

What Makes Denver Great

Denver is a unique city. I've seen it grow from a cow town. When I went back east, I was often teased, coming from Colorado. They said, "Oh, do you come from that cow town Denver?" That was in the early '60s. And we were a cow town.

What makes us so amazing today as I look out my window where I live, we have grown from this modest beginning and yet a very fruitful and wonderful history and heritage that is inclusive of the Mexican-Americans and Native Americans who actually founded, or were the first folks in this state. And the French and then everybody else that came, and we've embraced all the different nationalities and all the different races: the Asian Americans and Native Americans, the African Americans the Latinos, the Caucasians, the whites. We're all together here, and we are collectively making this a great city.

I believe that we respect and trust one another. I do believe that. That we work well together, that when you're walking down the street, I say hi to a lot of folks that I don't know, smile at them. Hopefully a little smile can help a person's day.

I want them to remember that it's about a community, about people who welcomed one another and talk to one another and honor each other's holidays.

I get fascinated by the fact that [in] Larimer Square, we have so many different wonderful holidays that take place at Larimer Square or at Civic Center. And did you know that our Colorado Constitution is written, yes, of course, in English but also in Spanish and German? You know, we have had diversity in this state since before it was founded. We've always been a multicultural state. The Native Americans were here first, and then the Spanish and then the French, and then everybody else came. We welcomed everybody else. And that's what makes Denver great. It's got a wonderful history.