THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

Midtown Detroit Office









MIDTOWN DETROIT OFFICE

Overlooking Woodward Avenue in the bustling Midtown district, The Kresge Foundation's Detroit office is an expression of the organization's commitment to reinvigorating the city and its people.

The 9,200-square-foot space on the second floor of a historic building in the Woodward Garden Block was renovated by the Foundation in 2012 and expanded to its present size in 2019. It serves as a base for Kresge's Detroit and American Cities program staff. The office also offers convening space for Kresge's national programs and other staff when working in the city.

Kresge collaborates with a range of partners – civic, nonprofit, business, resident-led and neighborhood groups – to promote and expand long-term, equitable opportunity for current and future residents of the city. Working in tandem with the Detroit Program, which it grew from, the American

Cities Program supports place-based community development in cities and national efforts to shape the community development field.

Since its inception in 1924, the Foundation has invested more than \$1 billion in Detroit organizations, institutions, neighborhoods and the people they serve. The renovation of Eastern Market, the development of Campus Martius Park, the creation of the Detroit RiverWalk and QLINE streetcar, and the ongoing development of a new cradle-to-career educational campus in Northwest Detroit are are among Kresge's signature 21st century investments.

Modern and sophisticated, the Detroit office is designed to be seamlessly adaptive to the versatile needs of its users. It balances the old and the new – aged brick walls and exposed wood ceiling joists contrasting with an airy open floor plan, contemporary furniture and glass walls.









LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE

Detroit-based D MFT Studio designed the space and sourced sustainable materials locally durina the renovation. The office's oak flooring is made from reclaimed wood from vacant structures, vintage Herman Miller chairs were sourced from a company that salvages furniture from city buildings, and sustainably harvested materials and natural finishes were used for a conference table and visitor work stations. New fixtures, finishes and equipment were purchased from Detroit vendors such as MarxModa (for Herman Miller) and Detroit Wallpaper Company.

ARTWORK ON DISPLAY

Roughly 50 artworks on loan from metro artists are showcased throughout the space, randing from abstracts to naturalistic styles. Large-scale commissions by Clinton Snider, Tiff Massey and Carl Wilson - each more than nine feet wide - anchor the space. A wall of custom posters created by Detroit print shop Signal Return spotlight local nonprofits. The look of the office is pointedly intended to reflect the foundation's commitment to the metro Detroit art community.

ABOUT MIDTOWN DETROIT

The Detroit Office is nested in the city's resurgent Midtown neighborhood, home to the largest concentration of cultural, educational and medical institutions in Southeast Michigan including the Detroit Institute of Arts, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Wayne State University, College for Creative Studies, Detroit Medical Center, Karmanos Cancer Institute and Henry Ford Health Systems.

Midtown is also home to dozens of restaurants, bars, theaters, galleries, museums and shops, all within a few square miles. It boasts many historic sites and districts, beautifully restored homes, and hosts 2.5 million visitors annually at a variety of events including Noel Night, the Concert of Colors festival, America's Thanksgiving Day Parade and other major festivities.

ABOUT THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

The Kresge Foundation was founded in 1924 to promote human progress. Today, Kresge fulfills that mission by building and strengthening pathways to equity and opportunity for low-income people in America's cities, seeking to dismantle structural and systemic barriers to equality and justice. Using a full array of grant, loan, and other investment tools, Kresge invests more than \$160 million annually to foster economic and social change. For more information visit **kresge.org.**

Photography by Ryan Southen.







