

PRESS RELEASE

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Denver, Colorado

Golda Meir House Museum Hosts Celebration

Featured Speakers Include Governor Polis, Attorney General Weiser, and State Representative Michaelson Jenet

Auraria Campus, Denver CO –The Golda Meir House Museum located on the Auraria Campus is hosting the **Golda Meir House Museum Celebration** on January 10, 2022, 12:30–2 p.m. The event will honor the efforts of those who had the foresight to save the tiny Denver duplex once home to Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir, the Western world's first female head of state and one of the most influential women in modern history. Featured speakers include; Governor Jared Polis, Colorado State Attorney General Phil Weiser, and Colorado State Representative Dafna Michaelson Jenet.

The Golda Meir House Museum Celebration honorees include; Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, Senator Dennis Gallagher, Roz Duman, former Denver Post photographer Beth Sagstetter, Dr. Alan Wanderer, M.D. Former Denver Post correspondent Bill Sagstetter and community activist Jean May will be honored posthumously.

Colleen Walker, Auraria Higher Education Center CEO, said, "The Auraria Higher Education is committed to reimagining the Golda Meir House Museum to honor their efforts and engage our community by offering meaningful experiences, events, and educational programs. This celebration is the first of many gatherings we will be hosting as we embark on our exciting journey to reimagine and revitalize the Golda Meir House Museum." Recently appointed Golda Meir House Executive Director Lena Fishman said, "The story of the Golda Meir House is an amazing example of what a small group of determined community members can accomplish when they collaborate."

Golda Meir served as Israel's fourth prime minister and is recognized as one of the Twentieth Century's most influential women, a powerful international leader, and a diplomat who enormously impacted the course of history. In 1913, she ran away from home to live with her sister's family and further her education at North High School in Denver. Their tiny Julian Street duplex was an intellectual haven for new immigrants eager to gather for political discussions over tea served by Meir. In this house, Meir began to develop her political philosophy, eventually deciding to emigrate to Israel.

By 1981, the duplex was in a state of disrepair and slated for demolition. The collective efforts and perseverance of the Golda Meir House Celebration's honorees paid off. The Denver City Council spared the house from destruction. The duplex was relocated twice before it found a permanent home on the Auraria Campus in September 1988. Meir's home was designated as a Denver landmark in 1995 by Mayor Wellington Webb.

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2021 Photo | Photo Credit: Jane Hood, AHEC

Golda Meir House Museum on the Auraria Campus, 1146 9th Street, Denver CO.

1981 Photo | Photo Credit: Bill Sagstetter

Preparation for the relocation of Golda Meir's house from Julian Street in May 1981.

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About the Golda Meir House Museum

The Golda Meir House Museum, located at 1146 9th Street on the Auraria Campus, is Meir's only known U.S. residence. It is a standing tribute to her commitment to freedom, peace, and human dignity. The museum celebrates a theme inspired by Golda's life – the story of a woman who came from a low-income, ethnic environment but whose perseverance, ideals, and dedication changed the world. The house was relocated to the Auraria Campus from its original location in northwest Denver. Today, the 1606-side of the duplex serves as the Golda Meir House Museum. The adjoining side of the duplex currently serves as a conference room that can be reserved through Auraria Campus Event Services. To learn more about the Golda Meir House Museum, please visit <http://www.ahec.edu/golda-museum>.

About the Auraria Campus

The Auraria Campus is a dynamic academic environment shared by three separate and distinct institutions of higher learning; Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Colorado Denver. The Auraria Higher Education Center is a separate state entity whose role is to provide and manage shared services, facilities, and property to support these prominent institutions in achieving their goals. The collective student population is nearly 42,000, with approximately 5,000 faculty and staff. To learn more about the Auraria Campus, visit www.ahec.edu.

About the Golda Meir House Museum Honorees

Jean May discovered the Golda Meir House in 1981, as she researched neighborhood homes to feature in a Sloan's Lake Citizen's Group cookbook. She created and led the "Committee to Save Golda's Home, Inc." May's discovery was the initial catalyst for the collaborative efforts that stretched from Denver to Washington, D.C. to Israel, ultimately leading to the Golda Meir House's survival. May passed away and is being honored posthumously.

Dennis Gallagher served the state of Colorado with a remarkable 45-year political career, including two terms in the Colorado House, five in the Colorado Senate, two on the Denver City Council, and was Denver City Auditor for twelve years. He has been a professor at Regis University since 1967 and is one of Denver's premier historians, an author, and a faithful friend to Denver's Jewish community.

Dr. Alan Wanderer is currently practicing clinical immunology in Bozeman, MT, and is an Emeritus Clinical Professor of Allergy & Clinical Immunology at the University of Colorado Medical Center. Dr. Wanderer has published sixty peer-reviewed articles, received over twenty patents and, co-developed the Hematype® safety device for blood banks with Bill Sagstetter.

Bill and Beth Sagstetter's byline has appeared on hundreds of magazine articles. They were a photographer/correspondent team for the Denver Post and authored many books. The Sagstetters produced four prime-time documentaries for television, including *The Mystery of Huajátolla*, which won an award at the Aspen Arts Film Festival. Sagstetter passed away in 2018 and is being recognized posthumously.

Patricia (Pat) Nell Scott Schroeder was the first woman elected to Congress from Colorado, serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1973–97. During her tenure in the House, she became the Dean of Congressional Women, co-chaired the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues for ten years, and served on the House Judiciary Committee, the Post Office and Civil Service Committee, and was the first woman to serve on the House Armed Services Committee. In 1985, she was inducted into the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame.

Roz Duman served as the staff aide for Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder and Development Director for the Colorado Democratic Party. Her many accomplishments include founding the Coalition Against Global Genocide. She has served in various roles throughout her career, including volunteer coordinator for Senator Ken Salazar's campaign and Director of Scheduling for Denver Mayor Wellington Webb.

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