

RELEASE

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Boedecker Foundation funds art house theater at Dairy Center

BOULDER, Colorado – A substantial gift from The Boedecker Foundation has funded an art house movie theater to be built in The Dairy Center for the Arts.

“The Boedecker Foundation’s generous support is a catalyst for transition of The Dairy Center, formerly a milk processing plant, into a world class arts center,” said Richard Polk, chair of The Dairy’s Board of Directors.

The Dairy Center for the Arts is a nonprofit cultural arts organization founded in 1992, and one of the only places in Boulder, Colorado, where the community can experience dramatic theater, comedy, live music, dance performances and visual arts under one roof. The Dairy is home to more than a dozen resident arts organizations, providing residents with arts-related classes and opportunities.

The endowment from George B. Boedecker Jr.’s foundation will also seed the future operations of the Dairy Center, helping to ensure the facility’s viability. This generous endowment also serves as the initial donation for a community campaign to fund the new face of The Dairy which includes a beautiful glass atrium that will complete the repurposing of The Dairy’s historic building.

“We feel that the Dairy Center project fits nicely with some of our core values at The Foundation”, said Boedecker. “This project represents an excellent example of good people coming together in a united effort to enhance the lives of children and families throughout a community. We’re very pleased to be a part of such a forward-thinking endeavor.”

Housed in the historic Watts-Hardy Dairy building at 26th and Walnut streets, the 42,000-square-foot facility, once a dairy storage and processing plant, is a nationally recognized model for adaptive reuse of an abandoned industrial space. The Dairy, the city’s largest multidisciplinary arts center, includes two black-box theaters of 80 and 100 seats, a 250-seat performance space and multiple galleries.

The Dairy’s mission is to provide the Boulder community with diverse opportunities to create learn and participate in high-quality performing and visual arts experiences. Boulder is rated one of the top cities in the country for its local arts and culture.

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Adding a small amount of square footage to the front of The Dairy building assures that growing crowds will be able to enjoy adequate space and easier access to multiple events with a safer, ADA-compliant, convenient entry.

The new theater, at the south end of the building in a space that formerly housed CATV, will offer a high-quality cinema experience for arts-related cinema programming including films and documentaries, broadcasts of operas and live theater, with state of the art acoustics. It can accommodate live performances or speakers as well. Working through Emerging Cinema, a digital provider of original content, the theater's programming will include international film festival presentations, first run independent/international films, high definition productions of concerts, operas, live theater and documentaries, as well as children's programming and other educational programs.

The primary focus of the new façade for the facility at 26th and Walnut streets is to make the building safer.

It will enclose a large portion of the out side patio, adding a safe, dramatic and convenient entrance along with programming and gallery space. A flowing curved roof covers a transparent glass atrium space and dramatically enhances the solid, block forms of the existing Dairy building.

The new entrance will provide easy exit in case of emer gency, allowing people to leave safely through the same entrance where they entered, and will ensure complete ADA compliance. The City of Boulder, owner of the building, will contribute funding.

Improved energy efficiency will allow greater sustainability through zone control and energy savings in heating and cooling systems, and the project incorporates alternative sources of energy, including passive solar, day lighting and the first phase of a solar array.

The larger lobby provides additional programmable space, allowing simultaneous access to separate events and added display space using movable walls and partitions. The Dairy's success has dramatically increased audiences, classes and performances. Crowds routinely pack the main lobby and other venues. Nearly 150,000 community members enjoy The Dairy as art ists, students or audience each year, and attendance at events is up an amazing 38 percent compared with the same time last year, with an 8 percent increase in the number of performances offered.

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George

founder and former CEO of Crocs Shoes, established his Boulder-based private, non-solicited foundation with the mission of providing critical resources to nonprofit organizations that inspire positive change within diverse communities around the world. He served as CEO and as a member of the Crocs board of directors from its inception through December, 2004. During that span, Crocs grew from a company with eight employees into a billion-dollar industry. From 1996 to 2002, Mr. Boedecker was an executive of Quiznos Corp. and was a founder and managing member of Oregon Food Concepts LLC. More information on the man and his foundation can be found at www.boefoundation.org.

B. Boedecker Jr.,

Architect Stephen Sparn, a longtime friend and supporter of The Dairy Center and a former board member, has donated services to develop initial plans. Deneuve Construction Services provided estimating services. The project will stimulate the local economy during construction, and later as an improved venue for Boulder's thriving arts community. Non profit arts and culture organizations and their audiences contribute more than \$25 million and 800 jobs annually to Boulder's economy.

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