

# TODAY

## KANSAS CITY

VOLUME I. ISSUE 3. FALL 2017

A PUBLICATION OF THE SOAVE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP.



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MOTOR CARS



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When you look at any organization, you look at its employees; they comprise the engine that makes success possible. The management team might get to lay out the route, provide the resources, the encouragement, and the fuel, but it's the employees that make the operation a success on a day-to-day basis.

On taking the position of President of the Soave Auto Group 10 years ago, I knew of some of the employees that had been long tenured at the dealerships, but I quickly realized experience and expertise permeated the staff in every department. In a business that has a reputation in the public eye of ever-changing personnel, this auto group is the exception.

In the time I have been here, the auto group has seen 45-year employees retire and has consistently had employees reach 20, 25, 30, and 40 years with the company. For many, this is the only company they have worked for in their careers. That is a unique statement not only for the automobile industry but also for the U.S. workforce in general.

To recognize this dedication, we began formally recognizing all of our employees starting at the fifth year of employment, and at five-year intervals. In September, we celebrated Mark Doescher's, our Parts department Director's, 40th year, but also five 25-year employees and ten 10-year employees.

It is this kind of dedication, commitment, and experience that will keep this auto group earning public recognition as the best in the Automotive segment from publications like *Ingram's* and *The Pitch*, but, most of all, will keep you returning to both purchase your next car and service your current one.

Thank you for your dedication, as well.

Wishing you a great and colorful fall season,

Marion Battaglia, President



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# LAFAYETTE 148

NEW YORK





I would like to thank our customers and clients for the reception we have received for *TODAY Kansas City*. As the editor, I speak for our editorial staff, writers, advertising manager, and our printer, what a pleasure it is to give you something we hope reflects the quality of our relationships, the products we offer, and the people who represent us.

This fall issue represents the continuing growth of the magazine and the area the Soave Automotive Group covers. You will find an article on a restaurant in Lawrence that is housed in the oldest drugstore building in Kansas. Lawrence, just 30 minutes to the west, is the home of KU and on the way to BMW | VW of Topeka, the state capital, and to Manhattan, home of the ranked K-State football team.

You will also find an article that is very relevant to “today” in Kansas City, the proposed UMKC Conservatory for Music and Dance in downtown Kansas City. While this project is on the Chamber of Commerce’s “Big 5,” recent coverage has been more about the funding than the project itself. With this article, we hope to provide information regarding the project.

You will discover how architecture is covered in a unique manner; a historical article focused on Kansas City’s original “auto mall,” Automobile Row; and current architecture is an interview with Bill Johnson of HOK, about the fan experience at the new Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

Cars and fashion, as always, are front and center in this fall issue; I hope you enjoy it.

**COVER & FASHION:** The *TODAY* fashion team is comprised of a group of nationally published creative individuals whose passion for editorial image-making allows them to combine the beauty and technology of high-performance automobiles with luxury fashion and stunning locations to create a glamorous story in every issue. The team includes photographer **Kenny Johnson**, fashion stylist **Amani Skalacki**, and hair and makeup artist **Michele Taylor**. Our models this issue are **Brynn** and **Mike**, *Voices &*. Shot on location at **The Country Club of Loch Lloyd**. Cover fashion credits are on page 36.

## CONTRIBUTORS

**ARCHITECTURE:** **Bill Johnson**, AIA, is the design principal for HOK in Kansas City and its senior vice president. Recognized as a leader in the design of sports and entertainment facilities and districts, his approach is defined by his ability to develop integrated solutions that achieve the unique objectives of each client and contribute to the vitality of the broader community. Bill has applied his expertise and design sensitivity to numerous award-winning projects, including Mercedes-Benz Stadium, H&R Block Headquarters, and the Power & Light District.

**AUTOMOTIVE:** **Tom Strongman** has a degree in photojournalism from the University of Missouri and was formerly the director of photography and then the automotive editor of *The Kansas City Star*. Tom, a member of the Missouri Press Association Photojournalism Hall of Fame, has written about and photographed cars for more than three decades.

**HISTORY:** **Susan Richards Johnson** is a long-time advocate and chronicler of historical preservation. Susan is senior principal at Strata Architecture Preservation and will in future issues not only look at Kansas City history but also Lawrence, Topeka, and surrounding areas.

**DESIGNER SPOTLIGHT :** **Jennifer Lapka Pfeifer** has been involved in the fashion community in Kansas City from helping bring the 18th Street Fashion Show to life to now promoting and supporting the burgeoning garment industry rebirth in our city. She also serves as the executive director of Rightfully Sewn.

**FOOD:** **Patrick Mulvihill** is a Kansas City based writer who prizes food’s ability to bring people closer together. From fine dining to food trucks, he’s constantly in search of that perfect bite, of which he’s had several. The St. Louis native has an affinity for taking spur-of-the-moment roadtrips and ordering off the menu. You can find more of his work in *Feast* and many area magazines.

**TRENDS:** **Kelsey Cipolla** is a writer, editor, and social media specialist. Formerly the editor of *KC Magazine*, has covered everything from Kansas City’s food and drink scene to home and fashion design to health and fitness trends.





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PHOTO BY KENNY JOHNSON  
*Fashion credits: page 36*









MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM





# Behind the Design.

*Kansas City's Bill Johnson on the four design features you need to experience at the NFL's newest stadium.*

On August 26, Mercedes-Benz Stadium hosted its first major event — an NFL preseason game between the Arizona Cardinals and Atlanta Falcons. The 2-million-square-foot, \$1.5 billion stadium is home to the NFL's Falcons and MLS's Atlanta United and will host some of the nation's most significant sporting events, including the College Football Playoff National Championship Game in 2018, Super Bowl LIII in 2019, and the NCAA Final Four in 2020. And it was designed right here in Kansas City.

The stadium's innovative design includes a first-of-its-kind retractable roof that opens from the center. It also features the world's first halo video board. HOK's Bill Johnson, senior vice president and design principal for the Kansas City practice and Sports + Recreation + Entertainment, describes four innovations fans — even here in Kansas City — won't want to miss.

## HALO VIDEO BOARD

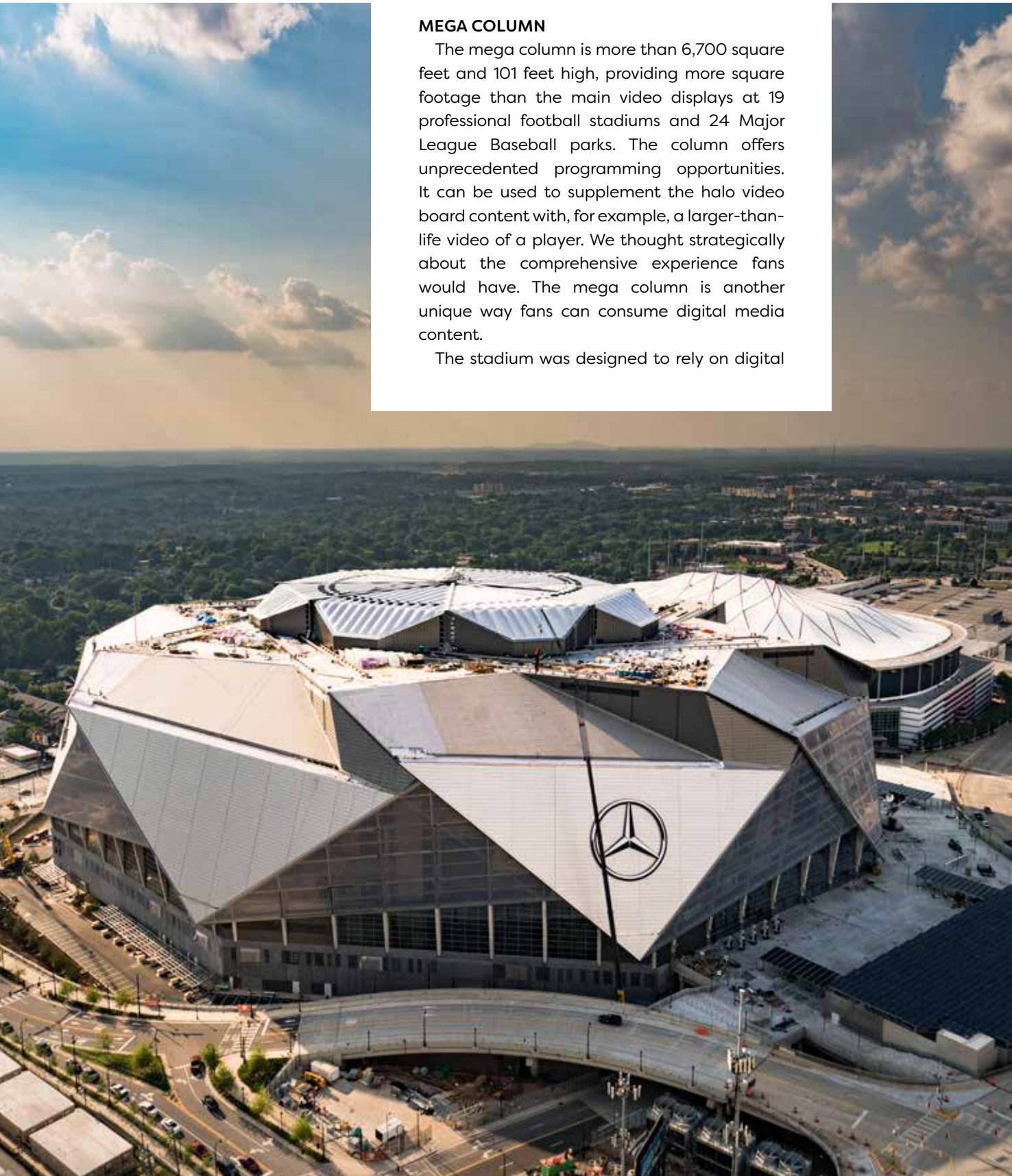
The team designed the halo video board to bring to life the theater-in-the-round experience. The scale of the video board is hard to comprehend without seeing it in person. It's three times larger than any other video board in the NFL, measuring 58 feet high and 1,075 feet long. It's equivalent to three football fields end to end. This halo video board immerses fans in the game and provides a canvas for digital media to be presented in ways fans have never experienced.

The story of the video board begins with the roof. The team had gone to great lengths to design a venue with a roof that could retract so it could function as an open-air stadium. We quickly realized that a center-hanging scoreboard would impede our original vision. We decided to configure the video board's size and geometry based on the roof opening, resulting in the halo form. Based on this integrated approach, the final product feels embedded and complementary to the stadium's design.

**MEGA COLUMN**

The mega column is more than 6,700 square feet and 101 feet high, providing more square footage than the main video displays at 19 professional football stadiums and 24 Major League Baseball parks. The column offers unprecedented programming opportunities. It can be used to supplement the halo video board content with, for example, a larger-than-life video of a player. We thought strategically about the comprehensive experience fans would have. The mega column is another unique way fans can consume digital media content.

The stadium was designed to rely on digital





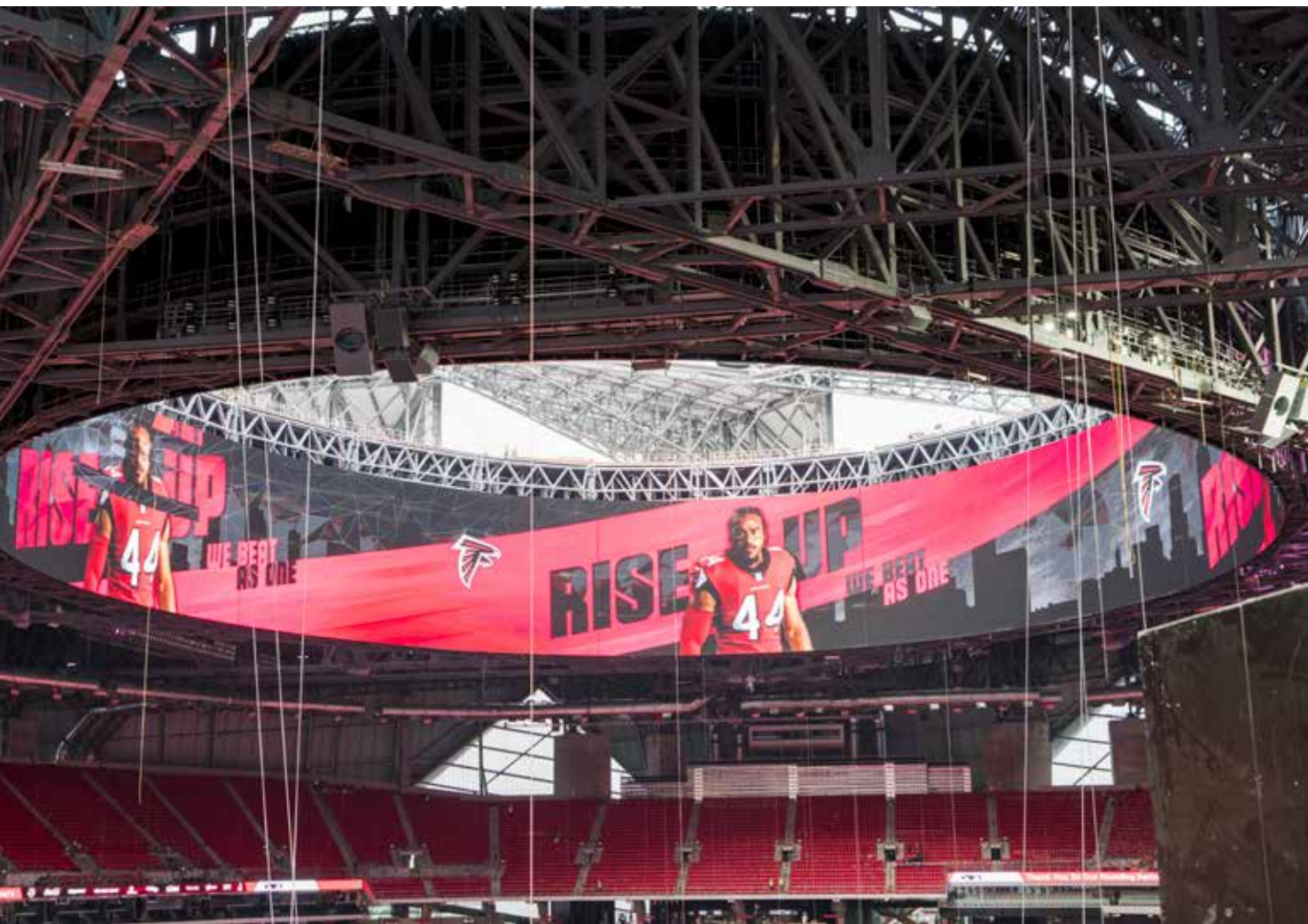
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platforms for advertising. This means the facility serves as a blank canvas that can be transformed depending on the team playing, event being hosted, or sponsors being promoted.

#### WINDOW TO THE CITY

The shape of the facade follows the roof's form, with angular, wing-like sections inspired by the shape of a falcon. We wanted the design to be unique to Atlanta, connecting visitors and fans to the city skyline. On the stadium's west side, the window to the city spans more than 16 stories and 22,500 square feet, offering unforgettable floor-to-ceiling views of Atlanta. ETFE, the same transparent material used in the roof petals, provides visual connectivity and natural light while supporting the stadium's ambitious sustainability goals.

#### THAT ROOF

The roof of Mercedes-Benz Stadium is pure innovation. I strongly believe that innovation can't occur if you aren't willing to be brave. Arthur Blank and his team were willing to be brave. The roof contains eight petals resting on 16 tracks. Though they appear to rotate as they open, that's actually an optical illusion. Each petal structure is clad with air-inflated ETFE pillows that contain more than 143,000 square feet of ETFE in the petals alone.

The roof has captured everyone's imagination. It challenges all of us to think differently about the role of design on the human experience. It provokes and inspires. It suggests that if we're willing to look beyond what has always been done, we can establish new standards. Mercedes-Benz Stadium is iconic because the client and members of the design team were willing to dream big. ♦



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# Meet Me at the Corner.

When your city is known as “Cowtown,” it’s sometimes difficult to differentiate one steakhouse from another. Fine cuts of beef and expansive (and expensive) wine lists are a dime a dozen in Kansas City, but nowadays, the white-tablecloth vibe seems more stuffy than it does stimulating. Head just a stone’s throw west into Lawrence, and you’ll find a uniquely impressive dining experience well worth the drive.

Located at the corner of 8th and Massachusetts (Mass) streets, the RND Corner Grille opened in late 2015 with a special focus on even the smallest details. It all starts with

the building itself, which dates back to 1866. The Round Corner Drug Store was the longest continuously operating pharmacy in the state before closing its doors in 2009. When the wheels started turning to pave the way for RND, an interior mural depicting the building in its glory days was commissioned immediately. The bar is adorned with eye-catching black and white tilework, which stands in strong juxtaposition to the polished hardwood floors. The facade, the interior, and the atmosphere are refined yet unpretentious, from its modern-classic furnishings all the way down to the polished flatware.







THE RND CORNER GRILLE FILET MIGNON WITH HERB ROASTED FINGERLING POTATOES, GRILLED ASPARAGUS, AND A RED BEET AND PORT REDUCTION.

RND's wine list can appeal to diners on a budget, but even the most serious connoisseurs will find a number of impressive bottles that can't be found anywhere else in the entire state. The bar program boasts a couple heavy hitters, as well, including the absinthe-infused Sazerac and a show-stopping margarita that's tough to sip slowly. A rotating list of beer taps is mercifully free from the Heinekens and Sam Adams of this world, opting to replace the "macro" craft beers with a curated list from local and regional breweries, including Lawrence's own Free State Brewing, which is located just one block north on Mass Street.

Whether you're dropping in for lunch or sitting down for a long dinner, RND's menu will pique any diner's interest without overwhelming or intimidating. Every ingredient is sourced as locally and ethically as possible, so not only will your palate be appeased, but your conscience will too. This attention to quality is noticeable in every dish, from the carpaccio to the calamari. However, you might not be able to tell this from the prices. Nearly half the entrees won't even break a \$20.

Consider the house-favorite, the Braised Beef Short Rib, which is served with herb-roasted fingerling potatoes, red cabbage puree, and horseradish cream. Or get the Cedar Plank Salmon, which always makes for a great Instagram photo, if you have the self-control to wait that long before diving in. A word of advice: don't sleep on the salad and sandwich menus, which both include well rounded arrays of seasonal classics and unexpected options. Order the Brussels Sprout Salad, which comes adorned with roasted pecans, apples, toasted Brussels sprouts, and goat cheese on a bed of arugula, lightly tossed in bacon dijon vinaigrette. For a heftier appetite, the short rib sandwich packs a punch without breaking the bank.

It should be mentioned that first and foremost, RND is a steakhouse. And it's a great one at that, one much deserving of its list of red wines. The cuts themselves are among the best you'll find in Lawrence if not the greater Kansas City metro area, paired with unforgettable sides of seasonal vegetables that will make you think, if only for a second, that you could be a vegetarian. The filet mignon and Kansas City strip are both crowd-favorites, perfectly cooked and immaculately plated to your liking. For bigger



MAPLE BOURBON CAKE

appetites, the espresso-chili-rubbed ribeye is the call, as long as you save room for dessert. Split an adult ice cream float with your dinner date or order a maple bourbon cake to share from the skillet for the table.

If you're looking for expected takes on traditional dishes, RND might not be your cup of tea. There are more predictable restaurants with more predictable dishes out there —though, it should be noted that the Caesar salad, BLT, and cheeseburger are all worth ordering, if only once. Though the building itself is incredibly old, the menu reflects a new look into what classic American dishes can be. The mashed potatoes are torched. The brunch menu is diverse, and the mimosas are bottomless. The Steak Frites come with whipped herb goat cheese, and it works. The restaurant does nothing to disparage our history as a culinary species, but it improves upon traditional dishes that we know and love. The corner drug store might be a thing of the past, but RND Corner Grille is here to stay. ♦



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## Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 4MATIC

**Engine:** 2.0-liter, 241-horsepower  
turbocharged 4-cylinder

**Transmission:** Nine-speed automatic  
4MATIC all-wheel drive

**Wheelbase:** 113.1 inches

**Curb weight:** 4,001 pounds

**Base price:** \$41,150

**As driven:** \$53,875

**MPG rating:** 21 in the city,  
28 on the highway







# Mercedes-Benz GLC 300 is a Vehicle for All Seasons.

The GLC 300 is an excellent example of why crossover utility vehicles continue to gain popularity, because it drives like a taller, slightly longer version of the C 300 sedan. But when you need to carry things such as a bicycle, bags of mulch, or DIY materials for a weekend project, flipping down the back seat creates plenty of room. A power liftgate is standard.

Redesigned in 2015 as the replacement for the GLK, the GLC 300 has a 2.0-liter, turbocharged four-cylinder that pumps out a lively 241 horsepower. That might seem to be a pretty small engine for a vehicle of this size but the GLC 300 is 176 pounds lighter than the GLK, due to the use of aluminum for the hood, front fenders, and roof panel. Aluminum is also used for the front and rear suspension and rear-axle subframe.

The strength of the engine is its ability to deliver maximum torque from 1,300 rpm to 4,000 rpm. High torque at low rpm makes the engine drive as if it were much larger. Throttle response is crisp right from a stop. The 9G-TRONIC nine-speed automatic transmission plays a role in making the vehicle feel energetic because there is a gear for every speed and situation. It also contributes to a fuel economy rating of 21 miles per gallon in the city and 28 mpg on the highway.

Five selectable drive modes — Eco, Comfort, Sport, Sport Plus, and Individual — let the driver tailor the vehicle to personal preference. Each mode is as its name implies: Eco gives the best fuel economy,



although at a slight drop in performance; Comfort is the default setting and good for everyday use; Sport livens things up a bit, with sharper throttle response and tighter suspension settings; Sport Plus is slightly more aggressive; and Individual mode lets the driver mix and match settings according to personal taste, such as choosing the comfort suspension with the Sport Plus engine tuning.

Prices begin at \$39,150 for rear-wheel drive and \$41,150 for all-wheel drive. The test vehicle was equipped with numerous options, such as a panoramic sunroof, metallic red paint, head-up display, heated steering wheel, 19-inch AMG wheels, Burmester surround sound system, and heated front and rear seats. The Premium package included keyless ignition, blind-spot assist, navigation, illuminated doorsills, and Sirius XM radio. The Sport package includes AMG body styling and AMG perforated front brake discs. The sticker price was \$53,875.

While the GLC 300 is available in rear-wheel or all-wheel-drive 4MATIC configuration, most buyers in our climate will want the 4MATIC version. This system delivers optimum traction in a wide variety of conditions, from rain and snow to sand and mud. Because the system has a slight bias toward the rear wheels, dry-road handling feels neutral.

Befitting its C 300 heritage, the GLC 300's cabin is cozy and plush. The Cardinal Red test car had a black interior with wood-grain trim on the instrument panel and console. A large, sweeping panel connects the dashboard to the center console and armrest. The front seats have proper support in all the right places and the test vehicle was equipped with the optional heated seats, front and rear, as well as a heated steering wheel.

A seven-inch color LCD screen sits in the center of the dash like a tablet computer. It is not a touch-screen because



Mercedes-Benz feels operating a touch-screen can be distracting. A mouse-like touchpad and a rotary knob on the center console control various navigation, audio, and the vehicle's settings. The touchpad permits letters, numbers, and special characters to be entered in handwriting. Voice commands can also be used. Fingertip controls on the steering wheel control the trip computer, audio, and hands-free phone use. The navigation system has five years of traffic and weather services provided by SiriusXM.

Head-up Display (HUD) projects important information directly in the driver's field of vision on the windshield, thus helping to reduce the driver's need to avert attention from the road ahead. The system provides information on speed and navigation instructions.

Advances in semi-autonomous technology continue to play an increasingly important role in automotive design and the GLC has the following safety features:

Attention Assist learns a driver's habits and then sends an alert if it feels the driver is getting drowsy or not paying attention.

Collision Prevention Assist Plus sends an audible warning if it senses the driver is closing on a vehicle too quickly. At speeds up to 31 mph, the vehicle will apply the brakes to avoid a stationary object.

Pre-Safe tightens seatbelts, closes windows, and closes the sunroof if it senses a collision is imminent. Brake Assist applies maximum braking force in an emergency.

The blind-spot monitor is a light in the side mirrors.

Electronic vehicle stability assist with trailer stabilization.

Crosswind assist.

Available options include an adaptive cruise control, lane-keeping assist, a 360-degree camera with a bird's-eye view, and Pre-Safe Plus that can sense a rear impact and activates the rear hazard lights at increasing frequency and initiates preventive braking. ♦



## The Mercedes-Benz AMG GLC 43 sparkles with energy from its turbo V-6.

If you're an enthusiast who loves the burble of a sport exhaust and the power of a twin-turbo engine, the AMG GLC 43 is just for you. This vehicle embodies all of the qualities of the standard GLC but raises the ante with 362 horsepower, tighter handling, shorter shift times for the nine-speed automatic, and more powerful brakes. Mercedes-Benz customers know that AMG signifies uncompromising performance and any vehicle bearing that name is going to be special. The AMG GLC 43 is the first mid-size Mercedes-Benz SUV to wear the AMG label.

The 3.0-liter, twin-turbo V-6 has the potential to go down in history as one of Mercedes-Benz's seminal products. Even though it is only 3.0-liters in displacement, it delivers 384 pound-feet of torque, and that gives the vehicle the snappy throttle response and acceleration of a sports sedan. This mid-size SUV can sprint to 60 miles per hour in 4.8 seconds. Combine the engine's power with a 4MATIC all-wheel-drive system with a rear-wheel bias for sportier handling and you have a crossover utility vehicle that is both fun and practical. Fuel economy is rated at 18 mpg in the city and 24 on the highway.

Like the GLC 300, the GLC 43 has five drive modes. The standard Comfort mode is reasonably lively, but Sport and Sport Plus unleash the full energy of the engine by keeping the revs higher and firming up the suspension. The bark from the exhaust is a delight as well.

Visually, the GLC 43 is differentiated from the GLC 300 by a different front grille, 20-inch wheels, and AMG badging. Inside, the front seats have more pronounced side bolsters and red stitching. The seatbelts are red as well.

The test vehicle's 360-degree surround-view camera was part of the advanced parking-assist package, and I found it tremendously helpful in parking lots and parking garages.

The AMG GLC 43 has a base price of \$56,250 and a well-equipped model had a sticker price of \$66,335.



# A New 'Fountain' for Kansas City.

Downtown's "Fountain of Youth" will be built on a prized plot of land immediately south of the iconic Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in the heart of the Crossroads Arts District.

That is where the University of Missouri-Kansas City will build a new home for its world-renowned Conservatory of Music and Dance. The Conservatory, founded in 1906, has been praised by *The New York Times* as "one of the country's liveliest academies." It has a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer and four Guggenheim Fellows among its faculty.

## THE NEED

The Conservatory has outgrown its existing home on UMKC's Volker Campus, just south and east of the Country Club Plaza. So the university

will build a new, state-of-the-art \$96-million facility downtown where the next generations of world-class musicians, dancers, choreographers, and composers will hone their artistic skills.

Building the new Conservatory directly across from the Kauffman Center is a strategic decision designed to benefit the community as much as it does the university and its students. That's why it was included in the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Big 5 list of top civic priorities.

"This project is downtown's fountain of youth, because it will perpetually forever bring 18 to 35 year olds to downtown," said Warren Erdman, executive vice president, Administrative and Corporate Affairs for Kansas City Southern, and a former curator of the University of Missouri system.









## THE IMPACT OF ARTS

The new Conservatory will stimulate economic activity by bringing approximately 700 students, faculty, and staff to the district as a daily, daytime presence, complementing the event-driven and largely evening-based activity at the Kauffman Center. The site – a full city block, bounded by Broadway, 17th, 18th and Central streets – is a two-block walk from Kansas City's streetcar line, Bartle Hall, and the planned new Loews convention hotel.

The arts have much more economic impact than many people realize. Americans for the Arts notes that arts and cultural activities in Missouri create 33,000 full-time jobs and annually contribute \$743 million in household income and \$110 million in state government revenue to the economy. The UMKC Conservatory is an intrinsic component in making the Kansas City region one of *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best Places to Live in the U.S." The region has 8,346 jobs in the arts sector, contributing \$273 million in annual economic activity, \$9 million for local governments, and \$12.8 million in state revenue.

## A RENOWNED CONSERVATORY

At the downtown arts campus, Conservatory students will have increased opportunities to work alongside professionals in the Kauffman Center, Kansas City Symphony, Kansas City Lyric Opera, Kansas City Ballet, American Jazz Museum, and the Crossroads Arts District. This will strengthen student-professional collaborations and emulate successful urban arts education programs like that of Juilliard and the Lincoln Center in New York.

The new campus also will satisfy accrediting organizations by almost tripling the square footage of the Conservatory, making room for additional students to study there, and freeing up much-needed space on the landlocked Volker campus for other academic disciplines. The campuses will remain connected; Conservatory students will continue to take non-music classes at Volker and will continue to perform there.

For more than a century, the UMKC Conservatory and other performing arts



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programs have been foundational drivers of the city's artistic heritage. The Kansas City Symphony, Lyric Opera, Kansas City Ballet, Bach Aria Soloists, Kansas City Chorale, newEar Contemporary Chamber Ensemble, and Wylliams/Henry Contemporary Dance Company are among the many outstanding local artistic institutions founded by UMKC Conservatory faculty and/or alumni.

"As much as we appreciate our access to such talent on grand stages, that is not the primary place where the Conservatory's impact is felt. Stages exist for the arts, but the arts do not exist for stages; they are for people," said UMKC Chancellor Emeritus Leo E. Morton. "The arts are an essential component of our communities, and the Conservatory is a community builder through arts education."

### COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Generous local donors raised \$48 million for the project, led by a \$20-million gift from Julia Irene Kauffman on behalf of the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Foundation. By raising half of the \$96-million cost of the facility from private donors, the university sought matching funds from the state government — essentially delivering a permanent asset to the state's university at half price. Both houses of the Missouri General Assembly approved a funding measure by wide margins.

When the legislation was stymied by an unexpected gubernatorial veto in June, civic and university officials vowed to forge ahead with the project. An alternative funding plan will be presented to the University of Missouri Board of Curators in December.

"This approach will allow construction to begin sooner and save money by avoiding construction cost inflation on a project that will benefit the students of UMKC, the people of Kansas City, and the state of Missouri," UM System President Mun Choi said. "This is a strategic investment to support our key goals in academics and scholarship. That makes it a priority for the UM System and UMKC."

UMKC has selected the design team of Helix Architecture + Design and HGA Architects and Engineers to proceed with the programming and concept-design process. Their renderings show the iconic Kauffman Center and the downtown skyline as its neighbors.

### UMKC DOWNTOWN CAMPUS OF THE ARTS

**Who and what:** A much-needed new home for the Conservatory of Music and Dance, a world-renowned program of 700 students

**Where:** A city block bounded by Broadway, 17th, 18th, and Central streets next to the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

**How and when:** Generous local donors raised \$48 million for the project. A plan for the next steps will be presented in December to the University of Missouri Board of Curators.

**Why:** The Conservatory has outgrown its space and has the opportunity to contribute even more to the community. The arts deliver a major economic impact of \$850 million in income and revenue annually in Missouri. ♦



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## THE ART OF PERFORMANCE

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# Kansas City's Unique Automobile Row.

Automobiles have become an important part of American life. We practically live in our cars and most of us couldn't imagine a day going by without owning at least one. There exists in Kansas City's history an area once known as "Automobile Row." This important commercial district was located mainly along Main, Walnut, Grand, McGee, and Locust streets between 11th and 18th streets, during the first half of the 20th century. The area is now commonly known as the East Cross Roads District and has become a part of the city's "First Fridays" art, commerce, and community scene.

This article explores a particular car dealership that represented a thriving business in Automobile Row, which was located in the Kirkwood Building at 1737 McGee Street. When the building's construction was completed in 1920, automobiles had only been in production in the





VIEW FROM 18TH STREET, 1940s

United States for 24 years. The Benz Company in Germany was the first to put an automobile into production, a three-wheeler built in 1885. In the United States, there were tinkerers, but no real industry until 1896. Between that time and the early 1920s, the industry in the United States grew from only a few producers to hundreds, many of which began as carriage companies.

When the automobile was introduced, it was a machine only the wealthy could afford. The price, \$2,000 to \$3,000, represented twice the average salary of a U.S. worker. By the end of World War I, automobile manufacturers produced 1.5 million cars a year, and as the production process became streamlined, the automobile became more affordable to everyone. By the mid-'20s, many working-class people owned automobiles, and innovations such as Henry Ford's introduction of continuous plate glass

made closed cars possible at an affordable price. Closed cars not only allowed passengers to remain clean and dry, a transportation luxury in the beginning of the century, but also created less of a distinction between higher and lower priced cars.

As the economy grew after World War I, automobiles became quite common. By 1920, the United States had 76 cars per 1,000 people. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population of the United States in 1920 was 106,102,537 people, translating into over 8 million automobiles in the United States. Two million farmers owned automobiles, and by 1922 more than 100,000 suburban homes in the United States were wholly automobile dependent.

From its introduction, the automobile caught on quickly in Kansas City. Only a couple of hundred Kansas Citians owned automobiles when the first car show came to town in 1907, but 20,000 people attended the show. Between 1908 and 1923, the rise of the number of automobiles in Kansas City was staggering. In only 15 years, Kansas City's motor population had grown from a mere 400 automobiles to 55,000, streets from 300 to 600 miles. The growing number of automobiles was evident from the many new houses built with garages, as well as the new garages that were being added to existing properties. This increase in automobile use allowed the growth of the city to occur several miles south of downtown, because Kansas Citians were no longer dependent on electric streetcars for transportation.

As people bought more cars, the entire automotive industry grew to become a major aspect of Kansas City's commerce. Early on, automobile makers determined that it was far costlier to ship fully assembled cars to showrooms across the country than to assemble them in regional factories for the regional market. Ford opened a plant in Kansas City in 1912, and a number of carriage manufacturing businesses in the West Bottoms also began the assembly of automobiles, including the Studebaker Company. Furthermore, the wholesaling of cars, parts, and accessories became an integral part of Kansas City's overall wholesale trade.

Because of the city's role as a major wholesale distribution center for manufactured goods, the development of a regional center for automotive sales in Kansas City was assured. The rapid growth in automobile use spurred the construction of specialized buildings rated to the sale of automobiles. Businessmen already engaged in other transportation-related sales and services — livery stable, blacksmith shops, and carriage dealers — were among the first dealerships to emerge. By the time automobile business became well established, owners dropped other endeavors and concentrated solely on car and truck sales.

Along with the development of these specialized buildings for auto vending came the birth of a new type of commercial district — Automobile Row. These districts related to the automobile industry and were located in an area just outside of the downtown retail and financial center in order to avoid higher real estate costs.

Kansas City was no exception. According to the 1909 Sanborn Fire Map, the neighborhood around 18th and McGee streets was filled with middle-class housing and related commercial buildings that supported the area. By the mid-1910s, many new commercial buildings were constructed, replacing the housing that had existed there before. By the 1920s, the area was largely commercial and became known as Automobile Row.

As mentioned earlier, one such automobile dealership was located at 1737 McGee Street and was known as the Kirkwood Building, constructed by Irwin Kirkwood, the son-in-law of William Rockhill Nelson, the founder of the *Kansas City Star* newspaper. Kirkwood developed the building to accommodate two auto-related businesses; each tenant area of the first floor of the building had a separate entrance along with its own wash rack. The main tenant was the Gridley Motor Company and the building's design boasted a beautifully ornamental plastered display room, a used car department, a repair shop, as well as additional rental space. A mezzanine that was utilized for offices was placed above the machine shop. As the Gridley Motor Company grew from a one-car showroom highlighting a \$75 car into a million-dollar business in only six years, the demand for more space increased rapidly . . . hence, the need for the Kirkwood Building.

The Gridley Motor Company was the city's only authorized dealer of the Auburn car. The Auburn Automobile Company, from Auburn Indiana, would produce three American classics — the Auburn, the Cord, and the Duesenberg. The Duesenberg was arguably the finest car ever built in this country, America's answer to the Rolls-Royce and the Bugatti. Gridley also sold the Peerless and the Locomobile, both high-priced luxury cars.

In 1922, Gridley Motors became Peerless Automotive and B. E. Gridley became the vice president of the newly formed company. In the same year, Peerless moved into another building and Hathaway Motors moved into the Kirkwood Building. In 1923, the Kansas City Durant Company moved in. William Durant, owner of the Durant-Dort Carriage Company, the largest maker of horse-drawn carriages in the country, became the head of General Motors. Before long, Durant added other names to his line, including Flint Autos, which was listed as a tenant in the Kirkwood Building from 1925 to '26. Durant Motors was a tenant of the building from 1923 to '26. In 1927, the Kirkwood Building's automotive character continued with the Faeth Company Auto Suppliers and later with Republic

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**AUBURN AUTOMOBILE COMPANY, AUBURN, INDIANA**  
**GRIDLEY MOTOR COMPANY,**  
*Distributors*  
 18th and McGee Sts.

Gear Corporation, and Thompson Auto Supplies, who leased the building for many years. From 1922 forward, other types of businesses occupied the building, including the Grand Aerie of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, Southwestern Bell, and the Central Surety and Insurance Corporation.

Many well-known architectural practices left their design mark in the Automobile Row neighborhood, including Wight and Wight, Root and Siemens, J. O. Hogg, Victor Jacques DeFoe, Nelle Peters, and Van Brunt and Howe. Their commissions included designing prestigious buildings with large, expansive glass display windows to showcase the gleaming automobiles inside.

Find a little time and take a drive in the historic Automobile Row area and picture what it must have been like when the area was bustling with automobile dealerships and tire and battery businesses, as well as automotive garages and repair shops. ♦



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KATHRYN LEE BRIDAL, DESIGNER

# Stay Gold.

Did you know that Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, has the 14th best fashion program in the world, according to the “Business of Fashion,” London? It is the second time Stephens has received highly sought after ranking recognition from this global industry resource. “We have taken great care to craft our curriculum based on industry feedback and incorporate design thinking to help students learn to create innovative products. We offer classes on fitting, pattern making, and technical design, which are important skills every fashion designer should have a strong grasp of,” said Dr. Monica McMurry, professor and dean of the School of Design. “Our design graduates have to know what certain fabrics are

capable of, what a properly fitted garment should look like, and how to communicate the smallest of production details to a factory that could be halfway across the nation or even on another continent.”

Upon a recent visit to the campus, I was thrilled to see that they offer their student body the latest and greatest in industrial sewing machines and a robust speaker series. In fact, they recently flew in — be still thy heart! — Dame Zandra Rhodes, the 76-year-old British fashion industry icon who designs textiles for renowned fashion houses, like Valentino, and founded the Fashion and Textile Museum in London.

Ami Beck of Dolyn Bags, my *Today Spring 2017* fashion





SARAH NELSEN, DESIGNER

HEIDI HERRMAN, DESIGNER. BAG BY DOLYN BAGS



editorial feature subject, is a Stephens College alum. Luckily, our Kansas City fashion community benefits from several strong fashion design programs in the metropolitan area and region, which poise us well for another golden era of garment design and manufacturing. Established Kansas City based women's wear designers Sarah Nelsen graduated from the University of Kansas, Heidi Herrman and Kate Nickols from Kansas State University, and Whitney Manney from Kansas City Art Institute. Each designer exhibits special skillsets that can be traced back to her respective school and teachers; for instance, Sarah, a keen understanding of color and shape; Heidi and Kate, impeccable technical abilities; and Whitney, an intrepid approach to designing her own textiles.

Coming from a family of educators on my maternal side, I have the deepest respect for the teachers and administrators at the aforementioned colleges. I tip my hat to them for their tireless pursuit in creating programs, curricula, and lesson plans that guide people to the jobs of their dreams.

Ami, Sarah, Heidi, Kate, and Whitney, the crème de la crème of Kansas City fashion designers, will be featured at the Rightfully Sewn Golden Gala, on Saturday, December 2. Tickets are available at [rightfullysewn.org](http://rightfullysewn.org). ♦

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS: *Executive Producer:* April Dion; *Photographer:* Samantha Levi Photography; *Stylist:* Amy Appleton Dreyer; *Hair and makeup:* Armoni Matthews, Cherice Richmond Artistry, *Makeup By* Britney Louise, Natalie Sutton Artistry, Xiphium Salon; *Accessories:* Janesko Jewelry; *Modeling Agency Partners:* Hoffman International Model Agency, Voices&amp. *Assistants:* Brooklynn Love, Macy Norlen, Micaela Harris; *Venue:* Corbin Bronze





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**Halls:** jacket, Harris Wharf London; dress, Oscar de la Renta; purse, Gucci | **Tivol:** earrings, Tirisi; ring, Carelle; watch, Rolex  
**Ulah:** suit, Nifty Genius; tie, Dibi; shirt, Moods of Norway; belt, rag & bone





# Fall Style.

**ALFA ROMEO STELVIO**

MODELS: MIKE & BRYNN, VOICES&. AUTOMOBILES: ARISTOCRAT MOTORS



## JAGUAR F-PACE

### Halls:

women's pants, Akris punto;  
women's sweater, Vince;  
men's sweater  
(shoulder wrapped),  
Ermenegildo Zegna;  
men's jeans, Ermenegildo  
Zegna; long sleeved shirt,  
Ermenegildo Zegna; brown  
vest, Ermenegildo Zegna

### Tivol:

bracelets, Marco Bicego;  
watch, Cartier's Panthère

### Eye Style:

women's sunglasses,  
Gold & Wood;  
men's sunglasses,  
Matsuda







**MASERATI LEVANTE**

**Halls:**  
blouse, Kobi Halperin;  
pants, Theory

**Tivol:**  
ring, David Yurman;  
earrings, Marco Bicego





## ALFA ROMEO STELVIO

### Halls:

silk blouse, Michael Kors;  
leather leggings, Philanthropy;  
suede trench, Sisters;  
riding boots, Michael Kors;  
men's pants, Peter Millar;  
sweater, Ermenegildo Zegna;  
jacket, Diesel

### Tivol:

ring, earrings, necklace  
& pendant, Trisi

### Eye Style:

Men's and Women's sunglasses,  
Gold & Wood







MERCEDES-BENZ GLE

**Halls:**

jogging pants, Eleventy;  
navy sweater, Eleventy;  
jacket, Eleventy

**Eye Style:**

sunglasses, Matsuda







**MASERATI LEVANTE**

**Tivol:**  
earring and ring,  
Marco Bicego

**Standard Style:**  
dress, Baldwin;  
purse, Clare V





**MASERATI LEVANTE**

**Tivol:**  
watch, Tag Heuer

**Halls:**  
jacket, Peter Millar;  
denim shirt, Peter Millar;  
jeans, 34 Heritage;  
tie, Tie Bar



MERCEDES-BENZ GLE

**Halls:**  
blouse, Kobi Halperin;  
jacket, Oui

**Eye Style:**  
sunglasses,  
l.a. Eyeworks







# Your Kitchen, Your Way.

With a bevy of state-of-the-art appliances and customizable storage solutions becoming kitchen stars, the current look is less about bowing to what is of the moment and more a reflection how we live, cook, and gather with family and friends — with an eye toward beautiful design, of course.

“It’s all about embracing lifestyle,” says Geri Higgins, owner of Portfolio Kitchen & Home. “It’s not just the aesthetics, it’s the ritual of how we go about things in the most elevated way.”

## TECHNOLOGY MEETS DESIGN

Higgins distinguishes between trends that are purely of the moment and those that are inspired by a true shift in how people are living and using their homes.

One of those shifts we’re currently experiencing is a renewed interest in cooking, which is in part motivated by a desire to eat healthier, Higgins says

— look no further than the popularity of meal kits like Blue Apron for proof cooking in your home is cool again. As a result, people want their kitchens to deliver the best possible culinary experience.

Denise Manu, vice president of marketing for Roth Living, echoes that sentiment.

“Consumers want quality appliances that are approachable,” she says. “Cooking with precision and confidence is extremely important. Clients demand products that are easy to use with optimal results.”

Roth carries a range of hand-selected appliances from brands including Sub-Zero and Wolf. The former offers elegantly crafted refrigerators, freezers, and wine storage units, including highly sought after point-of-use solutions, like refrigerator or freezer drawers that can be built into an island. Also hot? Wolf’s convection steam ovens that can do everything from bake bread to roast meat







PORTFOLIO KITCHEN & HOME



ROTH LIVING

to steam veggies perfectly by using digital technology to adjust cooking details.

In short, if you can think up a way to make your day-to-day life easier in the kitchen, there's now a solution that makes it a reality. All that innovation means your appliances don't just work differently, they boast an upgraded look, too.

"Technology has changed how function meets aesthetics," Manu explains, pointing to features like sleek control panels, intuitive interfaces, and smaller appliances with a greater number of capabilities.

Best of all, the current crop of appliances is meant to be incorporated into your design rather than designed

around. Manu notes that appliances can now be completely concealed.

As a result, today's look is clean, Manu says — think long lines and clutter-free spaces inspired by European design. If that feels a little too modern, never fear. She points out that combining sleek materials with vintage pieces is currently trending, just one of many ways to get the technology and feel that's right for you.

"People are more informed than ever before — clients and design professionals — and the internet provides endless possibilities to find inspiration and a source for materials," she says. "You can maximize your opportunity to combine a beautiful space with function."



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## STYLE MEETS FUNCTION

The function aspect is key, says Higgins, who emphasizes your kitchen should take into consideration your routine, whether that means adding USB ports so you can charge your devices while sipping coffee or embracing an open concept design so guests can mix and mingle over canapes.

That philosophy has homeowners gravitating toward large islands because they can be used for so many purposes, from food preparation to serving to socializing, Higgins says. Range hoods also remain popular because they provide critical ventilation as well as visual impact.

"It becomes an opportunity to make a style statement, be it traditional, modern, contemporary, or even transitional," she explains.

The designer is also seeing the vast majority of clients opt for easy quartz countertops over marble and granite.

"Marble is always going to be stunning and stately, but now there are so many designs and styles of quartz products that mimic or even look like marble that they're using those quartz products because marble is so porous and high maintenance," she says. "They want to have the look without the maintenance issues."

Marble still has a place in design, but perhaps not where you might expect. In a recent project, Higgins used it to create a focal wall. Although the home is fully equipped

with the latest appliances, including a built-in coffee machine that remembers just how you like your java, it feels at once modern and classic because the familiar material is being used in a fresh way. In fact, ensuring classic design elements are represented is part of what allows you to incorporate of-the-moment trends while safeguarding your kitchen's longevity.

"Good design will nod to or wink at the moment and how people are expressing themselves, but excellent design has a foundation that's built on not only strong, classic aesthetics, but also good space planning, functionality, and organization," Higgins says.

Take, for example, the popular farmhouse aesthetic. Rather than covering your kitchen in shiplap, she suggests opting for a reclaimed wood island in a refined white kitchen.

"It's better to be eclectic and bring in these trends in pieces throughout than go 100 percent in," the designer says.

As for what's on the horizon when it comes to kitchen design, "Everyone is becoming more refined and edited right now," Higgins says.

Expect a continued move toward cleaner, more intentional spaces that focus on a few key design points and items important in your life — after all, your home should be all about you, not just the latest trends. ♦



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European model shown: 2018 Range Rover Velar R-Dynamic HSE with optional equipment. \*Price shown is Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price for the 2018 Velar. Excludes destination/handling charge, tax, title, license, and retailer fees, all due at signing, and optional equipment. Retailer price, terms and vehicle availability may vary. See Land Rover Merriam or call (913) 677 3300 for details. © 2017 Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC.



# The Healing Chair.

Anyone who has personally walked through a serious illness or life-changing event, or walked alongside a friend or family member going through a difficult time, knows how transformative it can be to be able to use the experience to help others who will follow in a similar path. Whether you call it “finding your purpose” or “paying it forward,” turning a difficult time into something beautiful can be an incredibly rewarding experience for both the giver and the receiver.

In the fall of 2015, Amy Taitt, a Kansas City native

and nurse by trade, heard through a friend about The Healing Chair, a nonprofit organization that was making a positive impact for mastectomy patients in the St. Louis area. By loaning patients reclining lift chairs upon returning home from the hospital, The Healing Chair’s mission is to provide comfort, community, support, and encouragement to aid in the women’s healing and recovery.

The Healing Chair was started in St. Louis when a group of women decided to raise money to purchase a



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Requests for chairs can be made through a personal referral from a doctor or nurse or by private message on the Facebook page.

**Janette Slusher**  
Independent Consultant  
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lift chair for their friend, Carol Mullinex, after her mastectomy surgery. After experiencing the benefits of the chair during her recovery, Carol decided that other mastectomy patients would also benefit from using it, so she began passing it around town as she heard about someone in need. She soon realized this could be an incredible service to help other women, but could also be the vehicle that would allow her to serve other mastectomy patients in the longer term. She set out to create the service as a nonprofit organization, and The Healing Chair was born.

Intrigued by The Healing Chair's mission and how much it benefited her friend in St. Louis, Amy realized the need for this service in Kansas City. She immediately reached out to two local friends, Marcia Moroney and Janette Slusher, both breast cancer survivors, to share her excitement about the possibility of bringing the idea to Kansas City. With Marcia and Janette immediately on board, they had a team of three women who were passionate about giving back and helping others, feeling blessed to be able to do so in a very special and unique way.



HOUSE PARTY  
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*The Healing Chair is so grateful for the generosity of the Kansas City community through financial support and to the countless volunteers who give of their time to help with deliveries and for fulfilling other needs from time to time.*

By October 2015, after contacting the St. Louis founder and working with her to replicate the charity in Kansas City, the team found itself with one chair (seeded from St. Louis), one recipient, and the green light to start a Healing Chair chapter in Kansas City.

Through fundraisers with Tequila Harry's Mexican Restaurant, Kendra Scott Jewelry, and additional donations from family and friends, the team raised enough money to purchase several chairs, partnered with Crowley Furniture to purchase them at a discount.

By connecting with breast surgeons, plastic surgeons, breast cancer nurse navigators, and local hospitals, launching a Facebook page (The Healing Chair – Kansas City), and sharing about the charity via word of mouth, the requests for chairs started pouring in, and chairs started making the rounds in Kansas City. Today, the charity has 32 chairs in rotation in Kansas City and has helped over 250 women feel loved and encouraged before, during, and after their surgeries.

So how does this work? Once a request for a chair is received, the team contacts the patient to work through details for the delivery, setup, and return of the chair. Chairs are normally loaned out for about 30 days, and, oftentimes, recipients enjoy assisting with delivering the chair to the next recipient.

As important as the chair is to the healing and recovery process, Amy, Marcia, and Janette feel strongly that it's "more than just a chair" and making a personal

connection with each recipient is just as important as the chair itself. Therefore, at least one of them is present for every delivery. In addition to the chair, the recipient also receives a soft, cozy blanket, monogrammed with The Healing Chair logo, hers to keep after she is done using the chair.

In addition, each chair is named in honor of a loved one, organization, or business that sponsored the chair. An accompanying journal travels with each chair, which gives each recipient the opportunity to read the stories of the prior recipients and to journal about her own experience, which then gets passed to the next recipient.

The Healing Chair was the local beneficiary of Kendra Scott's "buy one, gift one event" last October. At the conclusion of this event, the Kendra Scott organization gifted one piece of jewelry for every piece purchased during the event to The Healing Chair. These pieces of jewelry are then gifted to recipients at the time of the chair delivery.

The Healing Chair is so grateful for the generosity of the Kansas City community through financial support and to the countless volunteers who give of their time to help with deliveries and for fulfilling other needs from time to time.

As difficult as it is to see how many women need the service, it's been such a blessing to be able to help so many women going through a difficult and scary time. ♦



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kitch·en / *pronunciation* [kich-uh n]  
-noun / more than a room or place equipped for  
preparing and cooking food / a culinary center

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#### KANSAS CITY BALLET

October 13–22 "Romeo and Juliet"  
December 7–24 "The Nutcracker"

#### KANSAS CITY SYMPHONY

October 27–29 Dvorak's Eighth Symphony with Shostakovich  
October 31 Screenland at the Symphony: *Nosferatu*  
November 3–5 Brahms' Requiem and the French Impressionists  
November 18 Queen's Greatest Hits  
November 24–26 Romantic Royalty: Tchaikovsky and Chopin  
December 4 & 8 TubaChristmas  
December 8–10 Handel's "Messiah"  
December 15–19 A Christmas Festival

#### KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS KAUFFMAN PRESENTS

November 11 Vienna Boys Choir  
November 15, 17, 19 Everest: Opera  
November 20 An Evening with David Sedaris  
December 1 Canadian Brass: Christmastime is Here!  
December 13 A Kansas City Christmas

December 22, 23 A Disney Concert: Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*

#### FOLLY THEATER

October 13 Cyprus Avenue Live: An Evening with Sam Baker  
October 26 KCUR Presents Snap Judgment Live!  
October 28 Folly Jazz Series: Lee Ritenour  
October 30 Folly Kids Series: The Unknown Soldier  
November 3 Cyprus Avenue Live: Take Me To The River  
December 9 Folly Jazz Series: The Spanish Harlem Orchestra  
December 16 Central Standard presents Holiday Harmonies

#### HARRIMAN-JEWELL SERIES

October 11 Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Helzberg Hall at Kauffman Center  
October 14 Xavier Foley, Double Bassist, Folly Theater  
October 21 Joshua Bell and Alessio Bax in recital, Helzberg Hall at Kauffman Center  
October 27 Stars of the American Ballet  
Balanchine's "Who Cares?"  
November 7 The Stradivarius Ensemble of the Orchestra, Helzberg Hall



ARROWHEAD STADIUM

November 11 The King's Singers, Folly Theater  
November 17 Pablo Ferrandez, cellist, Folly Theater

#### FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC

October 27 Paul Haas String Quartet,  
Folly Theater  
November 3 Trio Solisti, 1900 Building  
December 1 Tallis Scholars, Cathedral of the  
Immaculate Conception

#### JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CARLSEN CENTER PRESENTS

October 15 Winterlude Series, DeJohette,  
Grenadier, Medeski, and Scofield  
October 22 American Rhapsody:  
The Gershwin Songbook  
October 28 Shatner's World: We Just Live in It  
November 4 Festival of South African Dance  
November 10 Harlem Quartet with Aldo  
Lopez-Gavilan

November 11 Mariachi Sol de Mexico  
featuring Jose Hernandez  
November 12 Illusionist Rick Thomas  
December 2 Madison Ward and the  
Mama Bear  
December 9 A Christmas Gathering:  
Danu and the Kansas City  
Chorale  
December 17 Winterlude Series: Hermon  
Mehari Quintet

#### KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATER

October 13–November 5 *Fences* by August Wilson  
November 16–  
December 24 *A Christmas Carol* by Dickens

#### UNICORN THEATRE

October 18–November 12 *Disgraced*  
November 29–  
December 23 *Stupid F'ing Bird*

#### KEMPER MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

October 5–  
January 7, 2018 The Outwin: American  
Portraiture Today  
Present–February 25, 2018 Stop/Motion  
Present–January 28, 2018 Women to Watch | Metals

#### NELSON-ATKINS MUSEUM OF ART

October 20–April 6, 2018 Through the Eyes of Picasso  
Present–May 27, 2018 Rediscovering Hieronymus  
Bosch and Albrecht Bouts  
Present–January 14, 2018 An Italian Panorama  
Present–February 4, 2018 Nature Morte/Still Life  
Present–March 18, 2018 Contemporary Japanese  
Ceramics

#### STARLIGHT THEATRE

October 4 Willie Nelson and Family  
October 8 Alison Krauss and David Gray

#### KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

October 15 Pittsburgh Steelers at Arrowhead  
Stadium  
October 19 At Oakland Raiders  
October 30 Denver Broncos at Arrowhead  
Stadium  
November 5 At Dallas Cowboys  
November 19 At New York Giants  
November 26 Buffalo Bills at Arrowhead  
Stadium





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# A Country Ride.

Sunflowers to Roses, the annual fundraiser for Cancer Action, was held on Sunday, August 6, 2017, for the 13th year. The family cycling ride, sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of Kansas City, was held under beautiful southern Johnson County skies and consisted of routes that ranged from 15 to 60 miles.

Over 300 riders, sporting individual sponsorship, gathered at Erik's Cycle Shop and began the ride, following a pace vehicle that carried two cancer survivors as they traversed the four different routes laid out by the Team 3 Feet cycling club (named after the effort to promote and legalize giving cyclist three feet from vehicle traffic).

At the end of the ride, the participants and families gathered for a celebration of their accomplishments and raising over \$30,000 for Cancer Action. Music, food, and sharing were the order of the day. ♦







# British Design.

*Hear Ye! Hear Ye!* The British aren't coming; they were here! On Sunday, September 3rd, the annual Heartland All British Car and Cycle Meet was held at Aristocrat Motors. Over 130 classic British sports cars and saloons (sedans) gathered to share the history of British automotive design and enjoy one another's company.

The annual event featured the required iconic British rock music floating over cars that ranged from classic Jaguar XKEs, a great turn out of Austin Minis, Triumphs, MGs, Austin Healeys, Lotuses, and a couple of individual classics, a Daimler SP250, and a Irish-built DeLorean.

The clubs also invited the Alfa Romeo Club to be their guests' marque, and the turnout included a great 1974 Giulietta Spider, several 1980s Spiders, and a very nice 1974 GTV. The guest star in the Italian grouping was a freshly restored and immaculate Lancia Fulvia.

The event was co-sponsored and hosted by Jaguar and Land Rover of Merriam. ♦





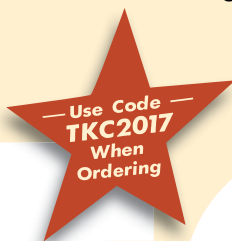


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