



Maine Women's Policy Center

THE VOICE OF MAINE WOMEN

MEDIA RELEASE

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2011 Linda Smith Dyer Law Fellow Announced

Nicole Bissonnette, Lewiston Native, Joins Maine Women's Policy Center

Augusta – Today the Maine Women's Policy Center welcomed Nicole R. Bissonnette as the 2011 Linda Smith Dyer Law Fellow. Nicole is entering her second year at the University of Maine School of Law. In addition to her work towards a law degree, she serves as the co-chair of the Women's Law Association, Secretary of the Maine Association for Public Interest Law, and student representative to the school's Curriculum Committee. Nicole hopes to pursue a career in public interest law, with particular focus on issues facing women and children.

Said Sarah Standiford, Executive Director of the Maine Women's Policy Center, "Nicole has all of the qualities that we expect for this influential public interest fellowship—boundless intellectual curiosity, a commitment to community engagement, and an interest in the power of law and policy to improve women's lives."

Nicole graduated from Boston University *magna cum laude* with degrees in political science and journalism. She served three years with Teach for America in South Texas, where she taught high school journalism in one of the country's poorest areas. A native of Lewiston, Nicole returned to Maine to be closer to family and has been living in Portland for the past six years.

Said Nicole about her start at the Maine Women's Policy Center, "Already I'm impressed by the scope of work the Maine Women's Policy Center tackles towards their mission to improve the lives of women and girls. I'm delighted by the opportunity to analyze a range of economic and social policy, and communicate the impact of legislative decisions made this year to the women and girls whose lives will be affected."

The Maine Women's Policy Center, founded in 1990, is a private, nonprofit organization whose purpose is to improve the lives of Maine women and girls through public policy and leadership development.
www.mainewomenspolicycenter.org

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