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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity Conversation on Whites & Racial Justice

(GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO) The next Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity: Conversations for One America program in the series will present a panel addressing the topic of Whites & Racial Justice online Thursday, August 12, 7 p.m. MDT. Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler will facilitate a conversation with journalist and author Helen Thorpe and former Colorado State Senator Michael “Mike” Johnston of Gary Investments. They will explore the topic and respond to questions and comments from online participants.

Dr. Dwinita Mosby Tyler is Chief Catalyst and Founder of the Equity Project, LLC, a consulting firm supporting organizations and communities in building diversity, equity and inclusion strategies and The HR Shop, LLC, a human resources firm designed to support non-profits and small businesses. She is also the former vice president of Children’s Hospital Colorado and former Executive Director of the Office of Human Resources for the City and County of Denver and the first African American woman to hold each of those positions.

Helen Thorpe is a journalist and the author of four books of narrative nonfiction, *Just Like Us*, *Soldier Girls*, *The Newcomers*, and *Finding Motherland*. A former green card holder from Ireland, in her nonfiction she celebrates the lives of people who have moved between countries: immigrants, veterans returning home from foreign conflicts, and refugees seeking resettlement.

Mike Johnston is the President and CEO of Gary Community Investments, which uses non-profit and for-profit investments to transform the lives of low income children in Colorado. Mike was a senior education policy advisor to Barack Obama during the 2008 campaign and transition and served two terms in the Colorado State Senate, 2009-2017, where he passed over 100 bills with bipartisan support.

About Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity

Inspired by summer 2020 events, when several violent acts of racism sparked an awakening in America and the streets were filled with passionate advocates who demanded the end of police brutality and systemic racism, Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity is a conversation series initiated by Colorado Humanities and implemented with partners and sponsors to encourage understanding and discussion about the legacy of race and ethnicity in America and Colorado, and explore how to make changes now for a more just future. The first four programs were also broadcast live and recordings remain available to view on Colorado Humanities and partners' Facebook and YouTube accounts.

To register, discover resources about this topic, view earlier programs like "How to Talk to Children about Race," learn more about our panelists, visit <https://coloradohumanities.org/programs/changing-the-legacy-of-race-ethnicity/>

This series is free 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, Mexican Cultural Center Denver, and Community Organizing at the Center for Health Progress. Our sponsors are Arapahoe Libraries, Tate Law, and GroundFloor Media | CenterTable. Our media sponsors are Rocky Mountain Public Media and The Durango Herald.

Colorado Humanities is the only Colorado organization exclusively dedicated to supporting humanities education for adults and children statewide. Celebrating its 47th year and its 17th year as host for the Colorado Center for the Book, Colorado Humanities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working in partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library of Congress Center for the Book, the Smithsonian Institution, and the national award-winning educational nonprofit Motherhead, Inc. Colorado Humanities works with 100 program partners throughout the state to design and implement programs that best meet each community's needs. Colorado Humanities' goals are to improve education, strengthen cultural institutions, and enrich community life by inspiring the people of Colorado to explore ideas and appreciate our diverse heritage. Learn more at coloradohumanities.org, or call 303.894.7951.

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For more information, panelist headshots, resources, and interviews, please contact Colorado Humanities Director of Programs & Center for the Book Josephine Jones at jones@coloradohumanities.org or 720.489.7188 (cell)