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McWhinney Supports Creation of New Flexible Community Space at RiNo ArtPark

5,500 square-foot community space slated for completion in 2023

DENVER – (March 15, 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 a new \$100,000 donation from Colorado-based real estate investment, development and management firm McWhinney. RiNo Art District is also receiving a contribution of \$25,000 from San Francisco-based Carmel Partners, a leading multifamily investment and development firm. These contributions will support the second phase of RiNo ArtPark, a new creative hub for innovation, education, small business, and community located at 3400 Arkins Ct. in the Five Points neighborhood.

Phase two, underway now, encompasses the adaptive reuse of an existing 5,500-square-foot building on the site. The former Interstate Trucking depot will become an open-plan, flexible community pavilion equipped to host a variety of events – from visual art exhibitions to performance art, community meetings and city outreach events, health and wellness classes, language classes, small business networking events and more.

“With the first phase of ArtPark, we were able to bring in much-needed green space, support a new branch of Denver Public Library, affordable artist spaces managed by RedLine Contemporary Art Center, and a new café and accelerator program from the folks behind Comal Heritage Food Incubator,” said John Deffenbaugh, Senior Director of Strategy and Projects with RiNo Art District. “With McWhinney’s and Carmel Partners’ generous donations, we will make the second phase of our vision for ArtPark a reality, taking this closed-off, disused building and transforming it into an asset that is open and accessible to the entire community.”

The new Interstate Building, designed by Tres Birds, will include a large, unobstructed programming space, public restrooms, and a new opening in the western façade which will offer views of the park and South Platte River. Ceiling-level structures will support flexible lighting, sound, and partitioning, and back-of-house space will be available for those participating in programming, including a dedicated restroom and kitchenette. The building will be operated by RiNo Art District and made available for reservation for community events when it opens in 2023.

“We are committed to developing thoughtful, vibrant and sustainable communities that deliver a true sense of place, foster belonging and enable connectivity for residents,” said Kirsty Greer, Senior Vice President of Multifamily and Urban Mixed-Use Development for McWhinney. “We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to support RiNo Art District’s work here at ArtPark to fill a need in our community and provide creative spaces for all to enjoy.”



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McWhinney is currently developing FoundryLine, a luxury apartment community within RiNo Art District as well as a mixed-use property at 34th and Brighton in partnership with JE Dunn.

“We are committed to the neighborhood’s growth as a creative hub,” said Jeff Panek, Senior Vice President Development with Carmel Partners. “The phase two expansion at RiNo ArtPark will help the district thrive and provide the new cultural gathering spaces sought by the RiNo community. We are excited to participate in RiNo’s growth, and we are confident our mixed-use projects under development will contribute to the spirit and history of the neighborhood.”

Carmel Partners has developed multifamily projects in Denver for more than 25 years. The firm has several active projects underway in RiNo including DriveTrain, adjacent to ArtPark, which welcomed first move-ins in November, and Forge, a mixed-use property under construction nearby. Additional support for the Interstate Building is being provided by a Colorado Community Revitalization grant, as well as RiNo Art District’s ongoing Capital Campaign.

For more information on ArtPark, please visit: www.rinoartpark.com.

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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.

About McWhinney:

McWhinney is passionate about creating great places and providing awe-inspiring experiences. Since 1991, McWhinney has planned and developed more than 6,000 acres of innovative and sustainable master-planned communities and more than 12 million square feet of vertical commercial and mixed-use properties throughout the Rocky Mountain region and the West Coast. Over the years, McWhinney has been recognized for significant real estate development contributions, including being named Colorado's "Developer of the Year" by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP), multi-winner of the Urban Land Institute's (ULI) Global Awards for Excellence, The Denver Business Journal (DBJ) Real Estate Champions – Catalyst Award for Denver Union Station and the Development Deal of the Year for Denver Union Station by NAIOP. McWhinney has been ranked 11 and 13 on the list of the Best Small and Medium-Sized Companies to work for in America.



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About Carmel Partners

Founded in 1996, Carmel is one of the nation's leading specialists in real estate investment management, focusing on U.S. multifamily development, renovation and debt investments. Through its vertically integrated platform, Carmel seeks to achieve superior risk-adjusted returns across varying market cycles by investing in relatively supply-constrained, high barrier-to-entry markets in the United States. Since its founding, Carmel has bought and renovated or developed, or is in the process of renovating or developing, more than 45,000 apartment units and has made 22 debt investments with a combined estimated Gross Value of more than \$17.2 billion. Carmel has offices in San Francisco, Denver, Los Angeles, New York, Seattle and Washington, D.C. For more information, please visit www.carmelpartners.com.

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