

# ENR Mountain States

2022 ENR Mountain States Best Projects

## Best Project, Sports/Entertainment: Ed Robson Arena and Yalich Student Services

By Jim Parsons



*Photo courtesy Nunn Construction*

*November 28, 2022*

The 270,000-sq-ft multipurpose arena is designed to maximize the student-athlete experience and enhance Colorado College's

**Ed Robson Arena and Yalich  
Student Services Center**  
Colorado Springs

ability to recruit the nation's top high school hockey talent.

Along with providing a venue for a wide range of campus and community events, the arena is sized to host regional, national and international competitions in partnership with the U.S. Olympic Committee and related governing bodies. The arena also anchors the north end of downtown Colorado Springs, solidifying the area as a sought-after location.

The project's value engineering was as extensive as it was challenging to align the desired features and design materials with the college's resources. A concerted effort involving owner, design team and contractor reduced the budget by nearly \$7 million without sacrificing the arena's overall look, feel or quality.

Early design-phase input from mechanical and electrical trade partners optimized the facility's ice mechanical room layout. BIM technology played an integral role in the decision to prefabricate most of the room's contents, averting what would have been a costly, time-consuming and likely frustrating effort to shoehorn materials into place.

The project occupies an entire city block. Concurrent construction of the arena, garage and student support building required strategic phasing to ensure crews could build safely and efficiently without disrupting the neighborhood.

## **BEST PROJECT**

**Submitted By: Nunn Construction**

**Owner: Colorado College**

**Lead Design Firm: JLG Architects**

**General Contractor: Nunn Construction**

**Civil Engineer: Classic Consulting Engineers & Surveyors**

**Structural Engineer: Heyer Engineering**

**MEP Engineer: Obernel Engineering (now CMTA Inc.)**

**Interior Architect: DLR Group**

**Ice Systems Engineer: B32 Engineering Group**

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