

LHS-21

Presentations showcase diverse cultures

The human relations commission of Greeley, Colorado (77,000), organized an "I Am American" series of presentations to educate the city's residents about the diverse cultures of their neighbors. Each monthly session was hosted by representatives of one of the city's larger ethnic groups, including Native American, Latino, German, French, Swedish, and African American groups. During the sessions, group members described various aspects of their cultures, traditions, and histories and shared their music. To avoid debates, the organizers decided not to allow discussion, although each session allowed time for questions. The programs were held at the city's performing arts center and attracted up to 150 citizens. Videotapes of the programs were aired on the city's cable television station and copies were distributed to local libraries and schools. Programs were advertised through the schools and local media as well as in mailings.

Sharon McCabe
Human Resources Director

City of Greeley 1000 10th Street Greeley, CO 80631

970/350-9710 Fax: 970/350-9707 E-mail: mccabes@ci.greeley.co.us

Greeley Human Relations Commission
"I Am American" Community Educational Series

Following is a summary of programs sponsored by the Greeley Human Relations Commission between September, 2002 and August, 2003. Programs were designed to promote cultural awareness and acknowledgment of the rich texture of the Greeley community. Videotapes of the programs were mailed to the libraries of all Greeley schools. We invite you to use this resource in your own creative applications to teach the unique history of our area.

September, 2002 - In the Beginning. . Native Americans

Presentation - John Emhoola, Kiowa Tribal Elder

Drum, Dance and Flute Demonstrations

November, 2002 - The Early Years. . . Formation of the Union Colony

History of Greeley - 1870 to 1910

Swedish and Scandinavian Immigrants

The Germans from Russia

January, 2003 - One Nation Indivisible

Water and Business Activities

Historical Landmarks

Japanese Community

Dearfield, Colorado

March, 2003 - One Nation Indivisible. . . The Continuation

History of the Mexicanos

Background on Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church

Teatro Performers

Joe P. Martinez, World War II Hero

June, 2003 - One National Indivisible. . . The Continuation

The Struggles and Progress of Latinos in Weld County

August, 2003 - Celebrating our Cultures, Embracing our Future

"It's in Every One of Us" Video

Bridging the Gap

Celebrating our Cultures, Embracing our Future - narrative and performances