

Citizens Project
proudly presents the sixth annual



*Divine Award
Celebration*



Since he came to Colorado Springs 27 years ago, John Weiss has been a visionary leader in advancing diversity, equality, and religious freedom in the Pikes Peak region.

Through his role as founder and publisher of the Colorado Springs Independent, which has grown to a circulation of 100,000 plus readers, John has provided our community with a free, full-service alternative newsweekly that promotes progressive causes and provides an outlet for diverse voices and untold stories. He has helped bring renowned creative

thinkers to Colorado Springs such as Creative Class author Richard Florida, President of the National Association of Evangelicals Rev. Richard Cizik, and Three Cups of Tea author Greg Mortenson.

Mr. Weiss has also leveraged The Independent's influence to encourage civic engagement, co-sponsoring over 35 non-partisan town hall electoral forums with a wide range of civic groups. The Independent has also sponsored more than 50 civic events annually for the last decade, as well as four annual Fort Carson Town Halls from 2005-2009. John is currently planning the 2010 Fort Carson Town Hall.

A citizen in the Jeffersonian sense, John's passion for the community extends beyond his work at the Independent. He serves as a lead organizer on issues such as de-Bruceing city government, extending Plus One health benefits to city employees, and increasing City Council pay. John is also actively involved in his two sons' Manitou Springs classrooms.

John partners with local environmental advocates to promote sustainable practices in our community. He was the initial catalyst behind both the unsuccessful November 2005 Trails, Open Space & Parks (TOPS) measure and the successful April 2007 TOPS ballot measure. He also took lead roles in the Manitou Springs Recycles and Safeway Recycling Center programs.

John Weiss's outstanding contributions to our community make him an exemplary recipient of Citizen Project's Divine Award.

You are cordially invited to celebrate the 2010 Divine Award recipient

John Weiss

Thursday, February 18, 2010
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Warehouse, 25 W. Cimarron Street
(one block west of Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs)

hors d'oeuvres and cash bar
\$10 suggested donation



Please RSVP by February 12 to:
kristy@citizensproject.org or (719) 520-9899

What is the Divine Award?

The Divine Award is given annually to a person in the Pikes Peak region who has worked tirelessly to create a vibrant democracy in which equal rights are protected, individual freedoms are secure, differences are respected, and people fully participate in civic and community life.

The award simultaneously recognizes the accomplishments of its recipient and honors the legacy of Amy Divine, the founder of Citizens Project.



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