

CENTENNIAL INSTITUTE

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FAITH • FAMILY • FREEDOM • FUTURE



2020 Year In Review

Faith ★ Family ★ Freedom ★ Future

Director's Message



We started 2020 by hosting the largest student trip in Colorado Christian University's (CCU) history as we took over 180 students, faculty, and friends to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. We ended the year by premiering our film, *America, America, God Shed His Grace on Thee* to hundreds of thousands from all 50 states.

2020 was an incredibly challenging year for many of us. But because of your support, we were able to adapt to the challenges, and this year will be one for the record books.

Centennial Institute's Christian conservative influence on our state and nation has never been greater. Colorado Christian University was selected to be the one university in America to co-lead the 2020 March for Life. To see all of our students proudly and boldly proclaiming the sanctity of life brought me to tears. It was also the first March for Life to be addressed by a sitting president.

Prior to the March, we hosted the CCU President's Lecture at the Museum of the Bible where our students were able to meet U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos.

We hosted numerous events throughout the year, especially as it related to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. The work of the Centennial Institute brings many of our nation's top conservative leaders to interact with our students and the general public.

Because the state prevented us from hosting the Western Conservative Summit in person, we hired Hollywood movie star Nick Searcy to produce the film *America, America, God Shed His Grace on Thee*. Starring many of our country's most influential conservative leaders, we explored the importance of the Bible and Christianity in the formation of our nation. Viewers from all over the country tuned in to watch the world-premiere of the film during the virtual Western Conservative Summit making this the most watched Summit in our history!

In addition to all this, we fought for good public policy at the Colorado legislature, produced a ballot guide, and scored Colorado's legislators according to their commitment to faith, family, and freedom.

We couldn't do all this without you.

Please consider a gift to the Centennial Institute to strengthen our work shaping the culture for Christ, the Bible, and the Constitution!

Gratefully,



Jeff Hunt
Director, Centennial Institute at Colorado Christian University
Co-Chairman, Western Conservative Summit

Colorado Christian University seeks to provide Christ-centered higher education transforming students to impact the world with grace and truth.

Front Cover: CCU students at the 2020 March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Highlights from 2020



Jeff Hunt opening the 2020 Western Conservative Summit



Flags at the 9/11 memorial



CCU President Dr. Donald Sweeting at the March for Life



Ken Starr at our business council breakfast



Donna Rice Hughes, Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation in the Digital World



The Sin of Racism and America's Promise of Equality

Centennial Institute

The Centennial Institute is led by Director Jeff Hunt, who guides the think tank in its mission to heighten public understanding of the most challenging issues facing Colorado and the nation. He is supported by others who share his commitment to bringing a message of Christian conservative values to the public square.

CCU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Wil Armstrong
- Brad Benson
- Jeff Coors
- Dr. Margaret Fomer
- Dr. Biff Gore
- Don Harwell
- Jerry Jenkins
- Sam Kimbriel '83
- The Hon. Mike Kopp
- Hal Krause
- Chick Lee, Vice Chair
- Terry Leprino '92
- The Hon. Kevin Lundberg '74
- Doug McDonald
- Tim McTavish '13, Chair
- Dr. Jeff Myers
- Dr. Jerry Nelson
- John Pittman
- Dr. Mark Sheehan
- Don Siecke
- Dr. Don Sweeting, President
- Bob Warren
- Bill White

STAFF

- Jeff Hunt, Director
- Tom Copeland, Ph.D., Director of Research
- Staci Holt, Director of Events
- Amy Leake, Director of Operations
- Antonette Smith, Director of Marketing

STUDENT STAFF

- Nicole Cochran '21, B.A. Liberal Arts
- Dani Miller '22, B.A. Music
- Sarah Morris '20, B.A. Global Studies
- Lena Pacifici '21, B.A. Politics, Minor in Music
- Margo Radach '20, B.A. Psychology

Centennial Institute is honored to welcome Dr. Tom Copeland, Professor of Politics, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, as our Director of Research.



Attending the Rose Dinner at the 2020 March for Life, members of our student staff, Dani Miller, Nicole Cochran, Sarah Morris, and Lena Pacifici.



Centennial Institute

FELLOWS

- Jay Ambrose, Fellow in Media and Journalism
- The Hon. John Andrews, Fellow in American Thought
- Peter Droege, Fellow in Marijuana and Drug Addiction Policy
- Dr. Jenna Ellis, Fellow in Law and Politics
- David Flaherty, Fellow in Political Data Analysis
- Frank Francone, Fellow in Law and Politics
- Tina Francone, Fellow in Local Government
- Biff Gore, Fellow in Life
- Dr. Doug Groothius, Fellow in Christian/Conservative Thought
- Rebecca Heinrichs, Fellow in National Defense
- Stephen Keating, Fellow in New Media
- The Hon. Mike Kopp, Fellow in State Policy
- Kent Lietzau, Fellow in Aerospace
- Samuel Lourie, Fellow in Middle East Policy
- The Hon. Kevin Lundberg, Fellow in State Policy
- Kevin Miller, Fellow in Conservative Thought
- Carl Moeller, Fellow in the Bible
- Dr. Bill Moloney, Fellow in Education
- Mike Norton, Fellow in Legal Thought
- Dr. Paul Prentice, Fellow in Economics
- Helen Quiang Raleigh, Fellow in Immigration Policy
- Sosamma Samuel-Burnett, Fellow in Geopolitics and Global Justice
- Thom Scheffel, Fellow in Law and Politics
- Derec Shuler, Fellow in Education
- Kelly Sloan, Fellow in Energy and Environment
- The Hon. Ken Summers, Fellow in Faith Engagement
- Dr. Jill Vecchio, Fellow in Healthcare Policy
- Brittany Vessely, Fellow in Education Reform
- Greg Walcher, Fellow in Natural Resources
- Derrick Wilburn, Fellow in Conservative Thought

AFFILIATE FACULTY

- Dr. Tom Copeland, Professor of Politics, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Dr. Peter Kerr, Dean and Professor, School of Business and Leadership
- Dr. Charles King, Professor of Business, Law and Ethics; Dean Emeritus, School of Business and Leadership
- Dr. David Kotter, Dean and Professor of New Testament Studies, School of Theology
- Kevin Miller, Executive in Residence, Distinguished Professor of Business and Leadership, School of Business and Leadership
- Michael Plato, Assistant Professor of Intellectual History and Christian Thought, School of Theology
- Dr. Stephen Shumaker, Professor of Politics, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Dr. Gary Steward, Assistant Professor of History, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Dr. Earl Waggoner, Dean, School of Biblical and Theological Studies, College of Adult and Graduate Studies
- Dr. William Watson, Professor of History, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Dr. Barbara White, Dean and Professor, School of Nursing
- Dr. John Wind, Assistant Professor of Theology, School of Theology

The Centennial Institute lost a treasured friend in 2020, Dr. Bill Watson, Professor of History. We are grateful for his lifetime of study, teaching, and service to our Lord.



Distinguished Lecture Series

The Centennial Institute, Colorado Christian University’s public policy think tank, was founded in 2009 under then university president former U.S. Senator Bill Armstrong. To direct the Institute, President Armstrong appointed John Andrews, former president of the Colorado Senate, and a leading conservative voice in Colorado and across the nation. Since then, the Centennial Institute has worked to influence culture in support of traditional Christian values through public policy and community engagement.

Following is a sample of Centennial Institute’s work in 2020.

Draining the Cyberswamp: preventing child sexual exploitation in the digital world, Monday, March 9, 2020, featuring Donna Rice Hughes, President and CEO of Enough is Enough, a international internet safety initiative.

Has God Given Up on America? March 31, 2020, with Brad Bright, president of the Bright Media Foundation, author of *GOD is the Issue*, and co-author of *God, Who Are You Anyway?* and *Your 7 Duties as a Christian Citizen*.



Draining the Cyberswamp, Donna Rice Hughes

Michael Barone on American Politics 2020, April 20, 2020. Mr. Barone discussed his latest book, *How America’s Political Parties Change (and How They Don’t)*, and shared his unique perspective on politics in American past, present and future.



Michael Barone on American Politics 2020

Reviewing the Supreme Court’s Decision on LGBTQ Workplace Civil Rights, June 11, 2020, with The Hon. Mike Norton. *Bostock v. Clayton County* will have a dramatic impact on religious freedom issues for decades to come. Expect many more Supreme Court cases over LGBTQ rights and religious freedom.

What does Trump’s Presidency Portend for the Future of Conservatism in America? November 16, 2020. Jeff Hunt and Centennial Institute fellows gathered for an open discussion of how conservatism has changed during the Trump era, and what the future holds for faith, family and freedom.



U.S. Comission on International Religious Freedom 2020 Report

Engaging During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Distinguished Lecture Series as Webinars

Home Emergency Preparedness, March 22, 2020, with Yinon Weiss, a serial entrepreneur and Special Forces veteran, who talked about steps you can take to prepare your family for an emergency.



Liberty and Economy Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, Jon Caldera

Legal Implications of Colorado’s Stay-at-Home Order, March 27, 2020, with Fred Yarger, former Solicitor General for the State of Colorado, who discussed the legal implications of Governor Polis’ stay-at-home COVID-19 order.

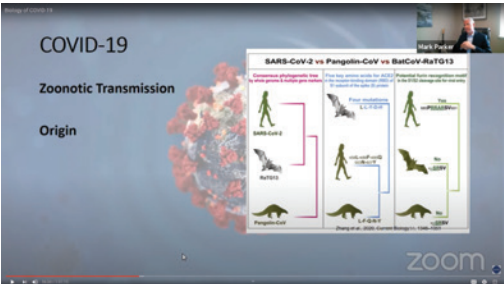
Liberty and Economy Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, March 28, 2020, with Jon Caldara of the Independence Institute, who discussed liberty and the economy amid the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Educating Your Children Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, Dr. Debora Scheffel

Educating Your Children Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, March 30, 2020, featuring Dr. Debora Scheffel, dean and professor of education at Colorado Christian University, who discussed education amid the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CCU Nursing on the Front-lines of COVID-19, April 2, 2020, Dr. Barbara White, Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions at Colorado Christian University, and Dr. Kristi Hargrave, Director of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at Colorado Christian University discuss how nurses are serving on the front-lines of the pandemic.



The Biology of COVID-19

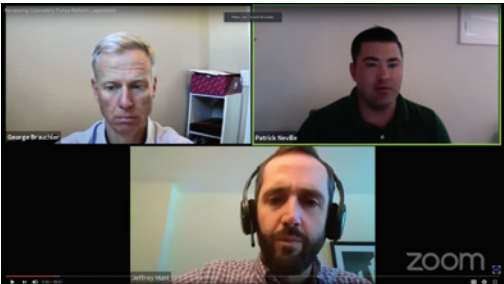
The Biology of COVID-19, April 17, 2020, with Dr. Mark Parker, Professor of Biology at Colorado Christian University, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering in the College of Undergraduate Studies, and Dr. Damon Perez, Assistant Professor of Biology in CCU’s College of Adult & Graduate Studies, discussing coronavirus, its spread, impact on the body, current medical responses, and how science can defeat it.



The Sin of Racism and America’s Promise of Equality

The Sin of Racism and America’s Promise of Equality, June 11, 2020 and June 25, 2020, with Antonia Okafor Cover, CJ Pearson, Dr. Biff Gore, and Casper Stockham, who discussed how we seek justice for the black community, improve policing in America, protect our cities and local communities from violent riots, and live up to America’s claims of one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Reviewing Colorado’s Police Reform Legislation, June 30, 2020, with George Brauchler, D.A. 18th Judicial District, and Patrick Neville, House Minority Leader, who discussed the Colorado police reform bill (2020 legislative session), and its potential to address Denver’s spike in violent crime.



Reviewing Colorado’s Police Reform Legislation

2020 March for Life

Colorado Christian University was honored to be invited to co-lead the 2020 March for Life in Washington, D.C., the 47th march since the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973. The Centennial Institute team led over 180 students, faculty, and friends on this historic trip.

“Within our generation, we could see the end of Roe v. Wade as abortion is rejected as a constitutionally-protected right,” said Jeff Hunt. “Strong numbers of young people are supporting restrictions on late-term abortions, even more so than older generations.”

The CCU for Life team has grown dramatically over the years, and members of the group were available for media interviews during the March for Life trip. Katie McTavish, a CCU student, said it is an “honor” to serve as a “voice for the voiceless.” ★



U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos

Centennial Institute has hosted the annual Colorado Christian University President’s Reception in Washington, D.C. each year. For 2020, however, the event was a dinner and celebration at the Museum of the Bible with featured

speaker Secretary Betsy DeVos. Interviewed by CCU and Centennial Institute friend, radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt, Sec. DeVos shared her support for the university’s stand for life and for outstanding higher education. ★



Paid Family Leave Initiative

With our commitment to family, Centennial Institute was honored to play a leadership role in a statewide discussion about paid family leave. Through a series of roundtables, our goal was to improve dialogue around this important issue and seek workable, long-term, conservative solutions.

In partnership with the Colorado Women’s Alliance and Square State Strategies, discussions were held in Greeley, Grand Junction, Colorado Springs, and Lakewood with conservative and faith-based leaders, grassroots organizers, and legislators to explore conservative solutions for paid family and medical leave.

We were able to provide a summary of values that must guide any proposed legislation along with a list of proposals ranked by their chance for best possible outcomes. ★



Standing for the unborn: Colorado Proposition 115



Centennial Institute partnered with the Archdiocese of Denver, Due Date Too Late, and many other pro-life organizations to support Proposition 115, banning late-term abortion in Colorado. This campaign made important advances, being one of the most successful pro-life ballot initiatives in decades. Many CCU students joined in the effort by making phone calls, collecting signatures, and organizing sign waving rallies. ★

National Day of Prayer Call with Dr. Don Sweeting, May 7, 2020.

Dr. Donald Sweeting and Jeff Hunt again hosted one of the largest National Day of Prayer events in the country. We dialed out to tens of thousands of Coloradans to join our prayer conference call. The theme of this year’s National Day of Prayer was “Pray God’s Glory Across the Earth” taken from Habakkuk 2:14 which reads, “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.” ★



Western Conservative Summit



Since 2009, the Western Conservative Summit has become one of the largest gatherings for conservatives outside of the nation's capital. With the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the 2020 WCS required a different approach. The team was honored to create an entirely new event.

We produced a documentary film, *America! America! God Shed His Grace on Thee!* Our goal was to highlight the role the Bible and Christianity have played in the shaping of America. We hired Hollywood actor and movie producer

Nick Searcy and director Chris Burgard to produce our film, and the results were outstanding. On Saturday, October 10, 2020, the movie premiered to a national audience. ★

Stats		
7100 Registered Attendees	350,700 Online Viewers	750 Donor "Investors"

Our Thanks to Our 2020 WCS Sponsors



Western Conservative Summit



This year, we awarded the 2020 William L. Armstrong Award for national conservative leadership to Jackie and Steve Green of Hobby Lobby, who built the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. Kristy and Wil Armstrong traveled to Oklahoma to meet with the Greens and present their award.

Another highlight of the 2020 WCS was our focus on future conservative leaders. We hosted a nation-wide contest to identify the next conservative star. Caleb Knox from Patrick Henry College was the winner of the 2020 Under 30 Speech Contest. Since the contest is co-sponsored by Turning Point USA (TPUSA), Caleb flew to the TPUSA headquarters to meet the team and record his speech in their studios.

The day ended with two rounds of outstanding workshops with our sponsors, Fellows, and CCU professors. ★

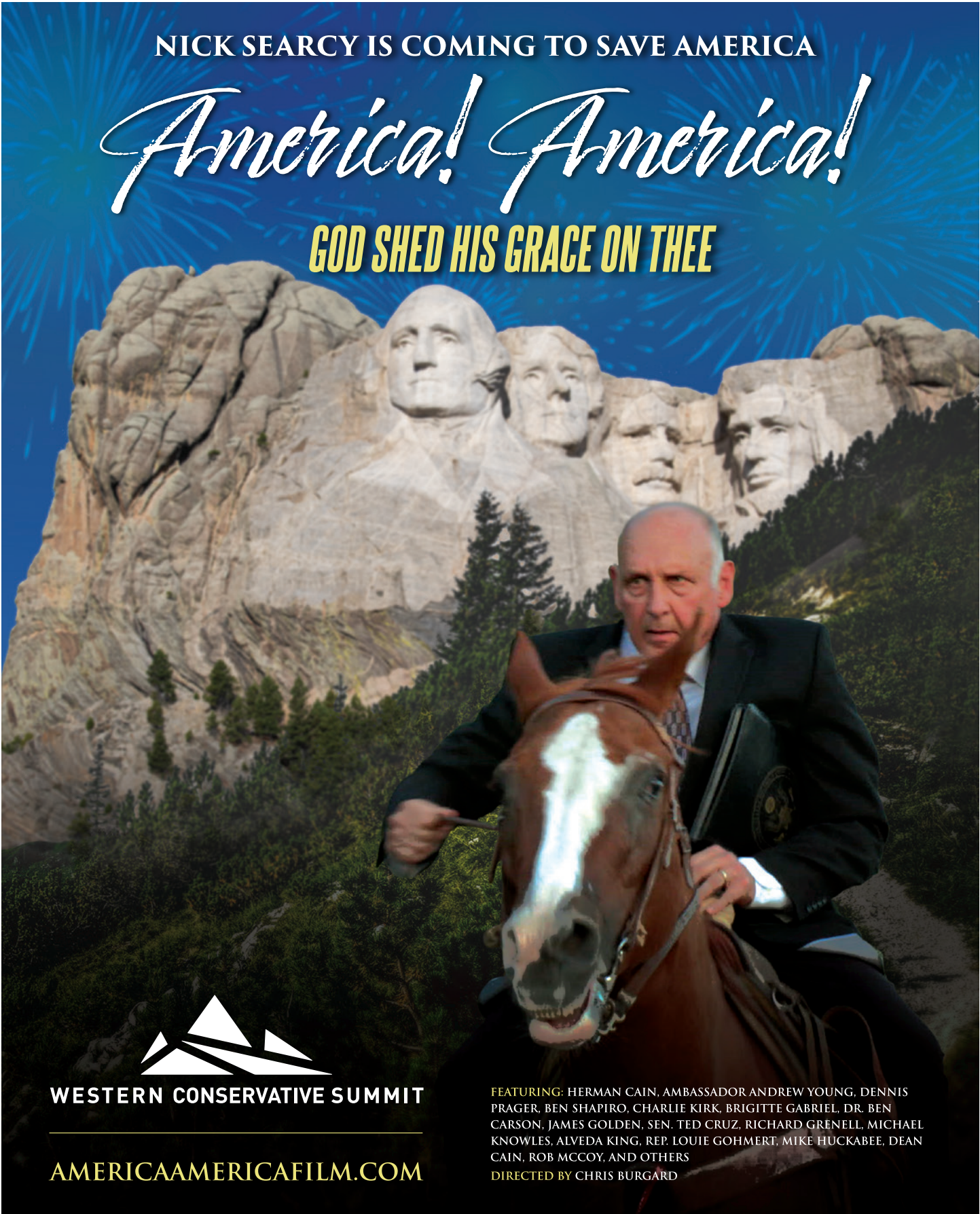


Western Conservative Summit

NICK SEARCY IS COMING TO SAVE AMERICA

America! America!

GOD SHED HIS GRACE ON THEE




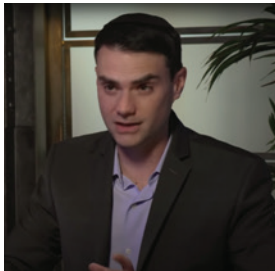










WESTERN CONSERVATIVE SUMMIT

AMERICAAMERICAFILM.COM

FEATURING: HERMAN CAIN, AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG, DENNIS PRAGER, BEN SHAPIRO, CHARLIE KIRK, BRIGITTE GABRIEL, DR. BEN CARSON, JAMES GOLDEN, SEN. TED CRUZ, RICHARD GRENELL, MICHAEL KNOWLES, ALVEDA KING, REP. LOUIE GOHMERT, MIKE HUCKABEE, DEAN CAIN, ROB MCCOY, AND OTHERS

DIRECTED BY CHRIS BURGARD

Western Conservative Summit

 <p>Dennis Prager</p>	 <p>Ben Shapiro</p>	 <p>Charlie Kirk</p>	 <p>Brigitte Gabriel</p>	 <p>Dr. Ben Carson</p>
 <p>James Golden</p>	 <p>Ted Cruz</p>	 <p>Richard Grenell</p>	 <p>Herman Cain</p>	 <p>Alveda King</p>
 <p>Andrew Young</p>	 <p>Louis Gohmert</p>	 <p>Mike Huckabee</p>	 <p>Dean Cain</p>	 <p>Michael Knowles</p>

While generally the largest in-person gathering of conservatives in the west, this year's Western Conservative Summit was virtual, creating a unique opportunity for something bold and new.

On Saturday, October 10, hundreds of thousands from across the country tuned in for the premiere of the documentary *America! America! God Shed His Grace on Thee*. Led by the Centennial Institute, produced by Nick Searcy, and directed by Chris Burgard, the film received outstanding reviews.

The documentary features 22 high-profile outspoken conservatives—including Ben Shapiro, Dennis Prager, Charlie Kirk, Brigitte Gabriel, James Golden, Richard Grenell, Michael Knowles, Mike Huckabee, Ben Carson and Ted Cruz, Alveda King, Andrew Young, Louie Gohmert, and Dean Cain among others. Of note, the film features the final interview with Herman Cain.

The documentary illustrates the role the Bible and Christianity had on the nation's founding and why it is crucial to retain those values for the future. The film can be viewed at AmericaAmericaFilm.com. ★



Preserving and Promoting Conservatism

Engaging Colorado’s Legislature

It is a Strategic Priority of Colorado Christian University to impact our culture in support of traditional family values, sanctity of life, compassion for the poor, Biblical view of human nature, limited government, personal freedom, free markets, natural law, original intent of the Constitution, and Western civilization. The Centennial Institute is directly involved at the Colorado capitol seeking to influence legislation for Christ.

During the 2020 legislative session, the Centennial Institute scored twelve bills. ★



Bills that were tracked:			
OPPOSED:		SUPPORT:	
Senate Bill 20-166	Simplifying Requirements for New Birth Certificate	Senate Bill 20-090	Limit Liability for Food Donations to Nonprofits
Senate Bill 20-224	Landlord Prohibitions Tenant Citizenship Status Senate Concurrent Resolution 20-001 to repeal the Gallagher Amendment	House Bill 20-1425	Hospital Patient Visitation Rights During COVID-19
House Bill 20-1080	Remove Residency Requirement for Marijuana License	House Bill 20-1033	Live and Let Live Act
House Bill 20-1387	Transfers from Unexpended County Reimbursements	House Bill 20-1063	Fundamental Family Rights in Colorado
House Bill 20-1406	Cash Fund Transfers to The General Fund	House Bill 20-1075	Protect Human Life at Conception
House Bill 20-1420	Adjust Tax Expenditures for State Education Fund	House Bill 20-1068	Born Alive Child Physician Relationship
House Bill 20-1427	Cigarette Tobacco and Nicotine Products Tax	House Bill 20-1098	Prohibition on Abortion After 22 Weeks
		House Bill 20-1144	Parent's Bill of Rights
		Senate Bill 20-020	Reduce the State Income Tax Rate
		Senate Bill 20-072	Human Sexuality Education Notification Requirement

Centennial Institute Supports Amy Coney Barrett for the Supreme Court

The Centennial Institute helped lead an effort to encourage Senators Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner to support the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to the U.S. Supreme Court. We are proud to now call her Justice Amy Coney Barrett. ★



2020 Faith, Family, and Freedom Awards

Christian conservatives must be good stewards of the communities we call home. We must engage in public policy, which will affect our children and grandchildren.

We celebrate those legislators that have stood strong for Christian conservative values with the faith, family, and freedom awards.

This year’s house of representative winners include: Tim Geitner, Stephen Humphrey, Lori Saine, Dave Williams, Perry Buck, Patrick Neville, Kim Ransom, Mark Baisley, Colin Larson, Kevin Van Winkle, Shane Sandridge, Richard Holtorf, Terri Carver, Larry Liston, Rod Pelton, Richard Champion, Janice Rich, Perry Will, Rod Bockenfeld, Hugh McKean, Marc Catlin, Matt Soper, James Wilson.

This year’s senate winners include: Bob Gardner, Paul Lundeen, Rob Woodward, Vicki Marble, Ray Scott, John Cooke, Dennis Hisey, Chris Holbert, Jim Smallwood. ★

2020 FAITH, FAMILY, AND FREEDOM AWARD ★ CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU! ★



Measuring the Impact

The Centennial Institute engages television, print, radio, and social media to advance Christian conservative principles in the public square. On a daily basis, our fellows are in the media guiding our nation's thinking.

Traditional Media

Potential Audience Size

641,400,00

Value Of Coverage

\$3,400,000



60,630

Facebook Likes



3,883

Twitter Followers



741

Instagram Followers



9,120

YouTube Subscribers



3,352,694

YouTube Views

Media Highlights



SOCIETY / NEWS

Why These African American Leaders Reject the Left's Victim Narrative

Virginia Allen / @Virginia_Allen5 / June 15, 2020 / 44 Comments





Reliable Reporting. The Right Opinion.

Conservative women of America, Uncle Sam needs you





CHRISTIANITY · Published September 2

Nick Searcy discusses new documentary 'America, America, God Shed His Grace on Thee'

Includes Herman Cain's last interview







Reliable Reporting. The Right Opinion.

Documentary film 'America! America! God Shed his Grace on Thee' debuts





Colorado Ballot Proposal Would Ban Abortion After 22 Weeks

5:00PM EDT 10/29/2020 | JANENNE IRENE PUNG

Media Highlights

BREITBART

NEW DOCUMENTARY ABOUT AMERICA AND THE BIBLE RECEIVES STANDING OVATIONS AT LOS ANGELES SCREENING EVENT



US intel reportedly concludes the China concealed the extent of its coronavirus outbreak

Apr. 02, 2020 - 4:16 - Reaction and analysis from John Yoo, former deputy assistant attorney general, and Federalist contributor Helen Raleigh.



CHINESE CHECKERS
ASSESSING REPORTS THAT CHINA HID SEVERITY OF OUTBREAK

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED
AHEAD



CHINA - Published July 25

Native scholar says Communist China has 'met its match' with Trump admin following consulate closure

DAILY CALLER

COPELAND: So You Want To Move To Canada?



THE DENVER POST

What's Colorado Proposition 115: Banning abortion at 22 weeks
Measure would make abortions illegal for doctors to perform at 22 weeks



Washington Examiner

OPINION

Let the children play

by Jeff Hunt | June 08, 2020 12:02 AM



THE CHRISTIAN POST

CP ENTERTAINMENT | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 09, 2020 |


Disney criticized for thanking Chinese authorities in 'Mulan' credits, ignoring human rights abuses

THE CHRISTIAN POST

CP VOICES | SATURDAY, MAY 09, 2020 | CORONAVIRUS →

Open up the churches now

Media Highlights



Trailer for new Christian documentary removed several times from Google and YouTube

Sep. 06, 2020 - 3:43 - Is faith too sensitive for Big Tech? Reaction from actor, director and documentary filmmaker Nick Searcy.



LIVE

NEW DOC EXPLORES ROLE OF FAITH IN AMERICA'S STORY

FOX & friends

THE EPOCH TIMES



CROSS ROADS

INTERVIEW WITH NICK SEARCY

ACTOR AND STAR OF AMERICA, AMERICA, GOD SHED HIS GRACE ON THEE

CBN NEWS



NICOLE HUNT

ATTORNEY

OAN



LIVE

HAPPENING NOW

CENTENNIAL INSTITUTE IN COLO. PUTS GOV. POLIS ON NOTICE

THE COLORADO SUN

Proposition 115 explained: Colorado's broad access to abortion would be scaled back under ballot measure

IN THE MARKET WITH JANET PARSHALL

THE STREAM

Colorado 2020: Right, Left Unite for 22-Week Abortion Ban Ballot Initiative

Life is on the ballot in Colorado, as Prop 115 would ban abortions after 22 weeks. A broad coalition spanning right and left has united to back the pro-life initiative.



WESTERN CONSERVATIVE SUMMIT

June 18-19, 2021

Hyatt Regency
Denver

*National Host Committee
opportunities available now.*

*Contact Centennial Institute
to learn more.*



WesterConservativeSummit.com