

## **NINE dot ARTS: REDESIGNED MID-CENTURY WAREHOUSE CREATES SPACE FOR THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **Why do you think there is such a strong relationship between the arts and architecture?**

NINE dot ARTS bridges the gap between arts and business. They are an award-winning art advisory firm known for their curatorial creativity, management of large-scale multi-phase projects and forward-thinking vision. With knowledge and experience they curate inspiring art collections that show beauty, creativity and purpose. NINE dot ARTS uses the power of original art to transform ordinary spaces into one-of-a-kind experiences.

In order to elevate the work of the NINE dot ARTS team, the firm recently transformed an existing 1956 concrete masonry warehouse in the Lower Highlands into an inviting environment where their team can excel. They are especially excited about the new office location in the Navajo Street Arts District. As the surrounding neighborhood is experiencing transformation and growth, so is the district, and NINE dot ARTS is happy to be a part of the effort to breathe new life into and create more economic impact for the arts community (NINE dot ARTS).

As more and more people look to experience art as part of their daily life, the demand to bring art into public spaces outside of museum walls is growing. From city-wide placemaking initiatives to small professional services companies, clients are increasingly coming to NINE dot ARTS looking for ways to support the creative economy and artist community in order to enrich the experience of visitors and guests.

### **Structure**

Neo Era Architecture led the renovation of the warehouse, creating distinct zones to accommodate both intense concentration, as well as relaxation and casual conversation. The building was stripped back to its industrial bones of concrete and steel to reveal and enhance its warehouse character, including a 13-foot ceiling made possible thanks to the discovery of a raised floor, which added two feet to the interior vertical space. It is strategically simple in layout and color to allow for the creative process to happen without distraction.

One of the most dynamic design elements of the building is the main entrance, which invites everyone behind the scenes to see where the magic happens. By relocating the main entrance to the east side loading dock, a democratized experience was created for anyone visiting the space, from artists to CEOs to delivery persons.

The entrance features a garage door and large ramp to accommodate bringing massive artworks into and out of the building. A climate-controlled storage area built to house a diverse selection of art sits adjacent to an exhibition space that facilitates further connection to artists. A custom galley-style art presentation room uses art lighting, an extra-long table made from a former bowling alley lane and custom flat files for artworks on paper. A small dark room with row seating and a large screen accommodates special viewing sessions for digital artwork.

Individual, open workstation pods and team huddle areas access natural light and fresh air through operable windows. A shared employee lounge features a teepee-like enclosure atop a raised platform for relaxing or meditating.

The space is a tangible representation of NINE dot ARTS' work to be a nexus point of engagement for artists and the business world, and is reflective of all the ways they connect the community for sustained creative growth in Denver and beyond.

### **References**

NINE dot ARTS. Retrieved from <https://www.ninedotarts.com>.