



HISTORY *Colorado*

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**Rare Baseball Card Will Be on Display
at History Colorado Center for Three Days, July 16 through July 18**
Tickets Now on Sale to See the “Holy Grail of Baseball Cards”

DENVER (June 20, 2018) -- Baseball and pop-culture enthusiasts will have an opportunity to see one of the rarest and most desirable baseball cards in history – a gem mint PSA 10 1952 Topps Mickey Mantle card, considered the “Holy Grail” of baseball cards – for three days only, July 16 through July 18, at Denver’s [History Colorado Center](#). The card will be displayed alongside the museum’s current exhibition, [Play Ball!](#) Tickets for the baseball card viewing are now on sale, and can be purchased in advance of the three-day display (www.historycolorado.org or 303-866-2435).

The card is a gem mint PSA 10, one of only three ‘52 Topps Mantle cards in the world with this rating, making it one of the most valuable baseball cards in existence. This particular Mickey Mantle baseball card is the only “perfect 10” of the three PSA 10-rated cards (in academic terms, a “perfect 10” is an A+, as opposed to the other two A’s). [PSA grading standards](#) rate authenticity for sports trading cards across all eras.

The card is part of the Marshall Fogel Collection of classic baseball artifacts currently on view in the *Play Ball! A Celebration of America’s Game* exhibition. In addition to the display, Fogel will host two lectures about collecting on the inaugural day, July 16; separate tickets are required to attend the lectures.

“This 1952 Topps Mickey Mantle baseball card is a unique piece of baseball history, celebrating the game’s place in American culture and its ability to bring people together across generations,” said Jason Hanson, History Colorado’s chief creative officer and the lead curator of the *Play Ball!* exhibition. “We’re grateful to have the opportunity to share this card. It is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for our visitors.”

During its very rare public appearance, the card will be transported to the museum via armored car where it will be displayed in a case with UV-lens protection and is both temperature- and humidity-controlled for safe keeping during the three-day exhibit.

To purchase tickets for the baseball card viewing, visit www.historycolorado.org. Tickets are \$14 for adults; kids ages 5-15 are free, if they wear a baseball jersey; kids 4 & under and members of History Colorado are always free. History Colorado Center will extend its hours until 9 p.m. on those dates, accommodating attendees of all ages with varying schedules: July 16 (noon to 9 p.m.); July 17 (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.); and July 18 (10 a.m. to 9 p.m.). In addition, Fogel's lectures will take place on July 16 at 1 and 7 p.m., and separate tickets can be purchased at the History Colorado Center's website.

The Mickey Mantle Baseball Card

Growing up in Denver, Fogel collected baseball cards, and Mickey Mantle was always his idol. Unfortunately, distribution problems for the Topps card company meant the 1952 set was never fully released in Colorado. Later, as a collector, Fogel sought out the card, and in 1996 he was finally able to acquire it..

"At a time when America was in turmoil, baseball games crossed all socio-economic, ethnic and political barriers and always brought people together. It still does. When I think about this Mickey Mantle baseball card, I hold this same nostalgic feeling.

"Baseball is the only sport of a singular hero – everything else is a team. When you are a baseball player, you are up at the plate with nine enemies facing you; and when the ball comes at you in one-quarter of a second, it's only you who can hit that ball. Just you. And, I think about the field ... it's a place you can go and look at a beautiful, perfect scene, and let everything go," he added.

Interesting facts about the card:

- PSA (a professional card-grading company) graded this Mickey Mantle card a 10 on a scale of 1 to 10.
- When the Topps Company printed baseball cards, they did so in sheets – and stacked and cut the sheets. Many of the sheets would slip during the process and the resulting cards would be imperfect. So to have a card that's perfectly centered, with correct color, is very rare.
- The card is one of only three Topps 1952 Mickey Mantle cards in the world known to be rated a PSA 10.
- The card has been called the "the Holy Grail of baseball cards and perhaps the most desirable of all baseball cards in general."
- The card was displayed only one other time, at a national sports convention, more than 20 years ago.

About History Colorado

History Colorado's mission is to inspire generations to find wonder and meaning in our past and to engage in creating a better Colorado. We serve as the state's memory, preserving the places, stories and material culture of Colorado through our the History Colorado Center and statewide Community Museums, educational programs, historic preservation grants, research library,

collections and outreach to Colorado communities. Visit HistoryColorado.org, or call 303-HISTORY, for more information.

Visuals

For images of this Mickey Mantle card, as well as other nostalgic baseball images, please [click here](#).