

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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Looking back on our work  
to restore the night

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**DarkSky**  
COLORADO

PHOTO BY BETTYMAYA FOOTT



# CHAIRMAN'S WORDS

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Dear Board, Partners, and Dark Sky Supporters,

When I was growing up in Wichita, Kansas, then already a sizable town of around 300,000 people, I remember seeing the Milky Way from my own backyard. My mom pointed it out to me. "Look, Johnny—that's the Milky Way!"

I must have been around six at the time, young enough to innocently ask, "Is it made out of milk?" It was wonderful.

I don't think most 15-year-olds growing up in the U.S. today have seen a shooting star, much less the Milky Way. And if you ask me, that's total BS!

But it doesn't have to be this way.

I'm a mediocre public speaker and might know less about astronomy than anybody else on this board. But I passionately believe in the importance of our work. I'll do my part with care, creativity, and dedication.

I thank Dani Robben for her dedication and accomplishments as departing Chair, and I plan to build on that momentum. With the impressive depth and breadth of experience the board members bring to the table, we have the potential to have a ridiculously productive year.

...And let's have fun, too! Notwithstanding my monotone voice you're all going to be hearing a lot. Ha, ha.

Best,

John Garvey

P.S. - I've recently become fascinated (and scandalized) by the public health impacts of light pollution and will be banging that drum a lot over the near year. If any of you out there have expertise in circadian health or a similar field, I'd love to talk with you.



**DarkSky**  
COLORADO



# 2024 ACHIEVEMENTS

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**3**

**NEW INTERNATIONAL  
DARK SKY CERTIFIED  
PLACES IN COLORADO**

**34**

**IDSP COLORADO  
APPLICANTS IN THE  
PIPELINE**

**13**

**PARTICIPANTS IN THE  
NEW COLORADO STATE  
PARKS DARK SKY  
CERTIFICATION MENTOR  
PROGRAM**

## **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Another major undertaking was the development and completion of DarkSky Colorado's organizational strategic plan. This plan was funded in part by the Colorado Tourism Office and outlines our mission, vision, values, and theory of change to reduce light pollution and protect and preserve Colorado's night sky for future generations.



# 2024 OUTREACH

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6

## MEDIA STORIES



3,300

## FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK

5

## DARKSKY COLORADO PARTICIPATED IN OUTREACH AND EDUCATION EVENTS

## WEBSITE

In addition to the strategic plan that was funded in part by the Colorado Tourism Office, DarkSky Colorado had a new website designed and launched to showcase the extensive work done by our newly formed 501(c)3 and as a hub for dark sky information in Colorado.



# OUTREACH CONT.

**DarkSky**  
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HOMEWHYOUR WORKABOUTNEWS & EVENTSCONNECTDONATE

## Restoring the Night

Protecting the night sky for the heritage, health and wellbeing of the people, wildlife and environment of Colorado.

**Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation**

The night sky plays a key role in virtually every domain of environmental conservation.

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Public Health and Well-Being**


The way the natural arc of day and night synchronizes our behavior and benefits our health is incredibly strange and beautiful.

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Cultural Heritage and Scientific Inquiry**

People across generations, cultures, and continents have bonded under the beauty and solace of the night sky.

[LEARN MORE](#)


COLORADO

ExperiencesDestinationsAccommodationsPlanQLanguages

## Starry Nights: A Guide to Colorado's International Dark Sky Places

Head to these designated parks and communities across the state for unforgettable stargazing and nighttime activities.

By: [DarkSky Colorado](#)  
Updated: January 27, 2025



### The Milky Way over the Crestone Needles

Scott Dankof Photography



DarkSky Colorado  
Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
BOC Ckg 343	9,678.75
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$9,678.75</b>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	15,000.00
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$24,678.75</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$24,678.75</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	1,700.00
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$1,700.00</b>
Other Current Liabilities	
Restricted Funds--Lights Out Program	-227.39
Sales tax to pay	-10.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ -237.39</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,462.61</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,462.61</b>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	47,650.81
Net Revenue	-24,434.67
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$23,216.14</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$24,678.75</b>



# 2025 OUTLOOK

## Mission

We are the only statewide nonprofit organization based in Colorado devoted entirely to restoring the nighttime environment and protecting communities and wildlife from light pollution.

DarkSky Colorado is a chapter of DarkSky International and we work toward a time when natural darkness at night is protected worldwide as essential for people and nature.

## Vision

That the night sky, filled with stars, is celebrated and protected around the world as a shared heritage benefitting all living things.

## 2025 Goals

1. Raise \$150,000 through an inaugural DarkSky Colorado capital campaign
2. Expand our audience and distribute the DarkSky Colorado newsletter to more than 2,000 individuals
3. Advocate for a bill for state funding for lighting retrofits across the state
4. Hire a part-time Executive Director





[darkskecolorado.org](https://darkskecolorado.org)

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