TRAVELING EXHIBITS:
In Pursuit of Equality

By the turn of the century Wyoming was recognized as the Equality State due in large part to its several important historical firsts where women’s rights were concerned. In Pursuit of Equality is an exhibit that tells the story of three women who through their actions as elected office holders, challenged and changed the conventional understanding of equality in Wyoming during the 20th century: Nelly Tayloe Ross, Thyra Thomson, and Elizabeth Byrd. The true meaning of equality is still being explored and debated in Wyoming, 150 years after it became the first state to grant full women’s suffrage.

Size: 24 framed items (2 crates).

Nellie Tayloe Ross, the first woman governor in American history, campaign poster, 1926. Nellie Tayloe Ross Papers, American Heritage Center.
The American Heritage Center (AHC) is the University of Wyoming's repository of manuscripts collections, rare books, and the university archives. Many universities have primary source repositories. Few have repositories as extensive and significant as the AHC. More importantly, few universities have such repositories as welcoming and accessible to undergraduate and graduate students. Internationally known for its historical collections the AHC first and foremost serves the students and citizens of Wyoming. The AHC sponsors a wide range of scholarly and popular programs including lectures, symposia, and exhibits. Not a dusty attic or an exclusive sanctuary, the AHC is a welcoming, lively, place where both experts and novices engage with the original sources of history. Access is free and open to all.