members, Speaker’s Bureau, October 6 program on bullying extend impact of The Women’s Fund
A message from Steering Committee Chair Susan Haigh Houpt

The volunteers and leaders of The Women’s Fund have been hard at work over the past six months, growing awareness, revenue, and effectiveness through the Trailblazers Luncheon, Key4Women Forum, community grants and much more.

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed as new Founding Five Hundred members Christy Ann Coppola, Susanne Doyle, J. Dianne Ewashko, Kathleen Gleeson Esq., Jacqueline Pierce, Jan Smith, Maggie Vinciguerra, Gini Whetten, and Mary Austin Williams, bringing us nearly halfway to our goal. These women join our many generous sponsors and donors who recognize the importance of investing together in the future of women and girls.

We are also excited to introduce a new Speakers Bureau to reach out to area organizations that would benefit from learning more about The Women’s Fund, enhance their workforce or membership, and strengthen philanthropic activities. Women’s Fund volunteers are ready to visit where you meet or work. Let us know of your interest by emailing speakers@womensfundcr.org.

Finally, we are excited to present Rachel Simmons, national expert on bullying among girls, to the Capital Region on October 6. Please read the details inside and become part of this event today.

Thank you for your interest and support as together we “invest in her future.”

Susan H. Houpt

To learn more: www.womensfundcr.org • (518) 446-9638

The Women’s Fund is a collaboration of United Way of the Greater Capital Region and The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region.