

In this once strictly industrial corridor, a diverse mix of art and entertainment venues is attracting both tourists and locals

# RiNo



A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT, this edgy, industrial area of Denver known as RiNo Art District. The hipster mash-up name derives from the more formal moniker “River North,” a nod to the South Platte meandering through the district enfolding four neighborhoods: Five Points, Cole, Globeville and Elyria-Swansea. ¶ The RiNo Art District has decidedly put the area on the state’s art map. ¶ “We’re leading the pack in Colorado, if not the nation,” says Tracy Weil, RiNo Art District’s co-founder, creative director and president. ¶ “Our tagline is ‘Where art is made,’ and we have a high concentration of studio spaces. People love to see how artists work. It’s a draw that makes us popular and creates tourism for us. Tourists create energy, so it’s a really cool vibe with a lot of cool startup businesses here. It’s a funky feeling people enjoy,” he says.

By Colleen Smith