

HISTORIC DENVER NEWS

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51st annual DINNER & AWARDS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021



On October 28, 2021 Historic Denver will present the 51st Annual Awards to individuals and projects that contribute to the preservation of our city’s shared assets and beloved cultural landmarks. Now entering a sixth decade, the annual program is not only a Denver tradition, but a celebration among people who love and care for our city. It’s an opportunity to see old friends, meet new ones, and find inspiration to continue to creatively preserve, adapt, reuse, and restore that places that make Denver Denver. After hosting a virtual 50th Anniversary Retrospective in 2020, the event will return to the Brown Palace Hotel for a 50th time, and as we celebrate this year’s honorees we will also look forward, highlighting the 50 Places our community recommended for future preservation action this summer.

KEYSTONE AWARD

Charlie Woolley will receive the Keystone Award for lifetime achievement in historic preservation. Woolley is the Founding Principal and President of St. Charles Town Company, an urban real estate development, investment, and management company that has completed notable projects like the Lowenstein Theater complex, now home to the Tattered Cover Bookstore, and the Savageau Building on Colfax, the Hardware Block in Lodo, and the Equitable Building in downtown. Woolley began his 30-year real estate career in 1985, having previously been the director at the Four Mile Historic Park, where he even lived for a time. Woolley is active in community affairs, serving as a trustee for historic preservation, arts, and community service non-profit organizations.

ANN LOVE AWARD

This year’s Ann Love Award honors Lucha Martinez de Luna, archeologist and

founder and director of the Chicano/a Murals of Colorado Project. The Ann Love Award recognizes those who embody the spirit of one of Historic Denver’s founders and former Colorado First Lady Ann Love. Born and raised in Colorado, Martinez de Luna has worked on numerous archaeological projects in the American West and Southwest, as well as in central and southern Mexico and serves as associate curator of Latino heritage at History Colorado. In 2018 she founded the Chicano/a Murals of Colorado Project, a grassroots organization that seeks to document and protect the visual heritage of Chicana/o public art in Colorado, which is threatened due to rapid gentrification and displacement.

MOLLY BROWN AWARD

Tony Garcia, Executive Creative Director of Su Teatro will receive the Molly Brown Award, created to honor a person who demonstrates the unsinkable Margaret “Molly” Brown’s commitment to civic life in all its forms, including the arts. With an extensive knowledge of Chicano history, Denver native Anthony J. Garcia inspires connections between the past, present, and place through his work as an award-winning playwright, musician, composer, educator, social activist, mentor, and Executive Creative Director of Su Teatro. In 1972, Tony joined the student-organized theatre group Su Teatro as a guitar player. He soon became the creative force behind the company, which is now the third oldest Chicano theater organization in the country. Su Teatro has been located in historic buildings in Denver’s Elyria and La Alma Lincoln Park neighborhoods. As Su Teatro celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this year the organization will produce its famed show about the loss of the Auraria neighborhood, a moment in time that also catalyzed Historic Denver’s early actions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Each fall Historic Denver welcomes a new class of board members to help guide, advise, and support the organization in achieving our mission and strategic vision. On October 28th, six individuals with great depth and breadth of Denver knowledge and experience will officially begin their terms, joining seventeen returning board members.

MARCIE MOORE GANTZ

A Denver native, Marcie is currently the founder and thought partner at Nia Philanthropy - a social impact + data insights practice. She works with purpose-driven ventures, donors/investors to make an impactful difference blending gender/equity lens using technology. Before founding her practice, Marcie was the Deputy Director at the Gay & Lesbian Fund of the Gill Foundation. Her arts and cultural administration experience include Deputy District Administrator at the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, Managing Director at Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, and Associate Director of Public Affairs at the Denver Center Theatre Company. Marcie is most passionate about creating economic opportunities for traditionally marginalized communities, amplifying women’s and girls’ creative talents, and supporting social entrepreneurship as a path to liberation.

LETICIA MARTINEZ

Leticia is a nationally recognized expert in community organizing with vast experience in designing and implementing strategic mail, field, and overall campaign plans. During her more than 20 years of political experience she has traveled to over 30 states to work on local, state, and federal candidate campaigns, as well as a variety of issue campaigns. Leticia is a sixth-generation Coloradoan, granddaughter of both a steelworker and a bricklayer, and daughter of a public school teacher. She attended East High School, Smith College, and the University of Denver Law School. Leticia serves on the board of Great Outdoors Colorado. She lives in Park Hill, where she grew up, and has an affinity for historic homes.

TOMMY MATTHEWS

Tommy leads the Branding and Experiential Graphics studio at Tryba Architects. An award-winning environmental graphic designer, his expertise reflects a thorough understanding of the details that contribute to great placemaking – from strong branding and communications to experiential elements such as exhibit design, art programs, signage and wayfinding. Under Tommy’s leadership, the studio has produced comprehensive programs for large-scale adaptive reuse projects such as Denver Union Station and exhibit designs including Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects currently on view at History Colorado Center.

Born in Denver, Tommy studied in Los Angeles and worked for six years in New York City with the exhibit design team at Ralph Appelbaum Associates. He collaborated on interpretive museum exhibits ranging from the Newseum in Washington D.C. to the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia to the Natural History Museum of Utah in Salt Lake City.

JUSTINE SANDOVAL

Justine Sandoval is the Statewide Engagement Manager for Cobalt Advocates. A multi-generational Coloradan raised on the Northside of Denver, Justine has been a longtime community advocate working to ensure fair and equitable treatment of Coloradans. Justine has over fifteen years of experience working on numerous state and federal campaigns. Currently, her work is focused on community engagement to advance reproductive healthcare access in Colorado. Her family lived in and still owns homes in the Curtis Park Historic District. She is also the current Board Chair of the Colorado Young Democrats.

MELANIE SHORT

Melanie Short has over 20 years of professional experience as a preservation architect and project manager in Colorado. She is a senior associate with BVH Architecture in Denver, Colorado. She has extensive expertise in design and construction as well as a passion for historic preservation. She has written multiple articles and delivered presentations on the junction of historic preservation,

architecture, and sustainability. She has made it an emphasis in her career to give back to the community, through volunteering, mentoring, and teaching the next generation of architects, urban planners and preservationists. She spent ten years teaching at the University of Colorado Denver’s Master of Historic Preservation department teaching Building Conservation.

DANNY NEWMAN

Danny is a Denver native and tech entrepreneur, restaurateur, and preservationist. Danny has spent the last decade building tech and mobile companies. He’s a graduate, and now mentor at the world-renowned startup incubator, Techstars. In 2016, he purchased Denver’s oldest bar, My Brother’s Bar, a restaurant his mother has worked at for more than 30 years. Danny is very passionate about the preservation and restoration of historic buildings in Denver. He and his wife, Christy, have saved two historic churches, and converted them into homes, one being their current home near Alamo Placita. He is currently working on an adaptive-reuse project of a 1940s gas station in the West Colfax neighborhood and also owns the top floors of the D & F Tower. Both Danny and his wife, Christy, grew up going to the Mercury Café and, as the new owners, are passionate about the history, character, and community of the beloved landmark. 🌿



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1340 Pennsylvania St. Denver, CO 80203 303.832.4092 mollybrown.org	
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Editor, Historic Denver News,



CONGRATULATIONS
HISTORIC DENVER
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
OF MAKING HISTORY



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Charlie Wooley, Keystone Award Winner



Lucha Martinez de Luna, Ann Love Award Winner



Tony Garcia, Molly Brown Award Winner



Sullivan Gateway, Award Winner. Photo courtesy of Denver Parks and Recreation

51ST ANNUAL DINNER AND AWARDS, CONTINUED

FOUR PROJECTS WILL BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO DENVER'S UNIQUE IDENTITY WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AWARDS. THE HONOREES INCLUDE:

LA ALMA LINCOLN PARK HISTORIC CULTURAL DISTRICT

This award recognizes the neighbors and partners that supported the new historic cultural district, designated on August 2, 2021, one of the country's first such districts to honor Chicano/a heritage in the built environment. This group of residents and former residents, with support from Historic Denver's Action Fund, worked for nearly five years to help document the neighborhood's history, build support for the district, contribute to the development of customized design-guidelines, and advocate for the unique cultural identity of one of the city's oldest and most storied neighborhoods.

11TH AVE HOSTEL

The Ilg family recently completed a total rehabilitation of this 1903 hotel, now hostel, at 11th & Broadway. The effort included listing the building on the National Register of Historic Places, reconstructing the historic storefront windows, upgrading the building's systems, and improving rooms and common areas to welcome a new generation of global travelers.

UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF DENVER'S FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF DENVER

The First Unitarian Society has a long history in Denver and has been located in its current building at 14th & Lafayette for more than a half century. The building is Denver's first landmark to honor its history as a safe space for LGBTQ+ and the congregation recently restored the roof, dormers, and masonry with support from the Colorado State Historical Fund. Historic Denver managed the grants as a partner.

SULLIVAN GATEWAY CITY PARK ESPLANADE

Undertaken over multiple phases, Denver's Department of Parks & Recreation completed a massive restoration of the iconic 1917 gateway to City Park and East High School. Nearly a decade ago the gates made it on Colorado's Most Endangered Places list after wear and tear, and material deterioration, jeopardized their integrity. Today the City Beautiful Era design, along with the nearby fountains, is once again a city jewel.



details

Historic Denver's Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony is a Denver tradition, held at the Brown Palace for 50 years. This year the event will be capped at 350 of Denver's civic and community leaders, advocates, and valued members. The event includes a popular social hour, dinner, the awards presentation, and a live auction fundraiser with five packages featuring unique experiences in beloved historic places. Guests will be required to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the event, and space is limited to ensure social-distancing.

REMIX AWARDS

In addition to the Community Preservation Awards two projects will be honored with Remix Awards as projects that exemplify how old and new design can be complimentary and vibrant. These awards will be presented to Bespoke Uptown and the Hilton Garden Inn Denver Union Station- Woodie Fisher Kitchen & Bar. Bespoke Uptown is the adaptive reuse project that incorporates the former Uptown Tavern building, built in 1901, at 17th & Pearl into a large-scale apartment complex developed by Southern Land Company, with design work by Shears Adkins Rockmore. Focus Real Estate Group rehabilitated the Denver Landmark Hose Company No. 1, built in the 1880s, into a beautiful restaurant as part of the Hilton Garden Inn Denver Union Station project. The design work was completed by Johnson Nathan Stroh Architects. 🌿

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LISTING OF HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT PLACES

MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM

VICTORIAN HAUNTINGS

by Andrea Malcomb, Museum Director.

It’s the time of year when the most often asked question by visitors is “Is the Molly Brown House Museum haunted?” And while our standard reply is, “We have so much to share about the life of Margaret and J.J. Brown that we don’t have time to talk about any afterlife activities,” we know that is not the answer our guests hoped to hear. We all want to hear the spooky stories and to even be told that sometimes things do go bump in the night.

Museum programs have explored these themes in the past with events such as “Is Mrs. Brown Still Here” which looks at the Celtic Samhain and how those traditions came to America through immigrants like Margaret’s parents, the Tobins. The coming winter was a frightening time for the Celts as they had to face the likelihood of their own mortality. Had they gathered enough crops to survive? Would they encounter disease and death during the frigid winter? These were all questions that confronted the Celts and the customs and traditions of Samhain came out of their fear and respect of nature. It’s even been said that Margaret’s mother, Johanna Tobin, saw the spirit of a dead servant coming down the back staircase while living in the home.

Museum programs also examined the connection between Spiritualism and Women’s Suffrage during 2020’s 19th Amendment Centennial. And, our annual blockbuster event, Victorian Horrors, tears away the thin veil between life and death through the works of such authors known to Margaret Brown as Edgar Allan Poe, Mary Shelley, and H.G. Wells.

During Mrs. Brown’s lifetime Colorado had a direct connection to early spiritualists the Fox Sisters through Horace Greeley, who was famous as founder and editor of The New York Tribune. It was Greeley who popularized the slogan “Go West, young man.” Greeley became a kind of protector for the Fox sisters, enabling their legitimacy in higher social circles. In fact, Kate Fox lived with the Greeleys for a time in their New York home, going to school and supporting Greeley’s wife, who was broken by grief over their dead son. After the Civil War, Spiritualism swept the country in popularity as people longed to communicate with the sons, husbands, and brothers they had lost in war.

Spiritualism continued long after the death of the Fox sisters. The new mediums were showier – “trance” mediums who would channel spirits and produce ectoplasm and all kinds of showy effects. There was “Raise the Table” where people sit around a table touching fingertip to fingertip and the spirits make the table levitate. And of course there are the tarot readers, crystal ball gazers, and bone oracles. One practice on All Hallows Eve, at midnight, involved a young woman holding a candle and hand mirror with her back to the vanity. At the stroke of midnight, it was said that she would be able to see the face of her future husband.

Our hostess in absentia, Margaret Brown, held parties where she invited palm readers and mediums to dazzle her guests. The most popular parlor game to play was the famed Ouija Board. The Ouija Board also has a unique connection to Denver. First manufactured in Baltimore, a medium named Helen Peters Nosworthy helped patent it and when deciding what to name the board, she asked the board what it wanted to be called. The board answered O-U-I-J-A. And when she asked what that meant, the board answered, G-O-O-D L-U-C-K. Helen moved to Denver in 1896, staying until she died in 1940. Helen Peters Nosworthy is buried in Fairmount Cemetery and is happy, of late, as the Talking Board Historical Society has honored her by providing a headstone at her grave bearing the title, “The Woman Who Named Ouija Board.”

But what is the connection, one would ask, between old houses and this desire to believe that they must all be haunted purely because of their age or their architecture? What would make our Victorian-era Molly Brown House seem more haunted than another style or era of home? In an interview with NPR’s Ari Schapiro,



Mary Jo Bowling from Curbed reminds us that, “to our modern eyes it did seem like Victorians were obsessed with death. In fact, they would often put funeral images, funerary urns, things like that... Death was a real part of Victorian life. People did not, you know, typically die in a hospital. They would die at home. And many Victorian homes had particular rooms where the dead were laid out and visited by and mourned by relatives.”

According to Krystal D’Costa in 2016 Scientific American blog:

“As America entered the twentieth-century, the American Victorian home drew the ire of those seeking to criticize the bloatedness of the period. These homes quickly became the McMansions of this era as critics decried as a blight upon the American landscape, labelling them ‘wooden monstrosities.’ Victorian-style houses were a physical manifestation of this stain; they represented the persistence of corruption and thoughtlessness that was thought to have originated in the Gilded Age. Where they were once a symbol of material wealth, these homes were now a weight on the progression of the American soul.”

And, as Erin Blakemore writes in “How Victorian Mansions Became the Default Haunted House,” “Victorian houses were alive with uncomfortable connotations. As more and more were torn down in real life to make room for modernity, they took root in the imagination instead. Photographs like Walker Evans’s

Victorian Series [documented] America’s largely abandoned Victorian-era houses, [and] solidified the popular view of the homes as spooky and dangerous.”

Even if Mrs. Brown may not be here, even in spirit, the trope of the Victorian haunted house seems to have a long afterlife, permanently entwining this recognizable architectural style with stories of ghosts and hauntings. If Johanna Tobin were still ‘here’ in the house, perhaps she would say, “When you start this talk about the smell of pipe tobacco, or an old woman looking out the windows, I say hogswallow! Or mention a presence on the back stairs, a face in the mirror, or a chair that rocks itself, that’s ghost nonsense! That’s just me, Johanna Collins Redner Tobin going about my daily routine the same as I have since my daughter invited us to live with here in 1895!” ❀



Historic preservation and sustainability are natural partners. The preservation and reuse of existing buildings and retrofitting them to be “green” reaches for new heights of fiscal and environmental responsibility.

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2020

ANNUAL REPORT

It's an understatement to say that 2020 was a year like no other as our community grappled with the sudden challenges of the pandemic and the long-seeded legacy of racial injustice. These dual forces shaped Historic Denver's operations, creating disruptions that allowed for deeper reflection, exciting adaptations, and painful moments. Fortunately, with the support of our members, friends, and donors, our organization weathered the storm and continued to make an impact in the city we love.

No small achievement, we pivoted our educational programs and communications quickly in March 2020, with staff working from home while offering engaging videos, interactive programs, and new members-only content. After three months of full closure, the Molly Brown House Museum reopened in July 2020, implementing public safety guidelines and with small capacity tours, self-guided audio narration, and private entry times. Over 9,500 guests accessed the audio tour platform, and people from around the country even got in on our virtual tour option. Adult and preservation-themed events were adapted for virtual delivery, including our very popular virtual Victorian Horrors series. Education staff converted six of the most popular student programs into digital modules for both remote and classroom learning and connected live with virtual house tours and virtual versions of five more classroom programs, serving more than 3,400 students.

In September 2020 we hosted a virtual 50th Anniversary Retrospective, recognizing the most beloved local preservation projects of all time, including the 9th Street Historic Park, the Mayan Theater, Hotel Teatro, the Five Points Historic Cultural District, the Brown Palace Hotel, Union Station and of course, Larimer Square. At the dinner we also launched our 50 Actions for 50 Places Campaign, raising \$25,000 to match an anonymous gift and secure a full \$50,000 to implement customized preservation action for under-recognized resources across our city. This work is now actively underway.

The 50 Actions Campaign is just one aspect of our recent work influenced by our commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access. In 2020 our board convened a special task force and hired a facilitator to help us reflect on how Historic Denver can more fully embrace these values, confront the history of systemic racism and bias in the preservation field, and amplify stories and sites that reflect the full depth and breadth of our city's past. This work resulted in a board adopted resolution in early 2021 and continues to shape our work moving forward.

Thank you to all the members, donors and friends listed in the following pages. You have sustained our organization and supported Denver's cultural heritage and built environment through a tumultuous time.

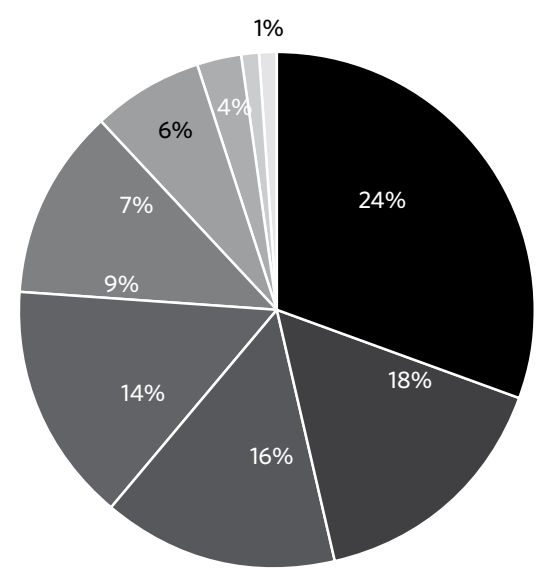
Annie Robb Levinsky
Executive Director



HISTORIC DENVER BY THE NUMBERS

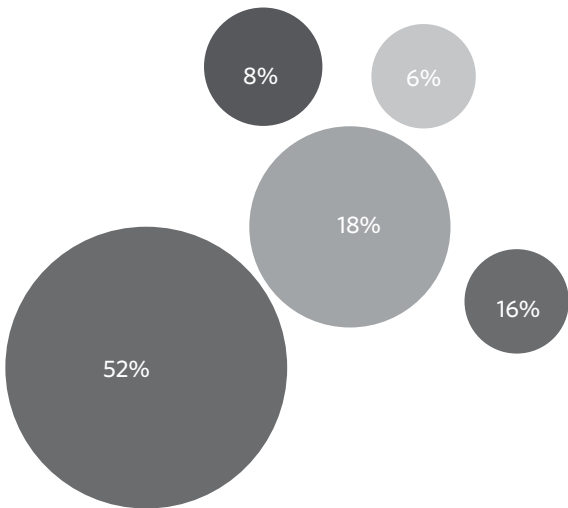
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Revenue and other support	AUDITED 2020			2019
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Total
Contributions/Support	\$ 267,233.		\$ 267,233.	\$ 169,057.
Admissions	\$ 180,153.		\$ 180,153.	\$ 537,475.
Education & Programs	\$ 120,485.		\$ 120,485.	\$ 280,542.
Gift Shop Sales	\$ 91,746.		\$ 91,746.	\$ 258,370.
Foundations & Other Grants	\$ 234,556.	\$ 16,210.0	\$ 250,766.	\$ 353,265.
PPP Grant & Insurance Proceeds	\$ 204,556.		\$ 204,556.	
Membership Income	\$ 48,465.		\$ 48,465.	\$ 49,682.
Investment Return	\$ 54,304.		\$ 54,304.	\$ 53,918.
Project Management Activity				
Project expenses and reimbursements	\$ 956,598.		\$ 956,598.	\$ 510,915.
Project management fees	\$ 74,122.		\$ 74,122.	\$ 77,906.
Less: project management expenditures	\$ (965,468.)		\$ (965,468.)	\$ (575,446.)
	\$ 65,252.		\$65,252.	\$13,375.
Other	\$5,814.		\$5,814.	\$1,069.
In-Kind	\$13,478.		\$13,478.	\$17,588.
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$21,210.	\$ (21,210.)		
Total Revenue	\$ 1,307,040.	\$ (5,000.)	\$ 1,302,040.	\$ 1,734,341.
Expense				
Preservation & Advocacy	\$237,448.		\$237,448.	\$384,110.
Molly Brown House Museum	\$700,941.		\$700,941.	\$889,519.
Education & Awareness	\$218,334.		\$218,334.	\$274,640.
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 1,156,723.		\$ 1,156,723.	\$ 1,548,269.
Management & General	\$ 107,118.		\$ 107,118.	\$ 86,315.
Membership & Development	\$ 82,673.		\$ 82,673.	\$ 106,777.
Capital Campaign			\$ -	\$ 33,223.
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	\$189,791.00		\$189,791.00	\$ 226,315.
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 1,346,514.		\$ 1,346,514.	\$ 1,774,584.
Change in net assets	\$ (39,474.)	\$ (5,000.)	\$ (44,474.)	\$ (40,243.)
Net assets, beginning of the year	\$ 2,113,862.	\$ 10,195.	\$ 2,124,057.	\$ 2,366,350.
Net assets, end of the year	\$ 2,074,388.	\$ 5,195.	\$ 2,079,583.	\$ 2,124,057.



REVENUE & OTHER SUPPORT

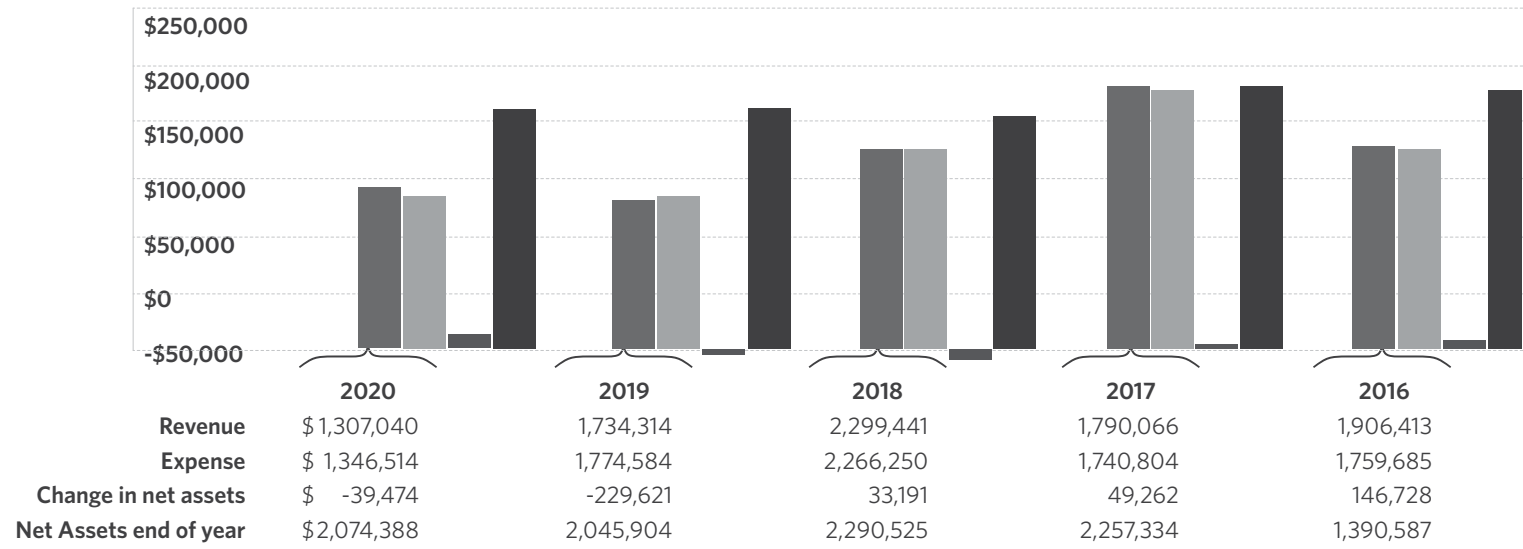
Contributions & Membership	24%
Foundation Grants	18%
PPP Grant & Insurance	16%
Admissions	14%
Education and Programs	9%
Gift Shop Sales	7%
Grant Management Fees	6%
Investment Return	4%
In-Kind Donations	1%



EXPENSES BY CATEGORY

Molly Brown House Museum	52%
Preservation and Advocacy	18%
Education and Awareness	16%
Management and General	8%
Membership and Development	6%

5 YEAR SUMMARY



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Historic Denver served over 16,369 people on museum tours, in-person or virtual events and Walking Tours, and through education programs.

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We implemented Action Fund partnerships in University Park and La Alma Lincoln Park, including a Chicano Murals project.

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Ginny Gelbach
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Sarah Krause
Betty and Warren Kuehner
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Gwendolyn Nossman
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Chadwick Leah Charney Nancy R. Crow and Mark A.A. Skrotzki Jane Daniels Margaret Danuser Gayle Deane Spencer Denison Pam Dunbar Ekman Design Studio Martha Eubanks Richard Farley David K Ford Ozi Friedrich Thomas Giovale Irene Glazer Art Glover Sarah and Neil Goldblatt Susan Halpern David Harman James and Martha Hartmann Catherine Hartwell Bryan Hay Frances Hillyard Hoehn Architects PC Judith James Ann and Bret Johnson Karen J. Jonas Reynold & Janet Kalstrom Bruce Kirchhoff Michael and Wendy Klein Joe & Katie Kramer Sarah Krause Janet Kritzer Suzanne Lansang Kelsey Lantz Marla Le Gourrierec James Lindberg and Ginny Threefoot Pat Lippincott John and Mary Lohre Stephanne MacCarter Andrea Malcomb Tim and Darcie Martin Sara Mattes John Mayer & Mark Adkins Thomas McClure Elizabeth Meck and Corey Knight Jason Mieger Casey Miller - LIV Sotheby's Lorna G. Moore Dorothea J. Moore Donna Mullins Joan Prusse & Robert E. 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Cohen Georgi Contiguglia Michael Coughlin Tom Coxhead Sandra Dallas Mark Davidson & Karen Spinelli Steve Ekman Ruth Falkenberg Mona Ferrugia Mira Fine</div> <div>We hosted a virtual 50th Anniversary Retrospective Celebration for 1,072 people in place of our annual dinner and awards program to great success!</div> <div>Terry & Mary Beth Gorrell Linda & Ron Hammons Fabby Hillyard Kathy Kaley Chris Kosewick Sarah Krause Merrilyn Leuthold Carla McConnell Christie Murata Joan Prusse & Bob Musgraves Charlotte Neitzel Gwendolyn Nossman Barb & Rob Pahl Dan Paulien Lisa Purdy & Malcolm Murray Ralph & Inky Ratcliff Agnes Ryan Bob Sarlo Tom Sprung Rosemary Stoffel Ken Taylor David Tryba Bill Wenk Mike West William West</div>
8	HISTORIC DENVER INC.			



American Woodmen's Life Building

HOME OF NOTABLE DR. BLACKWOOD LOST TO DEMOLITION

Michael Flowers, Director of Preservation Action

Last spring Denver lost another piece of its unique history when the home at 2436 Gaylord Street was demolished. With the number of annual demolitions still high across the city, this loss may seem modest, but it was noticed by many in the neighborhood and poignant because it was a piece of an important story- that of Dr. Charles J. Blackwood. Dr. Blackwood graduated from the University of Colorado School of Medicine in 1947, and thanks to the research of Dr. Terri Richardson and others, we know that he was the first African American to earn a medical degree from the institution. He purchased the small house on Gaylord in 1951, just a few years after earning his degree and lived there during the early part of his career through 1973.

Dr. Blackwood was born in Trinidad, Colorado in 1921, where his father worked for the railroads. Dr. Blackwood attended Trinidad State Junior College before earning a scholarship and a degree in Chemistry from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and completed his medical degree, graduating in the top 10 of his class. He did his internship in Harlem before returning to Colorado and working at St. Luke's and Rose Hospital.

Dr. Blackwood started his own practice, which was located in the American Woodmen Life Building at 2100 Downing, a short drive or walk from his home. The American Woodmen Life Building became one of Denver's youngest landmarks in 2009. The Streamline Moderne building was designed by Gordon White in 1950 as the Supreme Headquarters of the American Woodmen Denver, which employed only Black professionals and provided insurance to the Black community for decades. Dr. Blackwood served as the physician for the company in addition to running his practice. Recent posts on social media recalling Dr. Blackwood included recollections of his office, as well as the Studebaker he drove. Blackwood was remembered by his patients for his kindness and compassion. It has been noted that he never turned a patient away even they couldn't pay. Blackwood would later return to the CU School of Medicine and become the first African American to teach as a clinical professor at the school.



Dr. Charles Blackwood, Courtesy of the Strauss Health Sciences Library, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus



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Blackwood continued to benefit the medical community after his retirement from clinical practice by establishing the Blackwood Institute, which focused on the treatment of AIDS. He died on August 11, 1993, and while his funeral was held in Five Points, in the community where he'd lived and worked, he was buried in Trinidad where he was born.

While his longtime home is now lost, his legacy is honored through a memorial scholarship that helps underprivileged and underrepresented students attend CU School of Medicine. Blackwood was additionally honored in the Colorado Senate and House of Representatives for being "a devoted public servant, outstanding citizen and admired physician and a true pioneer."

Dr. Blackwood's story came to Historic Denver's attention when his home was nominated as a site for the 50 Actions for 50 Places Campaign. Members of Capitol Hill United Neighbors had learned his story and hoped it could be told more widely, and that the preservation of the house could be a part of that effort. Unfortunately, before the 50 Actions committee completed its review the home was lost, but the story was not- as it will live on through the scholarship program, at the American Woodman Life Building, and in the lives he touched. 🌿

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FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF DENVER – ROOF REPLACEMENT AND GUTTER REHABILITATION 1400 N LAFAYETTE ST.

by Shannon Stage, Manager of Grants and Preservation Services
FUSD board members accepting funds for the State Historical Fund. Photo: Shannon Schaefer Stage, 2021

The roof replacement at First Unitarian Society of Denver (FUSD) has wrapped up. The roofers worked quickly on this high-pitched roof to get it completed in between all the heavy rain and storms we encountered last summer. During the project we discovered the gable and dormer masonry ends were loose and had to be tied down and anchored to the roof prior to the shingles being laid. Once these elements were secured the rest of the roof replacement continued smoothly. With the earlier masonry restoration project and a new roof, this Denver Landmark is fully “dried-in,” preventing leaks on the interior of the building and ensuring its continued use.

Due to the significant investment the First Unitarian congregation has made in the building, raising funds from members and beyond, the church will be recognized this year at our 51st Annual Dinner & Awards program with a Community Preservation Award. This award is well deserved not only for the restoration work completed on the building, managed by Historic Denver and funded in part by the Colorado State Historical Fund Grant, but also their efforts to designate this important building as a Denver Landmark, the first Denver Landmark recognized for its role in LGBTQ+ history (see page 3 for more details).

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1820 BROADWAY



Phil Watkins showing the Architect (EUA), SHF Preservation Specialist and Historic Denver the completed stained-glass windows in the lower-level choir room. Photo: Shannon Schaefer Stage, 2021

The stained glass restoration on the main façade at Trinity United Methodist Church is underway. The 1888 stained glass at Trinity was designed by Healy and Millet of Chicago, a firm known for their innovative stained glass designs. Instead of using painted glass, they assembled colored and textured opalescent glass, which contributes to the warm and unique atmosphere within the sanctuary space. Many of the window designs in the church are geometric shapes and foliage designs, with the exception of a few religious themed windows, which are outside of this scope of work. Over the church’s history the stained glass windows have been maintained by the longest running stained glass studio

in Colorado, Watkins Stained Glass. Spectrum General Contractors are pulling the windows out for the Watkins crew to work on in their studio. The team met onsite earlier in September for a progress update to inspect the stone sill conditions as well as restored stained glass windows such as the one the team is looking at in the photo. The project is coming along, with a tentative completion date by later this fall.

EAST 7TH AVENUE – STEELE STREET EXTENSION DESIGNATION

In August residents and owners of homes on the 600 and 700 blocks of Steele Street in Congress Park submitted a historic district application so that the homes on the east side of the block can gain the same level of recognition and protection as the homes on the west side, which are already included in the East 7th Avenue Historic District. Historic Denver provided advice and technical assistance to the volunteer applicants, specifically conducting research and an oral history with the district’s most notable resident, Judge Raymond Jones. Historic Denver has supported the project in part because Judge Jones’ home is one of the 50 places selected for attention as part of our 50 Actions for 50 Places Campaign in spring 2021.

The 600 and 700 blocks of Steele Street are significant for their close association with the City Beautiful movement and with the development of the East 7th Avenue Parkway, which runs between the two blocks. The City Beautiful era in Denver is widely believed to have begun in earnest in 1904 with the election of Mayor Robert Speer and to have extended through the 1920s.

The district resident with the most lasting legacy and long-term prominence was Judge Raymond Dean Jones. Jones owned and resided at 780 Steele Street for more than forty years. Jones played an active role in the Civil Rights Movement, was a notable attorney and judge, and was the first African American to serve on the Appellate Court in Colorado.

The blocks also served as home to other individuals of interest, including three generations of the Cheley family, founders of Cheley Colorado camps, and Arthur Swenson, a prominent and early proprietor of trucks. Worth noting, in the 1920s 1/3 of the homes on the two blocks were owned and occupied by Jewish families in an era in which only 3% of Denver residents were of Jewish descent.

The homes in the proposed district are significant as excellent examples of the Craftsman architectural style in Denver, with 16 out of 19 structures exhibiting the distinguishing characteristics of the style. The Bungalows on Steele Street stand-out for their consistency, for their craftsmanship, and for their closer than-usual exhibition of key elements of the Craftsman influence, such as the tapered columns, the front porches and knee-walls, and exposed rafter tails on nearly every home.

You can read the full designation application at www.denvergov.org/preservation. The City of Denver Landmark Preservation staff hosted a meeting for the owners in the district in September, and a public hearing in front of the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission will take place this fall, likely followed by a hearing and vote of Denver City Council before the end of the year. 🍁



ENJOY HISTORIC DENVER’S WALKING TOURS THIS FALL AND WINTER

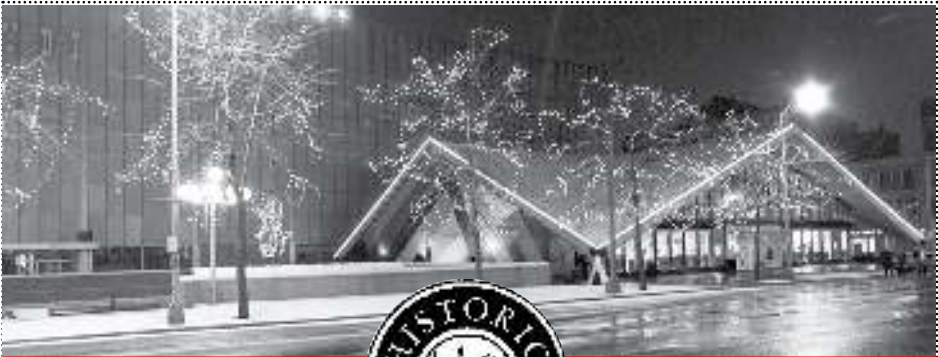
Our Walking Tour season has once again been extended through the fall and winter. Taking advantage of Denver’s beautiful fall and temperate winter, we will be offering weekly walking tours on an on-going basis. Our most popular tours, those of LoDo, Capitol Hill and Larimer Square will continue to run through the fall and winter. Private group tours can also be scheduled with our expert guides for any of our tour offerings. Sign up for one of our tours, and learn more of Denver’s stories as you walk through some of its most historic neighborhoods. See our full schedule of offerings at historicdenver.org/tour-events/walking-tours

Thank You

Thank you to these generous donors for giving in the last quarter of the year. We appreciate everyone who supported our 50th Anniversary, who gave at the end of the year, and more. We can't do this work without you!

Donations from August 7, 2021 - September 30, 2021

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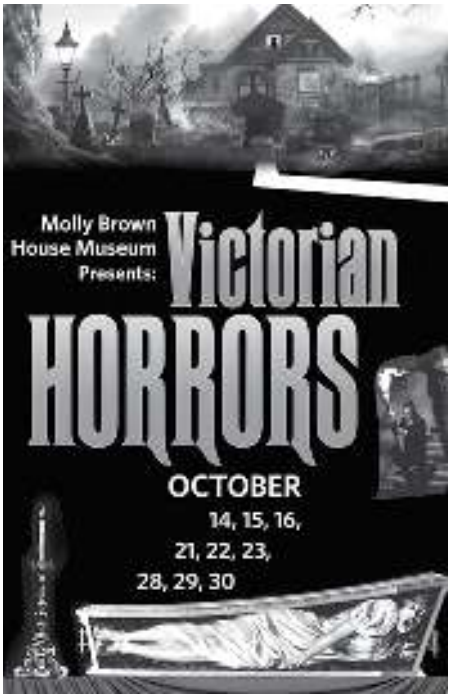
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11

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To purchase tickets to upcoming events visit:
historicdenver.org



Victorian Horrors

Select October Dates, entry 6-9pm
\$20/General Public, \$18/members
“I have love in me the likes of which you can scarcely imagine and rage the likes of which you would not believe. If I cannot satisfy the one, I will indulge the other.”
Mary Shelley, Frankenstein

The ghosts of Victorian Horrors past are rising as we return to an evening of “in-person” visits from both the spirit and mortal worlds. Join us in creeping from room to room hearing tales directly from gothic greats. We'll be limiting group size for each entry allowing for a more meaningful communion with the dead. All guests will be required to show proof of vaccination or recent negative Covid test for entry.
October 21 & 22 at 6pm each night—Special accessible performances
Unable to join us in person? Enjoy Victorian Horrors from the (relative) safety of your own home. \$20 for access.
For details visit mollybrown.org/victorian-horrors



Historic Denver Annual Dinner & Awards Program

October 28 + 5:30-9:00pm
\$195/Individual + \$250 Patron + Sponsorships Starting at \$3,000
Back at the Brown Palace for the 51st time, Historic Denver will celebrate the individuals and preservation projects that make historic places succeed in the 21st century. The evening includes a popular cocktail hour, followed by a three-course dinner, award presentation, and live auction. Tickets and sponsorships now on sale.



Empowered By Place: Elitch Theater

November 4 + 7- 8:30pm + Free + Virtual
Join us for the final Empowered By Place of the year. We will discuss Elitch Gardens and Theater. We'll speak with historian Debra Faulkner about its namesake and founder, Mary Elitch. We'll also talk to the board president of the Historic Elitch Theater about their efforts to restore and bring live theater back to this theater from the grounds of the original Elitch Gardens.

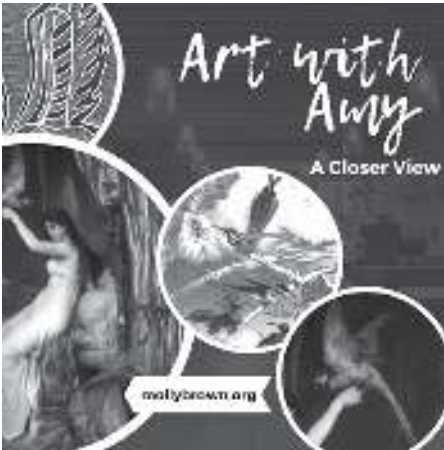


Denver Arts Week

As part of Denver Arts Week we will be offering tours of LoDo and Capitol Hill November 6th through 14th. Reserve your tickets today to walk with our expert guides and take a closer look at Denver history.

Night at the Museums @ the Molly Brown House Museum:

Self-explore the home of Titanic heroine Margaret “Molly” Brown while listening to Museum Docents share their favorite stories about Denver’s unsinkable Brown family – a story that leads from gold to the most infamous ocean disaster, from Paris opera houses to a run for the US Senate!



Closer View: An Art with Amy Talk

Thursday, November 11 + 7:00 pm
Join the Molly Brown House Museum for an exclusive “Art with Amy” gallery talk series. Our first elevated conversation will feature “Lady with Parrot,” a Brown family original that hangs in the Museum’s Drawing Room. Joining Amy will be Becky Black, professor of Art History; Brian Myres, an ornithologist and professor; and

Annie Willson, a professional artist and art teacher who will also create a clayboard etching art piece incorporating birds. After the talk you can create your own clayboard art from materials and instruction available to pick up at the Museum. Learn more at MollyBrown.org!



1340 Penn: Is Mrs. Brown Still Here?

November 18 + 7-9pm + Molly Brown House Museum + \$15/member + \$17/non-member
Grab a flashlight and join us for a ghost hunting tour through Mrs. Brown’s home as we try to find what does go bump in the night! After the tour we will discuss Edwardian notions of ghosts, hauntings, and all things paranormal!
Margaret’s 1340 Penn/After Hours are filled with chilling tales and taboo topics! From sassy suffragists to soulful spirits, see 1340 Penn in a whole new light!
This event will be in-person at the Molly Brown House Museum, subject to change to a virtual event should the situation require it.

Scout Victorian Holiday Party
December 4 + 4:30-7:00

Join us for a special Girl Scout Victorian holiday party at the Molly Brown House Museum! Learn about the Browns and Christmases of the past while exploring games, crafts and yummy treats throughout the Brown’s home decorated in its Victorian finery. Recommended for ages 6+.

Organ Tour

December 4 + 9:30 am + Downtown Locations + Tickets \$25-\$30
Every year Historic Denver partners with the American Guild of Organists Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter, to present a morning of history, architecture and beautiful organ music. This year we are touring some of downtown’s beautiful churches and organs. At each tour stop we will hear about the history and architecture of the church, as well as enjoy live organ music.



Historic Denver’s Realtor Seminar

December 8 + 12-4:30pm
Understanding & Selling Denver’s Historic Homes
Historic Denver’s popular Realtor Seminar, Understanding and Selling Historic Homes, will be offered once again on Wednesday, December 8th, from 12 to 4:30pm. This 3-credit course covers 150 years of Denver Architecture, an exploration of the various types of historic protections, maintenance pointers and sales tips. We are offering the course virtually, in order to join us and receive all 3 of the education credits you must have video capability, and remain present for the entirety of course.

