

# SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Doors open at East Library

9 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Tim Blevins and Paula Miller

9:15 - 10:45 a.m.

**BIOGRAPHY & PHOTOGRAPHY**

Mike L. Olsen

**Imaging & Imagining: Focusing on the History of Film & Photography**

Nancy Bathke & Brenda Hawley

**Early Women Photographers of the Pikes Peak Region**

Leah Davis Witherow

**Selling This City: The Commercial Photography of Harry L. Standley**

Katie Rudolph

**When the West was New: Examining Robert Adams's Colorado Springs**

Mike L. Olsen

Questions & Discussion

10:45 - 11 a.m. Break

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**THE PIKES PEAK REGION THROUGH A CRITICAL LENS**

Katherine Scott Sturdevant

**Photographer Laura Gilpin: Colorado's "Highly Individualistic Eye"**

Joyce B. Lohse

**Artist's Glen: A Tale of Two Photographers - William E. Hook & Paul Idleman**

Joe Tarabino

**An Interesting Thing Happened on the Road to Hollywood**

Jan Olsson

**Modernity Stops at Nothing: The American Chase Film in the Specter of Lynching**

Mike L. Olsen

Questions & Discussion

12:30 - 1:15 p.m.

Complimentary Light Lunch

1:15 - 2:45 p.m.

**MAKING MOVIES & MAKING MONEY**

Steven Antonuccio

**The Alexander Film Company & Its Role in the Birth of Theatrical & Television Advertising**

Doris A. McCraw

**Vision, Discipline & Synchronicity: the Life of Karol W. Smith**

Robin K. Hammitt

**Cañon City: "Filmed with the Naked Fury of Fact!"?**

David Emrich

**Tourism, Economic Development & the Movies**

Mike L. Olsen

Questions & Discussion  
Closing Summary

3:00 p.m.

**FILM FESTIVAL & RECEPTION**

Viewing of clips and discussion of today's featured films



*We thank our speakers for agreeing to limit their presentations to 20 minutes. There will be 10 minutes at the end of each session for questions from the audience.*

*Program subject to change.*

Sponsored By



## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pikes Peak Regional History Symposium

*Presented by Special Collections, PPLD*

# FILM & PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE FRONT RANGE

## Saturday June 11, 2011

**East Library • 5550 N. Union Blvd.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918**

**Reservations required for  
this free event.**

**For reservations or information  
call (719) 531-6333, x2253**

**Register online at  
[ppld.org/pikes-peak-regional-history-symposium](http://ppld.org/pikes-peak-regional-history-symposium)**

**Doors open at 8:30 a.m.**

**Symposium begins at 9 a.m.  
A complimentary light lunch  
will be served.**

**SAVE THE DATE  
JUNE 9, 2012**

9<sup>th</sup> Annual Pikes Peak  
Regional History Symposium

**DISASTERS  
of the  
Pikes Peak  
Region**



*Background graphics by Jay Miller  
Photograph by Harry L. Standley*

# PRESENTATIONS

## STEVE ANTONUCCIO

### *The Alexander Film Company & Its Role in the Birth of Theatrical & Television Advertising*

When silent films were still produced, the Alexander brothers explored the idea of showing theatrical advertisements before and after entertainment films to promote local businesses' products and services. With the advent of television, they created theatrical and television advertising for many Fortune 500 companies. This presentation will explore the history of theatrical and television advertising through the work of the Alexander Film Company, in Colorado Springs, and their impact on the genesis of television advertising, as well as a brief biography of lead cinematographer Jim Bates.

## NANCY BATHKE & BRENDA HAWLEY

### *Early Women Photographers of the Pikes Peak Region*

Extensive research has documented the few women who were professional photographers in the Pikes Peak region during the time of first settlement through World War I. They are categorized as: wives and widows of photographers; women with surviving evidence of their photographic work; women with researched biographies; and women with no surviving work, and scant biographical evidence. This presentation will showcase three women photographers with significant work: Anna Tweed, Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak; Julia Skolas, Cripple Creek; and Anna Wellington Armentrout, Cascade.

## DAVID EMRICH

### *Tourism, Economic Development & the Movies*

Like scenic books and postcards, movie "actualities" were used to promote tourism on Railroad Company lines as early as 1898. Thus the movies' role in economic development was born. Recognition of the state's scenic advantage and the economic benefit to localities throughout Colorado led to the development of the world's first publicly-funded film commission. This model brought financial gain from the 1950s through the 1980s and continues to bring tourism to the region today.

## ROBIN K. HAMMITT

### *Cañon City: "Filmed With the Naked Fury of Fact!"?*

*Cañon City* is a documentary-styled film that recounts a 1948 escape from the Colorado State Prison at Cañon City during which members of Hammitt's own family were held hostage. Drawing on the explosive advertising slogans, including "Filmed with the naked fury of fact . . . where it actually happened . . . with the people it happened to," the film's locations will be explored and information shared about the events, escapees and victims. Hammitt will also discuss the event and how its subsequent filming imprinted and shaped the historical memory.

## JOYCE B. LOHSE

### *Artist's Glen: A Tale of Two Photographers*

Arriving to this area in the 1880s, British scenic view photographer William E. Hook homesteaded an area of Pikes Peak known as Artist's Glen. In 1994, Colorado Springs photographer and history museum director Paul Idleman documented Hook's photographic history in the videorecording *Kind Nature's Scenery to Portray: The Life and Work of William Edward Hook*. Idleman passed away in 2006 at the age of 57 before his research about Hook's photography could be published in book format. This is the story of William Hook's photographic history based on the research of Paul Idleman.

## DORIS A. MCCRAW

### *Vision, Discipline & Synchronicity: the Life of Karol W. Smith*

Karol Smith's photographic images were significant in promoting Cañon City's local businesses, tourism and the city's movie industry. McCraw will highlight Smith's various roles in the evolution of the film industry in Colorado and the Cañon City region. Smith helped convince the town to form a committee to promote the area and bring film projects to the region and played a role in the construction of the recently closed Buckskin Joe's Frontier Town & Railway, originally built as a stage set for the movie industry. Smith served as the first commissioner of the Colorado Film Commission, which he helped to create.

## MIKE L. OLSEN

### *Imaging & Imagining: Focusing on the History of Film & Photography*

Mike Olsen will provide an overview of the history of photography and film, from tintypes to YouTube. He will review the beginnings of photography; famous photographers; the development of cameras and photographic processes; the advent of film, television, and the Internet; and provide a brief overview of photography and film in the Pikes Peak region. Olsen will assess the impact of photography and film on humanity and will posit questions for the audience to ponder, such as: Why did the photographer take this picture? How has photography and film changed how we perceive ourselves and the past? How do photography and film shape our culture?

## JAN OLSSON

### *Modernity Stops at Nothing: The American Chase Film in the Specter of Lynching*

Jan Olsson will analyze the American chase scene as inextricably coupled to punishment endings often writ large—in some cases, with lynching. A key example is Harry Buckwalter's film *A Lynching at Cripple Creek* (Selig, 1904), which is at the core of this presentation..

## KATIE RUDOLPH

### *When the West was New: Examining Robert Adams's Colorado Springs*

After coming to Colorado College in 1962 to work as an assistant professor of English, Robert Adams photographed growth in Colorado during the late 1960s and early 1970s. This presentation will examine Adams's images of the built and natural environment of Colorado Springs that appeared in the 1974 book, *The New West*. Rudolph will provide biographical information about Adams as well as historical context about the expansion in Colorado Springs that Adams chose to photograph.

## KATHERINE SCOTT STURDEVANT

### *Photographer Laura Gilpin: Colorado's "Highly Individualistic Eye"*

Ansel Adams called Laura Gilpin "one of the most important photographers of our time." She died

(1979) a "Santa Fe photographer," but she belonged in Colorado's mountains. Born in Austin Bluffs (1891), she grew up loving Western landscapes. She knew photographers William Henry Jackson and Dr. William Bell. She learned about wildlife from William Jackson Palmer. She lived on ranches all over the Front Range. Gilpin's commercial studios were in Colorado Springs, where she also worked with the Broadmoor Art Academy and Taylor Museum. Laura Gilpin, the renowned Southwest photographer, prepared for that role on Colorado's Front Range.

## JOE TARABINO

### *An Interesting Thing Happened on the Road to Hollywood*

During the two decades, between 1904 and 1923, the Front Range of the Rocky Mountain southwest experienced a golden age of silent moviemaking. Rivaling in many respects the traditional cultural and technical landmarks which essentially bookended that stage in the development of the art form of film, *The Great Train Robbery* (Edison, 1903) and *Birth of a Nation* (Griffith, 1915); these works were both created by studio representatives and were among the first generation of independently produced films.

## LEAH DAVIS WITHEROW

### *Selling This City: The Commercial Photography of Harry L. Standley*

As one of southern Colorado's most gifted early photographers, Harry Landis Standley's street scenes and his landscapes are equally notable. He enjoyed capturing the daily life of Colorado Springs. The hustle and bustle of downtown, children at play, and lunch time in Acacia Park all stirred Standley's artistic ability. These images are as distinctive and beautiful as those of mountainsides and crags. For many years, Standley worked as a commercial photographer for the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and as a result was responsible for the "public image" of the Pikes Peak region. Millions of people around the world viewed an idealistic Colorado Springs—one created through the lens of Harry L. Standley.