The Alan K. Simpson-Norman Y. Mineta Leader Series

The Path to the Equal Representation of Women in Government

April 14, 2014 | 1:00 pm to 2:15 pm | Blinken Auditorium, TWC Residential & Academic Facility
(The dress code is business professional.)

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series is founded in the spirit of the lifelong friendship of two extraordinary leaders from opposite sides of the aisle. Norman Y. Mineta and Alan K. Simpson met during World War II when Simpson's Boy Scout troop met with Mineta's in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming where Secretary Mineta’s family was then interned with over 10,000 other Japanese-Americans. Despite their differences, both their friendship and their commitment to leadership and public service endured.

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series aims to create a forum in which students from around the country and the world can engage with extraordinary leaders, explore issues of contemporary public concern, and articulate their own views about the meaning of leadership and citizenship in today’s society.

Stephanie Schriock – President, EMILY’s List

EMILY's List President Stephanie Schriock is a recognized leader, bringing more than 12 years of fundraising, management and strategic planning experience to EMILY's List. She's been described as "inspirational," a "star in American politics," and "a spectacular campaign manager."

Stephanie joined EMILY’s List in 2010 and in 2012 led the organization to one of its most successful election cycles in its 29 year history. Under her guidance EMILY’s List raised more than $52 million and elected record numbers of women to the House and Senate. During that time the organization has experienced unprecedented growth and now counts over three million women and men among it’s community.

Before EMILY’s List, Stephanie was at the forefront of some of the most challenging and innovative political campaigns of the past decade. As the national finance director for Howard Dean's 2004 presidential campaign, she built and led the team that revolutionized political fundraising. By harnessing the power of the Internet and implementing other creative fundraising strategies, Stephanie's team raised more than $52 million in a Democratic primary, far exceeding previous records.

The accomplishment caught the eye of a farmer and state senator in Stephanie’s home state of Montana, who was looking to unseat an 18-year Republican incumbent U.S. senator in a state with an eight-point Republican advantage. As the campaign manager for Jon Tester, Stephanie oversaw every aspect of a $5 million race -- building an expansive field operation, maintaining strict message discipline, and ultimately leading Tester to defeat conservative Republican Conrad Burns and help Democrats take over the Senate. Tester quickly made Schriock his Senate chief of staff, giving her full authority to hire and direct a 40-person organization with offices in Washington, D.C., and in eight cities throughout Montana; manage the office budget; and develop a strategic plan that would solidify the senator's strength in Montana.

When Democratic leaders in Washington were looking for the right person to manage Al Franken's Senate campaign in Minnesota, they turned to Stephanie. Franken's $18 million campaign against Republican Senator...
Norm Coleman was, not surprisingly, one of the most-watched races of the 2008 election cycle. After an extremely close vote on Election Day failed to produce a clear victor, Stephanie managed a $12 million recount operation that involved four law firms, 180 staff, and nearly 2000 volunteers over a period of eight months.

The hard-fought Franken victory solidified Stephanie's reputation as a major force in Democratic politics. "Stephanie's one of the absolute stars of American politics now," says White House Deputy Chief of Staff Jim Messina (Washington Post, 7/13/09). Consultant Mandy Grunwald called Stephanie "one of the best campaign managers I've ever worked with" (Washington Post, 7/13/09). And in 2007, Washingtonian magazine named her one of "Forty Under Forty: Young Washingtonians to Watch."

Stephanie also currently serves as the President of American Women. American women is a research organization affiliated with EMILY's List which seeks to strengthen American democracy by increasing public awareness of the issues impacting women and families through extensive research and polling. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Priorities USA Action. Priorities USA Action was founded in 2012 to communicate a progressive vision that increases economic security and upward mobility for middle class families.

Through all this, Stephanie Schriock has never forgotten the values she learned growing up in the strong labor town of Butte, Montana. Montana has a proud history of electing women: the first woman to win a seat in Congress, Jeannette Rankin, was elected from Montana in 1916.

Stephanie is a graduate of Mankato State University in Minnesota, and did her masters work at the Graduate School of Political Management at George Washington University.

**EMILY’S LIST**

**About EMILY’s List**

(from http://emilyslist.org/who/mission)

EMILY’s List elects pro-choice Democratic women to office.

We envision a world where women are equally represented at all levels of government, and achieve the highest leadership positions with our legislative and executive bodies; the influence of women office holders leads to the adoption of a host of progressive public policies to ensure that women have equal opportunities at home, in the workplace, and in the public sphere; our community of millions of engaged women and men ensure that the voice of women is heard and their power is celebrated.

Our process for electing more pro-choice Democratic women to all levels of government is simple.

• **We recruit the very best women candidates.** Our political team identifies, recruits, and trains the most capable and promising pro-choice Democratic women leaders and helps them build winning campaign teams.

• **We build a financial foundation for victory.** Support at all levels (plus direct contributions to the candidates you choose) are combined with thousands of others to create a fundraising force that puts millions of dollars into the campaigns of pro-choice Democratic women.
• **We hold the GOP accountable.** We don’t just help our candidates respond when they are attacked — we define their GOP opponents before they can hide their records.

• **We get women to the polls.** The EMILY’s List WOMEN VOTE! project combines polling, and research, sophisticated message testing, the latest innovations in data and technology, as well as good old-fashioned voter contact to mobilize millions of women voters across the country.