Nona Shipman, Summit Venue Host
Co-Director, One World One Water Center,
Metropolitan State University of Denver

Water Workforce
2024 SUMMIT
Land and Labor Acknowledgment from MSU Denver

MSU Denver acknowledges the indigenous people and land of Auraria and the broader Denver area and the labor of enslaved and exploited people that built the country.

We honor and acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations. We acknowledge the land and history of this space we are fortunate to gather in today. This area was also the site of trade, hunting, gathering, and healing for many other Native Nations: The Lakota, Ute, Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Shoshone, and others. 48 Tribes have called this land home. We recognize the Indigenous peoples as the original stewards of the land, water, plants, and animals who called this place home.

Let us also acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We recognize that U.S. public policy has been used to displace Indigenous communities, erode Tribal Nation sovereignty, and forcibly assimilate Native individuals into U.S. society. We respect the many diverse Indigenous peoples still connected to this land on which we gather. We pay our respect to them and give thanks to all Tribal Nations and the ancestors of this place.

We also acknowledge the labor of enslaved Africans and their descendants who worked this stolen land for the colonists, and who continue to disproportionately face economic oppression, racism, violence, and exploitation.

Lastly, we want to recognize the communities and families of Auraria displaced by the creation of this campus for MSU Denver to have a place that we now call home. We share this acknowledgment to encourage all of us here on the Auraria campus to consider how our work in this space and in our daily lives can address these historic and contemporary atrocities perpetrated against Native people and other marginalized communities.
Nona Shipman
Co-Director
One World One Water Center
Metropolitan State University of Denver

Nshipman@msudenver.edu
The One World One Water Center (OWOW) is a collaboration between Metropolitan State University of Denver and Denver Botanic Gardens. The OWOW Center strives to prepare an educated, empowered, solution-oriented Colorado citizenry to protect and preserve our precious water resources.

- INTERDISCIPLINARY
- INTERSECTIONAL
- MULTIDIMENSIONAL
OWOW CENTER

GOALS

CONVENE
create opportunity

EDUCATE
build water stewardship

ACTIVATE
diversify voices
MSU Denver undergrad stats:
- 54% students of color
- HSI designation, 36.7% Hispanic
- 56% female, 44% male
- Average age, 24.5 years old
- 59.7% first-generation college students
- Over 450 majors, minors, online programs, certificates, licensures, and masters programs

OWOW current undergrad stats:
- 31% students of color
- 15% Hispanic
- 54% female, 38% male, 8% nonbinary
- 46% first-generation
- 9 different majors
OTHER EFFORTS

EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

INTERNSHIPS & JOB OPPS

MARCOMM

Classroom to Career Hub
THANK YOU

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nshipman@msudenver.edu
303-615-2006