



News Release
For Immediate Release

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New Chautauqua History Series announced
Monthly presentations celebrate Colorado and regional history



BOULDER, COLO. (December XX, 2016) – The Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA), steward of Boulder’s cultural and historical gem, the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark, is pleased to announce a new History Series dedicated to exploring our regional sense of place by reflecting on the people and events that have shaped and influenced our regional culture.

The series kicks off Tuesday, January 17 with an examination of immigration history in Colorado and continues monthly, concluding in May with a celebration of a larger-than-life Buffalo Bill-like character and early Chautauqua photographer Joseph Bevier Sturtevant, aka “Rocky Mountain Joe.” The series returns in September with topics and speakers to be announced later this spring.

The cozy atmosphere of the 125-seat historic Chautauqua Community House (b.1918) provides the perfect setting for an intimate evening of learning and discussion.

“We are not makers of history. We are made by history.” - Martin Luther King, Jr.

HISTORY SERIES LINE UP

Colorado’s Immigration History

with Tom Thomas, Ph.D.

Tuesday, January 17. 7:00 PM

Immigrant labor built Colorado, but fear and resentment against particular immigrant groups created tensions that has defined much of our state’s history.

Immigration in many ways was the lifeblood of Colorado. The late 19th century brought a diverse group of immigrants to Colorado who often took on the toughest and most dangerous jobs – building railroads, mining for gold, silver, and coal, working in the smelters, farming and ranching. Native Americans experienced the massive immigration of the Colorado Gold Rush with devastating effects.

Colorado Chinese workers faced discrimination fueled by a growing anti-Asian national sentiment that resulted in the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act. A post-World War I nativist movement in Colorado triggered a backlash against immigrants and fueled the rise of the Ku Klux Klan. The Immigration Act of 1924 set quotas on immigrants from southern and eastern European countries. In addition it restricted African immigration and banned Arab and Asian immigration. The Bracero program in World War II and afterward brought temporary Mexican workers to Colorado for jobs in the sugar beet fields. The fear and resentment against particular immigrant groups created tensions that defined much of our state's history. Immigration continues to be a critical piece of Colorado's development. Join a scholar of the American West for a look at the patterns of immigration in Colorado's past.

A fourth generation Coloradan, **Tom Thomas** holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Colorado. His 25+ year career at the National Park Service has him leading projects for sites including the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Hovenweep National Monument, Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument and Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site. He teaches United States History at CU Boulder and has also taught the history of the American West, History of Colorado and the American Revolution. He is currently a faculty member in the Kittredge and Libby Hall Residential Academic Programs at CU.

The Legacy of Penfield Tate, II: Boulder's Humanitarian Mayor

with Penfield Tate, III

Thursday February 9. 7:00 PM

Penfield Tate II, Boulder's only African American mayor, was a humanitarian ahead of his time who paid a great price for his convictions.

Join us for a look back to the life and times of the late Penfield Tate, II, Mayor of Boulder from 1974-1976. Penfield Tate, II was elected to Boulder City Council in 1971, as the top vote getter, and served from 1972-1976. His fellow council members chose him as mayor and he remains as Boulder's only African American mayor. Tate was a humanitarian who advocated for equality for all. His stance on protection against discrimination based on sexual orientation cost him his political career. He and his family faced a hateful and frightening backlash. He survived the recall attempt, but was never reelected to public office. What was it like for the Tate family during those times? What can we learn from Penfield Tate's commitment to his convictions?

The **Honorable Penfield Tate III** is an attorney within Kutak Rock's national public finance practice. He moved to Boulder with his family in 1967 and graduated from Boulder High School in 1974, one of the most tumultuous years in Boulder's recent history. Tate is a former state legislator, having served in both the Colorado Senate and House of Representatives. He graduated from Colorado State University and Antioch School of Law. Tate has served on multiple boards and has been the executive director of the Colorado Department of Administration, an aide to former Denver Mayor Federico Peña and a trade regulation attorney for the Federal Trade Commission. He is currently serving his second term as president of the Denver Water Board.

Boulder Women in the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame

with Wendy Bohling

Tuesday March 7. 7:00 PM

From Native Americans and early settlers to pacifists and cutting edge scientists, discover the Boulder women who are represented for a variety of outstanding achievements in the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

In 1878, in the first year of the newly founded University of Colorado in Boulder, Mary Rippon traveled west to join CU as one of the first woman professors to gain a place on the faculty of a university.

Born in 1891, Hazel Schmoll grew up in Ward exploring the outdoors. She earned a Ph.D. in botany and became Colorado's state botanist, serving in the post from 1919 to 1935.

Born in 1920, Elise Boulding's international efforts in peace resulted in a nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize by the American Friends Service Committee. In 1962, she was chosen to be part of a group of women to meet with Russian women at the height of the Cold War.

Author, speaker and business coach **Wendy Bohling** is a member of the board of directors of the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame. Wendy is passionate about elevating the stories of the exceptional women who are a significant part of our Colorado history. Wendy has worked more than 30 years as an executive in the corporate saddle at some of the top telecom Fortune 100 companies and healthcare IT startups.

Colorado Women in the Progressive Era

with Tom Thomas, Ph.D.

Wednesday April 12. 7:00 PM

Colorado succeeded in gaining women's suffrage and in enacting prohibition well before the rest of the nation, due to an extraordinary group of women who were influential in the Progressive Era.

Colorado women triumphed with the right to vote in 1893, decades ahead of the 19th Amendment, enacted in 1920. Colorado was second to Wyoming, but the first state to win women's suffrage by a popular vote. Denver journalist Ellis Meredith, known as the Susan B. Anthony of Colorado, advocated tirelessly for the cause, publishing compelling arguments for women's rights in the Rocky Mountain News. Winning the right to vote enabled Colorado women to work for many other social causes including child welfare and labor rights.

Colorado's chapter of the Women's Christian Temperance Union vigorously campaigned against saloons and against the devastating effects of alcohol on families. Colorado women were successful in these efforts as well. Boulder enacted prohibition in 1907 and Colorado followed in 1916, years ahead of national prohibition in 1920.

We will look at the diverse cast of women of substance who were influential during the Progressive Era in Colorado, from 1890-1920. Margaret Tobin "Molly" Brown was a dynamic advocate for women's rights as was Baby Doe Tabor. Dr. Tom Thomas will shed light on this fascinating piece of first-wave feminism in the history of the American West.

Rocky Mountain Joe, Untangling the Tall Tales

with Mona Lambrecht

Wednesday May 3. 7:00 PM

Chautauqua's first official photographer told many a tall tale, but his own real life may be the most remarkable of all.

A larger-than-life Buffalo Bill-like character, Joseph Bevier Sturtevant took on the alter ego of Rocky Mountain Joe when the Colorado Chautauqua opened its doors in 1898. A skilled photographer and self-described Boulder icon promoting the romance of frontier life, Joe sold the nostalgia of the Wild West to early twentieth century tourists and his tales have been unquestioned since his death in 1910. What is fascinating about the legend of Rocky Mountain Joe is that many of his stories are actually true – they just did not happen to him. The truth behind Boulder's legendary photographer proves much more intriguing than the dime-novel tales Joe told. Learn the real story of Rocky Mountain Joe from an expert who has been researching and uncovering the truth in archives and private collections.

Mona Lambrecht is the Curator of History and Collections at the University of Colorado Heritage Center, a social historian, and genealogist who specializes in researching history at the local level. She focuses on uncovering the details that place individuals and families into the historical context of their communities. Mona is the author of "Boulder 1859-1919" and curated the CU Heritage Center exhibition "Print the Legend: The Real Story of Photographer Rocky Mountain Joe."

*"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots."
- Marcus Garvey*

TICKET INFORMATION:

- All events take place at 7:00 PM in the Chautauqua Community House
- All tickets: **\$12.00 (\$9.00 Concert Member)**
- Purchase tickets online now at www.chautauqua.com.
- Chautauqua Concert Members receive a \$3 discount on select tickets.
- All tickets are subject to a service fee.

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The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that preserves, perpetuates and improves the site and spirit of the historic Chautauqua, enhancing its community and values through cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The chautauqua experience is based on lifelong learning, love of nature, voluntary simplicity, and music, oration and the arts. Historic significance, traditions, cultural relevance, respite and enrichment are among the community benefits provided by the Colorado Chautauqua. CCA serves as the steward of historic Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for preservation and use of 26 acres of Chautauqua Park, home to many public buildings, gardens and 99 cottages, 58 of which are available for rental through the Association. The Colorado Chautauqua was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Tier II organization. For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua and the CCA visit www.chautauqua.com or www.facebook.com/coloradochautauqua.

For access to historic or event photos, or to arrange interviews with executive director Andrea McGimsey, please contact Ann Obenchain at 303.952.1645.