



Embracing Heritage: Celebrating Black History Month

Colorado Humanities <info@coloradohumanities.org>

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Colorado Humanities Newsletter

February 15, 2024

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), founded on September 9, 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, aims to share and celebrate black history and culture with the world. Dr. Woodson's vision sparked a movement that encouraged Black civic organizations to champion the remarkable achievements uncovered by researchers. This momentum culminated in the establishment of a week dedicated to honoring their invaluable contributions to literature and history, evolving into the celebration we now know as Black History Month.

Each year has a theme and this year it is African Americans and the Arts.

Black contributions to the arts are a wellspring of creativity and innovation across various mediums, from music to literature, visual arts, and beyond. From the groundbreaking jazz compositions of Duke Ellington to the profound poetry of Maya Angelou and the vibrant paintings of Jean-Michel Basquiat, Black artists have continually pushed boundaries, challenged conventions, and enriched global culture with their unique perspectives and talents. Check out the following book lists curated by libraries and The National Education Association.

The Chicago Public Library has a list that focuses on the contributions of Black artists, poets, musicians, and entrepreneurs.

Arapahoe Library District has a new and upcoming list of Black Authors for 2023 and 2024.

Reading Rockets has a beautiful website full of book lists for children along with interviews with authors, poets, and artists.

To learn more about the annual themes and the history of Black History Month, visit the [Association for the Study of African American Life and History website](#).



ROSA PARKS

COLORADO HUMANITIES PRESENTS

FEB

**BLACK
HISTORY
LIVE**

2024

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Black History Live

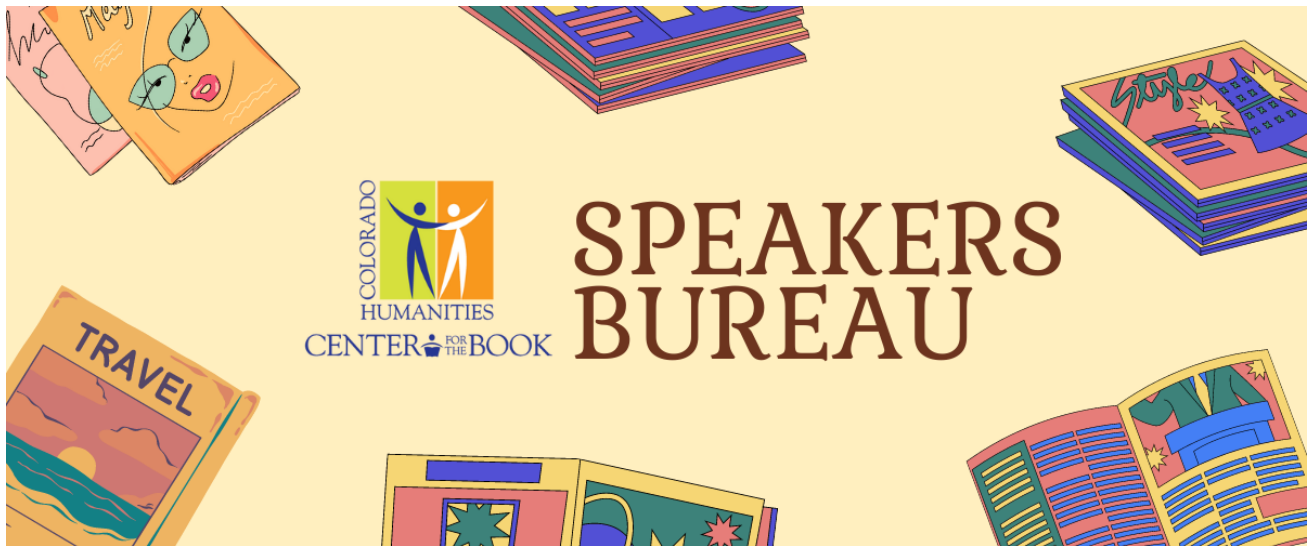
Colorado Humanities' Black History Live program annually honors the struggles, triumphs, and contributions of pivotal African American visionaries and trailblazers who have shaped Black heritage and American history. 14 free events in February are featuring Chautauqua presentations of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr. Please visit [Black History Live](#) to view the full tour schedule.

COLORADO HUMANITIES
presents

The Five States of COLORADO

The Five States of Colorado Screenings

Our free screenings of *The Five States of Colorado* continue in Yampa at South Routt Elementary School on February 24 and in Sterling at the Northeastern Junior College Theater on February 27. A full schedule of screenings is available on our [Five States of Colorado](#) page.



Environmental and Economic Development Discussion

Join us on March 14th for an enlightening presentation by John Giordanengo, a national speaker and 2023 Colorado Book Awards General Nonfiction finalist, at Memorial Hall in Manitou Springs at 6 p.m. Discover how the symbiotic relationship

between our environment and economic development can lead to a more sustainable future. This event is sponsored by the [Manitou Pollinators](#), [City of Manitou Springs](#), [Wild Connections](#), the [Fountain Creek Watershed District](#), and the [Butterfly Pavilion](#).



Museum on Main Street in La Junta

Museum on Main Street's *Crossroads: Change in Rural America* is now open in La Junta at Otero College through March 2. This traveling Smithsonian exhibit draws on the history and culture of rural America to provoke fresh thinking and spark conversations about the future and sustainability of rural communities. A full list of events is available to view on our [website](#).

Colorado Humanities board and staff mourn the passing of two long-time humanities program presenters and partners.



Jim Havey, founder of HaveyPro Cinema

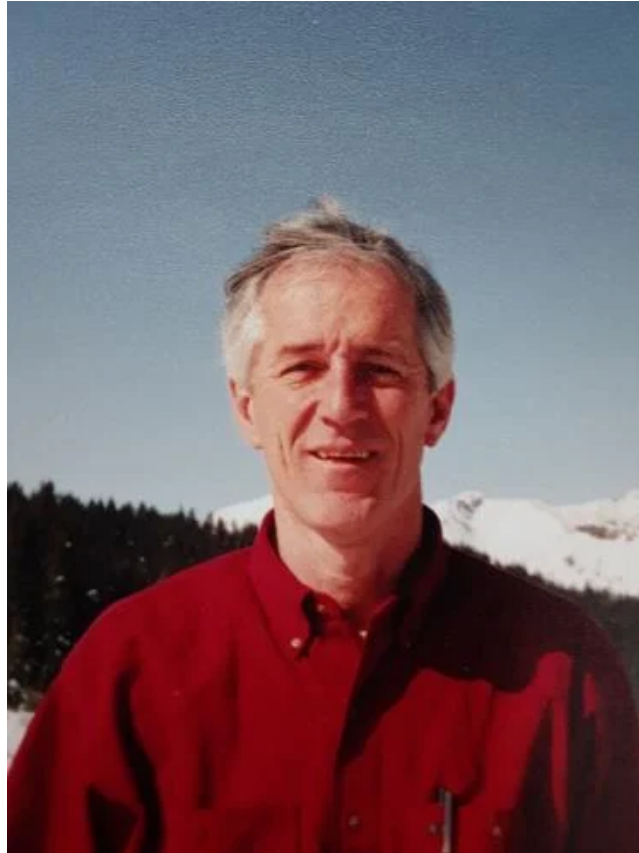
Jim was an award-winning photographer and film producer. Colorado Humanities staff met Jim in 1983 when we moved our offices to [1836 Blake St.](#) in lower downtown Denver. He was our office neighbor. First in hallway conversations, then over coffee, we learned about each other's work, and eventually decided to collaborate on our first film, a short documentary titled *The Five States of Colorado*.

Like us, Jim was intrigued by the idea of characterizing regions within the state and finding out what people had to say about where they live. It seemed like he enjoyed collecting stories as much as capturing images. That led to a partnership of many years resulting in five more films about Colorado's people and places, including *Denver Union Station* and *The Great Divide*. Our last film project partnership was the remake of *The Five States of Colorado* into a feature length film. It premiered in Denver in 2023 and is now being shown in communities across the state.

If you were to visit the Colorado Humanities offices, you would find Jim's imprint in almost every room. There are his film DVDs and awards, and his photos on greeting cards, flyers and posters. His influence on Colorado Humanities' success is

significant. He left a rich legacy that will continue to help Coloradans understand our state and the people in it.

<https://haveypro.com/jim-havey/>



Richard Marold, Chautauqua presenter, editor of *Cheyenne Mountain Kiva*

Richard was a Renaissance man, having pursued numerous occupations including calligrapher, umpire, clergyman, hospital administrator, and writer. He served as the director of the Cheyenne Mountain Heritage Center and was the editor of their journal, *Kiva*. What defined him, however, was his life as an educator.

Richard loved history and continually sought ways to share historical narratives with people. He developed the first-person portrayal of Winfield Scott Stratton in the 1990s, and from then until 2020, served on Colorado Humanities history speakers bureaus, adding portrayals of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Nicola Tesla. He performed at Colorado Humanities' Chautauqua events in Colorado Springs, Greeley, and Grand Junction. He was able to step into the shoes of people from other times and encouraged others to do the same. One of Richard's greatest contributions to Colorado was his role as a coach for students in our Young Chautauqua program, a


history research, writing, and public speaking workshop series. His work with students enlivened their interest in history and encouraged their confidence and skill as young scholars and public speakers.

"Richard Marold was a very kind gentleman. As a program coordinator for Colorado Humanities, I had the privilege of working with him many times, especially in our Young Chautauqua program. The students called him 'chill guy.' Indeed, his approach was calm and direct and never critical. They respected him. He loved having the opportunity to make a difference with young people, to calm their nerves and to help them deliver their story with confidence. I will miss Richard Marold. The world will miss Richard Marold." —Betty Jo Brenner, former Colorado Humanities History Programs Coordinator

More News

Wolverine Farm Public House

Poetry Reading
w/ **Kylan Rice**
&
Katherine Indermaur



Kylan Rice
is the author of *An Image Not a Book* (Parlor Press / Free Verse Editions, 2023) and *Incryptions* (Spuyten Duyvil, 2021). He is the associate editor of the *Missouri Review*.



Katherine Indermaur
is the author of *III* (Seneca Review Books, 2022), which was selected as the winner of the 2022 Deborah Tall Lyric Essay Book Prize by Kazim Ali and as the winner of the 2023 Colorado Book Award

February 17
7:00 PM

Poetry Reading with **Katherine Indermaur**

2023 Colorado Book Awards Poetry

Mark Lee Gardner Honored with Literary Award

On February 10, the Friends of the Pikes Peak Library District announced Colorado Book Award winner Mark Lee Gardner as the recipient of the Frank Waters Award for Literary Excellence, an award given to those who demonstrate writing excellence and produce work that reflects the people, places, culture, and spirit of the West. Mark will be honored at the Friends annual awards luncheon on June 1 at the DoubleTree Hotel. Details to come at www.friendsofppld.org. Congratulations, Mark!

winner Katherine Indermaur, author of *III*, will hold a poetry reading with Kylan Rice, author of *An Image Not a Book*, on February 17 at Wolverine Farm Publick House in Fort Collins at 2 p.m. For more information, visit the [Wolverine Farm website](#).

“Lighthouse Presents: A Colorado Collection”

Stories on Stage and Lighthouse Writers present "Lighthouse Presents: A Colorado Collection" on Sunday, February 18 at 2 p.m. at Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center. Stories by Colorado authors William Henry Lewis, Amanda Rea, and Nick Arvin will be performed by Lavour Addison, Kate Gleason, and Marco Robinson. Meet the actors and authors for a milk and cookies reception after the show. Tickets are available at [Stories on Stage](#).

Please contribute!

We hope you are inspired to donate to our work. The interest and insight you express by your support are important, and your contribution is an investment in Colorado.

Thank you to our sponsors

Colorado Books Receive 2024 Youth Media Awards

Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros received the Alex Award and *Rez Ball* by Byron Graves received the William C. Morris Award and American Indian Youth Literature Award from the American Library Association (ALA). Each year ALA honors books, videos, and other outstanding materials for children and teens. Recognized worldwide for the high quality they represent, the ALA Youth Media Awards, including the prestigious Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, and Coretta Scott King Book Awards, guide parents, educators, librarians, and others in selecting the best materials for youth. To learn more about the awards and the winners, visit the [American Library Association website](#).



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