

THANK YOU SPONSORS!!

Colorado Agriculture in the Classroom extends our deepest gratitude to the generous sponsors of the 2025 Literacy Project. Your support makes it possible to bring agricultural literacy to students across Colorado, inspiring the next generation with stories of innovation, resilience, and the importance of agriculture in our daily lives. *Sponsors listed as of January 15, 2025.*

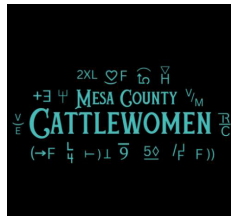
Champion of Education (\$10,000 and Above)



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Class Leader (\$1,000 to \$4,999)



Plus numerous individuals, organizations, and business at the Grassroots Advocate level of up to \$1,000.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The success of the 2025 Literacy Project, *Cattle, Corn, and Courage – The Story of Dr. John Matsushima*, would not be possible without the dedication of our partners, volunteers, and generous individuals who have contributed their time, expertise, and resources. Your support helps bring agricultural literacy to classrooms across Colorado, inspiring the next generation to appreciate and understand the role of agriculture in our world. Thank you for making a difference!

Project Partners & Contributors

- **Dr. John Matsushima, Nancy (Matsushima) and Gene Oliver** for allowing us to tell this story, and for their enthusiastic partnership and contributions in making this the best Literacy Project yet.
- **Rachel Gabel** for her inspiration and dedication in giving life to this project.
- **Liz Munsterteiger** for her beautiful illustrations and the extra care she put into this project.
- **Racheal Storm from History Colorado** for her role in the virtual field trip video, helping bring history and agriculture to the classroom for students.
- **All the individuals who participated in the videos** created to enhance this project.

Sponsors of Materials & Supplies

- **Keith Bath Farms** for providing whole kernel dent/field corn and steam-flaked corn samples for all participating classes.
- **The Justin and Brendee Whitney Family** for donating the white and brown paper bags used for the corn samples.
- **Dan Byers, Jordan Levi, John Scanga, and Bob Delmore** for ensuring the supply of 37,000 beef sticks.
- **Colorado State University Ram Country Meats and Kyle Harrington** for making the beef sticks and delivering them to Trinidad for kit packing.
- **The Colorado Beef Council** for supplying the Beef Sustainability Readers for the middle and high school students.

Volunteers & Logistics Support

- **Space to Create in Trinidad and Marty Hackett** for graciously accommodating the mass packing event.
- **McCall Knecht** for all the help and support.
- **Colorado Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers members and Kacie Sallee** for packing the Literacy Project Kits and assisting with school deliveries.
- **Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program members** for helping deliver kits to schools.
- **Brad and Wade Hofmeister** for their assistance with supplies and kit preparation.
- **All CoAITC board members, staff, and volunteers** who delivered kits to classrooms across the state.

Educators & Classroom Volunteers

- **The dedicated educators and schools** who bring this project to life in their classrooms, engaging students in agricultural literacy and fostering a deeper connection to the world of food and farming.
- **The many volunteers who are visiting classrooms as guest readers**, sharing their knowledge and passion for agriculture with students.

CoAITC Team

- **CoAITC Education Committee and Board members** for supporting this vision and helping bring it to fruition.
- **CoAITC staff members Jennifer Scharpe, Cyndi Hofmeister, and Lucee Church** for their hard work and dedication in coordinating this project.

SAVE THE DATE

Educators, mark your calendars for our **2025 Summer AgriCULTURE Institutes!** Join us for an immersive, hands-on experience connecting agriculture to your classroom: **July 7-11 - St. Vrain Valley Region** and **July 15-17 in Steamboat Springs**. More details and registration will be available soon at CoAgClassroom.org