



*The Gunnison County Library District  
and the  
Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley  
ANNOUNCE  
the*

**WORDS MATTER AWARD**

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*Words have a magical power. They can bring either the greatest happiness or deepest despair; they can transfer knowledge from teacher to student; words enable the orator to sway his audience and dictate its decisions. Words are capable of arousing the strongest emotions and prompting all men's actions.*

**SIGMUND FREUD**

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The award(s) will be presented to Gunnison County residents whose words, during the calendar year 2009, had a positive impact on some aspect of Gunnison County.

The criteria for the award(s) will include, but will not necessarily be limited to, how an individual, through his or her “words,” either written or spoken, or both, have achieved one or more of the following:

- Inspired positive action
- Empowered one or many people
- Affected positive change
- Demonstrated civility during a time of partisan bickering, courage in the face of opposition, and inclusiveness in the face of discrimination
- Through his/her quiet persuasiveness has earned respect of friends and foes alike

The “words” could have been published as a book or an article, spoken in a speech, penned as a class assignment, or the above criteria may have been demonstrated over a period of time. Some demonstrated good must come from the “words.”

Anyone may nominate someone for the award.

There will be an “adult” division and a “youth” (up to and including age 18) division.

The award will be a certificate given to the individual(s) and their names will be inscribed on permanent plaques in the libraries and the CFGV office, or elsewhere. In addition, the award-winners, both adult and youth, will select a variety of books and/or other material to be purchased with a monetary award, the amount of which is yet to be determined. The award(s) will be presented at a special event in conjunction with Independence Day celebrations.

A nomination form must be completed and letters of support are encouraged. Nominations are due on June 1<sup>st</sup> and nomination forms should be at the Gunnison Library at the close of the day.

A committee made up of representatives from the Library District and the Community Foundation, as well as selected community members (adults and youth making up a committee that is representative of the entire Gunnison Valley) will screen the nominations and select up to three finalists for each division (adult and youth) for presentation to a final selection committee from the Gunnison County Library District Board and the Board of the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley for final selection. The two Boards will have final authority for approval.

This award will be presented annually by the Gunnison County Library District and the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley.

Nomination forms are available at the public libraries in Gunnison and Crested Butte, at the office of the Community Foundation of the Gunnison Valley, online at [www.gunnisoncountylibraries.org](http://www.gunnisoncountylibraries.org) and [www.cfgv.org](http://www.cfgv.org).

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Civility costs nothing, and buys everything.  
**Mary Wortley Montagu**

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