



Photo courtesy of the Veteran Vision Project

Veterans Expressive Writing Workshops

We are delighted to announce the return of our free, online writing workshops that offer a safe place for veterans, their family members, and caregivers to write about their experiences!

These workshops will be held **Sundays at 3 p.m. beginning February 14** in partnership with Steamboat Creates. Expressive writing provides support for a deeply private journaling process proven to reduce stress. Workshops are led by veterans who are

professional writers. Thanks to partners and sponsors the National Endowment for the Humanities and Steamboat Creates, all workshops are free.

Learn more and register [here](#).



Change in Rural Colorado

Rural Colorado has always faced challenges in economic innovation and resiliency, but never more so than during the COVID era. Although cities were hit hardest first, now rural areas are proportionally suffering the worst impacts. Join us online **February 24 from 6 to 8 p.m.** for a community conversation that will explore the challenges and opportunities created by this public health crisis. Panelists will give short presentations about leveraging local and regional assets to maximize innovation and resiliency to generate inclusive growth in rural community economies. Their opening comments will be followed by discussion and audience Q&A.

To learn more or register, click [here](#).

Featured panelists Dr. Stephan Weiler, Elizabeth Garner, Kat Papenbrock, Dr. Michael Seman, and Greg Thomason. Dawn Thilmany will moderate.

Dr. Stephan Weiler is Professor of Economics at Colorado State University and Co-Director of the University's Regional Economic Development Institute.

Elizabeth Garner is the State Demographer with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, an agency focused on strengthening the capacity of Colorado's communities.

Kat Papenbrock is the Rural Opportunity Representative for the Western Slope of Colorado for the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) where she represents, oversees, and executes projects to advance Colorado's rural communities.

Dr. Michael Seman is an assistant professor of arts management at Colorado State University.

Greg Thomason currently serves as the rural opportunity representative for Eastern Colorado with OEDIT.

To learn more or register, click [here](#).

Save the dates!



On **March 31 at 7 p.m.** the Colorado Poet Laureate, Bobby LeFebre, will join us for our next Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity program.



We are partnering with Arapahoe Libraries to host a conversation about listening across racial and ethnic differences with moderator Dr. Elizabeth Parks on **April 7**.

More details coming soon!

More News



Happy Black History Month!

Contribute to the legacy of Black Coloradans by donating a brick (\$25) to the Black American West Museum & Heritage Center! The restoration of Dr. Justina Ford's historic house is underway and an estimated 400 bricks will need to be replaced or require reverse facing.

To learn more, or donate, click [here](#).



The Iroquois Confederacy and U.S. Women's Rights

On February 24 at 5:30 p.m. join the Colorado Chautauqua Association for a program about women of the 19th Century in the United States. What inspired the suffragists to think they could create a world where women could be agents of their own being? The surprising answer

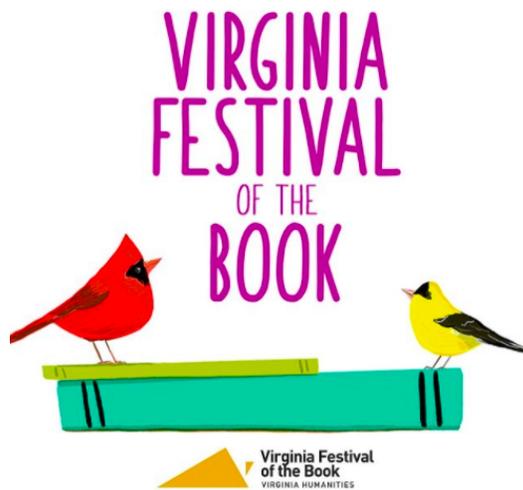


Voice of Freedom Premieres February 15, 2021

On Easter Sunday, 1939, contralto Marian Anderson stepped up to a microphone in front of the Lincoln Memorial. Inscribed on the walls of the monument behind her were the words "all men are created equal." Barred from performing in Constitution Hall because of her race, Anderson would sing for the American people in the open air.

Voice of Freedom interweaves Anderson's rich life story with this landmark moment in history, exploring fundamental questions about talent, race, fame, democracy, and the American soul.

Learn more [here](#).



Virginia Festival of the Book

may lie with the powerful women of the Haudenosaunee, or Iroquois Confederacy of six nations (Mohawk, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca, and Tuscarora) in upstate New York.

Learn more and register [here](#).

The 2021 Festival is free and online! From March 13-26 find a full schedule of engaging discussions for all ages and interests.

View the festival schedule [here](#).

Please forward our news to a friend!

Thank you



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