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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RiNo Art District Launches New RiNo River Series at ArtPark

Collaboration with community partners brings programming for all ages focused on the intersection of art and ecology on the banks of the South Platte River

DENVER – (March 9, 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, announced today the launch of its inaugural RiNo River Series program. The program features several workshops, community events and free activities that will explore the South Platte River, water and our relationship to place.

With activations scheduled from March through July, the first RiNo River Series workshops will take place at Wyatt Academy Elementary School on Franklin Street. RiNo Art District ArtPark Director Molly Paillet and the arts educators from Two Bee Industries will be hosting four water-themed art workshops for students on Tuesday, March 8 and Friday, March 11.

“The RiNo River Series is a unique way the District is working with other nonprofits, water-focused groups, and neighborhood partners to engage all ages and explore the ways we’re connected to the South Platte River, water, and place here in Denver,” said Paillet. “RiNo Art District wouldn’t exist without art, and it wouldn’t exist without the river. This is an exciting way for us to kick off programming at ArtPark and combine arts and environmental programming. We’re hoping to grow our relationships with a variety of partners throughout North Denver and Colorado, so that we can continue to create engaging programming together.”

Most of the RiNo River Series activities will take place at or near the new RiNo ArtPark, which opened to the public last fall at 35th and Arkins Court in the Five Points neighborhood of Denver. In addition to housing a new branch of Denver Public Library, affordable artist spaces managed by RedLine Contemporary Art Center and Alto Gallery, and a food and beverage accelerator by Focus Points Family Resource Center, ArtPark offers much-needed, publicly accessible green space along the South Platte River. The second phase of ArtPark is underway now and will provide even more community gathering spaces.

“Our intention with the RiNo River Series is to expand our traditional programming to reach more audiences in our surrounding neighborhoods as well as increase exposure to different artforms,” said Tracy Weil, co-founder and Executive Director of RiNo Art District. “ArtPark’s proximity to the South Platte River makes it a perfect venue to explore our connection to water in the West, and we are eager to see our diverse community taking advantage of the free access to this beautiful public space in new ways. This series wouldn’t be possible without the support of both our funding partners at Bonfils-



Stanton Foundation and DOTI as well as nearly a dozen nonprofit and arts partners – it’s truly a community effort.”

March Programming

- In addition to the water workshops at Wyatt Academy, youth leadership group [CIRCLE](#) (a recipient of RiNo’s 2021 Social Impact Grants) will be facilitating student-led community projects for teens as part of their STAMP (Students Taking Action and Making Progress) program. Participating students will meet in early March to establish their projects related to river and water health and will present their findings at the ArtPark later in the spring.
- [Lighthouse Writers](#), a nonprofit organization committed to providing artistic education and support for writers and readers in the Rocky Mountain Region, will also be hosting two adult writing workshops each month from March through June. The first *Writing the River* workshop will be held [at Birdseed Collective](#) in Globeville on March 19.
- ArtPark will also support two performances of INbox: An Apocalyptic Silent Comedy show that uses a humorous take on the serious impact of humanity’s climate inaction on March 18 and March 22 and will be giving away tickets on social media as part of an effort to raise awareness for the event.
- The River Series will wrap up its March programming with ArtPark Menagerie on March 26. Hosted by [RedLine](#) and [Alto](#) galleries, Menagerie will include three open house workshop days open to the public with food and live music.

More events are being planned throughout the five-month series and will be posted to: rinoartpark.com/river-series-programming. To collaborate on programming for the RiNo River Series, please email molly@rinoartdistrict.org.

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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