

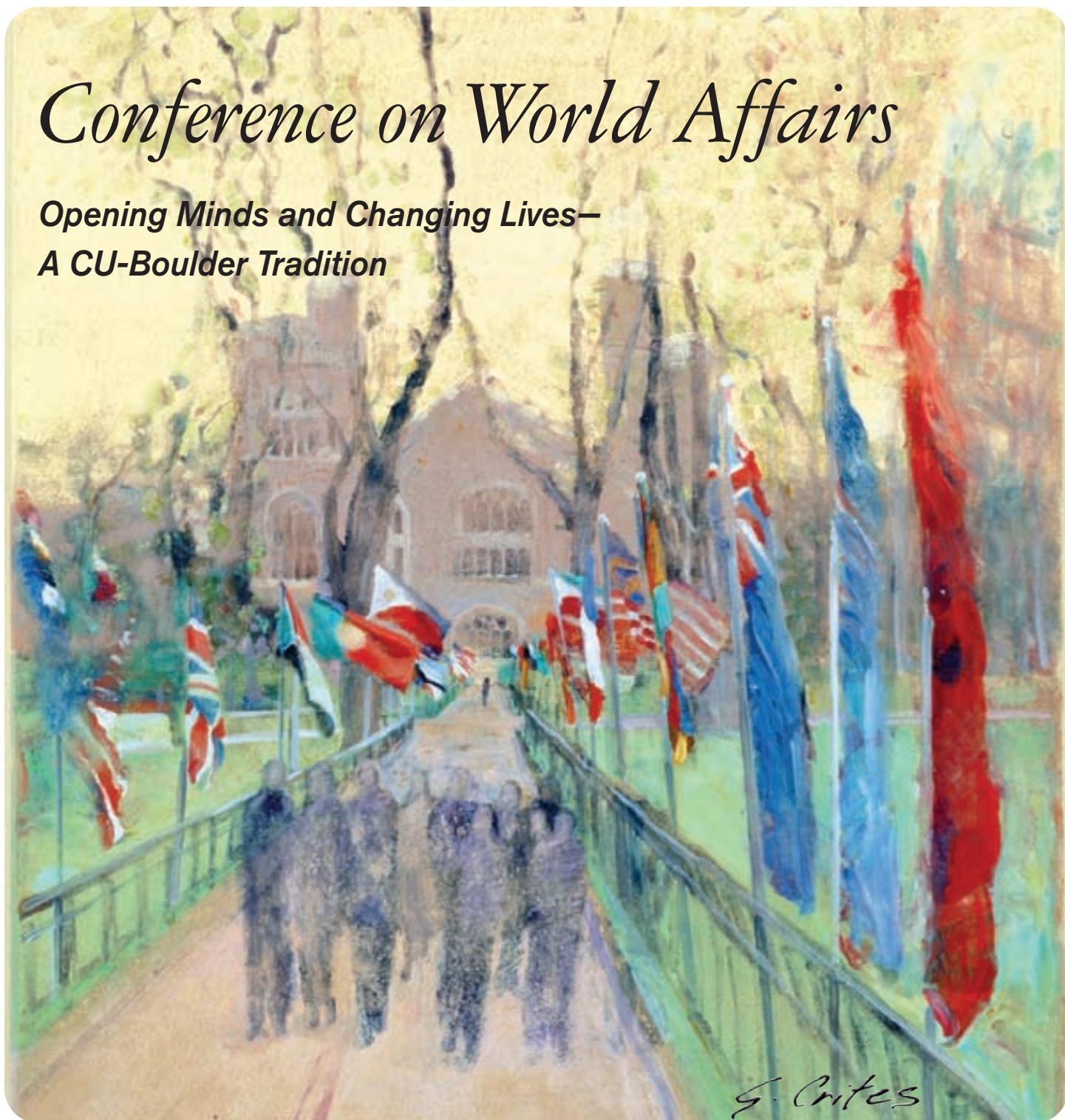
Creating Futures

University of Colorado *at Boulder*



Conference on World Affairs

***Opening Minds and Changing Lives—
A CU-Boulder Tradition***





Popular speakers and overflow crowds have always been a challenge for the Conference on World Affairs. In the Conference's early days, students took to the lawn outside Macky Auditorium to listen to a session over loudspeakers attached to the truck at left. Today, the Conference seeks funds to establish technologies to stream popular sessions live on big screens across campus and on the Internet for audiences around the world.

The Conference on World Affairs

During its 60-year history, the Conference on World Affairs (CWA) has become one of CU-Boulder's most beloved traditions—and it is growing. Attendance has doubled during the past decade. Last year, a record crowd of more than 82,000 students, alumni, faculty, Coloradans, and visitors from around the nation and the world descended on the Boulder campus for CWA, much as they have each April since 1948.

The Conference, which attracts more people than any other event in Boulder, is a phenomenon. It combines the spontaneous thinking of some of the world's leading minds with the energy and originality of CU-Boulder students. It stimulates new ways of thinking, fosters creative collaborations, and opens eyes to what is possible. Quite simply, it changes lives.

Bringing the Conference to the World— Now and in the Future

For six decades the Conference on World Affairs has been bringing the world to Boulder. Now you can help bring the Conference to the world. Every year, the Conference must turn away scores of people who wish to take part. As evidenced by overflow attendance at keynote events and panel discussions, today's thirst for interdisciplinary insight and inspiration is enormous.

To address the growing demand and to secure opportunities for future generations, CWA seeks to establish a permanent endowment of \$1 million.

The endowment will be vital to helping CWA hold its own in the digital era, supporting pilot projects involving live Internet streaming and centrally located remote-viewing screens on campus. These innovations will enable a national and global audience to see for themselves why some of the world's busiest people clear their calendars for CWA. Most importantly, your contribution will pay homage to one of CU-Boulder's finest traditions.

Early gifts from generous individuals have launched our fundraising efforts. These gifts prove that your fellow community members and alumni recognize CWA as a jewel in CU-Boulder's crown. Please help us build on this momentum with a gift to support the Conference on World Affairs as it moves into its seventh decade of opening minds and changing lives.



“The first time I went to the Conference on World Affairs, it blew my mind,” says Gordon LaForge, a junior majoring in English. “It has opened so many doors for me. The level of discourse is fantastic, but the most important thing I’ve gotten out of my experience with the Conference is the interaction with experts from around the globe.”

Students at CU-Boulder cite the CWA among their most memorable campus experiences.



"The Tuesday Night Jazz Concert at Macky Auditorium is always packed to the rafters. Of course it is! Who wouldn't want to see the likes of Johnny Mandel, the Grusin brothers, Oscar Castro-Neves, and Lillian Boutté? Every year we have to turn people away," says Community Co-Chair and CU alumna Juli Steinbauer. "If we were able to stream the event on the Internet, the community and the world could participate. Parents could be at home in Colorado Springs, Connecticut, California, or wherever they may live, watching the same session their child is attending."

Serving Colorado. Engaged in the World.

The Conference on World Affairs is a partnership between CU-Boulder students, faculty, and the community, with students playing an integral role in organizing and running the weeklong event.

“The Conference is a storied campus tradition in which students have a major say,” explains Conference Director and Professor James Palmer. “They help decide everything from who we invite to what subjects will be addressed.” Students work alongside university faculty, staff, and community volunteers to orchestrate the week’s events. They help plan and manage the logistics and technical underpinnings. And perhaps most importantly, they act as ambassadors between CU-Boulder and the Conference’s 100-plus distinguished speakers and performers.

CWA owes its existence to a vast network of volunteer organizers and panelists. Indeed, while many panelists ordinarily command large speaking or performance fees, they attend CWA at their own expense, finding reward in a fascinating and diverse group of people from around the globe.

The result is what *The New York Times* calls “a week-long extravaganza of discussion and debate” with more than 200 panels, plenary sessions, and performances. CWA is structured around panel discussions in front of live audiences. After each discussion, the microphones are opened up for a half-hour of grilling, quizzing, and commentary from the floor.



Eleanor Roosevelt talks with students Judy Livingston and Rodney Benson in this 1958 photo.



The Conference on World Affairs is an upbeat expression of CU's vibrant intellectual life. Thinkers, writers, artists, and experts from around the globe urge their colleagues and associates to attend this remarkable CU event. From Missoula to Manhattan and from Buenos Aires to Berlin, the Conference on World Affairs is known as a place where creative connections are forged. Mike Franc, vice president of the Heritage Foundation, sums it up when he says that coming to Boulder "keeps me intellectually sharp."



At top, Buckminster Fuller with CWA Founder Howard Higman; Arthur Miller; Roger Ebert. Above, Conference participants Charles Krauthammer; Rachel Maddow; Lillian Boutté.



Above, Conference Director Jim Palmer and Community Co-Chairs Jane Butcher (right) and Juli Steinhauer support the CWA with their time and talent. They are also longtime donors. Giving back is a way for them to make sure the CWA continues to enhance the intellectual and spiritual life of our community and spark creative connections around the world.



Journalist Molly Ivins

Igniting a Passion

Conference sessions bring out the best in students, faculty, community members, and international visitors. Over the years, CWA has inspired and touched tens of thousands of people. Community Co-Chair Jane Butcher first volunteered for the Conference when she was a CU-Boulder student. “I’ve worked to support the Conference all these years because I love it, and I want other people to experience it as well. Participants speak from their hearts about their personal experiences, which really engages and inspires the students. The human touch is always present, be it a panel on astrophysics, international trade, or global economics. There is a synergy between audience and speakers that creates a very exhilarating atmosphere.”

The late journalist Molly Ivins (left), a 25-year veteran of the Conference, wrote that this CU-Boulder tradition offers “whole new ways of looking at old questions and information. It can transform the way you see things.”

“Your support will help ensure the Conference on World Affairs continues to open minds and change lives, as we aim to bring the sessions to more people than ever before.”

—Jim Palmer, CWA Director



“Good God, Nicky, if invited to Boulder, go!”

**–Sir Malcolm Bradbury, encouraging British Economist Nicholas Caldor
to attend CU-Boulder’s renowned Conference on World Affairs**

To learn about the many ways you can
make a gift:

**Contact
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