

**Board Report**  
January 2021  
Education – Stephan

- Facebook Page @RockpileMuseum has been re-launched successfully. Throughout the year 2021 & 2022 the page is being used to highlight the homesteaders who were granted land patents under the Homestead Act of 1862 in real time. These posts, among others, have been very popular so far and the traffic and followers have increased dramatically in the last couple of weeks. Please follow, like, and share to help increase our visibility to potential audiences and future guests.
- A new Instagram account @rockpilemuseum has been launched and we are steadily gaining an audience there. This account will be used to share photos and promote upcoming and current events both through the feed, the stories feature, and IGTV (Instagram TV) posts. Please follow and share where you can.
- On Thursday, January 28, 2021 we will be co-hosting *The Roots Beneath Your Feet: The Homestead Act of 1862* with Homestead National Monument of America (NPS). This program will be a Virtual Edition of *Black & Yellow Theatre: Voices of the Powder River Basin from the Black Hills to Yellowstone*. NPS Historian & Ranger Jonathan Fairchild will be presenting live from Homestead National Monument and I will be broadcasting live from the Archibald Homestead Cabin at 1pm via our Facebook page and YouTube channel. This program will be archived on YouTube for anyone that misses the live broadcast.
- **TENTATIVE:** On Monday, February 8, 2021 we will be hosting a virtual event: *Black Music on the Great Plains: The Influence of the African-American Experience on Blues, Ragtime, Swing, and Jazz*. This Black History Month Virtual Program will feature the musical stylings of The American Songster, Dom Flemons. This LIVE program will be broadcast on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 2pm via the Rockpile Museum's Facebook and YouTube channels, and will be archived on our YouTube channel for anyone who misses the live broadcast. This program will highlight the experiences of African-Americans throughout the Great Plains and how their life in the American West influenced the roots of American music across multiple genres. Featuring stories from the Texas/Chisholm Trail, Fort McKinney (WY) & Fort Meade (SD), Mathew Canfield (Casper, WY), Empire, WY & the Speese Jubilee Singers, among others.
- On Friday, February 19, 2021 we will be hosting University of Oregon's Beekman Professor of Northwest and Pacific History and author, Professor Jeffrey Ostler. Professor Ostler will be presenting his 2010 work: *The Lakotas and the Black Hills: The Struggle for Sacred Ground*. This presentation will be virtual and will be offered LIVE via our Facebook page and YouTube channel. This program will be archived to YouTube for anyone that misses the live broadcast. We will have a limited number of copies for sale in the bookstore for those that would like to purchase and read the book prior to this presentation.
- The Rockpile Museum will be hosting a National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG) Workshop on February 24 – 27, 2021. The nationally recognized Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG) program is designed for anyone in the interpretive field. Whether you're a new hire, a professional looking to refresh your skills, or beginning a second career, this course will aid you in improving your

presentation techniques. The course combines the theoretical foundations of the profession with practical strategies in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors.

This 32-hour course includes:

The history, definition, and principles of interpretation. Techniques on how to make your programs purposeful, enjoyable, relevant, organized, and thematic. How to use tangible objects to connect your audience to intangible ideas and universal concepts. The 3 certification requirements needed to obtain a CIG (open book CORE Literature Review exam, program outline, and 10 minute interpretive presentation).

The class maximum size is 15 people. It is designed for individuals who deliver interpretive programs or have contact with the public at interpretive sites. This course will be in-person with all proper social distancing measures in place. Masks are required for this course.

At the time of this report (1/15/2021) there are eight (8) spots remaining. To register please visit:

[https://www.interpnet.com/nai/nai/events/Event\\_Display.aspx?EventKey=CIG022421](https://www.interpnet.com/nai/nai/events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=CIG022421)

As always if anyone has questions or further information please reach out to me at the museum or send an email: [SZacharias@ccgov.net](mailto:SZacharias@ccgov.net)