

Five Points is one of Denver's oldest neighborhoods. The heart of Denver's African American community since the early years of the 20th century, Five Points is important to the history and modern-day vitality of the city, and was designated in 2002 as a cultural historic district. "In the face of segregationist policies and the insidious practice of redlining, Denver's Black population created a haven for their culture here," said Mr. Rich Lewis, who is the CEO and founder of the Denver-based technology solutions provider RTL Networks, the nonprofit RTL Foundation, a BIPOC Development Center, and Colorado Black Chamber of Commerce Board Chair. "In the face of constant and ubiquitous persecution, a people managed to not only survive; but to thrive. In spite of systematic oppression, the inhabitants of Five Points created their own businesses and commerce, worshiped and built neighborhoods, fought oppression, attracted some of the world's best entertainers and well-known celebrities, held jazz festivals and functioned as a womb to many of Colorado's finest doctors, lawyers, athletes, thinkers and politicians. For me, I experience a deep sense of awe when I consider what the people of this neighborhood endured and achieved in spite of their extreme circumstances. The story of Five Points Colorado should be an inspiration to all Coloradans (and Americans), that all Coloradans should want to preserve and teach others what happened here," said Lewis.



Black History Live! February 7-15

Actor and scholar Becky Stone will portray Josephine Baker in seven Colorado communities during February 2023. Our Black History Live! program will transport audience members to the early 1900s, a time when all women, and particularly women of color, struggled to find their place in a more modern America. Despite these hardships, Josephine Baker emerged as a comedian, a dancer, and eventually the first black woman to star in a major motion picture in 1927. She traveled and shared her gift for entertainment with the world, but struggled to be truly accepted as equal in the United States, an experience that pushed her to dedicate the later part of her life to combating racism in America. Portrayals of Josephine will be followed with a Q&A with the character, Josephine Baker, and then with Becky Stone the scholar/actor. [Visit our website](#) for tour dates and more information.

CHANGING THE LEGACY OF

RACE & ETHNICITY

CONVERSATIONS FOR ONE AMERICA

Equity, Educators, and Workforce Transformation Online Premiere February 20

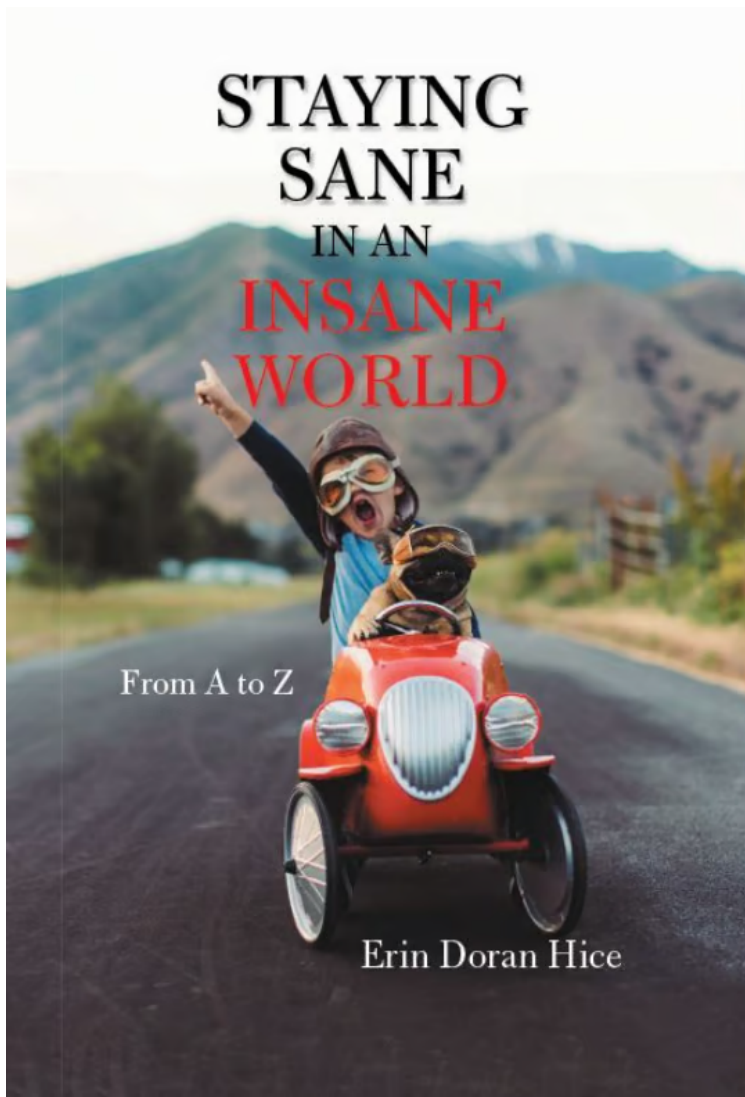
This Changing the Legacy of Race & Ethnicity program offers equity lessons, ways educators creatively respond to challenges, and freedom dreaming. Expert insights and information will be offered by three panelists, University of Northern Colorado Urban Education Director & Elementary Education Coordinator Dr. Rosanne Fulton, educator Tim Hernandez, and Vice President of Leader Development at Denver School of Science and Technology Public Schools Dr. Natalie Lewis. Co-founder and Executive Director of Young Aspiring Americans for Social and Political Activism. Dr. Janiece Mackey will moderate this discussion. The program

will premiere on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) at 6 p.m and be available for viewing anytime after that. [Learn more about the panelists](#) on our website.



***The Five States of Colorado* Premiere April 6**

A new documentary produced by HaveyPro Cinema and Colorado Humanities, *The Five States of Colorado*, will premiere in Denver at the Denver Botanic Gardens' new Freyer Newman Center on April 6, 2023. The documentary will address the history and issues within the five regions, or "states" of Southern Colorado, Western Colorado, the Eastern Plains, the Front Range, and Metropolitan Denver, and is designed to inform, educate, and serve as a basis for community and classroom discussion. Following the Denver premiere, *The Five States of Colorado* will be screened regionally throughout the state and made available as a free, streaming video or download to every public, school, and academic library in Colorado. For tickets to the premiere, [visit our store](#).



Veterans Writing Workshop – Building Skills Through Writing

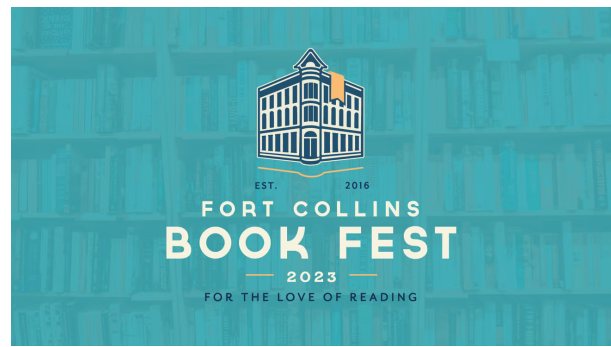
Our Building Skills Through Writing series for current and veteran military personnel and their families offers participants the opportunity to choose from a variety of writing prompts on topics such as authenticity, courage, jobs, resilience, ownership, and purpose. The workshops are designed to help participants hone life skills based on their individual strengths that enhance the communication, creative thinking, and problem solving so critical in our competitive world. Participants highly recommend the workshop for other veterans and their families. For more information, [visit our Veteran's Writing webpage](#).

More News



The Word Painter Performance on February 19

Denver resident Peter Heller is a longtime contributor to NPR, and a former contributing editor at Outside Magazine, Men's Journal, and National Geographic Adventure. Actors Allison Watrous and Tim McCracken will perform stories from Mr. Heller's books with an onstage appearance by Peter himself, reading from his critically-acclaimed novel *The Dog Stars*. There will be a post-show talk-back and discussion. Catch the performance on Sunday, February 19 at 2 p.m. at Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center, 721 Santa Fe Drive, Denver. The online performance will stream beginning February 23 at 7 p.m. and be available for viewing any time thereafter. Ticket holders for the online performance will receive a link prior to the performance. Purchase tickets on the [Stories on Stage website](#).



Fort Collins Book Fest

Four Colorado Book Award finalists and winners will appear in the Poudre River Library District's Fort Collins Book Fest in February. Susan J. Tweit and Karen Comba will discuss *Remembrance & Reflection: The Art of Memoir*, focused on recounting difficult life experiences with honesty and vulnerability, Wayne Miller and Andrew Schelling will explore how to expand our perspectives on the emotional and the natural, and Melissa Payne and Carter Wilson will discuss how they unfold rich narratives while building reader anticipation. For more information about the presenters [visit our Speakers Bureau website](#). Visit the Fort Collins Book Fest [website](#) to view the full schedule.

Humanities Program Pathways Internship

The National Endowment for the Humanities is recruiting up to 24 paid online summer interns to conduct research, assist with outreach and communication,

Veteran Writing Workshop Reading Showcase February 8

Participants of the Veterans Writing Workshop will read their work at a public reading event at Old Town Library on Wednesday, February 8th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The library is providing some light refreshments. Visit [the Poudre River Library District website](#) for more information.

collaborate with staff on K-12 education projects, and more. The job is open for students and is 100% remote. View the listing on [USAJobs](#).

Please forward our news to a friend!

Thank you



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