

# LOCAL HISTORY

## A look back

COURTESY OF PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT



CARL MATHEWS COLLECTION, COURTESY OF PIKES PEAK LIBRARY DISTRICT, 005-4087

An undated view of the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center from the road below, with snow-covered trees in foreground. The roots of the FAC began with the Broadmoor Art Academy, in the former home of philanthropists Julie and Spencer Penrose. After the Great Depression hit in late 1929, the BAA looked to diversify further and expanded into an “entire arts district under one roof,” according to the Fine Arts Center website. Julie Penrose donated the land, Alice Bemis Taylor donated the Southwestern art collection and library and Elizabeth Sage Hare volunteered to be the first president of the Board of Trustees. A 2005 renovation enlarged the FAC, at 30 W. Dale Street, to 132,286-square feet.

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