FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited” Comes to Denver
Exhibition Celebrates African American Giving; Part of National Black Philanthropy Month

The Denver Foundation and Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library are honored to co-host “The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited,” a photographic and narrative exploration of African American giving, which runs August 1-31 at the library, 2401 Welton Street, in Denver’s historic Five Points neighborhood.

Denver is one of only ten cities to host “The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited,” which explores the triumphant movement of conscious giving for social change, shared through photos and words of African American philanthropists, with a special addition of Denver notables. Groundbreaking in focus and depth, the exhibition draws evocative images and incisive stories from the award-winning book Giving Back: A Tribute to Generations of African American Philanthropists, by Valaida Fullwood and photographer Charles W. Thomas Jr.

Both the exhibition and book explore the African American philanthropy experience and giving traditions grounded in faith, mutuality, responsibility and social justice; the exhibit is among a series of events planned throughout August in celebration of National Black Philanthropy Month.

Valaida Fullwood will be present for a VIP invitation-only reception on Friday, July 31, as well as a public reception on Saturday, August 1. In addition to penning Giving Back, Fullwood is the founder of Next Generation of African American Philanthropists (NGAAP), a giving circle in Charlotte, NC.

“The Soul of Philanthropy Reframed and Exhibited” visits Denver as part of The Denver Foundation's focus on Elevating Philanthropy in Communities of Color (EPIC). Funded in part by a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, EPIC is The Denver Foundation’s ongoing investment in the existing, emerging, and oftentimes invisible acts of philanthropy in communities of color.

EPIC’s objectives are to:

- Recognize and grow philanthropy in communities of color
- Connect philanthropists of color with tools, education, and resources
- Bring together committed donors of color to build relationships and impact positive community change

“This exhibit is a window into African American giving,” says LaDawn Sullivan, Director of Community Leadership for The Denver Foundation. “While the photos may be black and white,
the culture and history of philanthropy in the African American community is a vibrant collage of individual, collective, and strategic giving which impacts and elevates our community. It’s got heart all over it. This is certainly a ‘reframed image’ of what is stereotypically depicted of philanthropy in communities of color. This exhibit is sure to spur conversations, connections, and ideas which the The Denver Foundation looks forward to potentially supporting.”

Exhibit sponsors are The Denver Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, NGAAP Charlotte, Blair Caldwell Branch – Denver Public Library, Denver African American Philanthropists (DAAP), Denver (CO) Chapter of The Links, Inc., and Sisterhood of Philanthropists Impacting Needs (SPIN).

Event host committee members are Eula and Janet Adams, Councilman Albus Brooks, Linda Campbell, Richela Das, Chrissy Deal, Myra Donovan, MaryAnn Franklin, Barbara Grogan, Eddie and Andria Koen, and Rich Lopez.

To request hi-resolution images, and/or interviews with Valaida Fullwood, author; David Miller, President/CEO, The Denver Foundation; or LaDawn Sullivan, Director of Community Leadership, The Denver Foundation, contact Laura Bond, 303.596.7624, or writelaurabond@gmail.com.

About The Denver Foundation
The Denver Foundation is a community foundation that inspires people and mobilizes resources to improve life in Metro Denver. In 2014, the Foundation and its donors awarded more than $67 million in grants. The Denver Foundation has three roles: stewarding an endowment to meet current and future needs for Metro Denver, working with community leaders to address the core challenges that face the community, and managing about 1,000 charitable funds on behalf of individuals, families, and businesses. For more information, visit www.denverfoundation.org.