



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION ACHIEVE GALA IS APRIL 21**

**DENVER, April 18, 2016** – The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Foundation will host its 14th annual Achieve Gala at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21, at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center. This special celebration will draw 1,000 business and community leaders together in support of the 90,000 students in Denver Public Schools.

Presented by the Western Union Foundation, the DPS Foundation’s annual Achieve Gala raises money to provide programs, resources and opportunities to help all DPS students succeed. Proceeds are directed to DPS’ areas of greatest priority including literacy initiatives, afterschool programs, STEM education, classroom grants, college and career readiness, health and nutrition, sports and more.

“It takes all of us to ensure we achieve our vision of Every Child Succeeds,” said DPS Foundation President and CEO Verónica Figoli. “The Achieve Gala brings together Denver’s community in support of our students and schools. It is a night of inspiration and celebration of the important work taking place in Denver Public Schools. We are so grateful to the many supporters, sponsors, donors and attendees who make the Achieve Gala such an unforgettable celebration every year.”

The event features DPS student performance groups, remarks from soon-to-be graduates and an opportunity to hear from state, city and school leaders about pressing issues facing our students and schools.

“The Western Union Foundation is proud to be the Presenting Sponsor for the DPS Foundation gala,” said John Dye, Chairman of the Western Union Foundation Board of Directors. “We are committed to providing quality educational opportunities to young people all around the world—and that starts right here in our own backyard. Our global headquarters are based here, and we strongly support academic success for DPS students through Foundation grants, employee volunteerism, career shadow days with Western Union executives, and more. We were very proud to be the DPS Foundation’s 2015 Corporate Partner of the Year.”

On April 21, attendees will enjoy performances by students from Bruce Randolph 6-12 School via El Sistema Colorado, Teller Elementary, and Bryant Webster ECE-8 School, as well as a keynote speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr. Early College senior Lisa Rhodes. The evening’s



program will also include remarks from Gov. John Hickenlooper, Mayor Michael B. Hancock and Acting Superintendent Susana Cordova.

The evening kicks off at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception, and continues at 7 p.m. with dinner and the program. Tickets will not be available onsite and must be purchased in advance at [www.dpsfoundation.org](http://www.dpsfoundation.org) or by calling (720) 423-3553.

In addition to Presenting Sponsor the Western Union Foundation, the Achieve Gala is made possible by generous community investments from corporations and individuals, including premier sponsors: United Launch Alliance, Polsinelli, BBVA Compass, The Anschutz Foundation, BKD CPAs & Advisors, Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center, Kristin & Blair Richardson, and Cille & Ron Williams.

#### **About the Denver Public Schools Foundation**

The Denver Public Schools Foundation is Denver Public Schools' fundraising partner. We generate resources, build relationships and champion public education to help Every Child Succeed. We are built and sustained by the community; by supporting the DPS Foundation, businesses and individuals are creating positive, sustainable change in our schools and contributing to the success of our next generation. We are all DPS. For more information, visit [www.dpsfoundation.org](http://www.dpsfoundation.org).

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