



King Street Station

For over one hundred years, the historic landmark building of King Street Station has served as a central transportation hub for the city of Seattle. As it enters its next century, the building will now also offer a new permanent cultural hub for the community.

Commissioned by the Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS), the new Olson Kundig-designed space will respond directly to feedback from community focus groups convened by ARTS beginning in May 2016. That process, conducted using the City's Racial Equity Toolkit, engaged over 300 cultural stakeholders, and identified the goals for the project. Located on the third floor of King Street Station the 17,130 square foot cultural hub will offer multi-disciplinary arts presentation spaces, modular public areas, community gathering and performance spaces, as well as offices for ARTS.

The design of the new adaptive space will center on dynamic, co-use areas to serve community needs. New architectural insertions, including interior walls, kinetic and moveable elements, as well as finishes and fixtures, will integrate with the original building. Kinetic and moveable elements, in particular, will be a defining feature and will enable artists to convert the space as needed to suit the scale and shape of the changing exhibits and events. Upon completion the new adaptive reuse project will serve as a vibrant arts center for collaboration, communication, connection and experimentation.

Kirsten R. Murray, Design Principal, elaborates, "We couldn't be more excited to help activate this amazing space at King Street Station, while maintaining the historic and intrinsic qualities of the existing structure. This project presents an incredible opportunity to design a flexible and adaptive venue for art installations, events and more for the Office of Arts & Culture and community."

The new King Street Station cultural hub will include arts presentation spaces, Grey Box theater space, a Living Room community gathering area, meeting rooms, bathrooms, and offices for ARTS.

- Community Cultural space: A large 8,550 sq. ft. open area with movable walls where exhibitions, events, and presentations can take place.
- Grey Box: An intimate 1,720 sq. ft. enclosed area that can be used for smaller installations and performances.
- Living Room: A 2,450 sq. ft. common area on the third floor that will serve as a welcoming space and information hub for visitors, and a meeting space for artists and community.



Photo courtesy of Kyle Johnson.

About Olson Kundig

Now in its fifth decade of practice, [Olson Kundig](#) is a full-service design firm whose work includes residences, hospitality projects, commercial and mixed-use design, academic buildings, museums and exhibition design, interior design, visual identities, and places of worship for clients around the globe. The firm is led by five owners—[Jim Olson](#), [Tom Kundig](#), [Kirsten R. Murray](#), [Alan Maskin](#) and [Kevin M. Kudo-King](#)—who are supported by a staff of 150 in the historic Pioneer Square neighborhood of downtown Seattle. For more information visit [olsonkundig.com](#) or follow Olson Kundig on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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