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Colorado Chautauqua Association Secures Pivotal Membership Vote

BOULDER, Colo.—The Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA) is pleased to announce the results of the recent membership vote on updated articles of incorporation and bylaws. The proposed changes to CCA's bylaws required a 75% supermajority, or a three-to-one ratio of votes cast. Of the 1,853 eligible voters, 1,381 members, or 75%, voted, far surpassing participation in previous elections. Of the 1,381 votes cast - 1,044 voted to approve the proposed bylaws, or 76% per cent of members voting.

"CCA members have resoundingly affirmed that Chautauqua belongs to all of us," said Shelly Benford, CCA Executive Director. "Because of our members' participation and support, we are now in a position to address the governance concern identified by the Boulder City Attorney and take an important step forward in securing a healthy Chautauqua for generations to come."

The approved bylaws align with the best practices of modern nonprofit organizations and will result in more equitable community representation on the CCA Board. After determining what skills, talent and experience are needed to effectively govern Chautauqua, the Board will now seek nominations from the community to fill future Board positions.

The updated bylaws also allow the CCA Board to consider changes as needed to the bylaws without going to the membership for a 75% majority vote. Unencumbered by an antiquated and restrictive governance structure, the Board can now take input from a wide variety of stakeholders and engage in a collaborative governing process.

"The record turnout for this vote is a testament to just how important Chautauqua is to our entire community," said Nan Anderson, president of the CCA Board of Directors. "We look forward to collaboratively advancing our shared goals of a healthy and sustainable Chautauqua that truly belongs to all of us."

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About the Colorado Chautauqua

Founded on July 4, 1898, the Colorado Chautauqua seeks to preserve, perpetuate and improve the site and spirit of the historic Chautauqua by 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. Learn more at www.chautauqua.com.

The Colorado Chautauqua is a community asset that belongs to all who cherish it—and it is CCA's mission to protect it for future generations.