



11/23/2021

On behalf of The Boulder County Crisis Fund and The Community Foundation of Boulder, The Museum of Boulder at Tebo Center and Chautauqua

Present a FREE community event: *Photography: A Lens Towards Healing*

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Featuring: A Community Curation of Photographs, Portraits by Ross Taylor, Music and representatives from the Boulder Strong Resource Center

LOCATION: CHAUTAUQUA COMMUNITY HOUSE
301 Morning Glory Drive, Boulder, CO 80302

What is the A Lens Toward Healing event?

We believe that photography can serve as a tool for reflection, story-generating and healing. A small series of collaborative portraits made by an assistant professor at the University of Colorado Boulder will be displayed. Examples include a portrait of the cellist who played for several days at the memorial site, the Assistant Manager of King Soopers, support staff from the Boulder Strong Resource Center, and a museum staff member who cleaned every object and item left on the site, etc. The community is invited to share their photos or short video clips - pictures of things they resonated with on the memorial site - the poems, the stuffed animals, the flower wall, the painted rocks --sharing how the photos help them process, reflect, remember...

The collaboration of the portraits and photos involves only those who want to share their story. The goal primarily focuses on the therapeutic act of building community through the power of documentary. By allowing a space for those to be heard and seen, documentary work can redirect memories of a moment and allow those negatively affected to reclaim strength through their representation. We also intend to incorporate fabric from the memorial wall in our programming that evening to provide a grounding in memory for those in attendance. This work will add to the historical record of Boulder. Together, we process and celebrate the strength seen in each other's reflection and response to tragedy as we move forward. Representatives from the Boulder Strong Resource Center will be present.

The Community House of Chautauqua, in alignment with its mission, will create a warm, inviting, safe setting on December 14th, 2021. The event will take place in a window of 6:00 - 8:30 pm. A local musician has been asked to be playing and refreshments will be provided. Portraits taken by Ross Taylor will be framed and placed on easels in the space, and a wall of open space will be provided for the photographs curated from the community call three weeks leading up to the event. An area will be provided for those who attend who wish to frame and preserve their photographs onsite to take away. We will also provide information for a way to download and share photographs and videos from larger files in the upcoming February - April 2022 Anniversary exhibit of Boulder Strong, located at the Museum of Boulder.

A CALL TO COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE:

PORTRAITS AND DOCUMENTATION OF OUR COMMUNITY DURING THIS TIME CAN PROVIDE INSIGHT, COMPASSION AND CONNECTION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD TO THE ARCHIVE AND PROVIDE YOUR PLACE IN OUR HISTORY, PLEASE CONTACT, ROSS TAYLOR AT ROSS.TAYLOR@COLORADO.EDU, OR CALL 757-412-8588. HE WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE PROCESS AND IF YOUR PORTRAIT IS USED, HE WILL DONATE AN IMAGE TO YOU FROM THE TIME TOGETHER AS A THANK YOU.

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORY AND ABOUT YOUR CHOICE TO USE PHOTOGRAPHY: Perhaps you took photographs of art, poems, flags, painted rocks, flowers, stuffed animals, musicians, etc. at any of the memorial sites -- bring them and share them on December 14, 2021 or send them via email to: collections@museumofboulder.org ahead of the event time.

Frames and special ways to preserve your images will be provided for you to take home. If you choose to donate your photographs to the Museum, they will be held in our archives, documented and may appear in the anniversary exhibit (February through April 2022 at The Museum of Boulder.

We will commit to a broad representation of those featured in this documentary reflection. Ranging from all aspects of the human condition such as: race, age, socio/economic and the experiences related to the shooting, we will ensure that a wide cross section of representation will be present throughout. It is our desire to put a call out specifically to the South Boulder community. For those who are underrepresented in the area, we will make specific efforts to include them in this opportunity.

Who is Present and Why:

1. **Ross Taylor** - An Assistant Professor of Journalism from The University of Colorado at Boulder is a freelance photographer and filmmaker. He has done extensive international photography work related to trauma as a “Photojournalist of the Year”. His work in a trauma hospital in Afghanistan was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He has also been named Northern Photographer of the Year, Virginia Photographer of the Year and North Carolina Photographer of the Year. He is the creator of the industry resource: imagedconstructed.com. His portraits leading up the evening’s events of people on the periphery of the Boulder tragedy will be featured, and he will be present to share his experiences.
2. **Boulder Strong Resource Center representatives:** Professionals from [Boulder Strong Resource Center](#), including a King Sooper representative and comfort canine will be on hand and provide the emotional tools, resources and understanding as to why we take the photos we do, and how and why these unique images serve as documentation can evoke feelings. The Center is a safe place of healing and support dedicated to serving as a resource and referral center for residents, visitors and first responders affected by the Boulder Table Mesa tragedy. It is a multi-agency resource hub managed by [Mental Health Partners](#) of Boulder, Colorado and sponsored by King Soopers. The center’s trained professionals know that people process grief and trauma differently and on their own timeline. As a result, therapy is never forced. In fact, therapy may not be for everyone, and that is okay. Their goal is to help you work through the traumatic experience to move forward in your life. Each person’s journey and timetable are different. Some people may need to play with a comfort dog while others may need someone to talk to. It’s all about helping you heal.
3. **Chautauqua Community House:** The beautiful Community House was built in 1918 to serve as the “living room” to the original tent residents of the Colorado Chautauqua. Today, it is host to intimate concerts, forums, films and educational programs throughout the year.
4. **The Museum of Boulder:** With great respect and in accordance with our mission to preserve community stories for the future, the Museum of Boulder welcomes your voice in response towards healing. We regularly collected memorial items for long-term preservation and we are preparing an anniversary exhibit and permanent installation. It is our intention to be of service to help our community heal, and we value community curation.

ACCESSIBILITY AND COVID: Chautauqua and the Museum of Boulder are both Boulder County 5 Star Certification Program recipients - we will be complying with all Covid-19 restrictions, parameters and guidelines at the time of the event. The Community House has accessible entrances and seating. ADA venue access to the upper level of the Community House is available at the South/Morning Glory entrance of the Community House via a lift. The Community House is equipped with an audio induction loop assistive listening system that is compatible with hearing aids with t-coils. Complimentary loaner headphones are available upon request on event nights. ADA restroom facilities are available on both levels of the Community House.

Service animals are permitted in Community House. Each service animal must remain with its owner and be restrained. If any service animal interferes with other guests, corrective action may include removal of the service animal from the Community House.

<p>The Mission of the Museum of Boulder: <i>History happens here. The Museum of Boulder showcases inclusive community stories, preserves them for the future, and inspires all of us to effect positive change.</i></p> <p>TIMELINE: <i>One time event -- leading to an anniversary exhibit related to Boulder Strong in February - April 2022</i></p> <p>SPONSORS: Boulder County Crisis Fund, Boulder Community Foundation, Mental Health Partners of Boulder County, Boulder Strong Resource Center, Chautauqua Association and Museum of Boulder</p>	<p><u>CONTACTS:</u></p> <p>ROSS TAYLOR, Assistant Professor, University of Colorado-Boulder Ross.taylor@colorado.edu 757-412-8558</p> <p>CHELSEA PENNINGTON HAHN, Curator of the Collection, Museum of Boulder chelsea@museumofboulder.org 303.449.3464, ext. 14</p> <p>LORI PRESTON, Executive Director, Museum of Boulder, director@museumofboulder.org 303.449.3464, ext. 1</p>
---	---