

The Capitol Focus Project Presents
A Summer Institute!

WOMEN IN POLITICS

Historical and Contemporary Perspectives
on Women in Politics



TENTATIVE AGENDA

June 20-23, 2006, Sacramento, California

WOMEN IN POLITICS

Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Women in Politics

Capitol Focus is pleased to announce a fourth annual summer institute "Women in Politics" on June 20-23, 2006 in Sacramento. Forty or more young high school aged women from throughout California will have a chance to develop leadership skills while learning about the historical and contemporary role of women in politics. The Institute is being conducted by the Capitol Focus project, a non-partisan civic education program. For over twenty years, Capitol Focus has provided middle and high school aged youth with opportunities to study the issues, institutions and processes of California state government during three-day long programs conducted during the school year. The development of this pilot summer institute is in response to the high level of interest in a program focusing on women, and requests that we consider developing more lengthy, thematic programs to be offered during the summer months. Future programs will focus on Energy and Transportation and the Criminal Justice System. We are excited about this first ever summer offering!

During the Women in Politics Summer Institute, our goal is to impart an understanding of the role of women in key political and social change efforts, as well as an appreciation of important milestones in the evolution of the legal rights of women in our state and nation. Other specific goals are to:

- Impart an understanding of the key elements of the political system including the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government; as well as the role of lobbying organizations and the press.
- Develop the confidence of individual participants and life-long leadership skills including, but not limited to communication, research, teamwork, negotiation and critical thinking.
- Help participants visualize and plan their own education, career and life path including what role they might have as contributors to their community, our nation and the world.
- Expose participants to a variety of positions on issues affecting women and their communities; and to encourage respect and tolerance of viewpoints different than their own.

The first day of the program will focus on the historical role of women in politics and a review of key policy changes affecting women. Activities include an icebreaker, a wall of wisdom, a living history activity engaging participants in re-telling important stories of the past. Day two focuses on present-day issues and policies affecting women and features a series of investigative appointments during which participants will gather contrasting perspectives on several key issues. Day three provides information about the political process and how it works. It features a job shadowing activity called "Women in Action" and a round robin on the role of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government, as well as lobbyists and the press. During the fourth and final day, participants will reflect on their personal path, and what role they see for themselves in their community, nation and the world. More than forty women, including liberals, moderates and conservatives, are expected to volunteer their time to share information and perspectives with participants.

Cost for the four-day program is \$500, which includes transportation to and from Sacramento. This fee also includes dormitory style lodging at the Sacramento Youth Hostel, all meals, staff supervision, and all program materials. Application materials are available by contacting us at the phone number or e-mail address below. Participation is limited to forty young women between the ages of 14-18. Selection will be determined by the brief statement on the application, and in part by our desire to include a group of young women diverse in all ways, including individuals who up until now, have been struggling in school, or those who have not lived up to their potential. You are all welcome!

Capitol Focus and the Summer Institute on Women in Politics are conducted under the auspices of the California Center for Civic Participation and Youth Development. The California Center is a recognized non-partisan leader in efforts to encourage and support youth engagement in a variety of efforts to improve schools and communities. Our work is supported by a host of respected associations and corporations; numerous schools, cities, counties and state agencies; and major philanthropic foundations including the James Irvine Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the California Wellness Foundation. For more information, or to apply to Women in Politics, please contact:

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TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2006

WHERE WERE WE? HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON WOMEN AND POLITICAL CHANGE.

1:00-2:00	ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION: Forty young women from communities throughout California will check-in, return rules and permission slips, and receive room assignments and program materials.	YOUTH HOSTEL
Until- 2:00	GRAFFITI WALL: What do you think about important milestones in the history of women? About issues facing women? In your community? Our nation? The world? Which women do you admire the most and why? What role do you envision for yourself in the future? Sound off by writing your opinions on our paper "Graffiti Wall"!	
2:00-2:30	WELCOME AND OVERVIEW: Introduction to program staff and participants; overview of program goals, activities and materials; briefing by youth hostel staff.	LIBRARY GALLERIA
2:30-2:50	FULL-GROUP ICEBREAKER: A lively activity providing a chance for participants to have some fun while getting to know one another.	
2:50 – 3:00	BREAK: Hydrate. Fuel. Refresh.	
3:00-4:15	WORKSHOP: Participants will divide into two smaller groups to discuss any questions about the program and to conduct the interview-introduction activity. During the second part of the session, participants will receive written historical scenarios to examine for the purpose of preparing presentations for the "Living History" activity to follow.	(outside okay)
4:15-5:30	HER-STORY LESSONS!: Participants will re-tell stories from different eras in the past that highlight how women have been leading forces in significant social and political changes. Each group of participants will communicate their assigned story in their own creative fashion....as a television interview; a rap, song or poem; a lecture, skit, whatever! The purpose of this "living history" activity is to shed light on successful efforts to expand the legal rights of women, and on efforts led by women to improve conditions for others in our society through political action.	LIBRARY GALLERIA
6:00-7:00	KEYNOTE ADDRESS:	LIBRARY GALLERIA
6:30-7:15	DINNER: Time to break bread together for the first time!	
7:15-7:20	RETURN TRANSFER to Youth Hostel	YOUTH HOSTEL
7:20-8:00	BREAK: Take some time, get comfy, and then head downstairs to wrap up the evening.	YOUTH HOSTEL
8:00-9:15	WORKSHOPS (Reflection on Power and Political Change / The Legislative Process): During these small group discussions facilitated by staff, participants will de-brief (process) information they learned during the day. What kind of power did those women exercise to make those changes? Who did they fight, and what was the source of their power? Which strategies and tactics applied historically by these women might still work today? To conclude, participants will develop a preliminary list of priority issues and a sense of what strategies might be applied to make change in each area.. After workshop reflection, your Program Instructor will review the legislative process to make sure your group is ready for tomorrow's activities.	
9:15-10:00	WOMEN'S JEOPARDY: Time to wind down, but stay in the women's history mood. We'll play a game of jeopardy and test our knowledge.	
10:30	BED CHECK: Lights out! It's sleepy time! Remember to wake up early if you're part of our first breakfast brigade!	

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006
WHERE ARE WE GOING? - ISSUES AFFECTING WOMEN AND THEIR COMMUNITIES

8:00-8:20	CHORES & SUCH: <i>Breakfast brigade should arrive in the kitchen no later than 7:45!</i> Quickly finish your 5-minute chore and march downstairs ready to go!	YOUTH HOSTEL
8:20-9:15	BREAKFAST & WORKSHOPS (Capitol-Search Prep): Meet with your Program Instructor to prepare for the Capitol Search Investigative Interviews. Read your issue brief. Discuss the topic you'll be exploring. Think of questions you have for the speakers.	CESAR CHAVEZ PARK
9:15-9:30	TRANSFER to Appointments: Everyone's going to a different place. See your Capitol Search Appointment Schedule and follow your Program Instructor.	
9:30-10:45	CAPITOL SEARCH APPOINTMENTS: Participants will divide into teams of "investigative reporters" and collect balanced information on one of several issues directly affecting women. Each team will go to appointments, then return to present information they gathered. <i>Sample Topics: AB 59 – Domestic violence in the presence of minors; SB 1437 – Expanding high school curricula; AB 634 – International Marriage Brokers; SB 1015 – Financial declarations in divorce</i>	See Instructor for Meeting Location
10:45-11:15	FIND A NICE SPOT (Report Preparation): After your interviews, meet with your instructor and your group in the park or in a coffee shop to relax and prepare for your reports.	
11:30-12:30	REPORT-BACK ON CAPITOL SEARCH ISSUES: Be prepared to provide the group with the background on the issue you investigated, and the supporting and opposing perspectives.	801 Capitol Mall Room 150 State Personnel
12:30-1:45	LUNCH- Meet your Program Instructor at 1:45 SHARP in front of the new cathedral. Stay in groups of 4+. Before you leave, you MUST know your PI's cell phone number!	YOUR CHOICE
2:00-3:30	CALIFORNIA MUSEUM for HISTORY, WOMEN and the ARTS: Tour the museum to learn more about the Golden State. Be sure to check out the "California's Remarkable Women" exhibit.	1020 O Street—CA History Museum
3:45-5:00	WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD: How do different cultures around the world view the role of women? During this panel discussion, participants will examine societies where women have and do share power; and societies where by our standards, women are victims of abuse and discrimination.	CA History Museum; large classroom
5:00-5:30	TRANSFER TO DINNER	Transfer
5:30- 6:30	DINNER AT RIO CITY CAFÉ: It's pasta guys, yum!	RIO CITY
6:30-8:30	FREE TIME: Options—1) View a (pre-selected) movie at the Downtown Plaza; 2) Hang out at the Starbucks with Program Instructors in the Downtown Plaza.	Downtown Plaza
8:30- 9:00	TRANSFER back to Youth Hostel	Hostel
9:30-10:30	OPTIONAL: If you're ready to call it a day- go right ahead. Bedrooms will be QUIET. If you still have some energy to burn you can participate in an optional group discussion, facilitated by a Program Instructor, reflecting on the day's activities OR, chill with your friends and listen to music or play cards.	YOUTH HOSTEL
10:30	GOOD NIGHT: Quiet! Bed checks by 10:45 PM.	

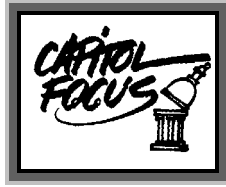
THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2006
HOW DO WE GET THERE? THE POLITICAL PROCESS AND HOW IT WORKS.

7:30-8:30	CHORES & BREAKFAST: <i>Breakfast brigade: get downstairs no later than 7:00!</i> Quickly finish your 5-minute chore and then help yourself to our breakfast spread. How much do you remember from yesterday? What are today's issues?	YOUTH HOSTEL
8:45-10:00	POLICY-MAKING ROLES ROUND ROBIN: Participants will divide into workshop groups to "rotate" around the room for brief presentations about key aspects of the political process including the legislative, executive and judicial branches, as well as lobbying and the press. At each station they'll learn about women in Sacramento who fill each important role.	CSAC CONFERENCE CENTER 1020 11 th 2 nd Floor
10:00-10:30	PREP AND TRANSFER: Women in Action Activity. Who will you be going to see? What is their job? What things might you see them do?	
10:45-12:00	WOMEN IN ACTION: During this "job shadowing activity", participants will form 3-5 person teams and shadow a capital city, professional woman. Participants will observe hearings, conference calls, meetings, and political strategy sessions.	
12:00-12:15	TRANSFER to State Capitol.	
12:15- 1:30	LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON: During lunch participants will have the opportunity to meet their business and legislative sponsor. They'll discuss what they observed, and they'll have a chance to find out about the education and career paths taken by their host to reach the position they now hold.	EUREKA ROOM – STATE CAPITOL
1:45 - 2:45	TRACK ONE - STATE CAPITOL TOUR (Groups 1&2): During this session, participants will have a guided tour of the historic State Capitol. What goes on in there anyway? WOMEN'S CAUCUS GAME (Groups 3-5 / Finish by 2:45): During this lively activity, participants will learn what it's like to make tough policy decisions on a limited budget. This activity will help develop the communication, critical thinking, teamwork and negotiation skills of participants.	STATE CAPITOL Eureka Room
3:00- 4:00	TRACK TWO – WOMEN'S CAUCUS GAME (Groups 1&2) STATE CAPITOL TOUR (Groups 3-5)	STATE CAPITOL
4:15-5:45	SIMULATED LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS: Participants will assume the role of legislators and stakeholders (lobbyists) to conduct a simulated legislative hearing in the historical State Capitol.	STATE CAPITOL ROOMS – (undecided)
5:45-6:00	WALKING TRANSFER TO HARD ROCK CAFÉ: Let's head over to the mall for some great food and fun!	TRANSFER
6:00-8:00	DINNER AT HARD ROCK: Enjoy a fabulous dinner at the world-famous Hard Rock Café.	HARD ROCK CAFE
8:00-8:30	WALKING TRANSFER TO YOUTH HOSTEL	
8:30-10:15	GAME TIME: Take advantage of the last night! Relax and hang out with your new friends. Play a game, listen to music, or watch TV. Be in your rooms by 10:15. Bed checks will begin at 10:30.	YOUTH HOSTEL
10:30	LIGHTS OUT!	YOUTH HOSTEL

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2006

WHAT CAN I DO? WHAT ARE MY PERSONAL GOALS? WHAT CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING CONDITIONS FOR WOMEN? IN MY COMMUNITY? THE WORLD?

8:00-8:45	<p>CHORES & BREAKFAST: <i>Breakfast brigade: get downstairs no later than 7:30AM.</i> Since we're checking out today, please have your bags packed and complete your assigned Youth Hostel clean-up chores.</p>	YOUTH HOSTEL
8:45-9:15	<p>SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION: WHAT PATH MIGHT I TAKE? In a small group, participants will continue the process of reflection and create a vision for their individual and collective future. Staff will pose and facilitate discussion on several questions such as: What things have, or will influence the path you take? How do you see yourself fitting into your community? The world? What kind of world do you and we want? How can we make that happen?</p> <p>To conclude the workshop, participants will reflect on what they have learned during the program, and their own experiences to brainstorm and select 3-5 top priority issues for women and their communities.</p>	
9:15-9:30	BREAK	YOUTH HOSTEL
9:30-10:30	<p>ACTION PLAN WORKSHOPS: Participants will divide into small groups to work out a hypothetical "action plan" for addressing one of their top priorities for their future. Using the worksheet, they'll define the problem or vision, consider who their allies might be, what resources they have, and what obstacles they might face. Then, they'll develop an action plan and time-line for addressing the problem (or realizing the vision) that specifies how they will attempt to make this change, the key tasks, and what role they might have as an individual.</p>	
10:30-10:45	ACTION PLAN REPORTS	
10:45-11:00	<p>CLOSURE AND EVALUATIONS: Staff and participants will share their thoughts and feelings about being together for the fourth annual Summer Institute on Women in Politics. Participants will receive a written evaluation to complete and return before departing.</p>	
11:00-12:00	<p>LUNCH AND GRAFFITI WALL: Return to the wall of wisdom. What have you learned? Has your position on any issues changed? What did you think about the program? In between bites of your lunch, let us know how you feel on our graffiti scroll!</p>	
12:00+++	DEPARTURES: Travel safely! Make sure you get everyone's e-mail address. Bon jour!	AIRPORT and TRAIN STATION



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