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El Pomar Foundation's Penrose Heritage Museum Celebrates 80th Anniversary with New Exhibits

Colorado Springs, CO – October 27, 2021 – In honor of Penrose Heritage Museum's 80th Anniversary, the museum has created brand new exhibits displaying never-before-seen artifacts, historical photographs, archival records and film footage that tell the story of Julie and Spencer Penrose.

Julie Penrose opened the original El Pomar Carriage Museum in October 1941 to exhibit the Penrose's collection of carriages and other items she and Spencer collected from their travels. Over the years, the museum evolved to share the history of the Penroses and history of the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, created by Spencer Penrose in 1916. The name of the museum was changed to Penrose Heritage Museum to reflect this larger scope. With a renewed emphasis on the Penroses' lives and legacy, the museum tells their story through exhibits utilizing historical objects to make narratives tangible.

"We are pleased to celebrate this milestone and expand our display of materials representing the Penroses' legacy," said El Pomar President and CEO Kyle H. Hybl. "The Penroses are among the most influential couples in our city's history, with some of the most enduring contributions to the region. It is an extraordinary opportunity and proud moment for us to share stories the public may not have heard about this dynamic duo through these new exhibits."

The new exhibits honor the original El Pomar Carriage Museum, demonstrate its growth over the years, tell well-researched stories about the Penroses through a narrative approach to interpretation, share never-before-seen items from the museum's collections and allow visitors to draw connections between the Penroses' personal lives and their own.

Sarah Woods, Curator of Historic Properties and Archives shared, "Our visitors, whether locals or visitors, will personally experience and make memories at some of the locations and organizations created or supported by the Penroses many years ago... We believe these new exhibits will inspire reflection, appreciation and perhaps even action toward being more involved in one's own community."

Visit the new exhibits at Penrose Heritage Museum Tuesday-Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission to the museum is free. For more information, visit our website <https://www.elpomar.org/About-Us/museum-and-legacy-properties/penrose-heritage-museum-1/>

About Penrose Heritage Museum

Penrose Heritage Museum showcases the history and heritage of the Pikes Peak region through the personal artifact collection of Colorado Springs' philanthropists Spencer and Julie Penrose. Together, the couple were responsible for creating, or helping to create, some of the most iconic institutions and programs in Colorado Springs history, such as Pikes Peak Highway, Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, The Broadmoor, Colorado

Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, and Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Foundation, to name a few.

About El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$22 million annually through grants and Community Stewardship programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937 with a mission to enhance, encourage and promote the current future well-being of the people of Colorado.

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