

Successful Authors Day and Auction Raises Record Funds in Support of Branch Scholarships

And this success is all because of you! So many of you contributed to the success of our Authors Day and Virtual Auction and support our scholars. And many of you contributed in multiple ways.

Thanks to each member who:

- Donated directly to the scholarship fund,
- Contributed to interest group auction donations,
- Solicited auction items from local businesses for our virtual auction,
- Registered at the auction site to preview items for sale,
- Placed a bid on an auction item, winning bid or not,
- Purchased a ticket to Authors Day,
- Purchased one of our featured authors' books, and
- Shared these events with friends or family.

And kudos to the many loyal members who checked off multiple items on the list! You are so appreciated!

An Exciting Auction

The two-week Virtual Auction came to a grand conclusion on Friday, 16 April. Despite a rather slow beginning, there were flurries of bidding during the whole fourteen days, and we had some serious bidding wars on Friday morning. The bidders enjoyed the event and there was friendly rivalry over the hot ticket items. As always, the Interest Group baskets were extremely popular.

Denise Ferrar was the lucky winner of the raffle. She received a delicious cheese and wine basket.

A Stellar Authors Day

April 17th marked the culmination of months of work leading up to our annual Authors Day...and it was all worth it!

After a tribute recognizing our own branch authors and their work, two major voices among Colorado authors joined us via Zoom to share their lives, their books, and their writing process.

Pam Houston (*Deep Creek: Finding Hope in the High Country*) and **Jeri Norgren** (*Colorado's Highest: The History of Naming the 14,000-Foot Peaks*, a collaboration with photographer, John Fielder) were the stars of the show. Warm, engaging, funny, moving, informative in turn, both authors accompanied their talks with wonderful visuals showcasing our incredible state. Pam Houston, who teaches English at UC Davis and the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, and is also the co-founder of Writing by Writers, a nonprofit which holds multi-day writing workshops for developing writers, expressed appreciation for the recognition of our local authors whose titles resonated with her!

For those who weren't able to join us, here's a link to the recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/WLb7m2dsPeruLpp9b66lhC739pkvJBRKgvBlzMdr1zpjNjrJm9BhGbPmjmXWmoo-.vmRV0FI09jcEPKWs>

If you didn't purchase a ticket in advance, please consider sending a check for \$10 to Treasurer Joan Skoog made out to AAUW with Authors Day in the memo line. 5540 Canvasback Ct. Colorado Springs 80918. And share with friends and colleagues on the same basis.

We also encourage you to buy the books! For contactless order and delivery, order through **Covered Treasures** <https://bookshop.org/shop/coveredtreasures>. To order and pick up in store, you can go to Covered Treasures at 105 2nd St., Monument, CO, 719-481-2665 or **Hooked on Books** at 12 E. Bijou St. or 3918 Maizeland Rd., 719-596-1621. Help support our featured authors who donated their appearance at the 2021 Authors Day.

The Bottom Line

The day wrapped up with exciting news about the results of our scholarship fundraising efforts! Authors Day, the Virtual Auction, Holiday Raffle, Iris Sales, and other donations have **raised over \$10,000. Wow!**

As always, the two events were a great collaboration. Please remember to thank **Pip Bodkin, Jeanne Howard, Pam Maier, and Kate Meyer Olson** who organized the Virtual Auction, and **Janet Knox, Kathy Olson, and Cindi Zenkert-Strange**, who orchestrated Authors Day, with technical assistance from **Sarah Stowell**.

Our thanks to all our member donors, our business donors, the Interest Groups, and all our members for contributing your enthusiastic and generous support, making our Authors Day and Virtual Auction so successful. **Our future scholarship recipients will benefit greatly.**