**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 5, 2016**

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**Seattle Office of Arts & Culture**

**King Street Station Fact Sheet**

**About King Street Station**: The Seattle Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS) in partnership with the Office of Economic Development (OED) and Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) will create permanent cultural space at King Street Station with a phased opening in 2017. The dedicated cultural space will provide public access to presentation and creative spaces, ARTS staff and resources, professional development and other services. The plan also calls for meeting rooms and gathering space available for city convenings. This innovative plan utilizes an underused city resource to address issues of affordability and livability while preserving the unique creative economy that drives Seattle

The new cultural space is being funded through an increased admissions tax allocation supported by both Mayor Murray and City Council. The increase in admissions tax allocation also preserves the city’s cultural funding and public art programs, so there will be no cuts to existing ARTS office resources and programs.

**Outreach and Cultural Plan:** ARTS is engaging in inclusive, city-wide conversations overseen by the Seattle Arts Commission to identify the needs and ideas to create a cultural hub on the upper floors of King Street Station May thru December, 2016. The public engagement process utilizes the city’s Racial Equity Toolkit to equitably ensure the space meets the needs of the community and surrounding neighborhoods. Following the outreach, ARTS will draft a King Street Station Cultural Plan and present findings and recommendations to the public in spring 2017. To date ARTS has engaged more than 300 cultural stakeholders, and helped identify goals for the project including the need to increase opportunities for communities of color to show their work. This plan supports the quality of life component of the Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA) overseen by the Department of Neighborhoods.

**Design**: Commissioned by ARTS, the new Olson Kundig-designed space responds directly to feedback from community focus groups. 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.

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 whole, or divided via a movable wall 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 collaboration and meeting space for artists and community.

- Meeting Room: A 1,482 sq. ft. meeting room available for community meetings and small events, outfitted with presentation technology.

**About ARTS**: The Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS) envisions a city driven by creativity that provides the opportunity for everyone to engage in diverse arts and cultural experiences. ARTS oversees the city's public art program, cultural partnerships grant programs, Cultural Space, the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, and The Creative Advantage initiative. All work of the Office is approached through a social justice lens and is informed by the city's Race and Social Justice Initiative, an effort to realize the vision of racial equity. The Office is supported by the 16-member Seattle Arts Commission, citizen volunteers appointed by the mayor and City Council. Find out more at [seattle.gov/arts](http://www.seattle.gov/arts)

**About Olson Kundig:** Now in its fifth decade of practice, [Olson Kundig](http://www.olsonkundig.com/) 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](http://www.olsonkundig.com) or follow Olson Kundig on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/olsonkundig/) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/olsonkundig).

**Olson Kundig Design Team:**

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**SDOT**: Seattle’s Department of Transportation aims to deliver a high-quality transportation system for Seattle with connected people, places, and products. SDOT is focused on creating a safe, interconnected, vibrant, affordable, and innovative city for all. SDOT’s goals include eliminating serious and fatal crashes in Seattle, providing an easy-to-use, reliable transportation system that gives Seattle’s residents the options they want when they need them, creating streets and sidewalks that improve the city's health, prosperity, and happiness, offering high-quality and low-cost transportation options that allow people to spend their money on things other than transportation, and understanding and planning for the changes of tomorrow, while delivering great service today.

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