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***WESTERN DISPOSAL GIVES MAJOR DONATION TO  
THE DAIRY CENTER FOR THE ARTS***

***Company gives back to the community for 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

BOULDER — Today The Dairy Center for the Arts announced that Western Disposal will donate \$300,000 over the next three years to fund a new entry for The Dairy's historic building at 26<sup>th</sup> and Walnut streets. Dan Souders, founder of Western Disposal, and Gary Horton, president, announced the gift in conjunction with the company's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

"We have been serving Boulder for 40 years and wanted to make a significant contribution to the arts because it represents the values of the community and of Western Disposal," said Dan Souders. "We are pleased to make the donation and know that it will go toward making The Dairy a world-class facility and a Boulder treasure for generations to come."

Western Disposal joins the Boulder-based Boedecker Foundation as a major donor to The Dairy Center for the Arts. Last November The Boedecker Foundation announced it would fund an art house cinema theater that is expected to be completed late this year.

"We are thrilled to see that people in our community like Western Disposal are stepping up to make significant investments in the arts," said Richard Polk, former Boulder city councilman and chair of The Dairy Center's board of directors. "A core business like Western sees the value of the arts for our quality of life and wants to make sure that art keeps happening every day at The Dairy."

Western Disposal is a local family-owned trash collection business that started with one truck, about the same time that The Dairy's building began its life as a milk processing center for Watts-Hardy Dairy. Western now has 120 employees, more than 70 vehicles and 35,000 residential and commercial customers.

The Dairy Center for the Arts is a nonprofit cultural arts organization founded in 1992, where the community can experience dramatic theater, comedy, live music, dance performances and visual arts under one roof. The Dairy is home to 15 resident arts organizations. Polk said 150,000 people a year take part in 35,000 lessons, classes and performances at The Dairy.

The Future of The Dairy is a major renovation that will complete the repurposing of the 42,000-square-foot facility, a nationally recognized model for adaptive reuse of an abandoned industrial space. A dramatic new façade will enclose a large portion of the outside patio, adding a safe and convenient entrance along with programming and gallery space. A flowing curved roof covers a transparent glass atrium and dramatically enhances the solid, block forms of the existing building.

The new entrance funded by Western Disposal will provide easy exit in case of emergency, 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 also contribute funding.

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.

In addition to the new cinema, The Dairy includes black-box theaters of 80 and 100 seats, a 250-seat performance space and multiple galleries. The cinema, at the south end of the building in a space that formerly housed CATV, will offer a high-quality 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.

Donations to the capital campaign will also help to seed the future operations of The Dairy Center, helping to ensure the facility's viability.

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.

George B. Boedecker Jr., 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.

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

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**For more information on Western Disposal, please contact:**

- **Matt Moseley, Intermountain Corporate Affairs, 303-534-5409, or see [www.westerndisposal.com](http://www.westerndisposal.com)**

**For more information on The Boedecker Foundation, please contact:**

- **Kelly Gray, Thinkubate 720-220-1427, or see [www.boefoundation.org](http://www.boefoundation.org)**

#### **PHOTOS ATTACHED:**

**DAIRY RENDERING:** The new façade of The Dairy for the Arts will feature a dramatic, flowing curved roof that covers a transparent glass atrium and dramatically enhances the solid, block forms of the existing building. Credit Stephen Sparn Architecture

**CHECK PRESENTATION:** Gary Horton, president of Western Disposal, presents a huge check for \$300,000 to Richard Polk, chair of The Dairy Center for the Arts board of directors. Western's donation will fund the new entryway to The Dairy's building, part of a proposed new façade. Credit Jonathan Castner