

UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

# Traveling Exhibits

## In Pursuit of Equality

### THE FIRST WOMAN GOVERNOR

*Wyoming's Governor*

### THE WOMAN WHO MADE GOOD



NELLIE TAYLOE ROSS

**Businesslike—Able—Courageous. She Has Earned Re-election**

**Nellie Tayloe Ross, the first woman governor in American history, campaign poster, 1926. Nellie Tayloe Ross papers, American Heritage Center.**

**B**y 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).

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American Heritage Center

**T**he American Heritage Center (AHC) is the University of Wyoming's repository of manuscripts and special collections, rare books, and the university archives. Its collections focus on Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain West (including but not limited to politics, settlement, and western trails), environment and conservation, the mining and petroleum industries, air and rail transportation, the performing arts (particularly radio, television, film, and popular music), journalism, and US military history.

Students and scholars from around the globe use these collections for research. The AHC also sponsors a wide range of scholarly and popular programs including lectures, concerts, symposia, and exhibits. Housed in a landmark building shared with the University Art Museum, access to the AHC is free and open to all.

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**Location:**

2111 Willett Drive (Centennial Complex)  
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**E-mail and Web Site:**

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American Heritage Center

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