**Mission**

History Colorado inspires generations to find wonder and meaning in our past and to engage in creating a better Colorado.

**Vision**

History Colorado cultivates the most well-informed, engaged citizenry in the nation who understand the present in the context of the past and who work together to build a better Colorado.

**Our Goals**

To inspire a love of, connection to, and engagement in Colorado and the state’s history

To provide excellent stewardship of Colorado’s past through our collections

To build an efficient, effective, and financially robust organization to ensure our sustainability into the future

All images are from the collections of History Colorado unless otherwise noted.
Letter from the President and CEO and State Historic Preservation Officer

The Make History Colorado! capital campaign is successfully behind us, and we have embarked on an exciting and challenging new mode of operations and community support with the History Colorado Center in Denver, our regional museums, the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and the statewide services of the State Historical Fund.

To that end, we opened Living West, the History Colorado Center’s most ambitious core exhibit to date. This interactive journey takes visitors into three ecosystems to reveal the deep connection between our region’s land and its people. The Center’s staff have prepared a lineup of traveling exhibits and topical programming to appeal to varied audiences and partners, having hosted the exhibits Food: Our Global Kitchen and RACE: Are We So Different? while we eagerly anticipate The 1968 Exhibit, opening in early 2015.

At the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, an ambitious $2.4 million expansion is on the horizon. At our El Pueblo Museum, we commemorated the centennial of the infamous Ludlow Massacre by opening Children of Ludlow: Life in a Battle Zone, 1913–1914, developed in partnership with descendants of the very people touched by that tragedy and the healing that followed. The State Historical Fund has completed a truly successful grant year with over $9 million in preservation grants awarded across the state. These are just a few examples of the accomplishments you’ll read about within these pages.

Now in its 135th year, History Colorado has affirmed its commitment to a set of core values: excellence, integrity, respect, diversity, service, collaboration, and innovation. Everything we do—at our flagship History Colorado Center and through our historic properties and preservation activities—we do with those values as guideposts. We invite you to keep joining us—at our exhibits and events, our preservation programs, and in the civic engagement we are committed to providing all our constituencies.

Edward C. Nichols
President and CEO, History Colorado
State Historic Preservation Officer

Letter from the Chairman of the Board of Directors

Today, staff and board are working together harder than ever to ensure History Colorado’s success and sustainability while dealing with the many challenges that come with a statewide organization with a broad reach, long legacy, and demanding mission to inspire generations to make our state better. History Colorado’s mission, the values Ed Nichols has shared in his message, and our five-year Strategic Plan are especially important as we face the future.

And I can say with pride that the current board of directors has rolled up its sleeves to work with our very talented, hardworking staff to help History Colorado realize its vision of inspiring new audiences and connecting with new partners.

This past year, the key to that effort has been the new Strategic Plan. The board members have diligently guided and informed this plan with their varied talents and expertise.

Goal one of that plan is Audience Engagement: to establish History Colorado as one of the nation’s most relevant and innovative cultural organizations by engaging audiences of all ages and backgrounds in discovering and celebrating Colorado.

Goal two is Stewardship: to provide excellent stewardship of a meaningful, accessible, and sustainable collection to serve audiences for generations to come.

And goal three, as Ed has emphasized, is Sustainability: to secure the long-term sustainability of History Colorado’s vital programs and services with a dynamic financial model based on innovation, smart business planning, diversified revenue sources, and strategic partnerships.

The strategies underpinning those goals are vital, and the board’s support for them is firm. The 2013–2018 Strategic Plan is a dynamic document, to be referred to regularly (and modified if necessary) in order to encourage creative ideas while ensuring that they translate into effective exhibits, programs, and other engagement so that History Colorado continues to play its fitting role to help create a better Colorado.

Jim McCotter
Chairman of the Board, History Colorado
Accomplishments

- Nearly 375,000 people visited History Colorado properties throughout the state.
- In November 2013, History Colorado opened Living West, a core exhibit that explores the living dynamics between the people of Colorado and the state’s environment. The award-winning exhibit is sponsored by Denver Water with major support from the Gates Family Foundation.
- The History Colorado Center was named True West’s “Top Western History Museum of the Year” and one of the “Top Places in Colorado to Take Kids” by The Denver Post.
- More than 35,000 K–12 students from 600 schools took part in education programs at the History Colorado Center. Of them, 12,000 attend Title I schools. An additional 41,000 students took part in statewide outreach programs and 1,700 teachers participated in professional development programs.
- With funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and BP America, History Colorado launched new digital learning environments based on the stories of Amache, Lincoln Hills and Bent’s Fort. The environments will provide the foundation for one of the first museum-based digital badge programs for fourth, seventh, eighth and eleventh graders.
- History Colorado hosted a series of major traveling exhibitions beginning with Food: Our Global Kitchen in May 2014. Organized by the American Museum of Natural History in New York and sponsored locally by Whole Foods Market, the exhibit explored the intricate system of our world’s food, from farm to fork.
- History Colorado hosted its first Naturalization Ceremony in February 2014, with more than 50 new citizens from 20 countries taking the oath to become American citizens on the giant Colorado map in our atrium.
• History Colorado collaborated with Rocky Mountain PBS on *Colorado Experience*, an eight-episode series about Colorado history. The program “Fly Girl” was recognized with a 2014 Heartland Emmy Award.

• Collections staff improved storage and documentation of History Colorado’s impressive photography collection. Last year, History Colorado provided access to more than 5,000 previously undocumented photographs and KWGN Channel 2 news footage from 1966–82.

• History Colorado’s Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center responded to more than 9,500 research requests. To further access for researchers and the general public alike, staff converted and updated the archives and library catalog into a much more user-friendly format that can be easily accessed online.

• Collections management and curatorial staff prepared thousands of images and records for the launch of History Colorado’s first public portal to the artifact and photography collections.

• In consultation with the three Ute tribes, History Colorado began planning the expansion of the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, with completion expected in 2016.

• With sponsorship from Black Hills Energy, *Children of Ludlow: Life in a Battle Zone, 1913–1914* opened at El Pueblo History Museum to commemorate the centennial of the Ludlow Massacre. A label from the exhibit won the American Alliance of Museums’ Excellence in Exhibition Label Writing Competition.
Over the past three years, the Office of the State Archaeologist and the Preservation Planning team have worked with the National Park Service, Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal representatives and other experts on the interpretation, design and land use of the Sand Creek Massacre site near Eads. Now in its final public review, the plan is expected to be accepted in time for the 150th anniversary of the event in November 2014. The park’s striking landscape provides a place to reflect on the tragedies of the past, as well as our hopes for the present and future.

After the devastating floods in Boulder and Larimer counties in September 2013, the State Historical Fund awarded more than $51,000 in emergency grants to stabilize historic buildings damaged by floodwaters.

To very favorable regional response, the State Historical Fund established a Western Field Office in Durango to help support grant projects in southwestern Colorado and the regional work of other History Colorado divisions.

History Colorado archaeologists led a survey of state lands in the Pawnee Buttes area of Weld County. Nineteen volunteers helped record 12 archaeological sites and 36 isolated finds dating from the Late Archaic through the Historic periods (1500 BC–1960 AD).

History Colorado’s first book for young readers, *A Civil War Scrapbook: I Was There Too!*, won an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History.
2013–2014 Attendance

History Colorado owns and operates historic sites and museums in communities throughout the state.

- History Colorado Center | 174,686
- Byers-Evans House | 15,549
- El Pueblo History Museum | 26,851
- Fort Garland Museum | 8,316
- Fort Vasquez Museum | 4,164
- Georgetown Loop Railroad® | 103,967
- Grant-Humphreys Mansion | 20,776
- Healy House/Dexter Cabin | 2,407
- Trinidad History Museum | 10,047
- Ute Indian Museum | 8,083
- **TOTAL** | 374,846
The State Historical Fund

Total Grant Dollars Awarded by County from Program Inception Through Fiscal Year 2014

Number of grants awarded indicated by numbers

Fiscal Year 2014

Grants awarded | 130
Total value of those grants | $8,862,734
Grants awarded since program’s inception | 4,102
Total value of those grants | $265,166,082

For more information, visit: www.HistoryColorado.org/grants/grants

Through the State Historical Fund, History Colorado continues to help organizations and communities preserve their heritage. Every year, the program receives a portion of the total state tax revenues generated by limited-stakes gaming in the towns of Black Hawk, Central City, and Cripple Creek. The Fund is one of the most significant forces behind the preservation of Colorado history and a catalyst for strengthening communities statewide.
# History Colorado Financial Summary 2013–2014

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<th>Support &amp; Revenue</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
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<th>Actual Archaeology &amp; Historic Preservation</th>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$20,744,759</td>
<td>$20,506,341</td>
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## Expenditure Budget by Program

### High Level Summary

**Support & Revenue Source**

- Limited Gaming Revenue: $26,281,128
- Federal Grants: $718,724
- Earned Income: $3,688,371
- Total Revenue: $30,688,223

### Year-End Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Operations</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>$17,374,113</td>
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<td>History Colorado Operations</td>
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<td>$1,581,284</td>
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<td><strong>Surplus</strong></td>
<td>$17,374,113</td>
<td>$13,314,110</td>
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*Amount includes all awarded grants and actual expenditures of $5,932,334
This past June, History Colorado celebrated the completion of the *Make History Colorado!* capital campaign by unveiling the permanent donor wall at an event honoring all of the donors whose contributions helped transform our organization. History Colorado is grateful to the many donors whose financial commitments totaling $22 million provided the funding needed to design and create exhibits and education programs for the History Colorado Center, as well as infrastructure and statewide outreach programs.

*Make History Colorado!* supports our vision for the History Colorado Center as a place of civic conversation, engagement, and inspiration. Innovative core exhibits encourage visitors to step into Colorado’s stories, temporary and traveling exhibits bring opportunities for new experiences to our community, and outreach programs deepen our relationship with Coloradans across the state.

As we look forward to our future, History Colorado will build on this new foundation to inspire generations to find wonder and meaning in our past and engage in creating a better Colorado. This would not be possible without the support of the many donors to the campaign.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING HISTORY!
Without the support of our corporate and foundation partners, we at History Colorado could never have achieved our ambitious goals for 2013–14.

November 2013 saw the opening of Living West, the second phase of our core exhibits at the History Colorado Center. This 7,000-square-foot experience takes audiences of all ages on a journey into the deep relationships between Colorado’s people and its land through three stories: life at Mesa Verde in the 1200s, the 1930s Dust Bowl on the southeastern plains, and today’s Rocky Mountain ecosystems. The support and partnership of Denver Water and the generous support of the Gates Family Foundation made the exhibit possible.

History Colorado formed a special partnership with Whole Foods Market to present Food: Our Global Kitchen, our first major traveling exhibit at the History Colorado Center. Whole Foods provided both financial and promotional support, helping spread awareness of this engaging and timely exhibit throughout the region. Along with local vendors and community partners, Whole Foods also assisted with the exhibit’s Taste Kitchen during the entire run of Food—giving visitors the opportunity to sample and learn about a variety of the world’s foods and cooking techniques.

Another partner—Xcel Energy’s Consumer Education division—supported community events at the History Colorado Center while educating our visitors about money- and energy-saving options for their homes. During special events, the Xcel Energy team was onsite to interact with visitors. For several months, History Colorado was home to an interactive kiosk, educating guests during every visit.

And at El Pueblo History Museum, Black Hills Energy sponsored Children of Ludlow: Life in a Battle Zone, 1913–1914. Developed with input from descendants of those touched by the Ludlow tragedy, this critically acclaimed and award-winning exhibit presents the experiences of the children who lived in the turbulent environment of the Ludlow tent colony.
The Volunteers of History Colorado

In 2013–14, 464 volunteers generously contributed 33,364 hours of service, which had a monetary value of $748,364. The volunteers awarded fourteen grants for History Colorado programs in Denver and at regional museums across the state, with a total value of $14,999.

History Colorado volunteers come from all over the state of Colorado, serving their state and communities by telling our unique Colorado stories, preserving historic artifacts, and engaging visitors, along with their many other contributions. As History Colorado grows, we welcome the opportunity to continue to provide valuable services that benefit our community. This would not be possible without the hard work of our volunteers!

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Gloria Rosener
Judy Sullivan
Thank You to Our Annual Fund Donors

History Colorado is grateful for our many donors and giving members. Community support enables us to preserve the history of our state for present and future generations. The following have demonstrated exceptional commitment to History Colorado during our last fiscal year starting July 1, 2013, and ending on June 30, 2014. Additional gifts were made to the Colorado Historical Foundation in support of the Make History Colorado! capital campaign.

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Ameriprise Financial Services
Lloyd J. & Eleanor R. King Foundation
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National Park Foundation
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The Trinchera Blanca Foundation, LLC
Volunteers of History Colorado
Xcel Energy Foundation

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Mr. Peter C. Bulkeley & Ms. Edith Conklin
Carol J. Burt & Raymond Larimer Hilliard
The Carson Foundation
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Ms. Tamra J. Ward
Dr. William Wei & Dr. Susan Wei
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   & Mr. Arthur Victor II
Ms. Evelyn R. Waldran
   & Ms. June Stool
Mr. Jeffrey D. Weaver &
   Ms. Karen L. Spray
Mr. & Mrs. Mike D. West
Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Wilshusen

*Deceased

Measuring snowpack in Living West
Bronze ($250–$499)
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Abell
Mr. Peter Abuisi
Ms. Dana B. Allen
Ms. Julie P. Andries
Anonymous Donor
Sue Anschantz-Rodgers
Dr. David M. Armstrong
Mr. & Mrs. William D. Armstrong
Ms. Ann-Carolynn Bennett
Benson Mineral Group, Inc
Mr. John Birkeland & Ms. Joy Hall
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Blair
Mr. Joseph B. Blake
The Honorable Larry L. Bohning
Mr. & Mrs. Jon-Erik Borgen
Mr. Bill C. Bottoms
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Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Brown
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Ms. Marie Monroe
Mr. & Mrs. Donald F. Morales
Mrs. Dolores H. Moreland
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Moritz
Mr. & Mrs. John E. Moye
Mr. Gurnee Munn III & Ms. Harriett Holmes

History Colorado Center programs served more than 35,000 K–12 students.
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Mr. William D. Neighbors
Mrs. Sharon L. Newman
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Obregon
Mr. & Mrs. William F. Pass
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel K. Paulien
Mrs. Arlene H. Payne
Mr. & Ms. Peter J. Philpott
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Plomondon
Mr. & Mrs. William Plummer
Ms. E. Jill Pollock & Mr. John S. Hayosh
Mr. & Mrs. Ted J. Puls
James F. Reeman & Susan Knight Reeman
Ms. Patricia Rendoff
Mr. Robert B. Renfro II
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Resnick
Mr. Fred N. Ris
Ms. Gay A. Roane
Mr. & Mrs. Edward A. Robinson
Mr. George B. Rooney IV
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Rosener
Mr. & Mrs. Paul A. Rothman
Mrs. Barbara M. Rumsey
Mr. William Russell
Mr. Paul T. Ruttum & Ms. B. Elyse Tipton
Ms. Jolanthe Saks
Mr. & Mrs. Buzz Sampson
Mrs. Mary B. Schaefer & Mr. Hugh Rice
Mr. & Mrs. Jon N. Schler
Ms. Nancy Schulein
Shames-Makovskys
Mr. & Mrs. William Sinclaire
Mr. & Mrs. Ken B. Stannard
Mr. & Mrs. Harry C. Starkey
Mr. Carl Steidtmann & Ms. Kathleen Cline
Miss Marilyn J. Stein
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas R. Stiverson
Ms. Meg Stolberg
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Stroh
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We are grateful to those individuals who have made provisions in their wills and estate plans to help ensure the future of History Colorado. We are pleased to recognize these individuals by naming them to History Colorado’s legacy society.

**Legacy Society**

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- Grant Wilkins

For more information about making a tax-deductible donation or leaving a legacy gift to History Colorado, please contact the Development Department at 303/866-4477 or development@state.co.us.

History Colorado strives to produce the Annual Report donor and giving member recognition lists without errors or omissions. If we have made a mistake, we apologize and appreciate your calling it to our attention. Please contact us at 303/866-4477 or development@state.co.us.

*Living West teaches stewardship of Colorado’s mountains.*
What’s Next?

Since opening the History Colorado Center in 2012, we’ve strengthened our programs, created dynamic exhibits, invested in our regional sites, and seen our audiences grow. In the coming year, we’ll expand our reach further while forging partnerships with organizations that share our mission to cultivate an informed citizenry engaged in creating a better Colorado.

In 2014–15, the History Colorado Center will offer a series of remarkable traveling exhibits. *RACE: Are We So Different?* is the first national exhibit to examine the biology, history, and lived experience of race. Through this exhibit, we’re partnering with Denver metro organizations to host conversations about one of the most challenging topics of our time. A major exhibit from the Minnesota History Center, *The 1968 Exhibit* will evoke memories among visitors who experienced that turbulent era while provoking intergenerational reflection on a year that changed America. *Toys of the ’50s, ’60s and ’70s* will explore a period when new technologies and TV advertising led to an explosion of products that reflected—and shaped—American culture.

The regional museums continue to expand their reach in the communities they serve. Through the tireless efforts of El Pueblo History Museum staff, Puebloans feel a growing sense of ownership in their museum. El Pueblo will host *The Emancipation Proclamation*, a traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution. Efforts continue on the long-awaited expansion of the Ute Indian Museum, which will feature exhibits and programs developed in close consultation with the three Ute Indian tribes.

History Colorado is expanding programs to secondary school students by infusing social studies content with STEM learning that aligns with standards in a variety of areas. History Colorado will launch broadly accessible digital learning environments, letting students earn online badges as they master the content. Our collections are going digital as well. By late 2014, many of our extraordinary artifacts, photographs and video, archival materials, and even our music collection will be accessible to anyone with a computer.

Like most history museums, History Colorado has done little intentional collecting of materials post–World War II. In the coming year, we’ll begin building a collection that will help our successors understand the profound changes contemporary Colorado has undergone. These new oral histories, archival materials, and artifacts will serve as the foundation for exhibits and civic engagement programs that explore our recent past and our complex present.

*Families visit RACE: Are We So Different? at the History Colorado Center.*
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