

I attended my first Chautauqua performance last year in September at the annual History Alive! Colorado West Chautauqua in Grand Junction, Colorado. I was surprised to find that what awaited was something much different and far more entertaining than the Civil War reenactments model I was expecting. I was fortunate to see David Fenimore, who commanded the stage as Woody Guthrie. As a historian I was familiar with Woody, but to watch him portrayed on stage and to be transported back in time was truly impressive. It humanized him; Guthrie was a real person who experienced loss and had to work through numerous health issues, but found his way into history by writing about those experiences and turning them into unforgettable songs. His expertise as he did a Q&A, in character and later out of character, was so incredibly informed. Early this year I had the privilege of watching Becky Stone portray Josephine Baker as part of our Black History Live annual tour, and I was equally impressed with how much I learned about who Josephine was, what she meant to history, and how adept Becky was at answering questions, even obscure ones as a child asked about Josephine's favorite pet. There's something new and different at every Chautauqua performance that reiterates the important role that the humanities play. These performances encourage reflection about the history that we learn, and the value in learning the different vantage points of historical events. The performances I have seen helped me to appreciate the value of the human experience in shaping the world that we live in today.

I hope you'll take the chance to go out and watch the amazing lineup of Chautauqua performances coming up across the state. Be sure to visit our Chautauqua Festivals page for more information. You can also always reach out to me via email if you would like to be added to our list or have any questions.

**Jennifer Macias**  
History Programs Coordinator



### **“Oh the Places We’ve Been” – High Plains Chautauqua**

One of the largest Chautauqua festivals in the nation happens in Greeley, Colorado and this year's theme "Oh the Place We've Been" takes attendees into the world of adventurers, explorers, travelers, actors, singers, entrepreneurs and for the first time, a living astronaut! If you have never seen a Chautauqua performance, this is something you do not want to miss. For each performance, the characters will transport you back in time to learn and relive different historical eras. Afterwards the audience is encouraged to ask the character questions and learn even more about their lives and histories. Be sure to bring your families to Centennial Village on Wednesday, August 2 for family fun and activities. For the evening performances, this is the festival's inaugural year at the Aims Welcome Center. There will be a different food truck on site each night, along with live music and an opening cameo performance from a Young Chautauquan before the main event. Check out [our website](#) for the full line up of events.

# History Live! Chautauqua



## **Brian "Fox" Ellis in History Live Durango**

The Southwest Colorado Humanities Roundtable has **coordinated a month of history, anthropology, and archaeology events in La Plata County** this September that will include two Chautauqua presentations in Durango by national scholar Brian "Fox" Ellis. The first performance is "Adventures with John James Audubon" on Thursday, September 28, 7-8 p.m. at Fort Lewis College and the second is "Charles Darwin and His Revolutionary Idea" on Friday, September 29, 7-8 p.m. at The Powerhouse museum. We also invite you to "Birding with Audubon" on Thursday, September 28, 9-10 a.m. where you can join Ellis as John James Audubon on a unique bird watching adventure as he regales listeners with his in-depth observations of the species along the trail. This event will be held at Oxbow Park and Preserve in Durango.

## **Announcing New Board Members**

Governor Jared Polis has appointed Elizabeth Etter, Director of Communications for the College of Liberal Arts at Colorado State University, and re-appointed Juliana Fajardo, marketing and development professional, Denver to the Colorado Humanities Board of Directors. Newly-elected board members include Deputy State Public Defender Alex Egri of La Junta and San Luis Valley public historian Katherine B. Faz Garcia.

Re-elected by the board are Reel Positive owner Hugo Cordova and Steamboat Creates Executive Director Kim Keith. Join us in welcoming our new and continuing board members!

## More News

### **The Winter's Tale – Colorado Shakespeare Festival**

When King Leontes inexplicably accuses his pregnant wife of infidelity he makes a cruel, rash decision that he must spend two decades atoning for.

Shakespeare's nuanced epic explores both the heartrending corrosion of jealousy and the joyous redemption of forgiveness that is hard-won. Borrowing elements from fantasy and mythology, "The Winter's Tale" weaves an audacious tapestry you have to experience to believe. Since 1958, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival has delighted audiences with professional theater on the CU Boulder campus. Tickets can be purchased at [CU Presents](#).

### **Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining District Bus Tour**

In 1890 and 1891, prospectors discovered the rich gold ore that touched off the legendary Cripple



### **Anna Tsouhlarakis Exhibition: Indigenous Absurdities**

*Anna Tsouhlarakis: Indigenous Absurdities* is an exhibition of new work by Boulder-based artist, Anna Tsouhlarakis. Centering Indigenous knowledge systems and ways of teaching as starting points, Tsouhlarakis' work reframes the discourse around the construction of Native American identity. Sourcing research from friends, family, and a broad network of Native communities across the U.S., Tsouhlarakis collects Indigenous jokes and stories and deconstructs them only to reassemble them as abstract drawings, video, and sculptures that highlight newfound complexities and understanding of



Creek & Victor Gold Rush. The ranching country on Pikes Peak's western slopes was quickly transformed as prospectors flocked to the area to seek their fortunes in gold. Gold Camp Adventure Tours are guided trips through time where you'll learn about the history of the gold rush. The tours include gold rush history, mining then and now, and more. The tours are a new partnership between the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum and Cripple Creek Parks & Recreation. To book a tour and for more information, visit the [Victor Museum website](#).

Native American identity and expression. Through video, performance, sculpture, photography, and installation, Tsouhlarakis challenges and expands the boundaries of aesthetic and conceptual expectations for Native artmaking to reclaim and rewrite their definitions. More information is at [MCA Denver](#).

Please forward our news to a friend!

## Thank you



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES



**BUELL  
FOUNDATION**  
*Investing in Colorado's Future*



Weld Community  
Foundation

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
**CENTER FOR THE BOOK**



**THE  
COLORADO  
SUN**

**THE Durango HERALD**



University of Colorado  
Foundation

**Unite *for* Literacy**



**ARAPAHOE  
LIBRARIES**



**DENVER WATER**



**COLORADO**  
Colorado Water  
Conservation Board  
Department of Natural Resources



*Copyright © 2022, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**  
7935 E. Prentice Ave., Ste. 450  
Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111

To unsubscribe from [ALL](#) Colorado Humanities communications, click the link below.

Sent to: [betsy@coloradohumanities.org](mailto:betsy@coloradohumanities.org)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Colorado Humanities, 7935 E. Prentice Ave, Ste. 450, Greenwood Village, CO 80111, United States