I.D.E.A.
InterDisciplinary Experimental Arts

For Immediate Release

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Explore Nikola Tesla's Creative Legacy with a New Exhibition at IDEA Space

Colorado Springs, CO. – July 8, 2014–the InterDisciplinary Experimental Arts (IDEA) program and the Innovation Institute at Colorado College present a new exhibition and series of programs entitled ***Transmission/Frequency: Tesla and His Legacy*** *from* from September 4 – October 18, 2014. The exhibition and associated events are free and open to the public.

Nikola Tesla played an important role in the electrical revolution that transformed life at the turn of the 20th century. His inventions, patents, and theoretical work formed the basis of modern AC electricity and contributed to the development of radio and wireless communication. Tesla's story is particularly relevant to the history of Colorado Springs, as the scientist conducted some of his most dramatic experiments with electricity in the city from 1899 to1900.

Transmission/Frequency: Tesla and His Legacy features contemporary artists whose works reflect -- deliberately or not -- Tesla's maverick spirit and enduring legacy. Featured projects engage some of Tesla's ideas, such as free-floating electrical current, self-sustaining systems/movements, electrical and fluorescent light, and magnetic fields. The exhibition will also include images and reproductions of Tesla's inventions, with a focus on his time in Colorado Springs.

Featured Artists: Dove Bradshaw; Michel de Brion; David Fodel; Dmitry Gelfand & Evelina Domnitch; neuroTransmitter (Angel Nevarez & Valerie Tevere); Bjoern Schuelke; Matthew Ostrowski

Transmssion/Frequency: Tesla and His Legacy
Events
Schedule of Events

Thursday, September 4, 4:30pm
Opening Reception and *IDEA Cabaret: The Creative Spark: Understanding Tesla's Innovations*
Cornerstone Arts Center Main Space and IDEA Space

IDEA Cabaret is an ongoing series of public conversations between artists, community experts, and Colorado College faculty from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines. Audience participation is encouraged! In this inaugural Tesla-themed Cabaret, Colorado College faculty members Richard Hilt (Professor of Physics), Kathy Giuffre (Professor of Sociology) and Ted Lindeman (Professor of Chemistry) demonstrate some of Tesla's breakthrough inventions and explore the intersections between creative vision and scientific practice.

Saturday, September 6 9am – 4pm
Tesla at the *What If…Festival*
Downtown Colorado Springs
Visit IDEA's booth at the *What If…Festival,* an annual event showcasing innovative thinking in all its many manifestations. Explore inventions and innovations in robotics, cycling, apps, art, broadcasting, 3D printing, urban farming, musical instruments, sports, and more!

Thursday, September 11, 4:30pm
IDEA Cabaret: *Tesla in Context*
Cornerstone Arts Center Film Screening Room
Until a relatively recent surge in popularity, Tesla had faded from history, overshadowed by his rival Thomas Edison's more commercially-savvy marketing. Current portrayals of Tesla position him as an "outsider" scientist who worked in isolation; his Orthodox upbringing and subsequent spiritual proclivities have heightened this perception. In this Cabaret presentation, Jane Murphy (Associate Professor of History) and Dan Miller, Associate Professor in the Division of Liberal Arts and International Studies at the Colorado School of Mines, discuss Tesla's place in science history and identify his various scientific and spiritual influences.

Thursday, September 18, 4:30pm
IDEA Cabaret: *Transmitting Tesla: Portrayals of Tesla in the Media*
Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center Film Screening Room
During his lifetime (1856-1943) and beyond, Nikola Tesla has been portrayed as an iconoclast genius, a flamboyant showman, a failed businessman, and as the prophet of a new spiritual age. In this presentation, Dylan Nelson and Clay Haskell, Assistant Professors of Film and New Media, explore the ways in which Tesla has been depicted in film and other media venues. Their talk considers how representations of Tesla reflect changing societal values and desires, as well as aspects of the man himself.

Thursday, October 2, 7pm
Lecture: *Tesla: Inventor of the Electrical Age* by W. Bernard Carlson
Cornerstone Arts Center Celeste Theatre
Author of a recently published and widely acclaimed biography of Tesla, W. Bernard Carlson's research demystifies the legendary inventor by placing him within the cultural and technological context of his time. Carlson's work examines Tesla's inventions as well as the creation and maintenance of his celebrity. Drawing on original documents from Tesla's private and public life, Carlson shows how he was an "idealist" inventor who sought the perfect experimental realization of a great idea or principle, and who skillfully sold his inventions to the public through mythmaking and illusion. Carlson's biography sheds new light on Tesla's visionary approach to invention and the business strategies behind his most important technological breakthroughs. Presented by the Innovation

Institute, with support from the Economics Department's *Innovative Minds Lecture Series*.

Friday, October 3, 4:30pm
Reception and Artists Talks with Dove Bradshaw and David Fodel
IDEA Space
Dove Bradshaw enlists the unpredictable effects of time, weather, erosion, and indoor and outdoor atmospheric conditions on natural, chemical, and manufactured materials. Grants received include: National Endowment for the Arts (1975); The Pollock-Krasner Award (1985); The Furthermore Grant (2003); and The National Science Foundation for Artists Grant (2006). Her work has been shown regularly in the US, Europe, Korea and Japan, and she appeared in the *6th Gwangju Biennale*, South Korea. She is represented in the permanent collections of many major museums including: The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York); Museum of Modern Art (New York); The National Gallery of Art (Washington, DC); The Art Institute of Chicago; The British Museum (London); Centre Pompidou (Paris); and Marble Palace, Russian State Museum (St. Petersburg).

David Fodel is an artist, educator, writer, and curator whose work reveals the traces of systems and processes – technological and otherwise – that are overlooked. His eclectic installations, live performances, award-winning sound design and video works have been exhibited, screened, and performed internationally including: Festival ECUA-UIO (Quito, Ecuador); Future Places Festival (Porto, Portugal); Transmediale (Berlin, Germany); and the *International Symposium on Electronic Art*. He has been featured in *Wired Magazine*, and published by *Media-N: The Journal of the New Media Caucus*, *The Experimental Television Center*, and *Sekans Cinema Journal*. Fodel was selected for a residency in 2013 by the National Center for Contemporary Art in Moscow. He teaches Live Media, Creative Computation, and Interdisciplinary Practices at the University of Colorado, Denver and co-curates the *MediaLive Festival*. He has an MFA in Electronic Media Arts & Design from the University of Denver.

IDEA Space is located in the Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center on the Colorado College campus, 825 N. Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO. Regular gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 1 – 6pm; Saturday 1 – 5pm. For more information about exhibits and events, visit www.theIDEAspace.com

About Colorado College
Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. The college operates on the innovative Block Plan, in which its 1,975 undergraduate students study one course at a time in intensive 3½-week blocks. The college also offers a master of arts in teaching degree. For more information, visit www.ColoradoCollege.edu . For directions or disability accommodation at the event, members of the public may call (719) 389-6607.