As we embark on a year where traditional happy hours, reunions, and regional events are unlikely to take place in person, alumnae offices across the country need to find innovative ways to keep alumnae engaged and connected to their school communities. Close Up and Hockaday's Institute for Social Impact have partnered to provide innovative alumnae programming that is relevant, impactful and helps to strengthen alumnae’s connection to their classmates and the school community during this challenging time. Designed as a three-part series, *Empowering Our Alumnae Community*, will help alumnae navigate challenging conversations about political and social issues, and will create a robust network of alumnae leaders looking to make an impact locally, nationally, and as part of a girls school collective.

### Program Sessions

Each session will be 60-minutes in length and take place on Zoom:

**Session 1: Navigating Challenging Conversations** - How can we navigate difficult conversations about social and political issues as a community of engaged alumnae? What strategies and approaches lead to productive engagement across differences of identity and ideology? In this session, we will practice skills of deliberation and listening, share our ideas about challenging policy proposals, and reflect on the difficulties of talking to friends, family, and co-workers about issues facing our country and community.

**Session 2: Women in Politics** - In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, and while recognizing that we have yet to achieve the goals of equality expressed in that amendment, we will hear from a panel of trailblazing women in local and national politics. We will explore the progress that women have made and are making while looking at the challenges that still lie ahead.

**Session 3: Advancing our Legacy of Social Impact** - By leveraging our collective voices as a strong girls school network, alumnae will come together to consider ways to have a meaningful impact on our communities, our schools, and future generations of women leaders. During this unpredictable and difficult time, we know alumnae are juggling many different responsibilities and are still eager to contribute -- find easy ways to make an impact while strengthening your connection to your classmates and school community!

### About Close Up

Established in 1971, **Close Up** is a non-profit, non-partisan civic education organization dedicated to helping young people develop the knowledge and skills they need to become informed, active, and engaged citizens. Close Up’s resources and programs offer a balanced and multi-partisan look at controversial issues by using a selection of primary sources drawn from decision-makers and experts on all parts of the political spectrum. Each year, Close Up helps thousands of young people and educators across the nation engage in civil discourse and take informed action in their communities.

### About the Institute for Social Impact

The **Hockaday Institute for Social Impact** represents a distinctive and innovative approach among K-12 schools, using the power of engaged, hands-on learning to prepare students for leadership in their communities, workplaces, and society. Through both new and longstanding partnerships with Dallas-area organizations, the Institute allows students to engage with diverse partners, learn from civic leaders, tackle projects with community impact, and put their creative ideas into action for lasting social benefit.

### Next Steps

To design a program for your alumnae office, please contact Close Up at programsupport@closeup.org or Laura Day at lday@hockaday.org.