The RiNo Art District is a distinctive area of north Denver that is inclusive of four historical neighborhoods: Globeville, Elyria-Swansea, Five Points and Cole. The district started as a grassroots movement by local artists that wanted to connect the arts organizations in the area. Today, RiNo is comprised of four organizations, the RiNo Art District (the 501(c)(6) nonprofit arm, registered neighborhood organization, and state certified creative district), the RiNo BID (Business Improvement District), the RiNo GID (General Improvement District), and Keep RiNo Wild (the new 501(c)(3) nonprofit fundraising arm). Together, these organizations fund and support the area through advocacy, infrastructure improvements, artist support, community programming, business support, and events.

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STRATEGIC PLAN

The RiNo family of organizations embarks on a strategic planning effort for the future. Over 300 stakeholders are involved across a diverse representation of RiNo artists, businesses, board members, staff and the general public. This new plan will help continue the district’s community-driven mission.

Our goal for communications is to leverage both earned and owned media to raise awareness for RiNo Art District’s impact, increase our general public representation of RiNo artists, businesses, board members, staff and the future. Over 300 stakeholders are involved including a diverse of RiNo artists, businesses, board members, staff and the general public. This new plan will help continue the district’s community-driven mission.

RiNo champions local artists, creatives, and businesses to support vibrant, engaged, and inclusive Art District.

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RiNo Art District Board

Sonja Danilovitch
Andrew Feinstein
Jachina Johnson
Gerald Hainken
Jonathan Kaylan
Anne Hayes
Diana Markel
Elizabeth Nguyen
Anthony Ariss

BID Board

Diana Markel
Kekili Hudson
Carla Montez
Tony Kizer
James Kaife
Oladubin Arios
Lori Johnson
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Keep RiNo Wild Board

Anne Hayes
Jaron Ross
Sonja Danilovitch
Brett Fedrizzi
Vivica Delong
Noelên Brown
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RiNo Art District Team

Tracy Weil
Co-Founder + Executive Director
Alye Sharp
Deputy Director
John Deffenbaugh
Senior Director of Strategy + Projects
Eric Zimmerman
Head of Artistic Affairs
Alex Pangburn
Director of Communications
Marian Pulford
Development Director
Adrienne Villa
Operations Manager
Molly Portier
Community Director
Brantley Ross
Marketing Coordinator
Dori Suess
Accountant

RiNo Art District
Annual Report 2021

To Our Community, Partners & Supporters:
On behalf of the RiNo Art District Board of Directors, our amazing staff, and myself—thank you!

We are grateful for your continued support of our efforts to maintain a place that values creativity and local entrepreneurs. The past two years have required remarkable agility as we navigate through the uncertainties of the pandemic. Thankfully, RiNo persevered with continued support of artists and businesses across the district. We are proud that the district was able to extend assistance to local artists and businesses through the RiNo Support Fund Grants, as well as Social Impact Grants that support local nonprofit organizations with a focus on racial equity.

We are especially delighted with this year’s landmark accomplishment ArtPark Community Hall! Now in phase two, this unique gathering place brings numerous partners together, including the Denver Public Library, Redline, Art Gallery and CoCA—all who have moved into their new locations and initiated programs. We look forward to continuing the momentum in this legacy project. Many additional programs continue to evolve in the district, including the RiNo Mural Program, Vacancy Arts in residence programs, Denver Fringe Festival, and Tools for the Creative Life.

While achievements are many, we continue to look ahead. In 2021, we updated our strategic planning process for 2022-25 with input from board members, local stakeholders, and community members. During this process we are examining current realities, setting solid goals for the next few years, and continuing to define our vision for the future. We are tremendously proud of our hardworking staff, and value the support of our board, volunteers, and the community. Together we have maneuvered through difficult times and we now stand strong as a community of creativity, compassion, and resilience.

—Tracy Weil, Co-Founder + Executive Director

3.2 billion impressions (up from 520 million)

368 local media mentions — national coverage includes a feature in The New York Times’ ‘What to Do This Summer: Denver’

52% increase in unique users on RiNo website

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The 32 artists in 2021 RiNo Mural Program

The RiNo Art District is a primary venue of the 2021 Denver Fringe Festival. The festival supports all genres of performance arts and 220 people were vaccinated at the 2021 RiNo Covid Vaccination Event. The RiNo Support Fund | Denver Fringe helps provide a way for street art, new installments are featured by well-known and influential graffiti artists since RiDo and DC. In celebration of youth, a beautiful exhibition with local and international artists, several works are painted in open studio space, and local industries are segmented by RiNo toward conservation efforts. Rhino Week 2021

Mural Installations

To honor the graffiti community, the RiNo Art District partners with the Global Conservation Corps (GCC) to host an art installation to celebrate the art of street murals. The works are painted by local artists and feature themes of social justice and the environment. The local organization ArtPark partners with the Elyria Swansea Neighborhood, the City of Denver, and local businesses to promote public art installations. RiNo Mural Program celebrates 20 years of commissioning public art in the RiNo Art District. All artists are paid for their work, and the ArtPark partners with RiNo Support Fund to support those without permanent shelter. In its second round of funding, the RiNo Art District received $150,000 from Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI): Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI): Phase Two. RiNo ArtPark also received a $150,000 event generated by the 2021 RiNo Mural Program. The RiNo Art District partners with the Global Conservation Corps (GCC) to produce “mural battle.” Saturday, June 4 is the second annual “mural battle.” The event generates over 110,000 visitors from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and Integration and National Endowment for the Arts to support local and established artists. The 2021 program closes out with a focus on community art, relationships, and develop ArtPark Community Hub. The RiNo Art District's mobile community mural, art walk, bar and art battle on Saturday, June 4 kicks off the event. The art battle is a fundraiser to help put the project on the map, and the event generates over 110,000 visitors from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and Integration and National Endowment for the Arts to support local and established artists. The 2021 program closes out with a focus on community art, relationships, and developing ArtPark Community Hub.

RiNo Support Fund

32 artists in 2021 RiNo Mural Program

The RiNo Support Fund helps support local and established artists, and provides a way for street artists to support those without permanent shelter. In its second round of funding, the RiNo Art District received $150,000 from Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI): Phase Two. RiNo ArtPark also received a $150,000 event generated by the 2021 RiNo Mural Program. The RiNo Art District's mobile community mural, art walk, bar and art battle on Saturday, June 4 kicks off the event. The art battle is a fundraiser to help put the project on the map, and the event generates over 110,000 visitors from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and Integration and National Endowment for the Arts to support local and established artists. The 2021 program closes out with a focus on community art, relationships, and developing ArtPark Community Hub.