



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 02/15/2024

Amanda DeBry, Marketing & Development Manager
West Valley Arts
3333 S Decker Lake Dr.
West Valley City, UT 84119

801-965-5153

amanda.debry@wvc-ut.gov

West Valley Arts and Rio Tinto Kennecott Forge Exciting New Partnership

West Valley Arts and Rio Tinto Kennecott proudly announce a dynamic collaboration aimed at fostering creativity, community engagement, and cultural enrichment within the West Valley City region. This partnership builds upon the shared commitment of both organizations to promote and support the arts as a vital component of vibrant and thriving communities.

West Valley Arts, a leading cultural organization dedicated to advancing the arts in West Valley City and beyond, is thrilled to join forces with Rio Tinto Kennecott, a global mining and metals company known for its commitment to community development and sustainable practices.

The partnership will see the implementation of a range of initiatives and projects designed to enhance access to the arts, promote local talent, and contribute to the cultural tapestry of the community. West Valley Arts will work closely with Rio Tinto Kennecott to develop and deliver engaging projects that encompass visual arts, performing arts, and cultural events.

One such series is Community First Fridays, hosted on the first Friday of each month. Community First Fridays are free community events held on the first Friday of each month. Events include musical performances, educational activities, exclusive talkbacks with local artists, and more. Community First Fridays are meant to provide free and low-cost arts and culture experiences for the citizens of West Valley City. January's event, "Wings of Encouragement", in which West Valley Arts teamed up with Centro Civico Mexicano, gave attendees the opportunity to paint, sculpt, or draw their own set of wings. These pieces of art will be displayed at a special exhibition at the Sorenson Unity Center. February's event will feature a guided tour of an exhibit put on by the Sema Hadithi Foundation called "Black Soldiers of Utah".

“As a part of this community for over 120 years, Rio Tinto Kennecott is proud to support the art, culture, and connection that the West Valley Arts Foundation provides. The foundation has such talented performers and we’re fortunate to have them as part of the fabric of this community,” said Rio Tinto Kennecott Managing Director Nate Foster.

Rio Tinto Kennecott has a long-standing tradition of supporting initiatives that contribute to the well-being of the communities in which it operates. The partnership with West Valley Arts reflects the company's commitment to social responsibility and its recognition of the transformative power of the arts.

“West Valley Arts is delighted to partner with Rio Tinto Kennecott in this exciting venture. This collaboration aligns perfectly with our mission to enrich the cultural life of the community and make the arts accessible to all. We believe that this partnership will bring about meaningful and positive changes in our community, fostering creativity and unity” said Jeff Olsen, Director of Arts & Culture at West Valley Arts.

For more information about West Valley Arts, please visit:

<https://www.wvcarts.org/about.html>

For more information about Rio Tinto Kennecott, please visit:

<https://www.riotinto.com/en/operations/us/kennecott>

About West Valley Arts:

West Valley Arts is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the arts and enhancing the cultural vibrancy of West Valley City. Through a variety of programs, events, and initiatives, West Valley Arts strives to make the arts accessible to all, foster creativity, and contribute to the overall well-being of the community.

About Rio Tinto Kennecott:

Rio Tinto Kennecott is a leading mining and metals company, known for its commitment to sustainable practices and community development. With a global presence, Rio Tinto Kennecott is dedicated to operating responsibly and contributing to the social and economic well-being of the communities where it operates.

###