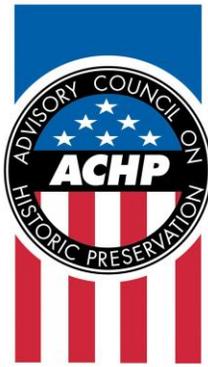


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Preserving America's Heritage

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Colorado Youth Summits Honored by ACHP Award

WASHINGTON, DC – The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) today honored the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, Colorado Preservation, Inc., and the Colorado Historical Society for their support for a series of Colorado Youth Summits.

“Through efforts such as the Colorado Youth Summits, the federal government is finding new and better strategies to bring authentic experience of place and heritage to emerging generations for the benefit of the nation,” said Milford Wayne Donaldson, ACHP chairman. “It is essential to actively involve more American youths in natural and cultural preservation educational efforts, and the Colorado Youth Summits, joined with the ACHP’s initiative to encourage service learning partnerships with local schools and preservation organizations nationwide, create models for others to emulate in filling this need.”

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar accepted the ACHP Award for Federal Preserve America Accomplishment on behalf of Interior’s local National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management units in Colorado that directly supported the youth summits. Salazar also administered the oath of office to Donaldson at the beginning of the ACHP quarterly meeting. Donaldson was recently selected by President Barack Obama to lead the independent federal historic preservation agency.

Harris Sherman, Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Agriculture, accepted the ACHP award on behalf of U.S. Forest Service units in Colorado that supported the summits.

Receiving partnership commendations for their key roles in creating and supporting the summits were Colorado Preservation, Inc. and the Colorado Historical Society.

Other organizations involved in one or more summits include: The History Channel; the Ute, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Hopi tribes; the Colorado Tourism Office; the Colorado General Assembly; and, local communities and historic preservation entities.

The Colorado Preserve America Youth Summits were instituted three years ago, and seven have occurred to date at various sites across the state. During the summits more than 500 young people have participated at such places as Dinosaur National Monument, Mesa Verde National Park, Sangre de Cristo Heritage Area, the San Juan National Forest, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, and the Camp Amache Japanese-American Internment Site. The program recently has been funded through a \$250,000 matching grant by the Colorado State Historical Fund for two more years with a focus on “Colorado at Work,” encouraging students to study diverse industries that have shaped the state’s history.

For more information on the ACHP please visit www.achp.gov.

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