

# HISTORIC DENVER NEWS

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Mindy Thompson Fullilove addresses a plenary session at the PastForward conference in Denver, Oct. 12, 2019. Photo: David Keith

## PASTFORWARD: THE FUTURE OF PRESERVATION

Annie Levinsky, Executive Director

Telling the full American story, identifying equitable and inclusive community development strategies, and recognizing our personal and collective connections to place were the dominant themes at this year’s PastForward preservation conference, hosted in Denver Oct. 10-12. These themes resonated with the Historic Denver staff, board members and volunteers at the conference, as we saw our local challenges reflected in the national dialogue.

Denver’s preservation story loomed large at the conference, as Barb Pahl, VP of Field Services for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, moderated a panel with preservationist Dana Crawford and former mayors Frederico Pena and Wellington Webb at the opening plenary. They described the vision and work it took to achieve Denver’s greatest preservation successes, including Larimer Square, the Lower Downtown Historic District, the innovative Downtown Historic District, and neighborhood districts and individual landmarks across our city that would not remain without their commitment.

Dana Crawford infused the discussion with her usual humor, noting how her peers, investors and bankers thought she was crazy to believe in historic places in the 1960s, and how 50 years later she is still advocating for the power of historic places to support vibrant and healthy communities, from the ongoing protection of Larimer Square to her work in Trinidad, Colo.

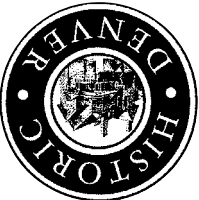
Mayor Pena, who went on to serve in President Bill Clinton’s Cabinet as Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Energy, talked about the importance of having a vision for the future, and the need to take the long view, even though in the midst of a process there may be disagreement and strife. He described asking property owners in LoDo to buy into a different vision for the neighborhood, one that rejected the demolitions of urban renewal in favor of preservation and adaptive reuse — a vision that was not popular at the time among property owners, but which transformed downtown Denver by attracting new investment, housing, and people-centered places. He noted, “At the end of the day, if you are a civic leader, you have to think about the broader city: What is best for the community?”

Mayor Webb added that “historic preservation is part of the soul of the city. It’s like appreciating the tranquility of a Monet, the vocal range of Whitney Houston, the clarity of Ella Fitzgerald. It’s what makes cities unique and different.” In order to continue the hard work, and to focus on the long-term, he reminded preservationists to “fly like geese,” so that when the lead bird gets tired, others come to the front. This was a particularly poignant reminder, as Crawford, Pena and Webb each built on the successes of the others, learned from the mistakes of the past, and built a foundation that sustains preservation action in Denver to this day. However, it was also a clarion call; the current generation of preservationists, civic leaders, advocates, and community members must

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Dr. Justina Ford, known as the “Baby Doctor,” delivered 7,000 babies in her 50-year career.  
Photo: Denver Public Library

## BLACK AMERICAN WEST MUSEUM IN THE RUNNING FOR \$150,000

As of press time, we are waiting on pins and needles for the results of the Vote Your Main Street competition, which could win a preservation grant for the Dr. Justina Ford house in Five Points!

Now the home of the Black American West Museum & Heritage Center, the building is in the running for \$150,000 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which would fund greatly needed restoration of its historic windows and masonry.

Historic Denver helped save the house from demolition in 1983, and fronted the cost of moving it from 2335 Arapahoe St. to its current location at 3091 California St.

We have partnered with the museum for the past five weeks to encourage the public to vote for the home, as the contest is determined by popular vote. Repairs to the building will ensure the museum can remain a place of learning and a symbol of the Black experience in the West.




Winners will be announced on Oct. 30; check our website and social media channels for what we hope will be great news! 🌟



Historic Denver is partnering with the Black American West Museum & Heritage Center in Five Points to win a \$150,000 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to fund masonry and window repairs.  
Photo: Scott Dressel-Martin

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PASTFORWARD: THE FUTURE OF PRESERVATION, CONT.

take a turn as the lead bird if we are going to “make historic preservation important in this country,” as Webb suggested.

Dominant throughout the conference was the push to ensure that the work of preservation, and the historic places in our communities, reflect the full breadth of the American story, including the story of women, African Americans, Latinos, indigenous peoples, immigrant populations, and the LGBTQ+ community, which have often been under-recognized or marginalized from mainstream history books or historic preservation efforts. During a plenary session on saving urban neighborhoods, Mindy Thompson Fullilove, professor of Urban Policy and Health at the New School for Public Engagement, talked about her groundbreaking book, "Root Shock," which documented the urban devastation created by urban renewal policies in the 1950s and 1960s, the disproportional impact of these policies on communities of color, and the need to acknowledge the trauma in order to heal neighborhoods and address the ongoing effects of loss and displacement.

She reminded the preservation community about the power of anniversaries and commemoration, as this year marks the 400th anniversary of the introduction of slavery in Jamestown, connecting that event and that story with the challenges of today's cities. She highlighted the power of people learning "what really happened" with precision, as historians seek to do, because understanding how we got here, and the interconnections between historical moments, can restore our neighborhoods and heal the divisions that American cities still experience. "If you want to save urban neighborhoods, it's all about restoration," she noted, and it was clear she meant restoration in broad terms, not only as the act of repairing old buildings.

Fullilove's words in particular provide a larger context for the debate and challenges we face in Denver today, as older neighborhoods grapple with displacement, rising property taxes impact small businesses, and high housing costs affect so many. These are forces that can break apart the physical places we love, but also the intangible qualities of place, the social connections, neighborhood habits and traditions, and sense of shared identity that have nurtured residents for decades. The PastForward conference challenged those of us working in this arena to think holistically about the city, about preservation, and about place, and to listen to community members from diverse backgrounds and build partnerships. Historic places, urban neighborhoods and the sites of our daily lives are deeply personal but also part of our shared consciousness, our shared sense of our city, and the neighborhoods where we live.

The last time the National Trust Conference came to Denver was 2003. LoDo and the Downtown Historic District were still fresh victories, numerous neighborhoods were forming local historic districts with great success, and Blueprint Denver, the land use and transportation plan that guided growth in the city until earlier this year, was still in draft form. Union Station had not been transformed, and a residential enclave in the Central Platte Valley was still just a long-term vision. Sixteen years brought marked changes to Denver, and to many other cities across the U.S. These years have also brought changes to the preservation movement, as was evident in the content and themes of this year's program. What remains clear is that our history is inextricably tied to our future, historic places matter to people of all backgrounds, and they are part of our DNA as a city. As Mayor Webb and Mayor Pena eloquently charged, we cannot afford to get tired, we cannot afford to get discouraged, and we must take the long-view: The work of saving places is vital to livable, equitable, and healthy cities.

## Historic Denver Wins Preservation Award at PastForward Conference

On Oct. 11, during the PastForward Conference, Historic Denver was proud to accept the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Trustees' Award for Organizational Excellence, which recognizes a nonprofit that has "demonstrated sustained and superlative achievement in historic preservation." The National Trust called Historic Denver "the go-to resource for the community and elected officials seeking to solve preservation challenges," citing past successes such as the creation of the Lower Downtown Historic District and Downtown Historic District, as well as our recent work to protect Larimer Square, significant buildings on the Loretto Heights campus, and the home of Colorado's first licensed African American architect, John Henderson. 🌸



Denver preservationist Dana Crawford said people thought she was crazy to believe in historic places during her tireless work in the 1960s, which saved jewels such as Larimer Square and LoDo.



Mayor Wellington Webb said preservationists must keep a long-term vision and “fly like geese” — when the lead bird gets tired, others must come to the front.



Historic Denver Executive Director Annie Levinsky accepts the Trustees' Award for Organizational Excellence. (l to r) Paul Edmondson, president and CEO of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Levinsky; Steve Turner, executive director and Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer for History Colorado; and Tim Whalen, chairman of the National Trust's Board of Trustees.



# PRESERVATION BRIEFS

## Proposed Repairs to the 16th Street Mall Fall Short of Preservation



Aerial view of granite pavers in diamondback snake pattern on the 16th Street Mall. Photo: Shannon Schaefer Stage

Opened in 1982, the 16th Street Mall is now among the most iconic places in Denver, both as a tourist attraction and valuable civic space. Designed by master architect I.M. Pei, the Mall has been described by the Urban Land Institute as “public art of the highest international quality,” due to its poly-chromatic granite pavers, wide sidewalks, and central tree-lined corridor flanked by iconic lighting fixtures.

However, its popularity has produced significant wear and tear to the corridor through the years, necessitating repairs. Beginning in 2017, two years of federal Section 106 meetings and workshops were conducted to identify all opportunities to honor the Mall’s design integrity while repairing and improving its infrastructure. Historic Denver participated in this process as a consulting party, a role we have taken very seriously because the Mall’s design caliber makes it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Unfortunately, the plan includes significant departure from the original design — particularly, shifting of the current alignment, which eliminates the medians and changes the location of the unique globe lights and all the trees, which will be removed and replaced with younger specimens. All the existing granite will also be removed, but due to our advocacy new granite will be installed in a pattern that closely matches the diamondback snake, Navajo rug-inspired pattern that exists today.

We have submitted a letter to the Federal Transit Administration, Region 8, expressing our deep concerns about the proposed changes, which will result in the Mall losing its eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places and its status as the design of I.M. Pei, Henry Cobb and Laurie Olin, masters in their fields. That said, we have agreed to sign on as a concurring party to the Programmatic Agreement that concludes the Section 106 process, so that we can continue to participate in the design review processes to ensure that the design-based mitigation, including the granite pavers, are implemented as sensitively as possible. To see the full text of our letter to the FTA, please visit the Current Issues section of our website.

## Loretto Heights Area Plan Approved by City Council



Chapel attached to the iconic Administration Building on the Loretto Heights campus. Photo: Historic Denver archives

The Loretto Heights Small Area Plan, the city of Denver’s community-driven public vision for the 72-acre campus, was approved by City Council on Sept. 16. Historic Denver served on a 17-member steering committee to help guide the plan before it was put to public review and comment. The plan includes a number of preservation-based recommendations, and Historic Denver supported its adoption knowing that this was a critical first step in a long-term process that will result in further details and decisions about the historic structures and landscape elements on the former campus.

We are also actively working with the property owner on easement agreements that will protect the main Administration Building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the attached Chapel, and Pancratia Hall, which will be converted into affordable housing. Preservation easements provide protection from demolition and a mechanism for design review of exterior alterations. Historic Denver already holds more

than 60 preservation easements of this nature, and the tool is useful in this instance because it can be implemented in the near-term while decisions about future landmark designations or districts are still being contemplated. We believe the campus presents a unique opportunity to build on a legacy stretching back over 120 years, with several historically and architecturally significant structures. In addition to those mentioned above, other notable buildings include the May Bonfils Stanton Theater, the library, and Machebeuf Dining Hall.

## City Council Approves Landmark Ordinance Improvements



La Alma Lincoln Park with its powerful Chicano murals is an example of a culturally significant place. “La Alma” by Emanuel Martinez, on the La Alma Recreation Center. Photo: Lyn Berry-Helminger

In a Sept. 30 meeting, Denver City Council unanimously approved updates to the city’s landmark preservation ordinance, also known as Chapter 30 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The updates, which will greatly improve the process with more inclusion and creative problem-solving, include:

- Shifting the way time is spent during a demolition review process to focus more on collaborative solutions, rather than requiring a push for designation right at the beginning — which creates a “pressure cooker” environment.
- Adjustments to the designation criteria to be more inclusive of culturally significant resources so that our landmarks and historic districts reflect the full range of Denver’s heritage.

Historic Denver sat on the city-convened, year-long task force that included preservationists, property owners, developers, real estate professionals, and neighborhood residents. The task force had hearty and robust conversations aimed at achieving three goals: outline a better process for rare contentious designations that arise from the demolition review process (such as the Tom’s Diner situation), increase the tools and incentives necessary to proactively encourage designation, and seek opportunities to foster greater diversity among landmarks and historic districts.

We are excited to start working on these ideas — particularly the concept of a cultural district. Historic Denver has been collaborating with a group from La Alma Lincoln Park to develop this idea further, and determine whether it could serve to honor and protect the essential qualities and traditions of the neighborhood. Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for updates on our progress. 🌱

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## HISTORIC DENVER AND THE MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### WHAT A YEAR IT'S BEEN!

By Sigri Strand, Development Manager

Historic Denver has enjoyed a great year of support and exploration with our members and the community! In January, we hosted an intimate member-only event at the Molly Brown House Museum with the director and curator of the Museum of Miniatures, Dolls, and Toys, while their pop-up toy exhibit was on display at our Museum. Leading up to our annual Photo Contest this spring, we heard from professional architectural photographers Linda Jaquez and Rebecca Heath, who shared their expertise about the best ways to photograph a building. We hosted a partner event with the Lower Downtown Neighborhood Association that focused on proposed changes to the Landmark Preservation ordinance and the beginning of the Lodo Historic District. We've also led several interesting Re(garding): Denver forums this year, where we've explored critical topics at the forefront of preservation and city planning. And as we head into the holiday season, we'll be hosting a Tiny Museum Concert at the Molly Brown House Museum in December!

Don't miss your chance to support Historic Denver in 2020 — we'll keep the dialogue around preservation moving forward, and have a lot of fun doing it! Become a member today for exclusive invitations to all of our member events. ✨

### TINY MUSEUM CONCERT AT THE MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM

**Dec. 12 | 7-9 p.m.**  
**\$15 members, \$20 non-members**

The real Margaret Brown loved music and enjoyed performing. She sang, she acted, she played zither and guitar, and she yodeled! Spend a lively evening in her home, as John Hammer and Friends fills the Museum with music.



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### RE(GARDING DENVER): REIMAGINING HOSPITALITY Tues., Nov. 19

7-8:30 p.m. | Carla Madison Recreation Center, 2401 E. Colfax Ave.

Join us to explore the creative potential of an under-recognized resource, roadside motels and hotels. We'll look at projects that take advantage of existing density and breathe new life into buildings and neighborhoods grappling with disinvestment and development pressure. Examples include former motels and hotels reimagined as appealing spaces that accommodate affordable housing, as well as market rate units. Our panelists include experts who led projects at the First Avenue Hotel and Circa West.

First Avenue Hotel  
in Denver  
Photo: Sigri Strand.



### VICTORIAN HORRORS

Historic Denver members enjoyed a special sneak peek Victorian Horrors performance on Oct. 12! To honor Margaret Brown's Irish heritage, this year's sold-out run featured authors such as Oscar Wilde, Dora Sigerson Shorter and, of course, Edgar Allan Poe. Special thanks to The Learned Lemur and Atomic Folk Art for lending their creepy oddities for our decor!



Photos: Scott Dressel-Martin



2019

49TH ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS PROGRAM

BROWN PALACE HOTEL AND SPA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30TH

The 49th Historic Denver Annual Dinner and Awards Program will take place at the Brown Palace Hotel and Spa on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019. Dr. Thomas J. Noel “Dr. Colorado” will be honored with the Keystone Award for lifetime achievement in historic preservation; Councilwoman Deborah “Debbie” Ortega will be honored with the Molly Brown Award, created to honor a woman who demonstrates Margaret Brown’s commitment to community; and Sid Wilson will receive the Ann Love Award, which honors those who embody the spirit of one of Historic Denver’s founders, Colorado First Lady Ann Love. Community Preservation Awards will be given to The Quayle — 1st Avenue Hotel, The Savageau Building, Tammen Hall and The Essex. In its fourth year, the Remix Award, for a project that successfully blends a historic building with a new development, goes to the Dairy Block for the thoughtful preservation and reuse of the Windsor Dairy buildings. ❁



KEYSTONE AWARD

*This Historic Denver Award was created to honor people who have made significant contributions over their lifetime to historic preservation in Denver.*

Tom Noel

Also known as “Dr. Colorado,” Tom Noel is the go-to expert on our state’s history. Named state historian by History Colorado last year, Tom is a history professor at the University of Colorado — Denver, where he also serves as associate chair of the History Department, and co-director of the Public History Program. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Colorado — Boulder. His areas of expertise include art, architecture, cemeteries, churches, ethnic groups, parks, planning, and saloons.

Tom, who has been known to sport a wooden bow tie, possesses a delightful knack for bringing the past alive, and has authored or co-authored more than 50 books, including the recently published “Denver Landmarks & Historic Districts.” He has taught history and preservation courses at the University of Colorado — Denver since 1978. He earned his nickname long ago as a grad student, when he was invited to appear as “Dr. Colorado” to answer questions about our city and state in a booth at a large convention. For the appearance, he wore a lab coat with the title emblazoned on it, and the name stuck.

Tom has been a strong advocate for historic preservation throughout his career, serving on the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission. His enthusiasm for history and engaging ways of connecting with the public have been instrumental in strengthening our community’s love for history and historic places.

ANN LOVE AWARD

*The Ann Love Award was established in 1997 to honor individuals who may not consider themselves traditional preservationists but have shown initiative, creativity, and commitment in preserving the history, culture and architecture of Denver. The award is named for Colorado First Lady, Ann Love, a founder of Historic Denver.*

Sid Wilson, President and CEO of A Private Guide Inc.

A former telecommunications operations manager, Sid Wilson followed his heart and entered the tourism business in 1992 when he opened A Private Guide. Now considered a fixture in the tourism industry, Sid’s company offers group tours, events and transportation in Denver and other locales in Colorado. He was inducted into the Denver & Colorado Tourism Hall of Fame in 2013. He began his business by bringing bus groups from Denver to Clear Creek Canyon for gambling, with the added benefit of tour guides who relayed the history of the canyon and the Gold Rush during the ride. Now, A Private Guide offers 150 different itineraries. His business

includes heritage and cultural tourism, such as tours of the historic Lincoln Hills resort — the only vacation resort west of the Mississippi that catered to African-Americans when it opened in 1922. One of the original founding members of the (James P.) Beckwourth Mountain Club, Sid serves on multiple boards in the Denver area, including Visit Denver, Denver Public Library, Denver Zoo, and Aurora Plains Conservancy. He is a past board member of Historic Denver, the Black American West Museum, the African American Advisory Council for History Colorado, and the Historic Preservation State Review Board. Sid puts his heart and a big smile into his business. “There’s no greater art for a human being to participate in than the art of giving service,” he told Visit Denver. “If you understand how to get along with people, how to listen, how to serve — you understand everything.”

MOLLY BROWN AWARD

*The Molly Brown Award was created to honor women who live in Margaret “Molly” Brown’s spirit today by devoting many years to civic life in all its forms, actively engaging themselves in politics, philanthropy, arts and cultural endeavors and historic preservation.*

Councilwoman Deborah Ortega

At-large Denver City Council Representative Deborah “Debbie” Ortega knows a thing or two about historic preservation after more than three decades in public service. During her first term on City Council in the 1980s, she was a part of the effort to create the Lower Downtown Historic District, and she worked with National Image to acquire and preserve a city building, a former courthouse at Colfax & Kalamath, for a Hispanic Heritage Center.

Councilwoman Ortega moved to Denver from New Mexico with her mom and siblings when she was 13, and later graduated from West High School.

Councilwoman Ortega was elected to a second stint on City Council as one of two at-large representatives in 2011, and re-elected in 2015 and 2019. She is Board President of Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corporation, and she believes development should be tempered by attention to gentrification and infrastructure concerns, open space, affordable housing and utilities. She believes historic preservation in Denver can be strengthened by overlay districts, historic designations and an overall commitment to preserving the quality and character of buildings and unique historical sections of Denver neighborhoods. She would like to see more partnerships with non-profit developers who can secure housing tax credits and help identify more creative housing types that offer varying price points that can actually benefit the entire city.



COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARDS

The Community Preservation Awards are given annually to a handful of projects, institutions and individuals that have made an exceptional contribution to the preservation of Denver’s heritage. These projects exemplify high quality restoration, the careful consideration of the city’s historic fabric and a commitment to community. The winners of these awards are essential to Historic Denver’s mission and the organization takes great pride in recognizing those who assist us in enhancing Denver’s built environment.

TAMMEN HALL — 1056 E. 19TH AVE.



This project is a testament to what preservation can do for our community, and a great example of the reauthorized Colorado State Historic Tax Credit in action. Designated as a local landmark when Children’s Hospital moved nearly 15 years ago, Tammen Hall is a 1930s art-deco building near 19th & Ogden with buff-colored bricks and tall, tile-lined Roman arches. Designed by local architecture firm Hoyt and Hoyt, it has many art-deco flourishes, including metal-framed, glass entry doors set behind geometric metal grills, and decorative floral roundels. The building stood vacant for many years before MGL Partners/Solvera Advisors acquired it through a long-term lease with SCL Health/St. Joseph’s Hospital in 2017. With the help of design-build partner The Neenan Company, the developers used a combination of public and private resources — including the state preservation tax credit and affordable housing tax credits — to make the building’s adaptive reuse possible, including 49 low-income housing units for seniors. This affordable housing is a game changer for the neighborhood because it prevents displacement of its senior population. With transit options nearby, seniors can “age in place” in a neighborhood rich in historic places with ties to generations of Denverites.

THE QUAYLE (FIRST AVENUE HOTEL) — 49 W. 1ST AVE.



The First Avenue Hotel at 1st & Broadway is another example of the hidden potential of a vacant and derelict building to help meet community needs. First Avenue Hotel, a former Single-Room Occupancy Hotel, closed in the 1960s in the Baker neighborhood, but has now been rehabilitated and will provide both renovated commercial space and more than 100 affordable apartments as The Quayle. Zocalo Community Development used state and federal tax credits, including historic preservation credits — as well as city subsidies from entities such as the Denver Urban Renewal Authority — to complete the project. The project includes more than 100 studio and one-bedroom apartments in the historic core of the building and in a new addition on previously vacant land behind the building. David Zucker, CEO of Zocalo, said the tax credits make this kind of complex real estate development possible. “There’s nothing more complicated than the mixed-use, affordable, adaptive re-use and partial new construction of the historic single-room occupancy hotel,” he said. “Without [tax credits], the affordable project simply wouldn’t have happened and the building would have gone market-rate.” Only tenants who make 60 percent or less of Denver’s median income (about \$38,000) can apply. Completed in 1907, the hotel was designed by English-born architect William Quayle and his apprentice sons, Charles and Edward. The four-story First Avenue Hotel is a good example of a finely-detailed Italian Renaissance palazzo, with pale yellow bricks and elaborate cornices on its Broadway-facing side, as well as a surviving “ghost sign” on the building’s red-bricked, northern facade. The interior still features its original “oak, double-door Broadway entry vestibule, and small octagonal-tile floor and geometric floral patterns,” according to the building’s historic designation.

SAVAGEAU BUILDING — 2260 E. COLFAX AVE.



The eye-catching Denver landmark with its Moorish details in the Wyman Historic District was designed by Harry Edbrooke, who designed the Bluebird and Ogden theaters. Located at Colfax and York, it features brightly colored glazed tiles, cusp arches and tiled roofs, and has been a drug store, a grocery store and a gallery. Completed in 1930, the Savageau Building is now home to a diverse group of entrepreneurs including Hot Mamas Exercise and Smith+Canon Ice Cream Co. St. Charles Town Company purchased the building in 2017 and spent \$1 million on interior and exterior improvements, subdividing its 10,000 square feet to accommodate smaller local businesses and startups. Other tenants include a women’s clothing shop, a florist, a home furnishing store, and event space. St. Charles also bought the space next door to this Mediterranean Revival style-building, and plans to create a Choice Market, offering a much-needed fresh food option in the corridor. With a fuel station, electric vehicle charging station and bike share included, President Charlie Woolley envisions the area as a real community resource.

ESSEX APARTMENTS — 630 E. 16TH AVE.



The previously condemned Uptown Hostel at 16th & Washington was purchased by Gearhart Moore Development in 2017, when it was in need of major restoration and code upgrades for future use. This red brick Colonial Revival structure, historically known as The Essex Apartments, was designed by William E. Fisher for William S. Fisher (likely no relation) in 1908. Ben Gearhart, founder and co-owner of Gearhart Moore Development, aimed to return the building to its original splendor and use as a boutique hotel. Gearhart worked with Historic Denver to conduct a window assessment and secure state preservation tax credits. The upgrades were completed last year and the building was designated a Denver Landmark by Denver City Council in November 2018. Serving young and tech savvy visitors to Denver, the building is now a 20-unit boutique hotel with a unique model that acts more like an Airbnb than a traditional bellhop-service oriented hotel. This is another great example of how a historic building can remain vibrant, useful, and loved.

REMIX AWARD WINNER

DAIRY BLOCK — 1800 WAZEE ST.



Historic Denver’s Remix Award will be awarded to the Dairy Block, located at 1800 Wazee St., for McWHINNEY’s unique blend of historic and new development. Once home to the Windsor Dairy, the block is a vibrant part of the Lower Downtown Historic District, housing 13 businesses, 15 shops, 18 restaurants, seven bars, a luxury co-working space, and the 172-room Maven Hotel. A magnet for entrepreneurs and creatives, the heart of Dairy Block is the Alley, Denver’s first activated pedestrian alley which features extensive public art and gathering spaces. Located between Wazee and Blake streets, and 18th and 19th streets, the Dairy Block is a micro-district in the heart of Denver’s historic LoDo neighborhood that continues the tradition of quality and craftsmanship originally established by H. Brown Cannon, the founder of the Windsor Dairy. This one-block project incorporates the historic buildings from the original dairy, built in 1918, with several new buildings. 🌟

GRANT-WINNING PROJECTS MAKE STRIDES:  
OUR WORK WITH THE  
STATE HISTORICAL FUND

By Shannon Stage, Preservation Coordinator

A large part of Historic Denver’s work involves partnering with other nonprofits to care for and restore the historic buildings they occupy. We lend our expertise as a resource in a number of ways, including applying for State Historical Fund (SHF) grants, and managing funded projects on behalf of our partners.

History Colorado (our state’s history museum and preservation office) began the State Historical Fund program in 1990 through a constitutional amendment allowing limited gaming in the towns of Black Hawk, Central City and Cripple Creek. This amendment directed a portion of the gaming tax revenue to a specific historic preservation fund, distributed through a competitive statewide grant process. To receive funding, projects must demonstrate strong public benefit and community support, and can include hands-on restoration, architectural and condition assessments, survey work, and educational programs. Grants awards range from a few thousand dollars to as much as \$200,000 per project. These state funds are matched by the grant recipient through their own fundraising.

Historic Denver has partnered with numerous nonprofits that manage historic buildings, including churches, schools, and single-family homes now used as public service facilities. Here is a sampling of some of the SHF partner projects currently underway:

Eisenhower Chapel: 293 Roslyn St.

The Lowry Foundation owns and operates the Eisenhower Chapel (aka Chapel No. 1), a National Register-listed property and Denver Landmark on the former air force base. The 78-year-old chapel is the first of four Lowry Air Force Base chapels that offered enlistees a non-denominational gathering place to worship. While the other three chapels have since been demolished, the Eisenhower Chapel was preserved due to its connection to President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who attended services there with his wife, Mamie, during the summers of his administration. Today, the chapel remains a community space, hosting all types of community events from concerts and meetings to weddings and memorial services. The Lowry Foundation partnered with Historic Denver to attain a SHF grant to fund repair of the wood siding on the chapel. The project is close to completion, as the final tongue-and-groove wood siding is being restored and installed this fall.



Photos by Shannon Schaefer Stage

Peoples Presbyterian: 2780 York St.

This 1921 Mission-inspired building first served the Hyde Park Presbyterian congregation. Peoples Presbyterian, a historically African American congregation, moved into the building in 1955 during a period of tremendous community growth. The recent Historic Structure Assessment (HSA), funded by the SHF and completed in 2016, indicated that the front entry porch was in critical need of restoration. Peoples partnered with Historic Denver to write and manage this first restoration grant. The SHF funding will help Peoples restore the front porch, including the brick and stone masonry, and the deteriorated wood roof structure. This project will improve the appearance and physical condition of this key character-defining feature, so the community can continue to safely use it each day for the numerous community service programs it hosts.



Sixth Avenue United Church of Christ:  
3250 E. 6th Ave.

Sixth Ave. UCC, constructed in 1925, was designed by the notable Denver architect William N. Bowman in a Mission Revival style. It has been a community fixture ever since. The stained glass windows are original, and are dedicated to the significant community members and donors of the church in its early days. The stained glass design incorporates Colorado floral motifs along with early members’ names. The SHF-funded project will restore the structural integrity of these leaded



stained glass windows, and install new protective glazing. This will ensure their longevity, and better display their beauty to the community. Sixth Ave. UCC hosts a number of community-driven classes, workshops, preschool, and community service programming. The generations-old Watkins Stained Glass studio has been working closely with Spectrum General Contractors on this restoration work, which is close to completion.

North Highlands Presbyterian Church: 3401 W. 29th Ave.

Originally Highland Park Presbyterian, this church has served the West Highland neighborhood since its construction in 1897 on the elevated site at the northwest corner of West 29th Avenue and Julian St. The church partnered with Historic Denver to seek SHF funds to address critical issues related to water infiltration and structural stability of the 1922 main east entry, roof drainage system, and retaining wall. This space still serves as a congregation space, but also hosts a number of community events and public services. The restoration work will support more active use of the sanctuary entry so the building can remain a neighborhood landmark for another century. ✿



UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION

That’s not all! We have five other SHF-funded partner projects getting underway soon:

- Fitzroy Place — front porch stone restoration
- Capitol Heights Presbyterian Church — roof and parapet restoration
- Trinity United Methodist Church — stained glass window restoration
- The Rossonian Hotel — neon signs and store front window rehabilitation
- First Church of Divine Science (Althea Center) — roof restoration (phase 2)

Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for updates on all of our projects!

NEW STATE HISTORICAL FUND  
GRANT WINS

For the second year in a row, we celebrated exciting grant news on the birthday of our Centennial State, Aug. 1. Our partner projects received three new grants from the State Historical Fund, including one for Fitzroy Place (known as Accelerated Schools) in University Park, one for Capitol Heights Presbyterian in Congress Park, and a grant for the next phase of our Discover Denver building survey project. Historic Denver also submitted four applications for partners on Oct. 1, 2019, and will learn the fate of these applications in early 2020.



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# MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM

## THOUGHT-PROVOKING SALON SERIES EXPLORES CURRENT HEADLINES WITH A VICTORIAN TWIST

By Andrea Malcomb, Museum Director

Margaret “Molly” Tobin Brown was both extraordinary and representative of the women of her day. As we walk through the doors of her home, it is hard not to be affected by her spirit and larger-than-life persona. After helping women gain the right to vote in 1920, it was Margaret’s wish to turn her Denver home into a Beaux Arts-style “salon” (a French word for a regular social gathering of eminent people in a prominent house) for artists and thinkers. However, Brown’s then-grown children protested, and her vision was not realized before her death in 1932. Nearly 100 years later, her desire for a salon of ideas has come to pass in our new line-up of museum programs at the Molly Brown House Museum.

Now in its second year, our Salon Series connects issues from Margaret’s life with current headlines relevant to social activism, transitional justice and community involvement. The series uses factual, inclusive women’s stories from the past in order to thoughtfully provoke dialogue that connects historical issues to our present-day experiences. As an example, Margaret and J.J. Brown were both first-generation Americans, which led us to explore several questions during our “Coming to America” salon: What is your definition of the American Dream? Is this American Dream the same for all Americans? How has the American Dream changed over time?

Each salon begins with guidelines created by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, which allow participants to build a learning community. Together we construct safe and brave spaces through conversations that “share the air,” by leaving room for everyone to speak. As we converse, we understand that our unique backgrounds and social status give us different life experiences; therefore, we seek understanding through clarifying questions rather than debate.

This year’s themes identified and told underrepresented women’s stories in order to find the people and causes that encourage gender equality. We’ve come together in the tradition of women who’ve convened over the past centuries — from Seneca Falls to the 2017 Women’s March — to tackle social justice and equality issues, with the desire to improve our community and country. The year began with a look at the origin of International Women’s Day, in partnership with the Denver Women’s Press Club. The last salon of this year is Nov. 14, where we will look at what it takes to fight for the right to vote.

Community partnerships have been key to better understanding these contemporary issues; we have heard from Denverites who have experienced them, or are trying to change them. Our partners have included El Centro Humanitario, a group that protects the rights of day laborers; Focus Points Family Resource Center, which connects families to health and education resources; the League of Women Voters; the Save the Children Foundation, which advocates and lobbies for children’s issues including childcare; and the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame.

Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which granted most — but not all — women the right to vote. Our 2020 Salon Series will start with “Women’s History 101,” followed by topics including gender in the constitution and the law; issues of race in voting rights; the status of the Equal Rights Amendment; and womanhood vs. woman’s rights. We encourage you to join us for these monthly discussions.

Alice Paul, a colleague of Margaret Brown’s and an intrepid organizer who first wrote out the Equal Rights Amendment in 1923, said, “I always feel the movement is sort of a mosaic. Each of us puts in one little stone, and then you get a great mosaic at the end.” We think of our Salon Series as an opportunity to contribute to our community’s mosaic. Please join us! ❁

## 2020 SALON SERIES

Monthly, 5:30-7 p.m.

Free and open to the public.

For topics, dates and registration, visit [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org).



Molly Brown House Museum staff and volunteers gathered on the steps of the Colorado capitol this year, to raise awareness about the upcoming women’s suffrage centennial.

## 2020 SUMMER EXHIBIT: “FIERCE FOREMOTHERS, STEADFAST SUFFRAGISTS”

Opens May 7 | Molly Brown House Museum

Our summer exhibit will highlight the stories of women who were forces in the national suffrage movement, including Margaret “Molly” Brown. A pop-up exhibit presented by the National Archives about the passage of the 19th Amendment, titled “Rightfully Hers,” is also included. Join us as we explore a centuries-old story of voting rights that empowers us to meaningfully champion democracy today!

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:  
EMMA DAVIS

By Kim Popetz, Volunteer and Events Coordinator for the Molly Brown House Museum



Fifteen-year-old Emma Davis has been volunteering here at the Molly Brown House Museum since 2016, when she was just 12 years old! She is an amazing addition to our team of staff and volunteers, and we’re so proud to be able to call her one of our own. Emma took some time out of her busy schedule to talk to us about why she volunteers for the Museum, and to recount some of her favorite experiences.

Q: Why did you choose Molly Brown as a place to volunteer?

I have always loved history, and I wanted to be able to tell the amazing story of Margaret Brown. I began when I was 12, as a page, and I just graduated to a full-blown docent. I am so happy to be sharing this bite of Colorado history with so many people!

Q: What keeps you coming back?

I love the place itself. It’s one of the most beautiful homes in Denver! I also love the people who work there, both staff and volunteers. I have met so many amazing people who have helped me so much. Not to mention the stories that we share every day!

Q: What do you like best about volunteering with us?

I love all of the support that staff gives to the volunteers. They’re the best! Everyone is so inclusive, helpful and knowledgeable! I’d say my other favorite part is being able to share this amazing story with the public. Everyone needs to know about Margaret, and I love talking about her!

Q: Where else have you volunteered?

I have volunteered at History Colorado in several roles, including running the youth advisory council there for a year. I also volunteer at the ACLU of Colorado in the field department, where I plan events, do data entry, and many other things. I currently am a part of Court Watch CO, which watches municipal courts to make sure their bail bond procedures are fair. I have also volunteered for National History Day CO, as well as Project Angel Heart, Denver Writes, BookBar and the Wings Over the Rockies Museum.

Q: What’s your most memorable event or interaction at the Museum?

My favorite part of the year is Halloween, and I love Victorian Horrors. That’s how I found out about the House, and I’ve been going to that event every year since I was 7. Every year, I dress up in a creepy costume, whether it’s a zombie in Victorian garb, a steampunk time traveler, or a colonial vampire. I love this, and it is so much fun to hear all the stories and get to lead people through the house on these tours!

Q: What do you want people to know about volunteering with us?

It’s the experience of a lifetime! It is my absolute favorite place that I have ever volunteered! ❁

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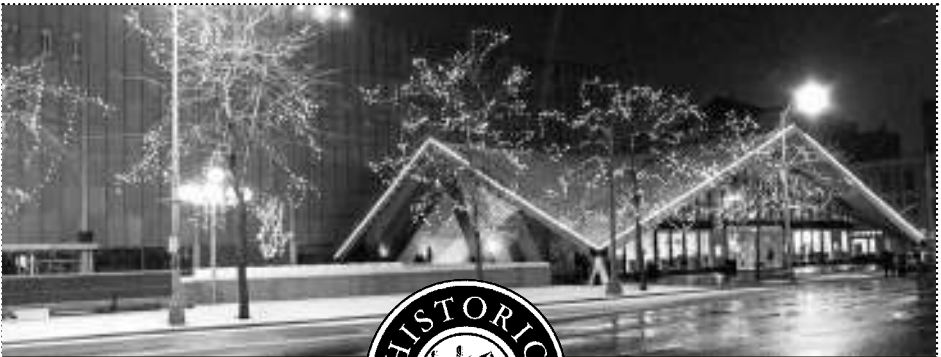


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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



To purchase tickets to upcoming events at the Molly Brown House Museum, visit [mollybrown.org](http://mollybrown.org).  
Events are held at the Molly Brown House Museum, 1340 Pennsylvania Street, Denver.



**1340 PENN/AFTER HOURS:  
WE WILL NOT BE DENIED**  
Thurs., Nov. 7 • 7-9 p.m.  
\$16 • Molly Brown House Museum

Join us for a lively debate between Margaret Brown and others on the cause of women’s rights. Learn about the struggles that arose from women fighting through the final push for suffrage. A red rose: against; a white rose: support. Which will you choose?



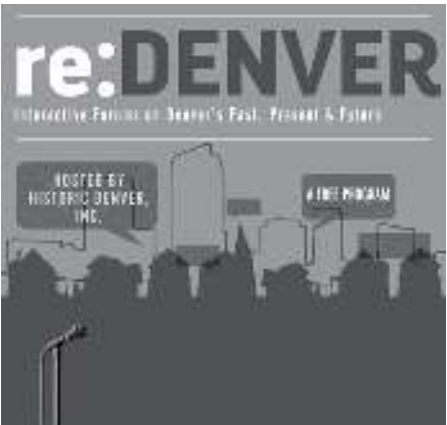
**FREE DAY**  
Tues., Nov. 12

Join us for a special free day at the Molly Brown House Museum, thanks to funding from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).



**SALON SERIES: WOMEN  
ROCKED THE COLORADO  
VOTE IN 1893**  
Thurs., Nov. 14 | 5:30-7 p.m.  
Molly Brown House Museum

Join us for a look at what it takes to fight for the right to vote! We’ll discuss the hows and whys of women winning the right to vote in Colorado — the first state to let women into the voting booth.



**RE(GARDING DENVER):  
REIMAGINING HOSPITALITY**  
Tues., Nov. 19 | 7-8:30 p.m.  
Carla Madison Recreation Center, 2401 E. Colfax Ave.

Join us to explore the creative potential of an under-recognized resource, roadside motels and hotels. We’ll look at projects that take advantage of existing density and breathe new life into buildings and neighborhoods grappling with disinvestment and development pressure. Examples include former motels and hotels reimagined as appealing spaces that accommodate affordable housing, as well as market rate units. Our panelists include experts who led projects at the First Avenue Hotel and Circa West.

**8TH ANNUAL PIPE  
ORGAN TOUR**  
Sat., Dec. 7  
12:30-4 p.m. (doors open at 12:15 p.m.)  
\$20 member • \$25 non-member

Join Historic Denver and the American Guild of Organists for an afternoon stroll full of architecture, history and beautiful organ music! This year, the Organ Tour will visit University Park and the University of Denver. Our tour will begin at University Park UMC, then move to Hamilton Hall at the Lamont School of Music, the Evans Chapel, and the carillon. At each site, you will hear about the history and architecture of the building, and the history of the organ, as well as enjoy a selection of live music! **Tickets can be purchased at [historicdenver.org](http://historicdenver.org), or on the morning of the tour.**

**REAL ESTATE SEMINAR:  
UNDERSTANDING &  
SELLING DENVER’S  
HISTORIC HOMES AND  
NEIGHBORHOODS**  
Wed., Dec. 11 • 12:30-5 p.m.

This year’s seminar will be held at Centro San Juan Diego, located at 2830 Lawrence St. in Denver. This 3-credit continuing education (CE) class for real estate brokers will explore the unique characteristics, values and strategies for buying and selling historic homes. **Register at [historicdenver.org](http://historicdenver.org).**



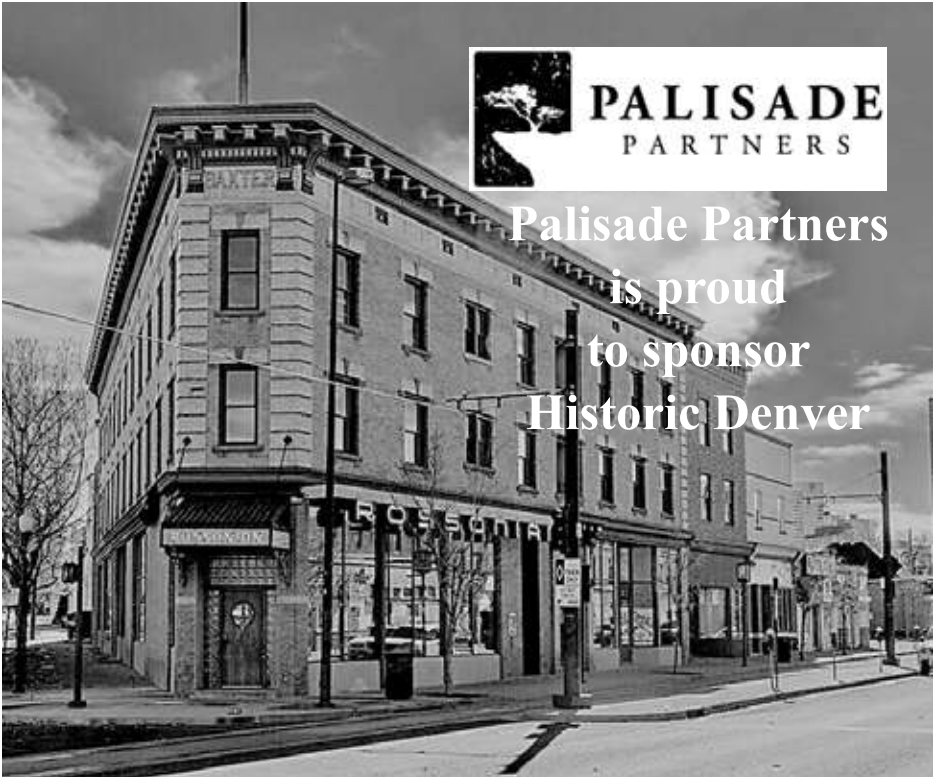
**SUNSET TOWER TOURS**  
Sun., Dec. 1, Dec. 8, and Dec. 15  
4-5 p.m.

Join us for a guided tour of the D&F Clock Tower, watch the sunset, and see holiday lights as they turn on. This tour features access to the 17th floor balcony, and information about the history and architecture of Denver.  
**Tickets available at [historicdenver.org](http://historicdenver.org).**



**BROWN’S HAPPIEST  
CHRISTMAS**  
Saturdays: Dec. 7, 14, 21

Kick off your holiday season with a Victorian Christmas Party at the Molly Brown House Museum! Bring the whole family to experience Margaret Brown’s home decked out in all its Victorian finery, and learn about some of our most cherished holiday traditions: holiday cards, stockings, and Christmas tree lights. You’ll also enjoy Victorian games, holiday crafts, yummy treats, and even a chance to have your photo taken with a special (and very jolly) guest!



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1255 Pennsylvania



The Beers  
1261 Pennsylvania

The Penn Residences  
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Daria Castiglione

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