

Citizens' Institute on Rural Design

CITIZENS' INSTITUTE ON RURAL DESIGN™ ANNOUNCES LIMON, COLORADO TO RECEIVE 2016-2017 AWARD

*Limon, Colorado to join communities from Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, New York, and
Washington to Host Rural Design Workshops*

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Washington, DC— The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design™ (CIRD) is pleased to announce that Limon, CO has been added to the roster of 2016-2017 host communities and awarded a stipend from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to host a rural design workshop in spring of 2017. While Limon came in as first runner-up in what was a highly competitive application cycle, the NEA and CIRD program staff decided Limon's workshop concept and commitment to an extensive community engagement process merited their inclusion in the program.

"NEA is proud to support a CIRD workshop in Limon, as it is a topic of importance to communities big and small. Brainstorming ways on how to make Limon more navigable for pedestrians will entice residents and visitors alike to explore all that the town has to offer," said Jason Schupbach, NEA Director of Design Programs.

"We are thrilled to add Limon to our 2016-2017 program. Limon's plan to develop a comprehensive wayfinding and design plan to improve safety of pedestrians and provide visual cues that highlight local businesses, town's history, recreational paths, and other community assets. This plan will be an economic driver that has broad applicability to rural communities around the country," said Cynthia Nikitin, CIRD Program Director and Senior Vice President of Project for Public Spaces, Inc.

Limon, CO will join six other host communities that were selected in March 2016: Thomasville, GA; Salmon, ID; Isle de Jean Charles, LA; Red Lodge, MT; Awkesasne, Mohawk Territory, and Chimacum, WA. CIRD awardees receive a \$10,000 stipend to support the workshop and follow-up planning sessions. Each community also receives in-kind design expertise and technical assistance valued at \$35,000, and additional support through webinars, conference calls, and web-based resources on www.rural-design.org.

CIRD workshops bring communities together to craft actionable solutions to their pressing development and design challenges. CIRD is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Project for Public Spaces, and the Orton Family Foundation.



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Location	Population	Host	Workshop Description
Limon, CO	1,909	Town of Limon	The workshop will develop a wayfinding plan that includes new pedestrian pathways, consistent lighting, signage, and banners. The workshop will also look to cultivate active transportation options like walking and biking in Limon.
Thomasville, GA	18,613	City of Thomasville	Revitalization of and storm water management challenges facing MacIntyre Park. The historic, but underutilized 15-acre park is flanked by cultural institutions, public schools, and a planned 15-mile multi-use trail system which will connect the park to the city's cultural and civic landmarks.
Salmon, ID	8,000	Salmon Valley Stewardship	Design and planning for wayfinding to accompany construction of a recreational trail to start in 2018.
Isle de Jean Charles, LA	600	Lowlander Center	Design of a tribal center, the first planned structure on a new resettlement site for the Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Native American tribe, which marks the first step towards bringing the tribe's population together both physically and culturally.
Red Lodge, MT	2,155	Red Lodge Area Community Foundation	Planning for the rehabilitation and repurposing of an old school building into a dedicated performance and cultural arts space.
Awkwasne, Mohawk Territory	12,400	Akwesasne Cultural Center	Enhance cultural tourism by identifying key elements of Mohawk culture and incorporating them into the design of buildings, signage, and landscaping along Route 37, the reservation's main road.
Chimacum, WA	13,000	North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council	Redesign of roadway intersection, Highway 19 and Center Road, to improve safety and provide mobility access to pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders along the corridor.

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. www.arts.gov

ABOUT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - RURAL DEVELOPMENT

USDA Rural Development administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an active portfolio of more than \$176 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers, and improve the quality of life in rural America. www.rd.usda.gov

ABOUT PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES, INC.

Project for Public Spaces (PPS) is a nonprofit planning, design, and educational organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities. Founded in 1975, PPS has completed projects in over 2,500 communities and all 50 US states. PPS has become an internationally recognized center for resources, tools, and inspiration about placemaking. www.pps.org

ABOUT THE ORTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

With its Community Heart & Soul™ method, the Orton Family Foundation empowers people to shape the future of their communities by improving local decision-making, creating a shared sense of belonging and ultimately strengthening the social, cultural and economic vibrancy of communities. Community Heart & Soul does this by assisting the residents of small cities and towns in making plans and taking action based on what matters most to residents and upholds the unique character of each place. For more information visit www.orton.org