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# Your IWF Idaho News

*January 2022*

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## President's Message



Dear IWF of Idaho Friends and Colleagues:

As we begin 2022, I wish everyone a remarkable year filled with success. I also invite us to reflect on the value that we derive from our Idaho organization and our larger connection to the IWF.

The International Women's Forum is an invitation-only network of the most accomplished women in the world. IWF brings together women leaders across every professional sector - inventors, entrepreneurs, CEOs, heads of state, academics, scientists, astronauts, Olympic athletes, artists, filmmakers, financiers, philanthropists and more. 7,500 preeminent women leaders in 33 countries and 74 local Forums work to advance women's leadership and champion equality. It is truly the only organization of this size and scale. I am grateful for the visionary leaders who established the IWF of Idaho and I thank each of you for being an integral part of our Forum.

On that note, we have an extraordinary opportunity in 2022 to advance our vision of Learning and Connecting through the Las Vegas, Nevada: 2022 World Leadership Conference, November 1-3. I encourage everyone to hold the dates and plan to engage in this unique opportunity to learn from and connect with women leaders from around the world.

The women of IWF of Idaho make a significant impact at the local, state, national and global level. We have much to add to the conversation. And, after a long duration of limited in-person events, this opportunity is also a place where we can reset, refresh, and renew at the highest level of inspiration.

Thank you and please reach out, lead a program, join our Book Club, support and promote each other and make the most of our very special alliance.

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## IWF Idaho Events

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### Upcoming Events

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#### Opera Idaho's *Carmen*

**What:** Opera Idaho's *Carmen*

**When:** Friday, January 28, 2022 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 2:30 PM

**Where:** The Morrison Center

Music by Georges Bizet (sung in French)

Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy

Based on a 1845 novella of the same name by French dramatist Prosper Mérimée

Everyone is drawn to Carmen, an irresistible Romani woman—except Corporal Don José. But even he soon succumbs to her seduction, fleeing a life in the military to join the Romani world, all in Carmen's name. When the famous bullfighter Escamillo begins to win

her affection, however, a dangerous love triangle grows. Micaëla, Don José's hometown sweetheart, attempts to take him from Carmen's grasp, but to no avail—fate has already dealt its hand. With its twisting tale of romance, deceit, and disaster set to magnetic melodies, Bizet's masterpiece, *Carmen*, has become one of the world's most popular operas.

Additional information and tickets can be found [here](#).

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### **IWF Wellness Retreat**

**What:** IWF Wellness Retreat

**When:** Wednesday, February 9th and Thursday, February 10th

**Where:** The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, CO

The Wellness Retreat is a new program designed to provide respite and renewal for IWF members so you can lead your organizations as well as support your communities and families in the best possible way.

The retreat will formally begin at 6:30 pm MST on Wednesday, February 9 and conclude with dinner on Thursday, February 10. All Thursday meals are included, as well as access to the dynamic speakers focused on topics such as:

- The importance of creativity to your overall health
- Cognitive health
- The preventative power of exercise
- Intimacy and wellness

In addition, you'll be able to:

- Move alongside your fellow sisters during an IWF-centric Tai chi class
- Cozy up by a bonfire and connect with new and old friends

Additional information and registration be found [here](#).

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### **2022 IWF Cornerstone Conference**

**What:** 2022 IWF Cornerstone Conference

**When:** Tuesday, May 17th - Thursday, May 19th, 2022

**Where:** Santiago, Chile

Full details have not yet been announced, but will be available [here](#).

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## **2022 World Leadership Conference**

**What:** 2022 World Leadership Conference

**When:** Tuesday, November 1st - Thursday, November 3rd, 2022

**Where:** Las Vegas, Nevada

Full details have not yet been announced, but will be available [here](#).

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For more information about upcoming global programs, please visit the website [here](#).

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## **Member Directory Updates**

With the new year, please make sure to take a look at your bio on the IWFI website's member directory to make sure that it is up-to-date. If you do want to make updates to your bio, send the edits or new blurb, under 300 words, to [Kaley](#) and [Kendall](#) for review and upload.

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## **Odette Bolano Honored for Healthcare Work**

IWFI member Odette Bolano was named one of 2021's Top 100 Most Influential People in Healthcare by *Modern Healthcare* for her work as the President and CEO of Saint Alphonsus Health System. Congratulations, Odette! This award is well-deserved.

If you'd like to read more about Odette, a recent interview with her can be found here - [Lessons from a Female CEO: You Never Learn If You Don't Challenge Yourself](#).

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## **IWF Idaho Book Club**

Having been appalled by Llosa's fictionalized account of political turmoil in Guatemala, we've chosen to dig deeper into the tragic dictatorships of our Southern neighbors, many of whom are struggling to enter the United States, and of course some may be our neighbors in Idaho.

Book Club members will choose between two novels featuring Trujillo, the villain of the Dominican Republic. Although Julia Alvarez was born in New York, her family returned to the Dominican Republic and her father was politically active in the Trujillo resistance. In

the Time of the Butterflies is a fictionalized account of the four Mirabal sisters, three of whom were murdered by Trujillo's men. We return to Mario Vargas Llosa to read The Feast of the Goat, his fictionalized account of the assassination of Trujillo and its aftermath. Please join us for this deep dive into a truly evil villain.

Reach out to [Jennifer Wilson](#) with any questions, suggestions or desires to join! Thanks Jennifer for administering!

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 17th at 7:00 p.m.

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82076968923?pwd=UzloS3Zsc0hLSHFYUEodVJDVmZaUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 820 7696 8923

**Passcode:** 997313

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## IWF Idaho Committees Need Your Help!

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### Communications Committee

Our organization is in need of members for our Communications Committee. Are you good at writing and/or are you computer savvy? We promise that no large commitment is necessary, but we cannot continue to have a one-person committee. Involvement would include curating content for our monthly newsletters and helping to facilitate virtual programming. You might be asked to write a member profile, help with editing material if Committee Chair Kendall Nelson is not available, or to summarize an event you attended. We are in special need of members who know how, or would be willing, to occasionally manage some of our Zoom events if the person speaking is inexperienced. If you are available, please reach out to [Kendall](#).

Thanks in advance,  
Kendall Nelson  
Communications Committee Chair

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### Membership Committee

#### IWFI New Member Recruitment Paused

The Board of Directors agreed to pause the nomination process due to Committee leadership changes and member feedback on clarifying the process and requirements.

The Membership Committee will spend the next several months developing clear and transparent guidelines for nominating new members. The new Chair of the Committee,

Tricia Swartling, is researching best practices from other IWF chapters. If members have experience with other chapters' nominations processes, please email [Tricia](#).

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## Program Committee

### Dine-A-Rounds

As we begin to think of “normal,” it is time to think “Dine-A-Round!” Who wants to host a Dine-A-Round event? Our dine-a-rounds are member hosted gatherings in homes or location of their choice, consisting of a small number of members (up to 10). The host selects the topic for discussion, or they can host a social event. If you would like to host an event, please complete the [events form](#) and submit to the program committee for review.

### Program Committee Members

We need Boise area members to join the program committee to help us plan and organize interesting program and events. This includes soliciting new program ideas, collecting information to communicate to members, drafting invitations, summarizing programs for the newsletter and helping with events planning as needed.

Technical skills: If you have technical skill with Zoom and meeting set up, we need help to deliver programs and expand our reach so that members can participate regardless of locale. We also need to record our programs when topics allow so that members can experience them when they have conflict and cannot join us live.

Thank you,  
Evelyn Self  
Program Committee Chair

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## Member Spotlight



## **Louisa Moats**

Dr. Louisa Moats has been a teacher, psychologist, researcher, graduate school faculty member and author of many influential scientific journal articles, books and policy papers on the topics of reading, spelling, language and teacher preparation. Among her many accomplishments, she was a contributing writer of the Common Core State Standards adopted by 45 states, led the International Dyslexia Association's effort to develop practice standards for teaching reading, and has testified to Congress on issues of teacher preparation and reading instruction in high poverty schools.

Louisa holds a BA from Wellesley College, an MA from Peabody College of Vanderbilt and an Ed.D. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Louisa is now using her skills and experience to assist the I Have a Dream – Idaho Foundation with a new first grade cohort of students. “My expertise is primarily on how to teach reading, spelling and language to elementary kids who may be at risk for failure,” Louisa says. “These kids really need expert reading/language instruction in preschool to first grade, because after that, it's very hard to close what become persistent gaps in academic performance.” Unfortunately, Louisa points out, because of Covid, most of these new first-graders lost a year of kindergarten and are behind in basic skills such as identifying letters and matching letters with sounds. In addition, most are English Learners, and must learn to read, write, and speak two languages simultaneously.



Louisa is pleased IHDF has gathered good data on the students' present skill levels and is working with well-trained and enthusiastic teachers. The next step is to tailor individual sets of tutorial materials that match each students' present skill levels. "After regular school hours, there will be time for playful, self-directed activities, but the overriding goal will be stimulation of language use and comprehension through book reading, recitation, theatrics, music, etc.," Louisa points out. She has suggested that during after-school hours, it would be extremely helpful if each student could receive 15 minutes of individually focused instruction by teachers or volunteers, using structured lesson routines. After the lesson, the instructor would complete a short report and the Master Teacher would then be able to monitor the student's progress. IHDF already has a dedicated cadre of volunteers, but with the organization expanding its intake of first graders this year, certainly more will be needed. "I think IHDF has the potential to move the needle for these young kids in a way that will last for the rest of their schooling," Louisa added.





IWF-Idaho thanks Louisa for making a difference in her community. More information about the I Have a Dream Foundation can be found on their website, <https://www.ihdfidaho.org>

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## Collecting Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Resources

The IWF Idaho Board is in the process of developing and collecting resources to discuss and share regarding diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion in our community and chapter. This may include engaging with experiences as well as resources. If you have any ideas to share, please reach out to one of the board members. We would love to hear from you!

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Send your news on awards, career changes, board appointments and events to [Kendall Nelson](#) for inclusion in upcoming newsletters. Don't forget to use our IWF Idaho Website at <https://iwfidaho.org> for details on [upcoming events](#), [newsletter archives](#), and [contact information](#) for each of our members. If you have any questions or trouble accessing the site, contact [Kendall](#) for assistance. Thanks!

## ABOUT IWF IDAHO

IWF Idaho is the Idaho chapter of the International Women's Forum, an invitation-only, membership organization. In Idaho, we are 66 members strong, and globally, there are more than 7,000 diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations on six continents. IWF is dedicated to building better leadership locally and globally.

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