

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Erin Hannan, Vice President of Communications  
719-577-5750 or [ehannan@elpomar.org](mailto:ehannan@elpomar.org)

Sarah Woods  
Curator of Historic Properties & Archives  
719-577-7070 or [swoods@elpomar.org](mailto:swoods@elpomar.org)



### **El Pomar Foundation's Penrose Heritage Museum Hosts 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House**

**Colorado Springs, CO – May 4, 2022** – In celebration of Penrose Heritage Museum's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the museum is hosting a public open house on **May 21, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** The community is invited to join us for a morning of immersive fun and interactive activities. For the first time ever, visitors will be invited to sit in an authentic 1890s carriage and a Pikes Peak International Hill Climb race car. Other activities include meeting Hill Climb race car drivers, guided tours, a scavenger hunt for prizes, and a children's activity book at stations throughout the museum. The event will kick off with remarks by Thayer Tutt, Vice Chairman and Chief Investment Officer of El Pomar Foundation; Jack Damioli, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Broadmoor Hotel and Sarah Woods, Curator of Historic Properties and Archives of El Pomar Foundation.

The open house will celebrate 80 years of operation for the museum, recognizing its growth over the years. 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, and to keep the tradition of coaching alive. Over the years, the museum evolved to share the history of the Penroses and 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.

The museum unveiled a special 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary exhibit in fall of 2021, displaying never-before-seen artifacts, historical photographs, archival records and film footage that tell the story of Colorado Springs' philanthropists Spencer and Julie Penrose. Sarah Woods, Curator of Historic Properties and Archives at El Pomar Foundation, and Samantha Knoll, Assistant Curator of Penrose Heritage Museum, will provide guided tours of the exhibit.

Admission is always free to Penrose Heritage Museum. Free parking is available in The Broadmoor Hotel parking garage immediately adjacent to the museum. No reservations or tickets are required. Light refreshments and specialty anniversary cookies will be available while they last.

More information about the museum and El Pomar's other historic properties can be found at: <https://www.elpomar.org/About-Us/museum-and-legacy-properties/>

#### **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, 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 \$25 million annually through grants to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities and civic and community initiatives, as well as community stewardship and leadership development programs. 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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