



BIERY-WITT CENTER
AT MT CRESTED BUTTE

A Performing Arts and Event Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Biery-Witt Center Announces Selection of DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky Architectural Firm

Mt. Crested Butte Performing Arts Center Board Enters into Design Process with Architectural Firm

Mt. Crested Butte, Colo. (December 27, 2016) – Following architectural presentations and interviews earlier this month, the Mt. Crested Butte Performing Arts Center (MCBPAC) Board of Directors is excited to announce that it has selected DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky as its architectural design firm, and contract negotiations are currently underway. “This is a very exciting time for our organization. DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky is comprised of a very robust, talented, and experienced design team that offers a wide range of services. Their architectural team’s experience is strong in both performing arts and conference-event aspects, which is key to this project’s success,” stated **Tom Biery, Co-President and Chair of the MCBPAC Design Committee**.

“DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky’s combined performing arts and conference-event experience is crucial for the Biery-Witt Center (BWC) facility, as the project will combine a first-class theater for performing arts along with event, conference, education, and town meeting uses into one venue that will create so much for our community. The facility will also provide a much needed home for the Crested Butte Music Festival. We are extremely passionate about this project and look forward to initiating the design process after the first of the year,” commented **Donna and Paul Witt, naming donors and MCBPAC Board members**.

“The BWC is envisioned as a versatile community center that will provide an inviting prominent ‘Living Room’ for social engagement. The BWC will be known throughout the region as a place to elevate the awareness of the arts, conferences/events, and educational activities, while also being rooted in the heritage and culture of Gunnison County. We want to work on this important building in beautiful Mt. Crested Butte because we truly believe the ARTS are able to bring communities together, and make them stronger,” stated **Paul Westlake, Senior Principal of DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky**. A recently combined firm, both DLR Group and WRL are perennial members of the ARCHITECT Magazine Top 50, each having been ranked as the #1 design firm in the United States by the American Institute of Architects. WRL ranks #2 and DLR Group #23 on the 2016 ARCHITECT Top 50.

The Board of Directors is extremely grateful for the support of the 270 donors and public-private partners, the **Town of Mt. Crested Butte, Crested Butte Mountain Resort, Crested Butte Music Festival, and Region 10 Enterprise Zone**. Because of their support, the Board is able to reach this important milestone. The completion of this essential facility for the Gunnison Valley will inspire our youth, develop an increased sense of community, and financially enhance our economy. If you would like to learn more about the Biery-Witt Center, wish to contribute to the capital campaign, or have general questions, please contact the organization at (970) 349-4769.

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About the Biery-Witt Center at Mt. Crested Butte

We strive to provide a year-round attraction to stimulate and diversify the economy through a facility that offers the highest quality space for cultural, civic, convention, educational and special events. For exclusive interview opportunities, questions, or more information, contact MCBPAC at (970) 349-4769 or adiaz@mcbpac.org. Learn more about the organization at MCBPAC.org.

About DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky

DLR Group|Westlake Reed Leskosky (WRL) is an award winning and nationally recognized Integrated Design practice with local offices in both Denver and Colorado Springs, and have performed significant design work for over 250 performance venues across the country. DLR Group|WRL’s experience spans all artistic disciplines, including music, theatre, dance and the media arts, as well as convention center design. As an integrated, multi-disciplinary design practice, DLR Group|WRL believes the design of a building requires a holistic design approach with a focus to elevate the human experience while also emphasizing sustainable design to support low energy use and healthy user environments.