Sample Topics for 2015
Leadership and Legacy

Boulder History Museum
• Chief Niwot

Buffalo Bill Museum
• William F. “Buffalo Bill“ Cody was a visionary, he established new show business techniques, laid the groundwork for modern rodeo, was a town founder, advocated for natural areas and the national parks, defended Indian rights; and spoke out for equal rights for women.

Center of the American West
• Chief Ouray
• John Wesley Powell
• Byron White
• George Bent

Claire Martin, Denver Post
• Failed Jewish Colony at Cotopaxi
• Military service dogs

Denver Firefighters Museum
• Legacy of firefighting in Denver
• Leadership of fire chief and other officers
• Citizen leadership in the volunteer fire department (1860s-1880s)
• Firefighters as leaders in the community (for example, in community safety)
• Legacy of major/historic fires and emergencies in and around Denver (Great Fire of 1863, St. James Hotel Fire of 1895, Denver Flood of 1933, etc.)
• Leadership and legacy of pioneering individuals in the DFD (women firefighters, African American firefighters, Hispanic firefighters, etc.)

Denver Museum of Nature and Science
  Primary and secondary sources: Field notes and associated images, books by and about Bailey.
On exhibit: Australia dioramas on the second floor, and the Bering Strait diorama in Northern & Rare Birds Hall on the third floor.
http://www.dmns.org/plan-your-visit/floor-maps/

Resident expert: Sam Schiller, Archivist

- Ruth Underhill was a pioneering female anthropologist who worked closely with, and became integrated into, the Papago Tribe, and was Professor of Anthropology at the University of Denver from 1948-1952.

Primary and secondary sources: http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId=codmnhi.underhill.xml


Resident expert: Steve Nash, Director of Anthropology

- Ornithology -- the Denver Museum of Nature & Science has a very significant bird collection.

Primary and secondary sources: Archives holdings for Denver Field Ornithologists, Colorado Field Ornithologists, The Evergreen Naturalist’s Audubon Society, and Ron Ryder (Emeritus Professor of Fishery and Wildlife Biology at Colorado State University, and lifelong birder), and the Library has many books about birds.

On exhibit: Wildlife dioramas -- particularly Birds of the Americas, Northern & Rare Birds, and Explore Colorado on the third floor, and Edge of the Wild on the second floor.

http://www.dmns.org/plan-your-visit/floor-maps/

Resident expert: John Demboski, Director of Zoology

Denver Public Library: Western History and Genealogy Department

Denver Public Library's Western History and Genealogy Department houses two of the most significant collections representing the Chicano movement of the 1960s and 70s: the papers of Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales and Bernard "Bernie" Valdez.

These towering figures in the struggle for Mexican-American rights embody the 2015 National History Day theme, Leadership and Legacy. The Valdez-Perry branch library and the soon-to-be-opened Gonzales branch library stand as monuments to Bernie and Corky, respectively.
Forney Museum of Transportation

- **Henry Ford** didn’t invent the assembly line, but using the idea of the assembly line, he revolutionized the way cars were made and manufactured. His leadership in the car industry resulted in cars becoming more affordable for more people. Thus, Henry Ford forever changed the way people moved from place to place. The Forney Museum of Transportation has Ford vehicles on display, and one of the most renowned, the Model T, which is the Ford car most closely associated with the assembly line.

- **Union Pacific Railroad** In 1869, along with the Central Pacific Railroad Company, Union Pacific completed the first transcontinental railroad. Since it was founded in 1862, Union Pacific has changed, grown, and operated for over 150 years. Today the company employs over 50,000 workers and has over 8,000 locomotives. At the Forney Museum of Transportation you can see Union Pacific’s Big Boy 4005, “one of the largest successfully operated steam locomotives ever built!” This is one of only 8 Big Boy’s on display throughout the country!

- **Amelia Earhart** is an example of leadership and legacy for women around the world. She was the first female pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She was given the Distinguished Flying Cross, and was the first woman to ever have received such honor. She represents a lot of “firsts” for women, especially in the field of aviation. The Forney Museum of Transportation has Amelia Earhart’s Kissel Car on display.

- **Invention of the Bicycle** The Forney Museum of Transportation has an extensive collection of bicycles on display. Our collection charts the technology advancements of the bicycle over time. We have the rare 1817 Draisienne bicycle which is one of the first bicycles ever built. Did you know this early bicycle had no pedals? The invention of the bicycle is a good topic for leadership and legacy because the bicycle not only revolutionized how people moved, but it also serves as a symbol for women’s rights. A specific design of the bicycle was made for women in the early 1900’s, and as a result, women experienced increased mobility and freedom.

- **William Anderson and the Detroit Electric Car** William Anderson, the owner of the Anderson Carriage Company, later Detroit Electric, represents leadership and legacy because his company was one of the first to create a successful electric car. They did so in the early 1900’s! Consider this legacy, as the topics of green technology and electric cars are ever more prevalent today. The Forney Museum of Transportation has a 1916 Detroit Electric Car on display. Sometimes we have to move this car for special events, so call the museum before you come, to make sure it is on display.
• **Transportation Technology and Other Ideas** The Forney Museum of Transportation displays many different vehicles from different time periods. Possible topics could include any of the big automobile inventors or vehicle styles as advancements in transportation technology over the years have transformed the way we live, work, and play. Call or visit the Forney Museum of Transportation for more ideas and details on the items we have in our collections! The Events and Education Coordinator is also happy to help brainstorm research topics and ideas with students, by appointment.

**Golden History Museums**

- History of the Bathtub
- The Coors Family
- Kathy Callender and Heather Callender-Potters and the needle-free inoculation
- Rock Rest Tavern

**History Colorado**

- Robert Speer and the City Beautiful Movement: Transforming Urban Space
- Chief Ouray: Leading People through Difficult Times
- The "Queen Bee": Carolyn N. Churchill Lead's Colorado's Woman Suffrage Movement to Victory
- Wilma Webb: Leading the Effort to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King
- Silas S. Soule and the Sand Creek Massacre: Leading by Principle
- Chief Black Kettle: The Difficult Choice of Peace
- Governor Ralph Carr: Doing the Right Thing vs. Doing the Popular Thing

**People:** Felipe and Dolores Baca, Margaret Tobin “Molly” Brown, Governor Ralph Carr, Emily Griffith, General William H. Larimer, Nathan Meeker, William Jackson Palmer, Florence Sabin, the skiing soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division, Chin Lin Sou, and Augusta Tabor.

**Places and Events:** The Denver Olympic Organizing Committee, the Sand Creek Massacre, the Union Colony of Colorado, and the Wetherill Family at Mesa Verde.

**Molly Brown House Museum**

- Margaret Brown forming the Juvenile Justice System in Denver-became a model for other systems throughout the country
- Women’s Suffrage: Margaret Brown spoke at Marble House Conference and worked with other women leaders for suffrage
Titanic: Margaret formed and was President of Titanic Survivors Committee (1912-1932), raised money for survivors, worked one on one, spoke at the inquiry hearing, leader in lifeboat, etc.
Outside the Victorian Norm: Margaret was a woman who was ahead of her time-outspoken and worked on many causes

Teaching with Primary Sources at Metropolitan State University Denver

- Abraham Lincoln Resource Set
  http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/lincoln/
- Flight Resource Set
  http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/flight/
- Lewis and Clark Resource Set
  http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/lewis-clark/
- Women’s History Resource Set
  http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/themes/womens-history/