



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Contact: Jen Marshall
Fresh Ideas Group
303-449-2108, ext. 18
Jen@freshideasgroup.com

**Colorado Chautauqua Association to be recognized for its environmental sustainability
within historic preservation**

Boulder nonprofit to receive 2011 State Honor Award from Colorado Preservation Inc.

BOULDER, Colo. (May 11, 2011) – Colorado Preservation Inc. will recognize the Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA) with a 2011 State Honor Award as part of its annual Dana Crawford Awards Dinner at the Denver Botanic Gardens on May 12. The award will honor the CCA for its leadership in environmental sustainability and the historic preservation of the 113-year-old Colorado Chautauqua during May Preservation Month.

“In 2008 we committed to making the Colorado Chautauqua the country's ‘greenest’ National Historic Landmark and created a learning laboratory for the marriage of historic preservation and environmental sustainability,” said Susan Connelly, executive director of the CCA. “It is an honor to be recognized for our greening efforts, which are ongoing and extensive. Since our mission is based in education, we aim to share our findings with others to show that green preservation is possible.”

While adhering to the rigorous building regulations of preserving a National Historic Landmark, the CCA has implemented numerous ways to conserve water and energy, including the installation of weather stations to monitor irrigation, tank-less water heaters that offer a “stand-by” mode and interior whole-house fans to cool the cottages in the summertime. Additional green initiatives are waste diversion practices toward a goal of zero waste and the use of nontoxic, earth-friendly products, all of which maintain a comfortable ambiance for visitors and lodging guests and the unique Chautauqua charm.

“To properly preserve and renovate historic buildings we must abide by a unique set of regulations so as to not interfere with the original structures or outside appearances,” said Jeff Medanich, facilities and preservation manager at the CCA. “Many of our green initiatives must be invisible and present an extra challenge, which makes our progress even more rewarding.”

The Colorado Chautauqua’s Learning Lab is a way to share CCA’s green initiatives and experiences with owners of historic properties, developers, craftsmen and governmental entities, including the ability to renovate identical structures with different green building methods to compare results on energy efficiency. Boulder County Energy Smart auditors are now trained at the CCA, and case studies are being prepared to share with the green building and historic preservation industry. More information can be found at http://www.chautauqua.com/greening_lab.htm.

The Dana Crawford Awards Dinner is Colorado's premier statewide historic preservation awards event honoring the individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution toward preserving Colorado's architectural heritage. The namesake for the evening, Dana Crawford, is a local and national pioneer in preservation practices. In Denver, Crawford led the way in demonstrating that saving historic buildings makes economic sense; she is revered as the developer who saved “LoDo” in Denver when she purchased and preserved the historic Oxford Hotel. Since 1988, Colorado Preservation, Inc. has

recognized outstanding accomplishments in the areas of preservation, rehabilitation, promotion, philanthropy and leadership.

Founded in 1984, the mission of [Colorado Preservation, Inc.](#) (CPI) is to promote historic preservation in Colorado by providing information, education, training, expertise and advocacy. CPI achieves this mission by partnering with historic property owners, non-profit organizations, educators and local governments throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Visit www.coloradopreservation.org/ for more information.

###

The Colorado Chautauqua Association

The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that preserves the historic Chautauqua site in Boulder, Colo., and perpetuates the spirit of the Chautauqua movement, building community through unique cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The CCA serves as the steward of Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for 26 acres of Chautauqua Park, home of many public buildings, gardens and 99 cottages, 58 of which are available for rental. The Colorado Chautauqua was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006.

For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua Association, visit www.chautauqua.com. For access to historic photos or to arrange interviews with executive director Susan Connelly or Facilities and Preservation Manager Jeff Medanich, contact Jen Marshall at 303-449-2108, ext. 18, or Jen@freshideagroup.com.