

Shelley Thompson  
Centennial, CO 80122

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**Objective:** To obtain a leadership position in higher education where I can be part of a strong team creating opportunity to transform lives for the better, especially among first-generation and diverse college students.

**Qualifications:** I bring 25 years of fundraising experience leading teams and building meaningful relationships with donors to grow philanthropic support at organizations that want to dramatically expand their impact.

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### **Employment History**

**02/2022 – current: (FT) Associate Vice President, University Advancement, Metropolitan State University of Denver**

- Lead a team of 18 fundraisers, donor relations specialists, prospect researchers and administrative professionals
- Manage a portfolio of 40 major and transformational gift donors and prospects
- Provide strategic leadership in support of the \$100 million Roadrunners RISE Comprehensive Campaign
- Serve as primary liaison to the ROTC program
- Lead the planned giving program

**12/2019 – 01/2022 (FT) Director of Major Gifts, Denver Health Foundation**

- Led a team raising \$3 million in programmatic, capital, and operating revenue as part of a \$9 million annual goal
- Managed a portfolio of 30 high wealth individuals and principal gift prospects
- Created a major gift program focused on individual donors making gifts of \$25,000 or more

**08/2018 – 11/2019 (FT) Vice President of Development, Denver Center for the Performing Arts**

- Collaboratively created and executed strategy as a member of the executive team
- Led a team of eight to achieve exceptional fundraising results
- Directed and led a \$36 million capital campaign

**04/2015 – 07/2018 (FT) Group Chief Development and Community Partnerships Officer, Centura Health**

- Raised more than \$7 million annually in support of capital and programmatic projects from individuals, foundations, corporations, and government sources in a six-hospital region
- Increased fundraising return on investment by 25 percent
- Managed a team of 20 in fundraising, marketing, community health and integrative healing

**04/2012 – 03/2015 (FT) Executive Director, Foundation for Colorado Community Colleges**

- Created and executed strategic focus for a centralized foundation to raise money and build fundraising capacity across the community college system of 13 colleges
- Launched and raised millions in support of a statewide scholarship campaign
- Coached fundraising teams and boards of directors at 13 community colleges statewide

**04/2009 – 03/2012 (FT) Director of Donor Relations and Major Gifts, Denver Museum of Nature & Science**

- Created major gift program to increase volume of gifts in excess of \$50,000
- Acted as Development Division liaison to the CEO in support of his fundraising activity
- Raised millions from a portfolio of 140 major donors in support of capital and other projects

**05/2008 – 03/2009 (FT) Director, Community Outreach, University of Colorado Denver**

- Supported the Chancellor in cultivating strategic community relationships
- Led event planning for major university events, including commencement

**05/2005 – 04/2008 (FT) National Director of Corporate Relations, Outward Bound USA**

- Created a national corporate sponsorship program for the newly merged organization
- Managed a portfolio of 100 corporate donors and prospects nationwide
- Managed fundraising events in seven cities across the USA

**08/1999 – 12/2004 (FT) Director of Development and Communication, The Women's Foundation of Colorado  
Manager of Corporate Relations and Events**

- Successfully raised the annual operating budget of approximately \$1 million
- Managed a portfolio of 100 individuals, corporations and foundations
- Led communication efforts to launch a new brand and strategic plan

**Community Involvement**

- Serve as mentor to rising stars in the non-profit sector, ongoing
- Appointed Special Advocate for foster youth, 2024
- Elected Treasurer, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, 2024
- Appointed to the Board of Directors, Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce, 2023
- Appointed to the Advisory Board, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, 2021
- Elected to the International Women's Forum of Colorado, 2020
- Elected President of the Board, Mi Casa Resource Center, 2019
- Volunteered as Development Director, Citizens for Littleton Public Schools, 2018 Bond Election
- Selected for Leadership Denver Class of 2015
- Appointed to President's Leadership Council, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 2015
- Elected to the Board of Directors, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, 2015
- Appointed to Development Committee, Colorado Outward Bound School, 2014
- Elected to the Board of Directors, Mi Casa Resource Center, 2013
- Elected to National Board of Advisors, Outward Bound USA, 2008
- Elected to Englewood School Board, 2005
- Appointed to Englewood Housing Authority Board, 2002

**Education**

Master of Arts, Political Science, University of Colorado Boulder

Bachelor of Arts, Politics and Government, University of Puget Sound