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The banner features a background image of a vast, flat, brownish landscape in the foreground, with a small farmstead and trees in the middle ground, and a range of large, rugged mountains with patches of snow under a clear blue sky in the background. The text "Change in Rural Colorado" and "Loving Our Land" is positioned in the upper left. Below this, the text "Join us on March 23" and "6-8 p.m. MT" is displayed in orange. In the center, there are four portrait photos of the panelists: Sonja Chavez, Michael Lester, Heather Knight, and Wade Shelton. Below the photos, their names are listed in white text: "Sonja Chavez Michael Lester Heather Knight Wade Shelton".

## Change in Rural Colorado

We have partnered with the Regional Economic Development Institute at Colorado State University to offer a series of free, online conversations about the challenges and opportunities facing rural Colorado. 'Loving Our Land,' the second event in the series, will focus on natural resource assets, water headlands, and conservation efforts.

Join us **Tuesday, March 23 from 6 to 8 p.m. MT** to hear from featured panelists Sonja Chavez from the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District, Heather Knight from the Center for Collaborative Conservation, Wade Shelton from the Trust for Public Lands, and Mike Lester from the Colorado State Forest Service.

Register for this free event [here](#).

Moderated by Dr. Dawn Thilmany, this community conversation will share the successes and challenges of Colorado's programs to protect our natural resources. In short presentations, panelists will talk about how their organizations invest in the water, lands, and forests of the state and will lead a conversation about key trends they believe will guide policy and programs in the Colorado natural resource sector. After the panelists present, the conversation opens to questions and comments from our live audience.

Learn more [here](#).

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## Latinx Equity Before/After COVID

Bobby LeFebre, Colorado Poet Laureate, will perform at our next 'Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity' panel and conversation **Wednesday, March 31 at 7 p.m. MT!** Theresa Trujillo, Director of Community Organizing / Center for Health Progress, will moderate the panel of experts from city government, school board, and chamber of commerce focused on addressing the equity gaps in education, health, and economics for Latinx and Hispanic Coloradans. Featured panelists include Deborah Ortega, Angela Cobián, and Mike Ferrufino.

Register for the event and submit your questions to the panelists [here](#).

**Deborah Ortega** is the Councilwoman At-Large for the Denver City Council. She is passionate about creating sustainable community with economic and housing opportunity for all.

**Angela Cobián** is a community organizer on the Denver Public Schools Board of Education. She continues advocacy for civic and social change as the Director of Coalition Advocacy at Planned Parenthood Federation of America and Action Fund.

**Mike Ferrufino** is President and CEO of the Colorado Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. As a business owner and entrepreneur, he has significant experience developing business strategies and leading strategic partnerships.

Sign up for the event [here!](#)

This series is free and broadcast live on YouTube and Facebook, thanks to our growing list of community partners and sponsors. Our community partners include NAACP Aurora Colorado, History Colorado, Colorado Anti-Defamation League, Aurora Public Library, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce, Colorado Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Pine River Library, Colorado Council of Churches, and Mexican Cultural Center Denver. Our sponsors are Arapahoe Libraries, Tate Law, and GroundFloor Media | CenterTable. Our media sponsors are Rocky Mountain Public Media and The Durango Herald.

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## **Community Conversation about Race and Ethnicity**

We have partnered with Arapahoe Libraries to host an online conversation about race, ethnicity, and our current social climate **Wednesday, April 7 at 6 p.m. MT**. Participants will be invited to share their perspectives in guided, small-group discussions facilitated by Dr.

Elizabeth Parks, dialogue and diversity specialist for the Center for Public Deliberation and assistant professor of communication studies at Colorado State University. Dr. Parks will present topics from her book *The Ethics of Listening: Creating Space for Sustainable Dialogue*.

Learn more and register [here](#).

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Photo courtesy of the Veteran Vision Project

## Veterans Expressive Writing Workshops

Mark your calendars! Our Veterans Expressive Writing Workshops are offered on **Sundays at 3 p.m. MT**. These free, online writing workshops provide a safe place for veterans, their family members, and caregivers to write about their experiences!

Expressive writing provides support for a deeply private journaling process proven to reduce stress. Workshops are led by veterans. Thanks to partners and sponsors the National Endowment for the Humanities and Steamboat Creates, all workshops are free!

Learn more and register [here](#).

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## More News

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### Happy Women's History Month!

California Humanities and other state councils supported the creation of 'UNLADYLIKE2020,' an innovative multimedia series featuring diverse and little-known, trend-setting American heroines from the early years of feminism and the women who follow in their footsteps.

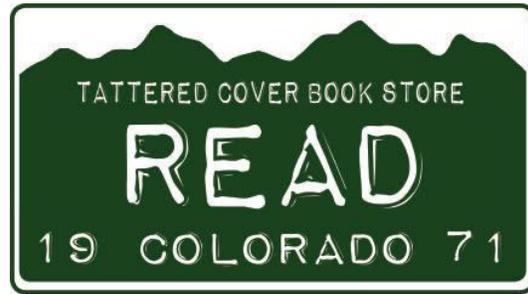
The series presents the biographies of 26 bold American women from the turn of the 20th century who broke barriers in male-dominated fields such as science, medicine, politics, business, journalism, sports, aviation, and the arts.

Watch the documentary shorts [here](#).



### LitFest June 4-13!

Lit Fest is a ten-day celebration of writers and readers, an extravaganza of weeklong and weekend advanced workshops, craft seminars, readings, salons, business panels, agent meetings, and parties. Choose workshops and events à la carte or sign up for one of the festival passes for the full experience. Learn more [here](#).



### Tattered Cover Town Hall

Big changes are afoot at Tattered Cover Book Store! **Wednesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. MST** store owner Kwame Spearman will host a Zoom conversation to unveil the Colorado Author Partnership, a new local author program aimed at promoting uniquely Colorado voices.

Click [here](#) to join the event.



### 2021 Diversity in Children's Literature Symposium

This event, co-hosted by the Library of Congress and We Need Diverse Books, on **March 12 at 11 a.m. MST** will demonstrate how diversity in children's books helps us better understand each other, resulting in a stronger sense of community.

The symposium will be followed by the conferring of the Walter Awards, named for the late Myers, former National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. Award-winning librarian and

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educator Deborah D. Taylor will moderate.

Please forward our news to a friend!

Learn more [here](#).

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## Thank you



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