



**Farm to  
Table**



## **11<sup>th</sup> Annual SWMN Conference: *Local Roots – Regional Connections* Alamosa, Colorado July 15-17, 2013**

### **Schedule of Events**

The goal of this conference is to provide maximum opportunity for farmers, educators, administrators, non-profits, agencies, and policy makers to explore the breadth of what *Farm to School* programs offer to each of them, to learn together and network across sectors. By exploring our own roles, and understanding the roles others play, we can team up to increase opportunities for farmers to expand markets, for children in our schools to learn about growing food, good nutrition and healthy lifestyles, and for agencies and policy makers to promote economic development by establishing sustainable local food systems.

Networking is a primary focus of our conference, so there will be lots of networking time before and after sessions, during meals, and Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 to 4 p.m. after the final session. Flip charts and message boards will be available to aid in organizing group discussions during networking time. So bring your ideas and set up a discussion!

The Sessions will cover major themes, but to inspire cross pollination, members of an Observers Panel representing four, cross-cutting topics will be responsible to bring up issues in *any* session and will lead a wrap-up discussion during Session 5 on Wednesday morning.

There will be space set aside in the facility for folks who would like to prepare poster presentations and provide exhibits.

#### **San Luis Agricultural Heritage Tour with Traditional Foods Dinner**

Explore Local Agricultural Roots in the oldest town in Colorado. The spiritual Catholic traditions of San Luis are intertwined with unique farming and ranching traditions. Participants in the tour will climb the Stations of the Cross and hear about the rich history of the region from story-keeper Rick Manzanares. You will see the last continuously active “vega” commons in the United States and tour the acequia system or “people’s ditch” guided by centennial farmer Joe Gallegos; You will visit the new season extenders gifted to farmers of two acres or more. The amazing naturalist Theresa Vigil will lead a hands-on herb walk as she weaves her stories. At the end of this adventure Bernadette Lucero of the Rio Culebra Coop, a coop committed to traditional production practices that protect the land and our environment, will cater a fine traditional agriculture meal that you will not want to miss.

Back at the hotel – the Milagro Beanfield War will be shown at the Inn of the Rio Grande – this movie is a 1988 American drama written by John Nichols. Directed by Robert Redford with Ruben Blades, Sônia Braga, Julie Carmen, Melanie Griffith, John Heard, Daniel Stern, Chick Vennera, James Gammon and Christopher Walken. Filmed on location in Truchas, New Mexico, the film is set in the fictional rural town of Milagro, with a population of 426, a predominantly Hispanic and Catholic town, with a largely interrelated population. The film tells of one man's struggle as he defends his small beanfield and his community against much larger business and state political interests. Writer John Nichols might be on hand for the event.

<b>Monday, July 15, 2013</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Content</b>
1:00 pm til evening	Agricultural Heritage Tour of the San Luis Valley	<b>Field day in San Luis Valley</b> followed by a <b>Local Foods Dinner</b> at 4:30 pm
<b>Tuesday, July 16, 2013</b>		
8:00 am	<b>Registration &amp; networking</b>	
9:00	<b>Welcome</b> & overview	
<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Content</b>
9:20	<b>Keynote Speaker – Trudi Kretsinger, KW Farms</b>	Issues facing famers in the San Luis Valley and across the southwest.
10:00	<b>Observers Panel Introduction</b>	
<b>Panel 1</b> 10:30	<b>Farm to School Procurement Models</b>	Latest innovations in procurement and distribution of local food into the schools, plus Farm to Preschool opportunities.
12:00 noon	Lunch & networking discussions	
<b>Panel 2</b> 1:30 pm	<b>State Level Farm to School &amp; Policy Models</b>	Share and compare state level public & private efforts among five southwestern states, especially New Mexico and Colorado.
3:00	Break and Networking	
<b>Panel 3</b> 3:30	<b>Farm to School Education</b>	Getting the most from school gardens, farm visits, cooking activities, and curriculum. Good practices from throughout the region.
5:00	End formal program for the day. Form subject area groups for networking and discussion. Extend your discussions through dinner!	
Evening	Networking discussions across Alamosa. Dinner on your own.	

<b>Wednesday, July 17, 2013</b>		
8:00 am	Networking	
<b>Panel 4</b> 9:00	<b>Growing more healthy, sustainable, local food for schools and institutions</b>	What's working in supporting new and transitioning producers, traditional foods, coping with drought, sustainable production, infrastructure, and aggregation.
10:30	Break & Networking Discussions	
<b>Panel 5</b> 11: 00	<b>Observer Panel Report Back and Conference Wrap-up Discussion</b>	Conference take-aways and accomplishments
12:30	Lunch & networking discussions	
1:30 pm	Formal program ends	
To 4:00 pm	<b>Networking discussions</b> as desired	