

Dorothy Horrell

Phillips County

Notable accomplishments in Higher Education

Inducted 2011

As a young person growing up in Holyoke, Colorado, Dorothy (Ortner) Horrell's life centered around 4-H. She was extremely active in county and state 4-H events and even represented Colorado at National 4-H Congress in the Dairy Foods category—an event which influenced her area of study when she pursued her undergraduate degree. Dorothy was an International 4-H Youth Exchange delegate to Taiwan in 1973, an experience she says changed her life. When she attended her first State 4-H Conference on the CSU campus, she knew then she wanted to attend Colorado State University. As a college student she worked in the State 4-H office and at Camp Tobin during the Colorado State Fair.

Dorothy has excelled in the world of higher education where she served as president of Red Rocks Community College and president of the Colorado Community College system. She currently sits on the Colorado State University System Board of Governors and serves as president of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation.

Dorothy states that the organizational, decision-making, and teamwork skills that she gained in 4-H were central to her success in life. “My eleven years as a 4-H member were seminal in shaping every aspect of my life, personally and professionally. The most enduring values I hold, the most valuable skills I possess, and the highest aspirations I carry were influenced significantly by the experiences I had in and through 4-H. There is not a day that goes by I am not grateful for my 4-H experience, especially when it comes to the writing and public speaking skills I learned as a 4-H member and how important those skills were to my success in the leadership positions in which I have served.”

