



## Utes Educate Our Youth

In 2011, we expanded our educational offerings, adding a program that highlights the history of the Ute tribe's presence and influence in the Roaring Fork Valley.

This fall, our team visited schools in three counties, reaching more than 1,600 students in grades pre-K to 12th.

We have the honor of working with Skyler Lomahaftewa and his wife, Stevie. Skyler is a tribal member of the Northern (Uncompahgre) Utes and is Bear Dance Chief of Randlett. Stevie is a Western Shoshone and grew up in Idaho. She has been dancing on the Pow Wow Circuit

since she was 10 years old.



*Skyler Lomahaftewa*

Skyler was born and raised on the Uintah Reservation in Fort Duchesne in northeastern Utah. Understanding the ancestral ways of his people was an integral part of his upbringing, and his great-grandfather, Henry Cesspooch, taught him to be a leader and teacher of Indian ways. Skyler moved to Snowmass Village five years ago to pursue his passion for snowboarding.

Through a generous grant from Colorado Humanities, the Aspen Historical Society has created a partnership enabling Skyler to fulfill his great-grandfather's wishes.

The 45-minute presentation introduces students to a time when the Ute people inhabited this valley, what caused their relocation, and what life is like for Ute people today. This program allows the students to experience Ute customs and culture through the sharing of stories, song and artifacts.



*Ute Bear Dance*

See comments and artwork from the new Ute Education program on Page 5.



## Breaking News!

In November, Aspen City Council unanimously approved a proposal to build a project at Lift One, which will include a long anticipated AHS facility. After a lengthy and sometimes contentious process, the final approval was a welcome step forward.

In the early 1990s, voters gave approval for AHS to build a museum in Willoughby Park, at the base of Aspen Mountain. In 2006, developers of the adjacent property offered to provide The Skier's Chalet Lodge to house a museum as part of their hotel development.

Looking directly out toward the original Lift One ski lift, our restored building and site will enable us to tell the story of skiing in Aspen at its very birthplace.



Equally beneficial for the community will be an underground impermeable vault that will allow AHS to consolidate our collection in one location designed to reduce risk and protect our treasures while offering unprecedented public access at the same time.

The Lift One Center as currently envisioned, contains:

- Two levels of public space for exhibits & programming
- Outdoor interpretation revealing the powerful lure of the site
- Community room and lockers – a Student Union of sorts
- A sculpted natural amphitheater for living history performances
- 4,000 square feet of vault for collection storage
- A splendid retail opportunity

Planning for interpretation of the park and interior museum spaces has begun.

## Dear Friends,

Early in my tenure at the Society, I asked my five-year-old granddaughter what she thought about our museum. She replied, “I can’t touch anything and you won’t let me play.” I gulped and resolved to never hear that kind of response from anyone again. Today, my granddaughter visits a new museum: a place to play, interact and learn in a light-hearted forum. She has made candles, heard a Ute elder speak, watched a restored steam engine operate, and played croquet with her friends.

Our mission is to provide context to our valley’s identity by connecting us with our roots. We KNOW that history is fun *and* interesting. We are duty-bound to share our history and to ensure that our children and grandchildren will grow up both smiling about and revering the stories of the lives and events that have shaped our culture. As American society becomes more homogenized, being rooted in and celebrating the authenticity of this place becomes ever more important.

“These treasures we keep are too important to be at risk... We hope you will join us as we move to save prized stories for the others to enjoy.”

We are moving forward with systems in place designed to guarantee a stable future for AHS. Our next step is to improve the condition of our archive and collection storage. We are ratcheting up our level of care for preserved artifacts, images and stories. These treasures we keep are too important to be at risk. We will launch a capital campaign in the next year to ask for your help with this project. We hope you will join us as we take action to save prized stories for others to enjoy.

As I grow older and more reflective, the reality of how quickly my generation’s stories drop off the radar screen becomes more obvious. Each of us has treasured memories; as we age, we grow nostalgic and the sense of urgency to preserve them increases.

From the local impact of the ski club to the global reach of the Aspen Institute, what are the memories that you hope to impart to your grandkids? What do you think is important to preserve in order to sustain our culture?

What we are doing here is important work.

Respectfully,



Georgia Herrick Hanson  
President, CEO

“People are hungry for stories. It’s part of our very being. Storytelling is a form of history, of immortality too. It goes from one generation to another.”

Studs Terkel



# WINTER 2011-12

## Programming and Events Schedule

Aspen History 101

Dec 6, 2011 (Free)

Hotel Jerome, Doors 5 p.m. / Show 5:30 p.m.

Annual Holiday Cookie Exchange & Book Signing

Dec 13, 2011 (Free)

Wheeler/Stallard Museum, 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Teddy Bear Story Hour

Dec 20, 2011 (\$3/child)

Wheeler/Stallard Museum, 3 to 4 p.m.

Time Travel Tuesdays – January through March, 2012

Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. – \$8 at the door

DATE	PROGRAM	LOCATION
Jan 24	Members of the Board – Pioneers of Shred	Wheeler Opera House
Jan 31	AVSC – 75 Years of Greatness	Aspen Elks Lodge
Feb 7	Aspen on Ice	Limelight Lodge
Feb 14	The Fifth Mountain – A Skinny History	Limelight Lodge
Feb 21	Off Piste – Explore the Backside	Limelight Lodge
Feb 28	Mountain Rescue – Beacons of Courage	Limelight Lodge
Mar 6	Soul of Ajax	Limelight Lodge
Mar 13	Soul of Buttermilk	Bumps Restaurant
Mar 20	Soul of Highlands	Aspen Highlands Main Lobby
Mar 27	Soul of Snowmass	Two Creeks Main Lobby

*Digging Snowmastodon*: An update and book signing

with Dr. Kirk Johnson

Mar 22, 2012, Silvertree Conference Center, 5:30 p.m.

Continual stewardship of five local sites on the  
National Register of Historic Places.

March is CELEBRATE HISTORY MONTH!

Call for more information, (970) 925-3721.

\* programs and times are subject to change.



### WHEELER/STALLARD MUSEUM:

Out of Your Mind, Body  
and Spirit: Aspen, 1975

Open Tues through Sat  
1-5 pm through March

### TOURS:

History Coach Tour

West End Walking Tour

Hotel Jerome Tour

On-Mountain Ski Tours



Snowy visited AHS recently to tell us about  
the new book Dr. Johnson is writing about  
the Snowmass dig.



“The AHS is doing a fantastic job of keeping the Aspen spirit alive with the wide range of interesting and unique programs they are offering for young and old. They deserve everyone’s support.”

Nick Coates,  
Retired Realtor & Philanthropist



1. Nina Gabianelli as Gretl Uhl during Time Travel Tuesday. 2. Michael Monroney leads an historic bike tour 3. Musician Jimmy Dykann entertains Silver Circle guests at Chaparral Ranch. 4. Aspen Music Festival and School President Alan Fletcher speaks to Silver Circle members at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum. 5. The Havlen-Brand and Kravitz families enjoy the Wild West show in Snowmass. 6. Su Lum shares memories at Bil Dunaway’s memorial. 7. Monty Loud, Jennifer Figge, Kip Hubbard and Jim McManus listen to Jay Parker at the Silver Circle Smuggler Mine event. 8. John and Barbara Zrno join Judith Swift and Dick Osur at Smuggler Mine.



## UTES EDUCATE OUR YOUTH Continued from page 1

“The presenters did an effective job of telling personal stories to illustrate both the differences and similarities between Ute culture today and in the past. Student engagement was high and there were more questions than time allowed.”

— Jim Gilchrist - Principal of Aspen Community School

“I thought that the assembly with Skyler and Stevie was really interesting. I wish I could learn more about the Ute Indian tribe. It was so fascinating and cool.”

— Lauren Holtz, student



## More on Ute Culture Coming...

We are currently in the planning stage for a new exhibit about Ute culture. The exhibit will examine historical context and explore how current northern Ute culture is evolving and reaffirming a quest to keep traditions and language alive. We look forward to opening this new exhibit in June 2012.

A reminder for procrastinators: Our extremely popular, “Out of Your Mind, Body and Spirit: Aspen, 1975”, exhibit at the Wheeler Stallard Museum will be closing permanently at the end of March.

## EVERY STORY IS RELEVANT: Public Access to AHS Archives Takes A Giant Leap

Looking for pictures of your parents in the '60s, or want to find one of yourself? Immerse yourself in the Aspen Archives! (Fair warning: It can be addictive.)

In the past, there were few quick or easy ways to access Aspen's treasure trove of historic assets—newspapers, telephone directories, vital records, oral histories and fellowship papers.

Today, thanks to advances in information sharing technology, the Aspen Historical Society's archives are becoming accessible to anyone, anywhere. Integrating 10,000 images, online newspaper directories, important audio archives and academic papers has been the AHS Collection Department's mission since 2005. Their efforts have come to fruition. AHS has launched our first-ever online database.

Working with Mick Bird of True Compass Designs, Anna Scott, Lisa Hancock and Megan Cerise have artfully and seamlessly linked the Society's PastPerfect collection software with a new online platform called Business Catalyst. The result is a free, robust and fully searchable online database.



Using a variety of finding aids, visitors to the site will have the opportunity to search for an ancestor who lived in Aspen at the turn of the century, as well as find images of that person, look for their census records, and research stories about them in historic newspapers.

The collections team was able to complete the database portion of this project thanks to grants from the Colorado Historic Records Advisory Board and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

*To access the new archive site, visit [AspenHistory.org](http://AspenHistory.org).*

## FEATURED SITE: ASHCROFT GHOST TOWN

The Ashcroft ghost town was buzzing this summer, but some of the traffic wasn't donning binoculars or pocket travel guides. Instead, they were working hard to upgrade a vital element of the site: the trail linking the parking lot with the Hotel View.

After years of planning and logistics, the Ashcroft trail restoration project is finally complete. Nearly 30 people spent two and a half weeks working on two-thirds of the 1,100-foot trail, meandering from the welcome center through the town site.

The Aspen Historical Society spearheaded the effort with help from the US Forest Service, who arranged for labor from the American Conservation Corps. A crew from the Colorado Department of Corrections Rifle facility took the project to its conclusion.

Thanks to Kerry Newman, Betsy Willey, Karl Oliver, Martha Moran and Katie Martinez who all provided much-needed muscle throughout the project.

*Many thanks go out to our project sponsors and partners:*

US Forest Service, ACES, City of Aspen Recreation Department, LaFarge North America, Inc., Mountain Roll-Offs, Inc., Max at Valley Lumber of Basalt, James at Western Colorado Excavating



*Elementary school classroom learning about Ashcroft*

ASPEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tony Vagneur, President  
Jackie Kasabach, Vice President  
Rich Burkley, Treasurer  
Tom Sharkey, Secretary  
Carl Bergman  
Jim DeFrancia  
Ruth Owens Hanrahan  
Ruth Kruger  
Marlene Maddalone  
Nancy Mayer  
Sarah Oates  
Jay Parker  
Margret Reckling  
Dwayne Romero  
Tom Todd

ASPEN HISTORIC PARK  
& RECREATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Darryl Grob, President  
Judy Bleiler, Co-Vice President  
Warren Klug, Co-Vice President  
Lynn Dunlop, Secretary/Treasurer  
Lennie Oates

VOLUNTEER HISTORIAN

Larry Fredrick

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Mary Eshbaugh Hayes  
Christine Aubale Gerschel  
Ann Hodges  
Jane Jenkins  
Rick Newton  
Martie Sterling\*  
Ruth Whyte

STAFF

Christine Benedetti, Marketing  
and Development Manager  
Megan Cerise, Archive Technician  
Liza DeBartolo Burnham, Director  
of Programs & Events  
Nina Gabianelli, VP of  
Education & Programs  
Lisa Hancock, VP & Curator of  
Collections  
Georgia Hanson, President/CEO  
Kip Hubbard, VP of Marketing,  
Development and Technology  
Michael Monroney, History Coach  
and Community Trainer  
Anna Lookabill Scott, Archivist  
Megan Twitchell, Office Manager

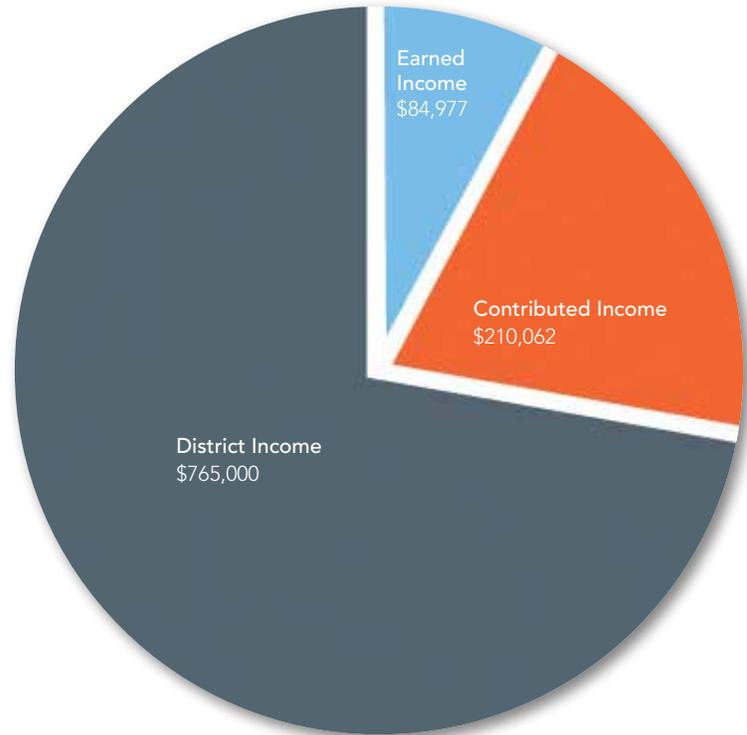
\*deceased

# ASPEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

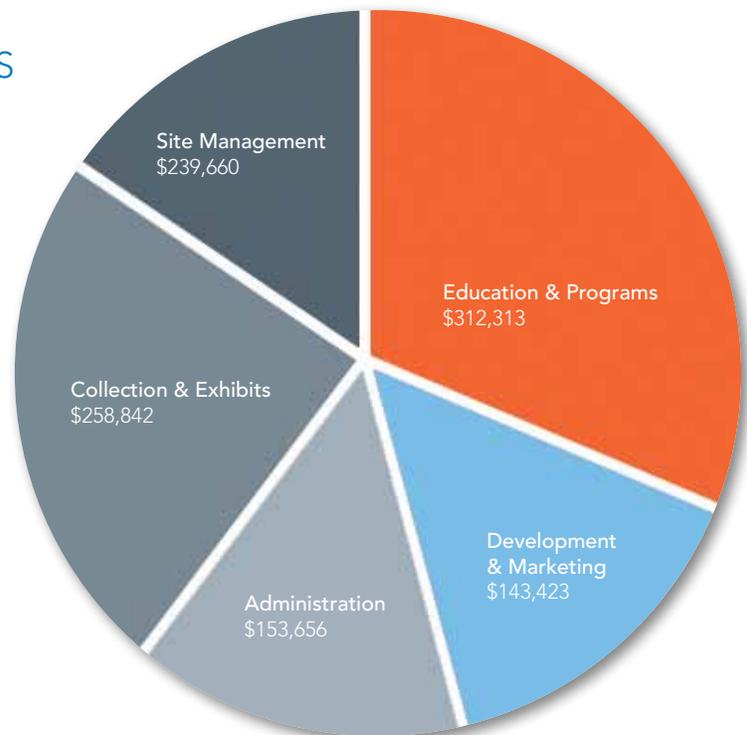
## Allocation of Income and Expenses For Year End October 31, 2011

For full financials and current balance sheet please visit [www.AspenHistory.org](http://www.AspenHistory.org)

### ANNUAL INCOME



### ANNUAL EXPENSES



# THE AHS FAMILY PORTRAIT: Many Levels of Engagement

We have updated our membership levels to provide members with more options to join the fun.

Starting in 2012, members at the Lixiviator level and above (\$100+) will have free access to all AHS sites and programs, including Time Travel Tuesdays. This alone is a yearly savings of \$166 if you are a regular attendee at our programs or visit our sites.

*New member benefits take effect January 1, 2012.*

Benefits at a glance:	Individual	Family	Lixiviator	Silver Circle			
	\$59 or less	\$60-\$99	\$100-\$1,499	\$1,500-\$2,999	\$3,000-\$6,999	\$7,000-\$9,999	\$10,000+
Monthly e-newsletter	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Free museum admission	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Free Archive Access (now online)	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Free Ice Cream Social & "Playing With The Past" Programs	White	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Spring Sweet Pea Mailing	White	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
"20% Off" Museum Store & Photos	White	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Time Travel Tuesday Programs Free for Two Adults (20 per year)	White	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Sneak Peak Exhibit Event	White	White	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Public Recognition	White	White	White	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
History Coach Tour for Five	White	White	White	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Six "Roots of Aspen" exclusive events	White	White	White	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
12 Guest Passes for any Tour or TTT	White	White	White	White	Red	Red	Red
Historic photo matted & framed	White	White	White	White	Red	Red	Red
ABCHA private party	White	White	White	White	White	Green	Green
"Meet the Curator" Cocktail Reception for 12	White	White	White	White	White	Green	Green
Walking Tour & Tea Party for 12	White	White	White	White	White	White	Blue
Smuggler Mine Tour for 10	White	White	White	White	White	White	Blue
Free Ground Rental (W/S or H/M)	White	White	White	White	White	White	Blue

## HISTORY LIVE!: A Vision for 2020

This long-term initiative seeks to deepen and broaden the connection of Aspen's history with the character and daily life of today's residents and visitors. The 10-year vision is grounded on the understanding that the historical nature of Aspen is a critical element of the community's character, and that there is a community mandate to ensure this is maintained and strengthened into the future.

### Phase One: 2010-2013: Expanding Educational Outreach and Creating a Community Research Center

We will expand community involvement through development of new programs for adults and children, improving our partnerships with area schools. The centerpiece of Phase One is a much needed upgrade of the AHS storage and research facility, including a user-friendly research center, digital access to various media, and the safeguarding of these priceless objects and papers.

### Phase Two: 2014-2017 Using History to Shape Aspen's Future

Our outreach goals include expanding our story-telling locations to unexpected places, and exploring ways to tell varied stories beyond our walls. As the Lift One center develops, we will revisit the Chautauqua model as a forum, introducing the concept of Community Conversations.

### Phase Three: 2018-2020 Hands Across the Valley

We will focus on refining and improving connections with other nonprofit and community organizations, and work toward expanding our resource support for the Roaring Fork Valley. We will provide historical interpretation throughout downtown and continue to upgrade our venues to better serve the community. And we will take to the streets with our living history presentations.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

620 W. Bleeker  
Aspen, CO 81611

Presorted  
NONPROFIT  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #90  
Glenwood Springs,  
CO



# LIVING roots STORIES

REAL-time history for Aspenites

