

## INTERNSHIP



### Paid Internship:

- **Colorado Channel Intern for 2026** - Assist in the live television broadcast of the floor sessions of the Colorado Senate and House of Representatives.

[Visit open.media for more information and to apply.](#)

## GOVERNMENT

### Ridgway, CO on Open.Media



Ridgway Colorado

Ridgway, Colorado—often nicknamed the “Gateway to the San Juans”—is a small home-rule municipality in Ouray County, nestled in the Uncompahgre Valley at an elevation of about 6,985 feet. It was established as a railroad terminus in the late 19th century to support mining towns such as Ouray and Telluride. Its name honors Robert M. Ridgway, a Denver & Rio Grande Railroad superintendent. The town was incorporated on April 2, 1891. The construction of Ridgway Dam and the Ridgway Reservoir just north of town reshaped parts of the region. [\(Wikipedia\)](#)

At the 2020 U.S. Census, Ridgway had a population of 1,183 residents.

Ridgway offers a blend of outdoor recreation, cultural richness, and historic character. Just north of town lies Ridgway State Park, with 3,201 acres of reservoir, day-use areas, camping, and trails along Dallas Creek and the Uncompahgre River. Orvis Hot Springs, just outside of Ridgway, offers geothermal soaking opportunities (with both clothing-required and clothing-optional pools) and draws visitors year-round. [\(ridgwaycolorado.com\)](#)

Ridgway operates under home-rule and maintains a commitment to transparency in local governance. The Town of Ridgway posts its municipal meeting agendas, minutes, and supporting documents publicly, enabling resident access to local decision-making. Ridgway combines small-town roots with persistent civic engagement and accessible public governance.

[Watch Ridgway Public Meetings Live and On Demand](#)



Ridgway Homepage

## Advocacy and Engagement

### Reclaiming Trust: Why Primary Sources Matter in the Age of Misinformation, Disinformation and Malinformation

Across the nation, trust in institutions and media has become increasingly fragile. In an era of social media headlines and fast-moving narratives, primary sources—unedited recordings, official documents, and live meeting footage—remain the **most reliable foundation for truth**. When governments make these materials readily available, they empower citizens to verify information directly instead of relying on secondhand interpretations that may be incomplete or biased. Public access to raw, unfiltered information strengthens civic literacy, **reduces polarization**, and reestablishes confidence in democratic institutions. Streaming public meetings and maintaining searchable video archives ensure that citizens aren't just hearing about government actions—they're witnessing them firsthand.

Colorado continues to lead by example in this national movement toward **transparency**. Through the Colorado Channel and local streaming initiatives powered by Open.Media, residents can access high-quality, unedited video of legislative sessions, council meetings, and public hearings—on demand, from any device. These digital archives serve as the state's **most authentic record** of civic decision-making, far more reliable than social or news media summaries.



Open.Media's technology simplifies this process for municipalities statewide, ensuring that every stream is automatically recorded, captioned, and preserved for public access. By keeping primary sources available and easy to find, Colorado's local governments aren't just complying with open-meeting laws—they're setting a national standard for how transparency **builds lasting trust** between citizens and the institutions that serve them.

## WEB SERVICES



Your website should never be the barrier between your stakeholders and your mission. Leveraging Wordpress and the latest plugins, Open Media emphasizes ease of management and website sustainability.

Open Media offers a 50% matching grant to nonprofits. Our web services range from completely custom look and feel to more economical premium theme based-builds.

[Reach out](#) for a quote today!

## CAREER ENGINE



Our [Open Media Career Engine](#) is a service offered to Employers in the Media & Journalism sector to help you find and hire more diverse jobseekers. This program has helped over 40 employers in Colorado's Media & Journalism field hire POC jobseekers at more the double the industry average. We help craft your job description to appeal to diverse applicants, post it to over 20 job boards proven to generate more diverse jobseekers, and manage the screening process so that even the smallest HR team can afford a broad and inclusive hiring process developed by industry leaders.

Email [careers@openmediafoundation.org](mailto:careers@openmediafoundation.org) to explore how the OMCE can help you with your next hire.

### Join an Open Media Committee

Fundraising Committee - Contact Tony Shawcross at [tony@openmediafoundation.org](mailto:tony@openmediafoundation.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Coffin Races & Festival in Manitou Springs on October 25

One unique Colorado custom during October is the **Emma Crawford Coffin Races & Festival** in Manitou Springs. Each year, local “mourner” teams—typically four costumed participants—pull a decorated coffin down Manitou Avenue, while someone dressed as “Emma” rides inside. The tradition stems from a local legend that Emma Crawford's coffin slipped down Red Mountain after heavy rains. The event usually includes a parade, awards for “Best Coffin,” “Best Emma,” and “Best Entourage,” and festive activities throughout the day, drawing both locals and visitors to enjoy a uniquely spirited fall tradition.

[Visit 'Visit Colorado Springs' for more information](#)



### 16<sup>th</sup> Telluride Horror Show October 10-12

Telluride Horror Show, a genre film festival, this weekend in Telluride. Over the weekend, horror, dark fantasy, and sci-fi films from around the world are screened, and fans gather for Q&A sessions, panels, and themed events. It taps into the spooky spirit of Halloween season while also showcasing independent storytelling, bringing together cinephiles, filmmakers, and locals in a mountain town setting.

[Visit 'Telluride Horror Show' for more information](#)

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