

210 Lab of Mechanics  
Ames, IA 50011  
Ywca@iastate.edu

November/December 2009  
Edited by Elizabeth Beck

## **YWCA Ames-ISU Newsletter**

### **In this Issue:**

Announcement of Andrea Henry as New Executive Director  
2010 Women of Achievement Nominations Open  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Celebration  
YWCA Ames-ISU Participates in Alternative Gift Market  
Just Desserts, A Successful Fundraiser  
Worldly Goods Helps YWCA Ames-ISU  
Greater Iowa Credit Union Partners with YWCA Ames-ISU  
Updates on GIRLS Power, Global Programs

---

As the fall semester winds down, the YWCA Ames-ISU has had a busy fall, but a very exciting one, too!!

### **ANDREA HENRY IS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The YWCA Ames-ISU Board of Directors is pleased to announce our new Executive Director, Andrea Henry, will begin her new position on December 7. Andrea is an ISU graduate (B.A. Advertising and Visual Studies Major) who most recently was employed as a Marketing and Events Manager by the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores of Iowa and the Heartland Carwash Association, both in Urbandale. Andrea brings to the YW her expertise at Innova as a strategic marketing coordinator and graphic designer. She is a member of the Iowa Society of Association

Executives, treasurer for the Central Iowa Chapter of the Public Relations Society of

America, United Way of Story County communications and golf tournament committees, and has served as a YSS Grip Mentor. Andrea currently resides in Gilbert. She looks forward to working with the Board of Director and continuing to positively impact the Story County community.

The Board would also like to acknowledge and thank Liz Beck, for her year-long stint as Interim Director. The YWCA owes her a debt of gratitude, and we are happy she will be continuing her volunteer work with us.

### **YWCA TO PARTICIPATE IN ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET.**

This year the YWCA Ames-ISU has been selected as one of the local projects for the Alternative Gift Market. The downtown Ames dates for the Alternative Gift Market are December 5, from 10-3 and December 6 and 12 from 1-3 The downtown location is the Spiritual Development Center, 508 Kellogg, across from the Ames Post Office. Some local churches also offer the Alternative Gift Market on selected Sundays. Shopping at the Alternative Gift Market helps support our GIRLS Power Program, our international spouses and scholarships.

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY**

**CELEBRATION JANUARY 18.** The YWCA Ames-ISU coordinates the community celebration of

Martin Luther King, Jr. The event is held at the Ames Middle School with cake served from 6-:620 and the program starting at 6:30. Paxton Williams as Dr. George Washington Carver is the featured speaker. Other groups on the program include the Mitchell-Meeker school chorus, the Delta Academy, ISU Athletics, and a gospel chorus. Preparations are also in progress for sponsoring a food goods drop off for the area food banks.

### **WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT 2010**

**NOMINATIONS OPEN.** Who is your star? The YWCA Ames-ISU is seeking deserving candidates for the Women of Achievement Award and encourage you to nominate someone you know who is making a difference in Ames and/or Story County by advancing the YWCA mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. More information including nomination forms are on the YWCA webpage:

[www.ywca.org/amesiowa](http://www.ywca.org/amesiowa)

The Women of Achievement Awards winners and scholarship recipients will be honored at a reception on March 25, 2010.

Award categories include:

- Woman of Achievement:** A woman who, through her volunteer activities, has made an outstanding contribution toward empowering women and/or eliminating racism.
- Rising Star:** A high school student, college student or recent graduate who makes a difference by supporting social justice efforts.
- Shining Star:** A woman who goes beyond her job description to provide leadership, serve women and girls, or empower women and/or eliminate racism in the workplace.

**Community Spirit Award:** A business or organization employing practices that empower women to participate equally in the workplace, demonstrating leadership in the promotion of racial justice, or impacting the community through its commitment to the YWCA mission.

In all four categories, the YWCA Ames-ISU seeks nominees who:

- Further the YWCA mission through their role as volunteer, student, professional or business practices
- Are respected by peers as role models or leaders
- Make a significant contribution to the community
- Live, work or attend school in Story County

### **JUST DESSERTS: A Taste of Chocolate and More a Success.**

President and Mrs. Geoffroy hosted a very successful event at The Knoll on Wed, Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. Thirty six sponsors and 22 establishment and vendors donated an amazing array of desserts—chocolate cakes, mousses, and cookies, lemon tarts, and even cheeses—to help make the fundraiser a successful fall event. The proceeds of over \$6000 will help support the programming for the GIRLS Power activities, International Spouses educational events and scholarships for Iowa State women students.

**YW BENEFIT AT WORLDLY GOODS.** Worldly Goods supports nonprofit organizations in the community through its Holiday Shopping Program. The YW hosted on Sunday, November 15 from 1:00-4:00. A percentage of the sales receipts from the afternoon will be given back to the YW as Worldly Goods' way of being a supporter of nonprofit agencies. YW Board members helped staff the store during the shopping hours.

### **GREATER IOWA CREDIT UNION SUPPORTS OUR FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM.**

The YWCA

was the recipient of a Women’s Enrichment Grant from the Office of the Provost for the 2009-10 year. The grant is designed to introduce financial literacy to our GIRLS Power program and our International Spouses program. The Credit Union of Greater Iowa has generously come to our aid in delivering programming targeted to these two different populations: 11-12 year old girls and newly arrived international spouses. Two sessions for each population are scheduled for fall semester and again for spring semester. Each session builds on the previous sessions, with the intent of helping women become financially informed. The YWCA USA is promoting financial literacy as a powerful step in empowering women. Our YW is pleased to have the Greater Iowa Credit Union join us as a partner in this effort.

**ISU INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS VISIT AREA SCHOOLS.** The International Friendship Fair takes Iowa State International Students to area elementary schools to help share the international students’ cultures. This fall, during Thanksgiving week, the Fair goes to Alden Elementary School where 12 students from China, Japan, Vietnam, Azerbaijan, Mexico, Slovakia, and Uganda are spending Tuesday at the school. On Wednesday, 10 students from China, Japan, Azerbaijan, Uganda and Mexico present to the Howe Elementary School in Ogden.

**INTERNATIONAL SPOUSES EXPERIENCE U. S. CULTURE.** The international spouse program helps spouses of international students learn about the U.S., Ames, and Iowa State through events, classes and activities. This fall, the spouses was given free tickets to As You Like It at C. Y. Stephens, had educational sessions on resume writing, and had an introductory class on learning the financial side of the U. S. culture . Many international students and spouses will be spending Thanksgiving Day with Ames and are families to experience this U. S. holiday.

Winterfest on campus, will provide an evening of activities for the spouses and children to enjoy—even though there may be no snow on the ground!

**GIRLS POWER** Both the Ames and Nevada groups have combined learning with fun to keep the Sunday afternoon GIRLS Power meeting interesting. Learning sessions have been on the topics of financial literacy, cyber bullying, and personal values and self esteem. Both Ames and Nevada mentees and mentors attended the Iowa State women’s volleyball game against Nebraska on Saturday, Nov 7<sup>th</sup> as guests of the ISU Athletic Department.

**MESSAGE FROM TANYA ZANISH-BELCHER**

Dear YWCA Ames-ISU Community,  
At this time of the year, the season is upon us where we need to consider what we will give—to each other and to our broader Ames community. Fortunately, the campus and community responded to the Y’s most recent fundraiser, “Just Desserts: A Taste of Chocolate and More,” held at the Knoll on November 11. The YWCA doubled our number of hosts to 36 and nearly 50 additional individuals attended the event, bringing our final attendance to 131. We had 22 donors who gave us a delicious assortment of decadent desserts. We would especially like to thank President and Mrs. Geoffroy for hosting us at the Knoll, Stewart Burger for his expertise and assistance, and the YWCA Ames-ISU student staff. We would like to acknowledge those who attended or supported this event, our programming could simply not continue without you. Over \$6,000 was raised, and this funding will directly support our programs such as GIRLS Power mentoring, Engaging International Spouses, International Friendship Fairs, and YWCA student scholarships will benefit from this support. Funded in great part by United Way and GSB, the YWCA Ames-ISU chapter has also received support from other quarters this season, such as

the Greater Iowa Credit Union, Worldly Goods and the Alternative Gift Market, sponsored by local churches. These efforts will assist in plugging our financial holes where they exist, such as transportation for our GIRLS Power participants. The Board of Directors will be continuing to look for additional funding in the near future, as we feel our programming is so important for the future of the Ames and ISU communities. Please plan to join us for our spring event, "Women of Achievement," which will again be held at the Alumni Center on March 25, 2010. We hope to build this event into an opportunity for our community to recognize those who deserve it, and reward some very deserving students with scholarships so they can continue their education. 2010 promises to be very bright for the YWCA, and we hope you will continue to support our work.

Tanya Zanish-Belcher  
President, YWCA Ames-ISU Board of Directors



210 Lab of Mechanics  
Ames, IA 50011

#### YWCA AMES-ISU STAFF

##### Staff:

Elizabeth Beck, Interim Executive Director  
Julja Mitrushi, Global Programs Coordinator  
Nadia Khatib, GIRLS Power Coordinator, Ames  
Alysa Mozak, GIRLS Power Coordinator, Nevada  
Kayla Pinegar, Financial Assistant  
Joshua McConico, Office Manager