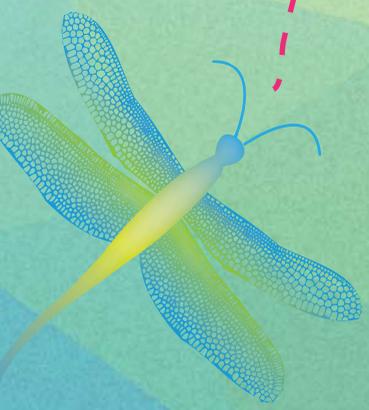
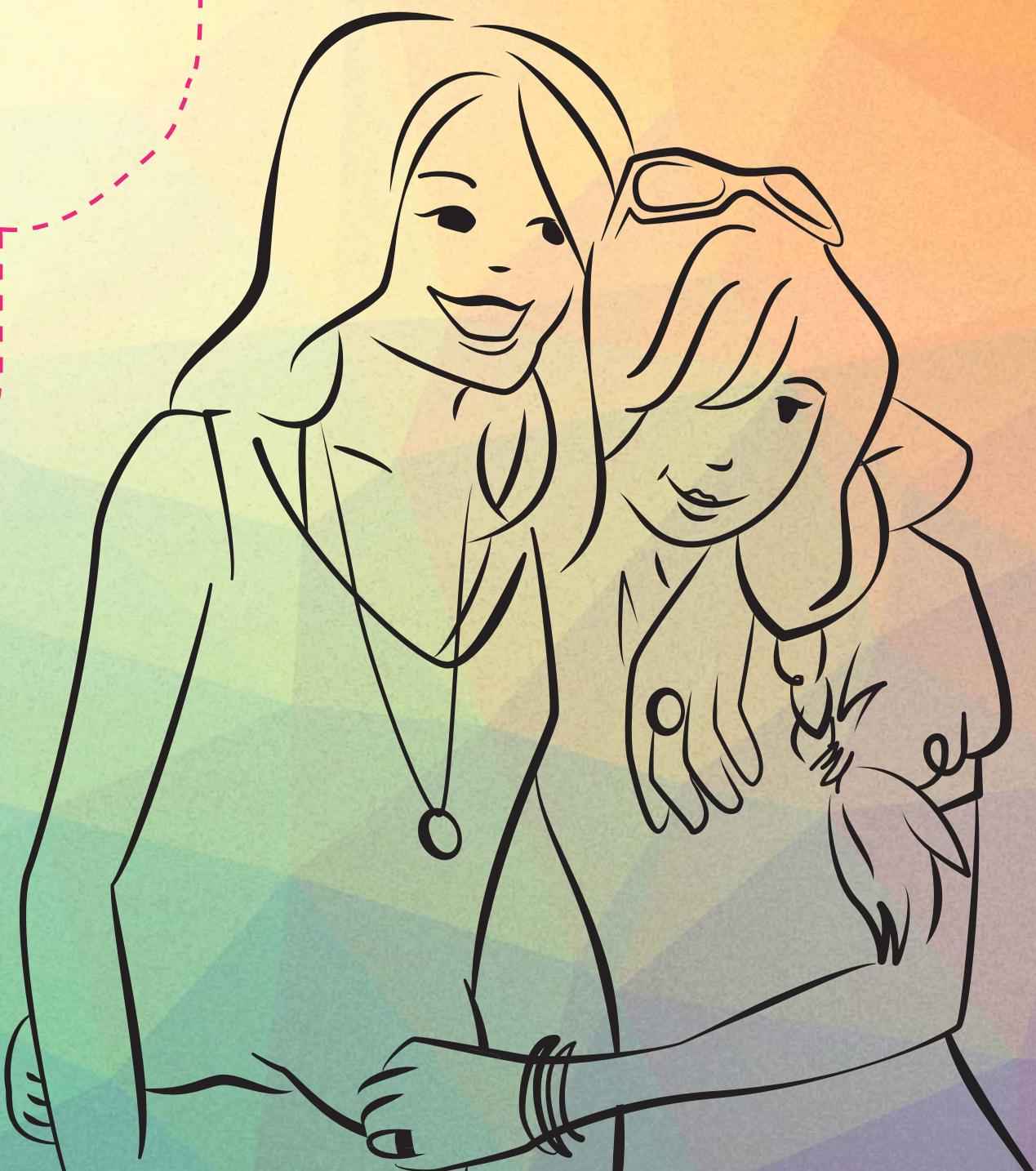
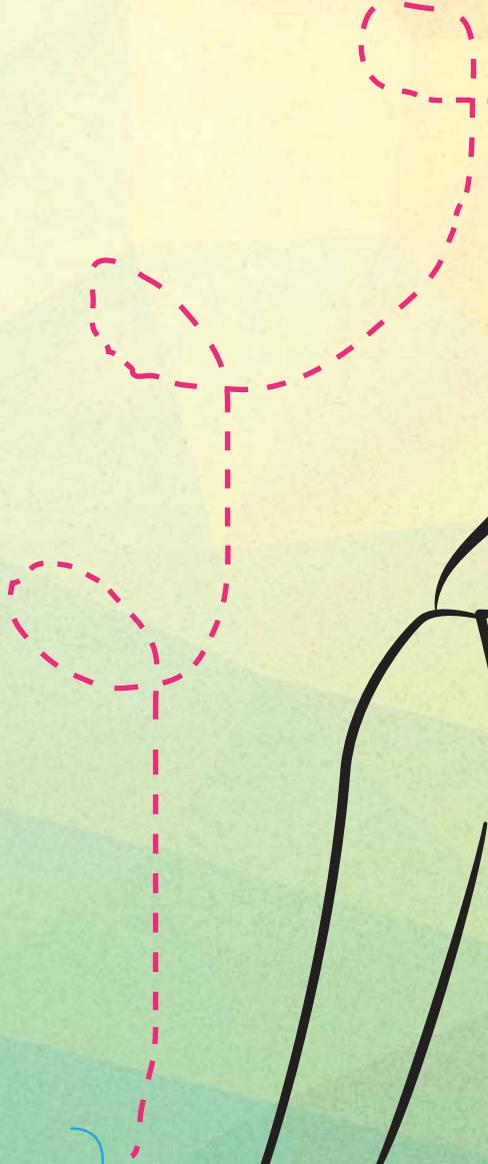


2017-2018

# GENESISTER

# *Yearbook*

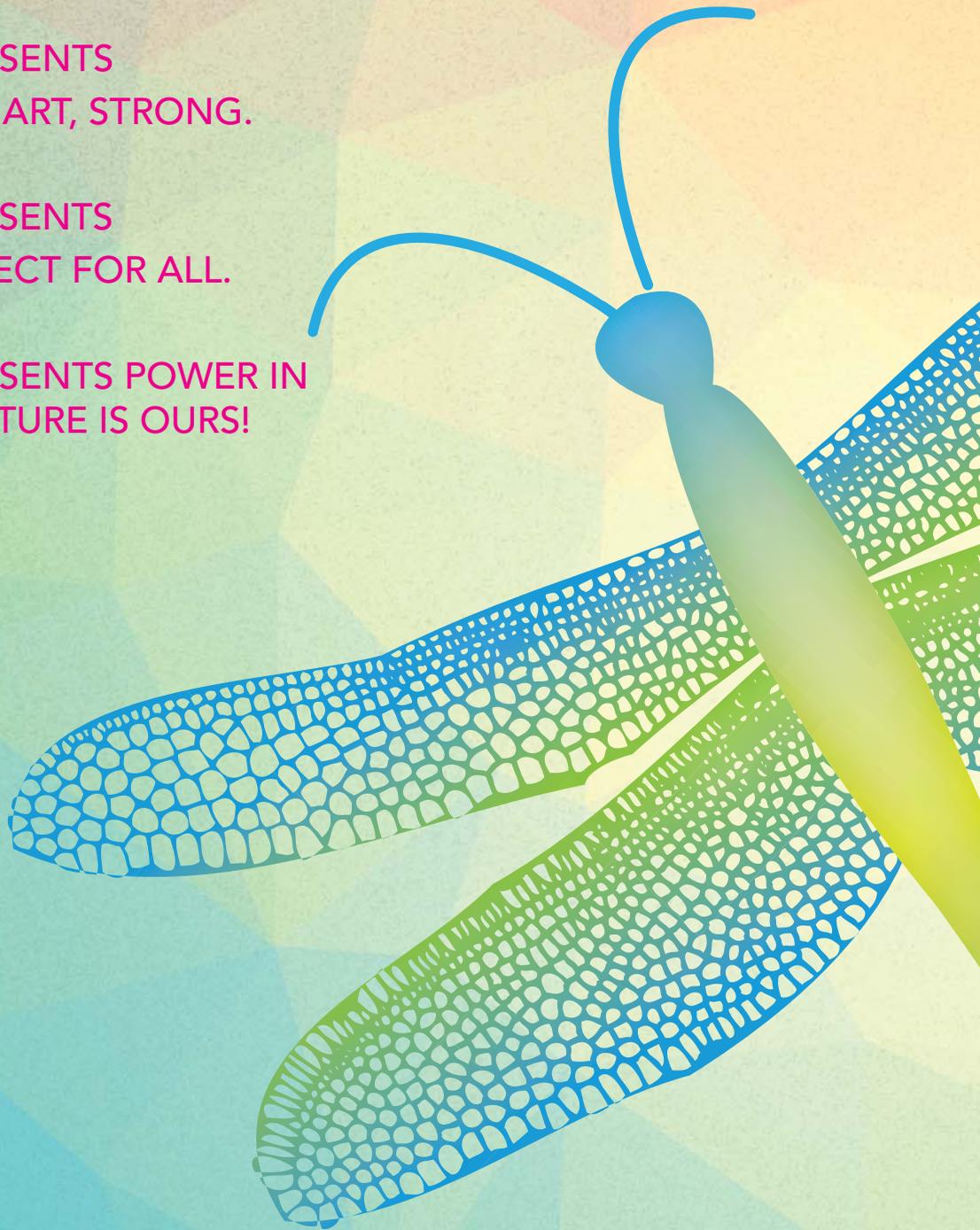


# GENESISTER

**GENESISTER** REPRESENTS  
GIVING, NOBLE, SMART, STRONG.

**GENESISTER** REPRESENTS  
FLYING HIGH, RESPECT FOR ALL.

**GENESISTER** REPRESENTS POWER IN  
PLANNING; THE FUTURE IS OURS!





## The Dragonfly

Dragonflies are symbols of change, self realization, mental and emotional maturity, and understanding of the deeper meaning of life. They represent grace and power, rhythm and poise, and signify the ability to see beyond the ordinary. A dragonfly knows the power of individuality while respecting the unity of a group.

GENESISTER has chosen the dragonfly as its symbol, to emphasize the ability of all GENESISTERS to be strong, young women, with the character to delve deep into their lives and develop a clear vision of the future they seek - one that will allow them to live their lives to the fullest.

# A Year in Photos

May 2017 - April 2018

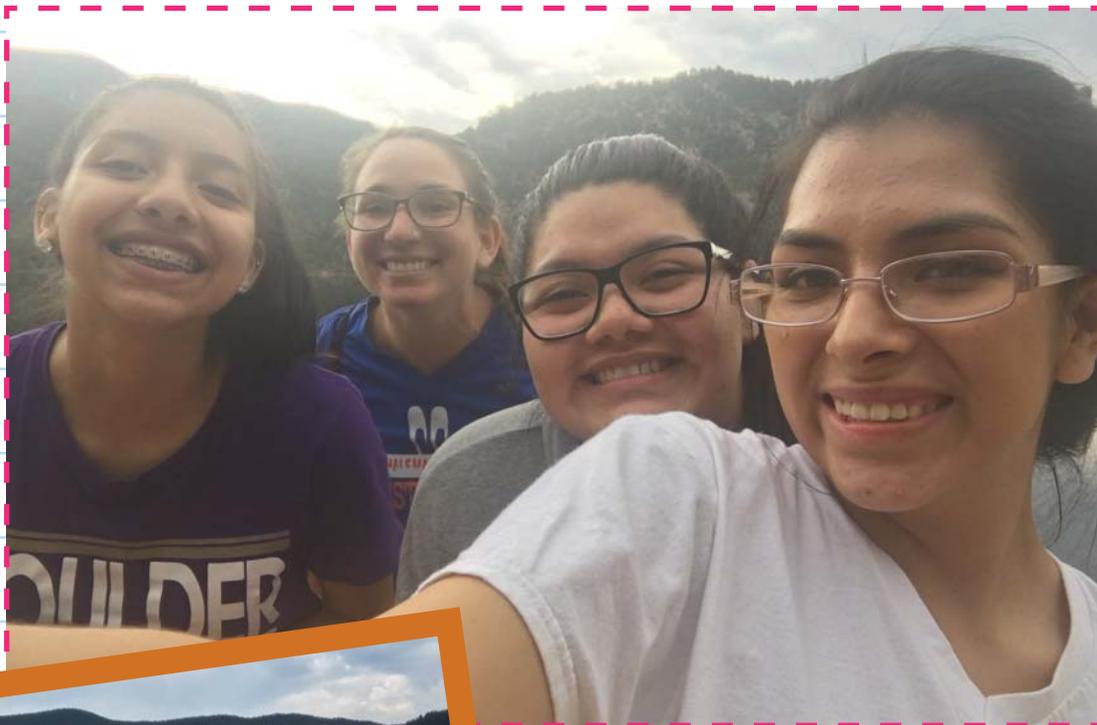


GENESISTERS shared community around resistance.

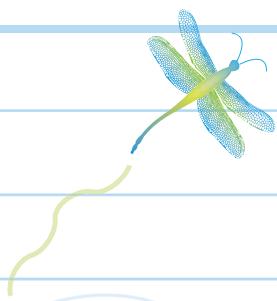
## BEEHIVE DESIGN COLLECTIVE



Summer



**GLENWOOD SPRINGS HIKE**



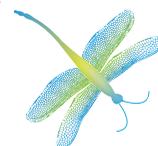


### COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING: LA CUMBRE



GENESISTERS attended and volunteered at this annual conference for and by Spanish-speaking women and youth.

Fall





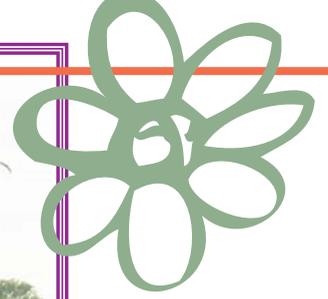
**DACA RALLY FOR THE DREAM ACT  
ON PEARL STREET IN BOULDER**

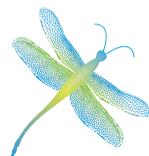


# Fall



PUMPKIN FARM

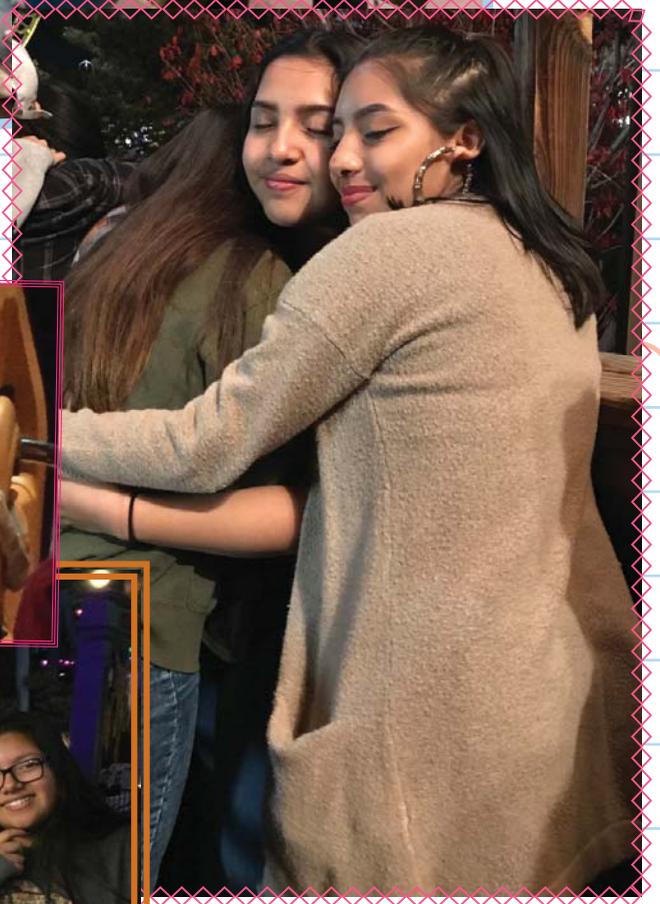
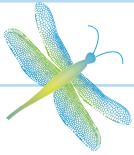




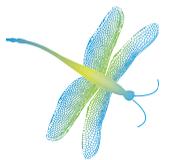
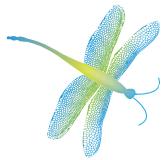
## DIA DE MUERTOS



Fall

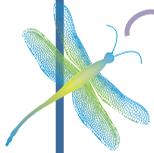


FRIGHTFEST @ ELITCHES





Winter



ICE SKATING





## EMPOWERING OUR WOMEN OF TOMORROW YOUTH CONFERENCE

Longmont GENESISTERS attended conference workshops at the University of Denver.

### Pi Lambda Chi Latina Sorority Inc. Presents Our 7th Annual **Empowering Our Women of Tomorrow** Youth Conference

Feb. 16th, 2018

At the University of Denver

Work Shops, food, connections to great people!

College is for you! Come to DU and learn how to make your dreams of tomorrow attainable!

Free food and T-Shirts will be provided!



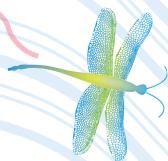
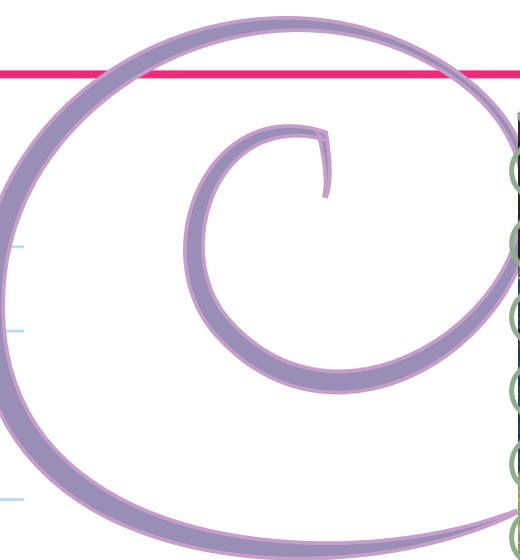
Talk to your counselors today if interested!

Spring



“RIVER BRIDE” ALL LATINX PLAY IN DENVER

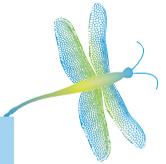


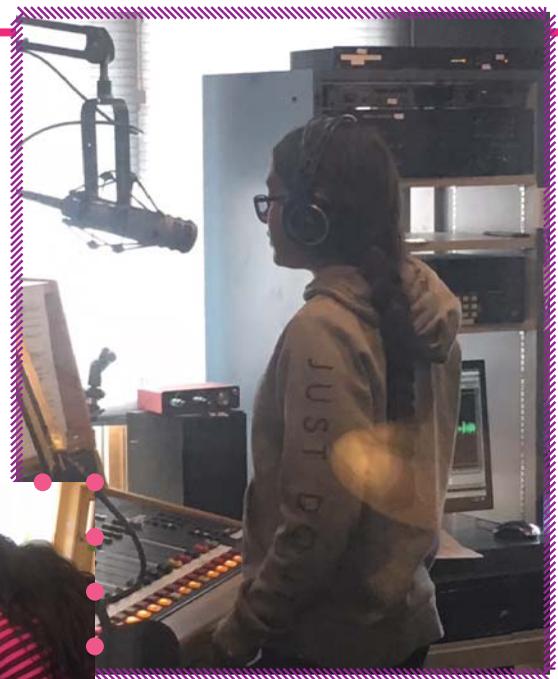


Spring

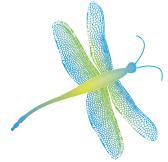


BOWLING





**COMMUNITY SERVICE  
LEARNING: KGNU  
STORYTELLING &  
RADIO WORKSHOP**



GENESISTERS recorded their personal narratives and learned about the radio business at the KGNU studio.



# Our GENESISTER Graduates

## *Alina Jimenez*



**Most Memorable Experience:** Going to see people reciting poetry at Café Cultura.

**Most Going to Miss:** I'm going to miss how everyone is there for you and always having someone to talk to about things going on in my life.

**Biggest Lesson:** I learned that not everything is about yourself, and it is good to help others. When I first started, I was bad at school. And then GENESISTER helped me, and now I'm graduating!

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Stick to it; this program is a good distraction from getting into trouble or making mistakes.

**What's Next?** I want to go to college for nursing or to be a dental hygienist.



## *Alondra Zavala*



**Most Memorable Experience:** When we ran the Bolder Boulder in 2014.

**Most Going to Miss:** Going to service learning group. Thank you to the GENESISTER staff and volunteers for all the help and support you provided to me for the last 7 years. I am very thankful and happy I got the chance to be in this group!

**Biggest Lesson:** I learned a lot both about community service, as well as birth control and relationships.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Try to go to group, participate, and learn as much as you can. Participate, and take advantage of all the help GENESISTER gives you.

**What's Next?** I will continue with my hairstyling class and most likely will be going to college to major in business and accounting.

## *Bianca Garcia*

**Most Memorable Experience:** Meeting new people and making friends at group.

**Most Going to Miss:** All the support and help they offered me. Thank you very much for all of your support.

**Biggest Lesson:** How I can prepare for my future. I'm thankful for the encouragement GENESISTER provided regarding college.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Participate in groups as much as you can.

**What's Next?** I plan on starting college in the fall at Front Range and start a career in criminology and eventually transfer to UNC.



## *Denise Martinez*

**Most Memorable Experience:** I never thought I would be able to have someone to help guide me in my life. Throughout my time in this program, I've learned so many different things, like resources for applying to schools and jobs and also about my body. GENESISTER has also helped me think about life after high school and what I can do for myself and my life. In general, it has been memorable to have someone there for me when I felt like I didn't have anybody.

**Most Going to Miss:** Mostly I'm going to miss talking to Maya and Lourdes. I have liked being able to talk to them and have them support me without judging me. I'm going to miss knowing that I can have someone to support me, even if I feel shy to ask my own family.

**Biggest Lesson:** I've learned a lot about birth control and knowing about sexual/reproductive health. I also learned about resources in my community that I can use later on in my life. I also learned a lot from the trips that I went on and met new people.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Take advantage of the GENESISTER program. There aren't many girls that have this resource in their lives to get help.

**What's Next?** I'm still figuring out my next steps after high school since I'm not sure if I want to go to college right away. Meanwhile, I will be looking for a good job to save up some money. GENESISTER helped me by showing me how to learn about resources in my community.



# Our GENESISTER Graduates

## *Jacqueline Arredondo*



**Most Memorable Experience:** I really liked having help with college. Tina helped with birth control, and Sarah and America helped with college.

**Most Going to Miss:** I'm going to miss having someone to talk to. GENESISTER gave me all the information I needed and always answered the questions I had.

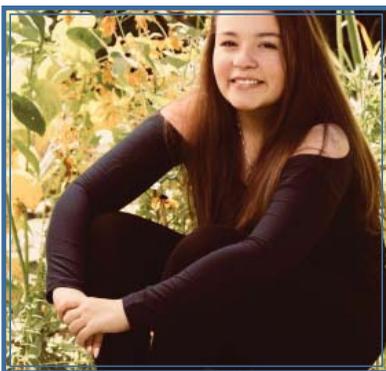
**Biggest Lesson:** I learned how to rely on someone. I'm the type of person who keeps everything to myself. I also learned to help other people - America enjoys helping people and makes me want to do the same. Thank you for everything you have helped with, especially with college. Since I am first generation, I didn't know anything about college or my future. After seeing my sister, who is struggling with money and didn't go to college, and with the help of GENESISTER staff, I want to go to college and make my parents happy.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Go to groups. That would have pulled me closer to the group.

**What's Next?** COLLEGE! I want to travel to Mexico and go back to where I am from (Guanajuato), and I also really want to go to Dubai & South America!



## *Maiya Schmidt*



**Most Memorable Experience:** Doing the FAFSA because of all the amazing help I got.

**Most Going to Miss:** The guidance that has had a really big impact on my life. Thank you for all of your help!

**Biggest Lesson:** I learned to plan ahead and take every opportunity that could help me later on in life. I was given opportunities about many scholarships and what is the best way to go about college.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Don't slack on school - bad idea.

**What's Next?** College!!!



*Nati Gonzalez and Perla Reyes:* Not pictured

## *Moriah Montes*

**Most Memorable Experience:** Going to get birth control because I was so scared to get a shot. I started crying, and my friend made fun of me.

**Most Going to Miss:** The one-on-ones; they really helped me with just actually talking to someone. Thank you for all the time you have spent with me. I appreciate the help with college, birth control, and life in general.

**Biggest Lesson:** When struggles come don't get frustrated too fast, and take time with the problem.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Don't be nervous to ask for help!

**What's Next?** In the near future, I plan to go to Front Range Community College for the first two years, then hopefully transfer to CU Denver to get a nursing degree. I found out about CU-Denver from GENESISTER when I first started, and it helped steer me into looking into other colleges besides Front Range. Now I'm actually really excited to go to college because I chose one I absolutely love.



## *Noelia Favila*

**Most Memorable Experience:** Going to Elitches for my very first time. I had never been there before, and I got to go during Frightfest. It was so much fun getting on the roller coasters.

**Most Going to Miss:** Having Maya as my youth specialist. She was like an older sister to me, and I knew I could trust her with anything.

**Biggest Lesson:** GENESISTER helped me grow as a person from the time I started until now. I learned how to ask for help with anything I needed, and that's something I will know how to do in my life. GENESISTER taught me to always work hard for what I want, and that helped me reach my goal of getting into college.

**Advice to Other GENESISTERS:** Don't be afraid to open up and to ask for help.

**What's Next?** I was accepted into Hastings College in Nebraska and also received a scholarship to attend. I'm going to study nursing to become a labor and delivery nurse.



# Farewell Jody!

Congratulations to **Jody Scanlon**, who will be retiring this year!

**Most Memorable Experience:** Definitely the Bolder Boulder. It was an opportunity to work directly with youth when most of my work was behind the scenes. I loved seeing the vision become reality with running, which is one of my passions. I loved seeing youth start from not believing in themselves to finishing a 10K! Made me proud.

**Most Going to Miss:** I would say the youth, but I didn't have as much opportunity to work with them, so I'll say the team - the creativity and passion they bring and seeing staff care as much about the program as I do. I've been able to see staff bring it to life.

**Biggest Lesson:** Lessons...oh boy! Never give up. Advocate for what you believe in. And trust your instincts.

**Advice to GENESISTERS:** This program is meant for you, so feel empowered to help shape it. You know best what you need; keep letting us know and tell us. Take ownership of GENESISTER because this program is nothing without you. Recognize the wisdom within yourself; it will take you places.

Thank you for all the hard work you have done to better your life...it is not an easy thing to do. We've seen you make some hard choices, and I want to acknowledge that your commitment, perseverance, and hope have all made this program worthwhile.

**Behind the Scenes Work:** There are a lot of people who believe in what we are doing and support what we do, and that makes my job easier. All the individual successes add up to a program success.

**Parting Message to Staff:** Thank you for giving so much of yourselves to this program and bringing it to life. I encourage you all to keep growing the program, thinking big, and doing the same thing we ask the clients to do, which is reach for your dreams and don't give up. Celebrate your successes because there are a lot of them!

**What's Next?** \*Laugh\* I wish I knew! I want to spend time with my husband and travel, and I want to cultivate my passions, including running and other sports. I want to spend more time walking my dog and napping with my cat. I want to volunteer with GENESISTER to run the Bolder Boulder someday again!

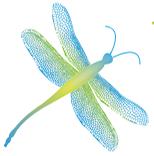
**Final Thoughts:** I have enormous gratitude to the many foundations and organizations that have believed in and funded this work; their contributions have been immeasurable: Rose Community Foundation, Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services, Colorado Community Alliance, the cities of Boulder and Longmont, Boulder County Commissioners, and Boulder County Public Health. Most of all, I want to thank Jeff Zayach, who has been a staunch advocate for the program over the years and has worked tirelessly to keep the program going.

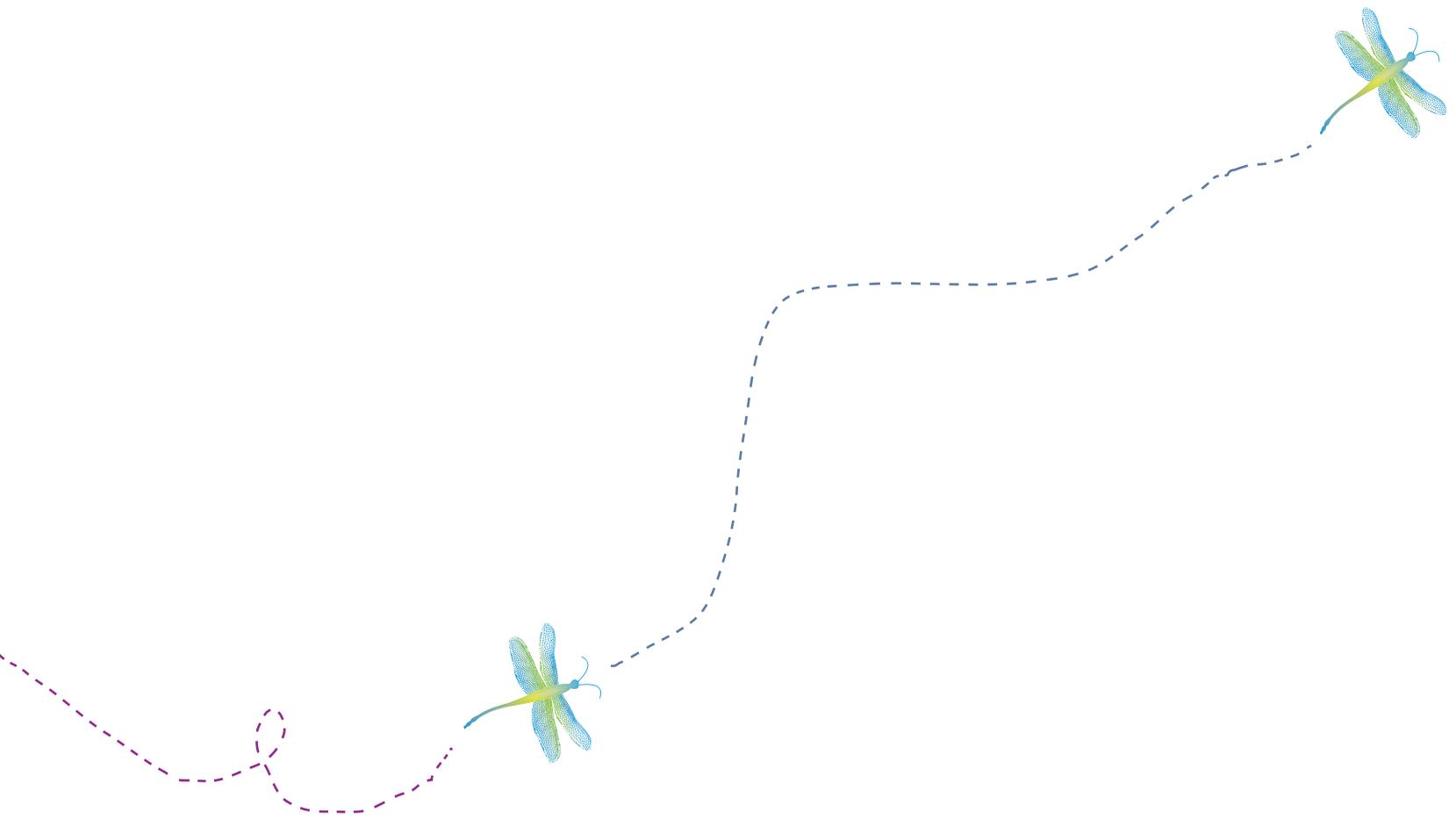




Congratulations, Maya, our new GENESISTER Program Coordinator!

# signatures & memories





# GENESISTER Staff



**YANINA GOMEZ**  
Parent Specialist  
St. Vrain Valley School District



**AMERICA RAMIREZ**  
Youth Specialist  
St. Vrain Valley School District



**LOURDES MENDOZA**  
Parent Specialist  
Boulder Valley School District



**JODY SCANLON**  
Program Manager (2010 - 2018)



**MAYA SOL DANSIE**  
Program Coordinator (2018 - Present)  
Youth Specialist (2010-2018)  
Boulder Valley School District

# GENESISTER Stats

*In 2017,*  
**zero**  
*GENESISTERS became pregnant!*

*In 2017,*  
**96%**  
*of GENESISTERS remained enrolled in school.*

**51%**  
*of GENESISTERS participated in a service learning/volunteer opportunity.*

# GENESISTER Volunteers

A giant THANK YOU to all of the volunteers! They donated over 330 hours of their time to support GENESISTER!



**ZOE LANG**  
2015 - 2017



**MISHA ZIMMERMAN**  
2015 - 2018



**ANNA STEVENS**  
2016 - Present



**BROOKE PALAY**  
2016 - 2017



**KELSEY WHITE**  
2016 - Present



**ERIKA IISA**  
2017 - Present



**CARLY BOESELT**  
2017 - Present

Thank you for the generous support of **GENESISTER** programming from The Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services, Colorado Community Alliance, the City of Boulder, the City of Longmont, the Boulder County Commissioners' Office, and Boulder County Public Health.



**BOULDER COUNTY  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH**

303 678 6139 *(English/Español)*

[BoulderCountyGENESISTER.org](http://BoulderCountyGENESISTER.org)