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Media Contact:

Alexis Jarvis

alexis@sidecarpr.com

720-301-9394



RiNo Art District Takes Over Studios on Blake Artist Studios, Preserves Affordable Artist Spaces

'RiNo Studios on Blake' Will Offer 14 Ideally Located Studios at Well Below Market Rate

DENVER – (May 17, 2022) [RiNo Art District](#), a 501(c)(6) nonprofit grassroots arts organization dedicated to fostering a welcoming, creative community where a diversity of artists, residents and businesses thrive, today announced it has signed a three-year lease to manage the 14 affordable artist studios at 3040 Blake St. in Denver formerly known as the Studios on Blake. The newly coined 'RiNo Art District Studios on Blake' will provide more than 5,000 square feet of affordable studio space for local artists.

“As an organization, we’re committed to making sure RiNo is and remains a place where art is made,” said Tracy Weil, Co-Founder and Executive Director of RiNo Art District. “As Denver has grown and changed, affordability has become a major challenge for local artists. We are grateful to be able to continue the work Sonia Danielsen started when she originally set aside these affordable spaces for artists in the Bindery on Blake.”

In 2017, Danielsen moved the studios from the Bindery across the street to the Backyard on Blake complex where they leased space with the goal of keeping it deeply affordable to the artist community. Since that time, Danielsen and her husband, have overseen the management of the studios, which have been home to more than 45 local artists.

“Keeping these studios affordable was a big priority for us, but the reality is that it was cost- and time-prohibitive for us to lease and manage on our own,” said Danielsen. “We’re thrilled to be working with RiNo to preserve these maker spaces for the community and to continue working alongside their team to fund these spaces.”

The artist studios range from 200-250 square feet and offer ample natural light, high ceilings and temperature-controlled environments. Artists have 24/7 access to their space, plus free Wi-Fi, and use of the full kitchen and slop sink. The studios will be rented on a month-to-month basis for between \$600 and \$650 a month – well below market rate which averages around \$35 per square foot triple net. They will be stewarded by Keep RiNo Wild, the Art District’s nonprofit arm, in collaboration with the RiNo Business Improvement District.

This is the latest in a series of major efforts RiNo has undertaken to increase opportunities for local creatives and expand access to the arts, including the creation of the [RiNo Mural Program](#), the establishment of eight affordable artist spaces at [RiNo ArtPark](#) in partnership with RedLine Contemporary Art Center, and the just-announced [Art RiNo](#) festival in September, which celebrates art in all its forms.

The RiNo Art District Studios on Blake will be featured at the Art District’s June First Friday event from 6-8 p.m. on June 3, 2022. During the event, many of the current artists in these studios will open their individual spaces to the public and provide attendees with a look inside their creative process. Follow



RiNo on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) for full First Friday details. To learn more about the studios and how to apply, please reach out to [Alexandrea Pangburn](#) at RiNo Art District.

About RiNo Art District

RiNo Art District is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit grassroots organization dedicated to fostering a welcoming, creative community where a diversity of artists, residents and businesses thrive. The district is inclusive of five historical neighborhoods: Globeville-Elyria-Swansea, Five Points and Cole. Over the last decade, RiNo Art District has helped form both a Business Improvement District (BID) and General Improvement District (GID) and a community arts educational nonprofit (Keep RiNo Wild) to support the local community. Together, the RiNo Art District family of organizations fund and support the Denver community through advocacy, infrastructure improvements, artist support, community programming, business support, and events. To learn more, please visit rinoartdistrict.org and follow on Facebook and Instagram at @rinoartdistrict and Twitter at @rinoart.

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