



MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release

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Colorado Chautauqua Association opens digital archives to the public

BOULDER, Colo. (Mar. 23, 2015) – Preserving and sharing the community’s rich history has been made one step easier with the partial digitization of the Colorado Chautauqua Association’s (CCA) archive collection.

The archive collection at the Colorado Chautauqua consists of approximately 5,000 inventoried items of historic records dating back to the inception of the chautauqua in 1898. The archives content ranges from photographs and marketing materials to extensive information on buildings and grounds and organization operations.

Housed at the national historic landmark since its inception, the archives has been previously inaccessible to the public. As part of a pilot project to gauge community interest, a portion of the collection has been digitized with a sampling of historical photographs and printed materials now available for viewing on CCA’s website and through the link below.

The online exhibit includes items such as photographs showing the Auditorium’s original bleachers and dirt floor, program brochures from the early 1900’s as well as the first program from 1898, as well as more modern posters that capture speakers such as the Reverend Jesse Jackson. Visitors to the website who have additional questions are invited to complete an online Ask the Archivist form.

The cataloguing and partial digitization of the archive collection has been underway for the past two years.

WHO: Colorado Chautauqua Association

WHAT: Launch of an online resource that allows scholars, history buffs and amateurs access, at no charge, to the rich history of the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark. The Colorado Chautauqua is deemed to be an exceptional representative of the national Chautauqua Movement of the late 1800s and early 1900s and is considered to be THE western expression of the Chautauqua Movement. It displays more historic integrity of site, structures and setting than any other chautauqua property, including those previously designated National Historic Landmarks.

WHEN: Ongoing beginning March 12, 2015

WHERE: <https://www.chautauqua.com/preservation/archives/>

COST: Free and open to the public

For access to Chautauqua photos or to arrange an interview, please contact Ann Obenchain at ann.obenchain@chautauqua.com or 303.952.1645.

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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.