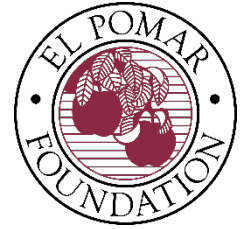


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



For more information, contact:

Erin Hannan, Senior Vice President of Communications

719-577-5750 or ehannan@elpomar.org

or

Stella Hodgkins, Senior Vice President & Pikes Peak Heritage Series Program Officer

719-577-7081 or stellah07@elpomar.org

El Pomar Foundation's Pikes Peak Heritage Series to Host "Learning to Live with Wildfire in the Pikes Peak Region" in Collaboration with Colorado Springs Fire Department and Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services

Colorado Springs, CO — May 8, 2025 — El Pomar Foundation, in collaboration with Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) and Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services, presents "Learning to Live with Wildfire in the Pikes Peak Region" on **May 29, 2025, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at Penrose House Garden Pavilion (1661 Mesa Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80906).

This event is a response to feedback from Heritage Series program stakeholders and conversations with outdoor community leaders that the danger of wildland fire continues to be a prevalent concern for the region. This event will convene a panel of local leaders working in fire preparedness, education, and mitigation to increase awareness about current and historical wildland fire danger and how community members can find resources.

Delving into the archaeological, anthropological, and Indigenous perspectives on fire, the panel will provide a rich understanding of how fire has shaped the landscape and community over time. Attendees will also learn about the lengthening of the fire season, the impact of fires throughout the state, and the challenges posed by conflagrations and evolving building codes. Additionally, the complexities of insurance coverage for wildfires will be addressed, offering information on insurance impacts, rates, and threats.

The event will begin with opening remarks by Matt Carpenter, Chief Operating Officer of El Pomar Foundation; Yemi Mobolade, Colorado Springs Mayor; and Randy Royal, Colorado Springs Fire Chief. The panel conversation, moderated by Richard Skorman, Co-Founder and Co-Owner of Poor Richards, Little Richards, and Ricos, as well as former Colorado Springs Vice Mayor and City Council President, will include: Kris Cooper, Fire Marshal of Colorado Springs Fire Department; Anna Cordova, Manager of Garden of the Gods Park; Brett Lacey, Former Fire Marshal for Colorado Springs Fire Department; and John Putnam, CPCU, ARM Putnam Assurance & Risk Services, LLC. Following their presentation, panelists will answer audience questions. Participants will also engage in an interactive activity. A reception will follow the formal programming at 7:15 p.m. Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided throughout the program.

The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited, and registration is required. Registration and more information about the event and panelists can be found at:

<https://www.elpomar.org/events/learning-to-live-with-wildfire-in-the-pikes-peak-region/>

About Pikes Peak Heritage Series

At El Pomar, just as Spencer and Julie Penrose relished, we have the joy of spending our days in the shadow of Pikes Peak. We also know there's always more to learn about the natural assets of the region

surrounding America's Mountain. In keeping with the Penroses' interest in supporting and promoting the natural assets of the area, in 2015 we launched the Pikes Peak Heritage Series to celebrate, educate about and explore the beautiful environment of the region through lectures, discussions and opportunities to connect with outdoor and land use leaders.

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 in the areas of arts and culture, civic and community initiatives, education, health, and human services, as well as community engagement and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations, including three historic properties open to the public: Penrose Heritage Museum, Penrose House Conference Center, and Will Rogers Shrine of the Sun. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937 with the mission to enhance, encourage and promote the current and future well-being of the people of Colorado.

###