



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UUWF Announces 2011 Funding Recipients

Boston, MA – June 15, 2011 – The Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation (UUWF) today announced 2011 recipients of grants and scholarships from its three funding programs.

“Thanks to the generous support of UU women's groups and individual donors all over the country we are able to continue to help fund justice-seeking programs for women and girls and projects promoting liberal religious spiritual growth from feminist perspectives,” says Rev. Marti Keller, President of the UUWF.

The UUWF's Equity and Justice Grants Program funds justice projects that directly affect the lives of women and girls. Projects must be carried out by Unitarian Universalist organizations or groups with a significant number of UUs engaged in the project's hands-on work. Grants of \$5,000 each will support:

- Start-up costs for “Virtual Pastoral Care for Liberal Religious Women,” an on-line and telephone-based counseling program of the Church of the Larger Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist.
- Wider promotion of the work of Connect and Breath, Inc., which provides women and girls who have ended pregnancies with resources to help them view their abortion decisions as caring and moral. This newly incorporated non-profit organization – founded, operated and largely staffed by volunteers from the First Unitarian Church of Rochester, NY – will use its grant to extend promotion of its work nation-wide.
- “Women's Access to Finances Is Liberation,” a collaborative project of the Women's Association of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines and Buhata Pinay, Inc. The grant will support further development of a program that provides UU and community-based women's groups with both low-interest micro-loans to start money-making enterprises and educational programs to familiarize them with their legal rights.

The UUWF's Margaret Fuller Grants Program funds scholarly, prophetic and innovative explorations of Unitarian Universalist religious feminisms. Two \$4,000 grants were awarded to:

- The Women's Writing Group of the UU Congregation of Atlanta, for “Getting in Touch with the Source,” a conference providing an opportunity for women to write, learn, and share material on the themes of identity, expression, and transformation, as well as a related anthology of women's writings.
- “Teleconferences with Feminists in Religion,” a project of the Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER). This Washington, DC-based organization will use its grant for to help fund monthly, hour-long teleconferences featuring leaders in the fields of feminist ministry, spirituality and theology.

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“We are so honored to be the designated organization to keep alive the work and memory of the late Rev. Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley through this recognition and financial assistance,” Rev. Keller notes of the UUWF’s newest funding program. The Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley Scholarship Program gives scholarships for general support to aspirants and candidates for the Unitarian Universalist ministry who identify as women of color, Latina, or Hispanic. Four \$1,500 scholarships went to Marisol E. Caballero, Cedar Park, TX; Joan Javier, New Haven, CT; Elizabeth Buffington Nguyen, Somerville, MA; and Jessie Lee Washington, Washington, DC.

More information about these funding programs is available at www.uuwf.org. The deadline for applications for 2012 funding is March 15, 2012.

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