



GRAND RAPIDS NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

YOUR CITY, YOUR VOICE: CO-CREATING BELONGING

SATURDAY MAY 20, 2023
8 AM – 4 PM

GRCC Leslie E. Tassell M-TEC
622 Godfrey Ave SW,
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



Territory Acknowledgment

We are gathered on the ancestral territory of the People of the Three Fires or the Anishinaabeg: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodéwadmi. Together, this ancient and ongoing alliance has protected and cared for this land since time immemorial. Specifically, we reside on the territory of the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians who have been seeking federal recognition since 1992. Owaashtinong has always been a vibrant place for the First Peoples as they traded, engaged in diplomacy

efforts with the Shawnee, Myaamiaki, Sauk and Fox, Wyandot, and the Haudenosaunee, and negotiated complicated and fraught alliances with the French and British. The Treaty of Chicago, 1821 and the Treaty of Washington, 1836 created the circumstances for removal, loss of Indigenous life ways, near annihilation, and the ability for Michigan to become a state. We share this because as we recognize the anniversaries of statehood and the creation of Grand Rapids—these are also stories of removal and genocide. And yet, the First People exist today in all areas of life including educators, water protectors, knowledge keepers, business owners, scientists, journalists, public servants, and so on.

Environmental Stewardship

Please use the numerous recycle and trash receptacles throughout the building and Roberto Clemente park during the Community Celebration.

Each registered attendee received a reusable water bottle gifted by the City of Grand Rapids Water Department, and a sustainability sourced bag by Public Thread, a women-owned business with global reach that creates upcycled products from materials diverted from landfills.

Summit is a transformational day-long learning experience centered around Summit's core values of resident voice and racial equity. Summit brings Grand Rapids residents and community partners together to learn, strategize and connect to strengthen neighborhoods and belonging in community, with the overall goal to make Grand Rapids a more equitable place for all to live, work and play.

Servicios de interpretación

Témenos interpretes profesionales listos para proveer servicios de interpretación a las personas que solicitaron esos servicios durante el proceso de registración. Participantes que hablan Inglés y Español visten de botones “Soy Bilingüe”, demostrando que están disponibles para asistir con servicios de interpretación básicos.



Share your experience

#2023GRSummit



Facebook: @GRNeighborhoodSummit



Wifi: GRCC Guest

Gender Inclusive Restroom

Gender diversity is welcome here. The restrooms on the second floor may be used by any person regardless of gender identity or expression.

Breastfeeding Friendly Event

This event is a breastfeeding friendly environment. Please feel free to feed your child whenever and wherever you want. If you prefer to nurse privately, room 102A is an individual nursing room.

Childcare (Age 0-5) & Kid Summit (Age 6-12)

Childcare services and Kid Summit are from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM for those that pre-registered. Children may be dropped off any time after 8:00 AM, but preferably by 9 AM. Please have breakfast with children before drop off. Child(ren) must be picked up from Childcare and Kid Summit by 4 PM. Light snacks, lunch, and refreshments will be provided.

A parent or guardian must always be in the building and available by cell phone while the child(ren) is in these services.

Schedule

8:00 AM – 8:50 AM **Check-In (Registration)**

Breakfast and refreshments provided until 9:30 AM. Snacks, coffee, tea, and water will be available throughout the day on the first and second floor.

Childcare Check-In [Ages 0 – 5]

For those who pre-registered dependents during online registration.

Kids Summit Check-In [Ages 6 – 12]

For those who pre-registered dependents during online registration.

8:45 AM – 9:10 AM **Welcome and Land Recognition**

[Open Atrium]

Big Drum: Wandering Nation

Welcome by Ron Yob, Chairman of Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians

Jingle Dress Dancer: Makayla Eldridge, Dine' Laguna – Acoma Zuni Pueblo

Traditional Dancer: Christopher Shawa, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM **Opening Remarks & Overview of the Day**

[Open Atrium]

Stacy Stout, Director of Equity and Engagement, City of Grand Rapids

Dr. Charles Lepper Ph.D. President of Grand Rapids Community College

Greetings by Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, City of Grand Rapids Mayor

Schedule

- 9:20 AM – 10:20 AM **Keynote Presentation: “Finding Home: America’s Housing Crisis in Kent County” by KConnect, Candor Media, and Housing Kent**
[Open Atrium]
Salvador Lopez, President, KConnect
Tiana Hawver, Communications Manager of Housing Kent
José Guadalupe Jiménez Jr., Co-founder of Candor Media
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM **Round 1 of Workshops**
[See pages 10 – 12 for locations and descriptions]
Keynote Presenters available in the Open Atrium for further conversation during this time.
- 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM **Lunch Activities (Photo booth, Resource Tables, Community Collaborative Art)**
[Room 103 Lunch Pick Up/Open Atrium Lunch Dining Area]
Please pick up the lunch type you selected during registration. Your lunch selection is listed on your nametag.
- 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM **Round 2 of Workshops**
[See pages 13 – 16 for locations and descriptions]
- 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM **Round 3 of Workshops**
[See pages 17 – 20 for locations and descriptions]
- 2:50 PM – 3:00 PM **Snacks and refreshments**
Available on the second floor

Schedule

- 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM **Closing Plenary**
[Open Atrium]
Closing Remarks by Dr. Mark Washington, City Manager, City of Grand Rapids
Neighborhood Match Fund Resident Leadership
Recognition by Suzette Long, Office of Equity and Engagement
Raffle Passport Prize Drawing
Closing Remarks by Lilibeth Genao, Office of Equity and Engagement
- 4:00 PM **Summit Ends – Turn in Your Evaluation**
Please have your completed evaluation in hand as you exit.
Volunteers will be throughout the Open Atrium to collect evaluations.
Childcare and Kid Summit Ends
- 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM **Community Celebration featuring BIPOC Night Market**
[Roberto Clemente Park]
A fun celebration to thank Summit sponsors, volunteers, planning team, presenters, community partners, and of course Grand Rapids residents and all who attended for their contribution to a vibrant city and Summit!
Live music entertainment provided by Motherland Cultural Connections. Also featuring 40 Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) owned businesses, activities, food trucks and more!

Summit Theme and Keynote

2023 Theme: *Your City, Your Voice: Co-Creating Belonging*

What does it mean to belong? How do the cultures, communities, and structures within Grand Rapids promote - or unintentionally harm - the invitation to be your full, authentic self? These are the questions this year's Summit will address through collaboration, innovation, and permission to host and listen to the experts on belonging and inclusion in our neighborhoods - you. This year's theme is *Your City, Your Voice: Co-Creating Belonging* with workshops aligning to topics on belonging and inclusion, design work, and community collaboration to address issues affecting our City. This theme was inspired in part by our community's desire to have our voices heard and work together to create sustained change.

Keynote Experience: "Finding Home: America's Housing Crisis in Kent County" by KConnect, Candor Media, and Housing Kent

Salvador Lopez, President of KConnect; Tiana Hawver, Communications Manager of Housing Kent; and José Guadalupe Jiménez Jr., Co-Founder of Candor Media, will open up the experience with a viewing of the new documentary that follows the stories of three families as they face housing insecurity in Kent County. The experience will outline the connection between the feeling of belonging and the meaning of "home", highlight key data that acknowledges racial disparities in the housing system, and uplift the community that rallied to create a more equitable framework for housing.



Salvador Lopez | President, KConnect

Pronouns: He/Him

Salvador is a passionate advocate for underrepresented communities at a local, regional, and national level. As president of KConnect, he develops system-level strategies to address racial disparity gaps and improve outcomes. In 2021, Salvador was appointed to the Grand Rapids Community College Board of Trustees.

He also serves as the co-chair of the board for Advocates for Latino Student Advancement in Michigan Education and as a board member for the Heart of West Michigan United Way. Salvador lives in Grand Rapids with his wife and three children.



Tiana Hawver | Communications Manager, Housing Kent

Pronouns: She/Her

Tiana Hawver is the Communications Manager for Housing Kent. Tiana has over 15 years in marketing, public relations, and communications, including 10 years in marketing and media. Prior to joining Housing Kent, she served as the Office Coordinator for the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University for 5 years. Tiana is a gifted speaker and writer, and produced a documentary, "Reconnecting the Dots," sharing her journey as an adult adoptee reconnecting with her birth family. Tiana has a Master of Science in Communication from Grand Valley State University.



José Guadalupe Jiménez Jr. | Director - Finding Home: America's Housing Crisis in Kent County & Co-founder of Candor Media

Pronouns: He/Him

José Guadalupe Jiménez Jr. is a Mexican American filmmaker born and raised in Los Angeles. He attended California State University, Northridge where he earned his degree in Cinema and Television Arts. Jiménez has over 15 years of experience across English and Spanish television, social media, branding, and video production including directing, filming, producing, and editing two separate documentary series for Fox Sports and an award winning series for PBS. In 2020, Jiménez and his co-founders launched Candor Media - A bilingual independent media organization dedicated to local and regional accountability journalism in Michigan.

Workshop 1 | 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Increasing Accessibility to Employment, Education, Healthcare, and Housing Through Public Transit

Location: 113

- Adam Erber, The Rapid
- Wardell Frazier Jr., The Rapid

This workshop will highlight the importance of public transportation by providing education on how our transit system works, how it is funded, and how it impacts the community as a whole.

Your Voice: Creating Belonging Through Community Advisory Board Involvement

Location: 114

- Danielle Gritters, Our Neighborhood, Our Health; Corewell Health Healthier Communities
- Lesly Sis, Our Neighborhood, Our Health
- Sophie De la Cruz, Our Neighborhood, Our Health

Are you a community-based organization, leader, or entity that struggles to create an ongoing relationship with your community? Are you a resident looking for a meaningful way to organize? This workshop aims to present a tool used by Our Neighborhood, Our Health that strengthens resident and organizational ties to advance health equity in the Roosevelt Park Neighborhood. This workshop will highlight the community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach that informed the creation of the Roosevelt Park Community Advisory Board (CAB) and its involvement in planning, assessing community needs, and priorities. The workshop will highlight the working relationship between residents and the organizations that support this work. Participants will learn approaches and models that center and amplify community voices.

Workshop 1 | 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

How We Can Reimagine Our Way Into a Brighter Future

Location: 119

- Marcel “Fable” Price, The Diatribe

In this workshop, residents will learn about The 49507 Project, why it was created, and what The Diatribe learned along the way. Attendees will also learn about how systems have impacted where we live and innovative ways we have yet to try that could create solutions.

LGBTQ+ Voices

Location: 202

- Jazz McKinney, Grand Rapids Pride Center

This presentation will give a quick glance into the LGBTQ+ community, explain some common terms that are misunderstood, and discuss the impact that microaggressions and oppression has on the community.

Latino Outdoors GR and I Live Here Presents: River for All

Location: 203

- Lorena Aguayo-Marquez, Latino Outdoors GR
- Tiawanna Ezell, I Live Here

Latino Outdoors GR brings people together who identify as Latinx to discover and enjoy activities in the wild. We are from and around Grand Rapids, MI. We meet to create safe and welcoming experiences in new spaces we know also belong to us. I Live Here GR is a community group that brings awareness to local issues by creating events in public spaces. Together we will share a broad overview of the Grand River Equity Framework created over nine months with stakeholders who live in Grand Rapids. We will walk participants through our origin story, the impact made thus far, how to get involved as a participant, and how to collaborate as an ally or organization. We will also highlight the opportunities for leisure and recreation on the river and the resources available to the community.

Workshop 1 | 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Design Thinking for Community Building

Location: 205

- Jon Moroney, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University
- Tara McCrackin, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University

The design thinking process and tools included in the workshop are aimed at empowering people to lead change from within the community. Participants will learn about the design thinking process and apply various brainstorming methods and tools to create and present ideas. Workshop participants will work in teams to develop ideas that address challenges affecting their community. This interactive experience will teach people how to think creatively and resolve complex problems they experience within their own community.

Walk In My Shoes

Location: 204/206

- Crystal Felix, Bethany Christian Services
- Jado Ndaruhuye, Bethany Christian Services
- Banza Mukalay, Grand Rapids Resident

Attendees will hear from a first-generation Latina and New Americans recounting the hardship they face and the resiliency they have as they navigate systems in the U.S. During the session, attendees will participate in a simulation activity to gain real-life perspectives specifically related to language and cultural barriers of first generations and New Americans. These folks will be sharing stories of how neighbors welcomed them and how they are now welcoming individuals. By the end of the session, attendees will learn ways to welcome and make New Americans feel belonging in the Grand Rapids community.

Workshop 2 | 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM

Getchu a Seat at the Table: Tips for Running a Community-Driven Political Campaign

Location: 113

- José Rodriguez

In this workshop, we will discuss ways the community can get involved in the political process. Beginning with a discussion around community needs, crafting a campaign message, rallying community support, and finally doing the work of getting on the ballot. We will discuss the efforts necessary to accomplish these objectives.

Es Hora de Empezar a Cuidar la Mente y Estrés

Location: 114

- Ana Cruz, Hispanic Center of Western Michigan

Este taller está diseñado para ayudar a los participantes a aprender sobre métodos para manejar el estrés. El estrés puede tener un gran impacto en nuestra salud y bienestar, pero es algo que no notamos hasta que es demasiado tarde. Es por eso que este taller le brindará las herramientas que necesita para reconocer cuándo sus niveles de estrés son demasiado altos y también qué pasos puede tomar para reducirlos.

Cubriremos:

- Cómo afecta el estrés a nuestro cuerpo y mente
- Cómo reconocer cuando estás experimentando altos niveles de estrés
- Qué puedes hacer para reducir tus niveles de estrés

Workshop 2 | 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM

Not If, but When an Emergency Arises, Are You Ready?

Location: 119

- Marian Barrera-Young, Baxter Neighborhood Association
- Annette Vandenberg, Neighborhood Association Collaborative (NAC)

Disasters can happen anytime and anywhere. When disaster strikes, it is easier to cope when you are prepared. In this workshop, learn how to plan for a crisis, what to do/who to call in an emergency, how to create an emergency preparedness kit, and how to prepare your family and neighbors. Come meet your neighborhood association leaders and discuss ways we can lessen the impacts of disaster in our neighborhoods.

To College Through College

Location: 202

- BeAnka Masefiade, City of Grand Rapids Our Community's Children; T2C Studio
- Gina Peters, City of Grand Rapids Our Community's Children; T2C Studio

Graduating soon and thinking about what's next? This workshop will explore local post-secondary education options, pathways to higher education, and navigating college life as a first-generation student and student of color.

Workshop 2 | 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM

It's Your River! Resident Opportunities to Help Build a River For All

Location: 203

- Andy Guy, Grand River Network
- Catherine Zietse, Grand River Network
- Ciarra C. Adkins, JD, City of Grand Rapids
- James Peacock III, Grand River Network

Join the ongoing community discussion around actions we can take as residents, neighborhoods, and organizations to collectively create a more beautiful, accessible, safe, and active Grand River corridor. We believe that river revitalization can advance equity by connecting us to our past, to nature, and to one another. In this session, you will learn about current and upcoming river projects and take part in co-creating resident engagement strategies that build excitement and ownership of our city's namesake.

This workshop is hosted by the Grand River Network, a new community organization with the purpose of uniting community voices in advocating for enhancing the Grand River's ecological, economic, and social benefits and implementing our community's vision to create a River For All.

Workshop 2 | 12:40 PM – 1:40 PM

15-Minute Community: Shaping What's Important to Our Neighborhoods

Location: 205

- Layla Aslani, City of Grand Rapids Planning Department
- Logan Stang, Community Master Plan

This session supports the City's Community Master Planning process currently underway and will focus on gathering input from participants on two key themes of housing and transportation. The session will present the idea of a "15-minute community" and ask participants to take an active role in assessing the city relative to elements of a 15-minute community (i.e., transportation, housing, services, greenspace, safety, etc.) and to think about where improvements need to be made. After a brief presentation focused on providing the concept of the 15-minute community, participants will work in small groups on an interactive exercise where they will become the planners, designers, and experts in their area of the city.

Introducing Community Engagement Framework: Permission, Feedback, and Next Steps

Location: 204/206

- Andrea Riley-Mukavetz, City of Grand Rapids Office of Equity and Engagement

The Community Engagement Manager for the City of Grand Rapids will introduce the first draft of the Community Engagement Framework. She will use engagement practices to request feedback, permission to go forward, and input on next steps.

Workshop 3 | 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM

Ferris State Familia

Location: 113

- Sonia Trevino, Center for Latin@ Studies

Come learn about the Center for Latin@ Studies (CLS) at Ferris State University, located in both Grand Rapids and Big Rapids! We will be discussing the services we provide to our students and the community at large as we provide exposure to Latino cultural exploration to support academic and student success in and out of the classroom. We will also be discussing how supporting the Latino community at large helps support leadership development within the community.

Riding a Bike in the City: Saving Money and Saving the Earth

Location: 114

- Tom Bulten, Greater Grand Rapids Bicycle Coalition
- Priscilla Harmon

The cost of owning a car can be up to \$10,000 each year! Some households spend almost 30% of their income on transportation. But riding a bike only costs a few hundred dollars. Participants in this workshop will learn the nuts and bolts of riding a bike in the city. You'll learn the principles of riding safely in traffic, how to do simple bike maintenance, and how to advocate for a more bike-friendly community. Participants will express their fears and tell their stories of mobility freedom. You'll learn how bike riding can save you money and help preserve the environment.

Workshop 3 | 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM

Land Use Planning for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Location: 119

- Shavion Scott, Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Layla Aslani, City of Grand Rapids Planning Department
- Brandon Evans, Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Cyatharine Alias, Center for Neighborhood Technology
- Paulina Vaca, Center for Neighborhood Technology

Presented by the Center for Neighborhood Technology, this session will focus on Land Use Planning for climate change mitigation and adaptation. In partnership with 15-Minute Community: Shaping What's Important to Our Neighborhoods from Workshop Round 1, participants will learn about sources of emissions in Grand Rapids and how to use data to track progress in reducing them. This session will also provide an understanding of the importance of community engagement to help facilitate public engagement around climate action planning.

Black Lives Are Beautiful: Strategies for Promoting Positive Racial Identity

Location: 202

- Dr. Charmeka Newton
- Dr. Janeé Steele

During this workshop, Dr. Janeé Steele and Dr. Charmeka Newton will discuss strategies community members can use to aid in rewriting the anti-Black messages that say Black is not beautiful while also promoting practices that contribute to joy and liberation among Black people. Grounded in the Black experience and evidence-based practice, the presenters will discuss interventions designed to promote healing, self-esteem, resilience, empowerment, and community involvement while providing participants with resources they can immediately implement.

Workshop 3 | 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM

Co-Creating with the Community: HOPE. Michigan Immigrant Youth Conference and the Kent County Welcome Plan Collaborative

Location: 203

- Dilli Gautam, Bhutanese Community of Michigan
- Hollin De La Cruz, Kent County
- Sylvia Nyamuhungu, Church World Service
- Maribel Fonyuy Umenei

This workshop will be an introduction to our communities first HOPE. Michigan Immigrant Youth Conference coming in June 2023, and the Kent County Welcome Plan Collaborative. Along with general information, the workshop will invite participants to get involved with the conference and the collaborative and share different ways to engage. The workshop will include some trivia to better understand the various countries and languages represented in Kent County.

Preventing Eviction: Our City, Our Crisis, Our Solution

Location: 205

- Cathy LaPorte, 61st District Court
- Jana Kuiper, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

Eviction is a multi-faceted problem requiring a multifaceted solution. Eviction is both a symptom and a cause of poverty. A community-driven effort is needed to address the disproportionate impact eviction has on BIPOC city residents. Learn about the eviction process in your city, whom it impacts, and how you can join the effort to support a community-wide approach to supporting folks experiencing housing instability.

Workshop 3 | 1:50 PM – 2:50 PM

Authentic Neighborhood Engagement

Location: 204/206

- Mario León, LINC UP Community Revitalization Inc.
- Montel Pierre, LINC UP Community Revitalization Inc.
- Samika Douglas, LINC UP Community Revitalization Inc.
- Willie Patterson III, LINC UP Community Revitalization Inc.

This workshop is designed to offer organizations and the community organizing practices that LINC Up uses to engage the community that can be used as a catalyst for building trust. The workshop will provide strategies to be implemented throughout communities to magnify community voice and power.

BIPOC NIGHT MARKET

Community Celebration

BIPOC NIGHT MARKET

Free Food, Music, Refreshments,
and BIPOC Vendors



Saturday, May 20, 2023



Roberto Clemente Park



4 - 7 PM

Thank you for being at the #2023GRSummit. Please join us for a Community Celebration at Roberto Clemente Park featuring live entertainment, free food, refreshments, and activities for the entire family. Fulton Street Market in partnership with the Grand Rapids Neighborhood Summit is hosting a BIPOC Night Market you will not want to miss!

2023 Sponsors

Thank you to all of the #2023GRSummit Sponsors!

Part of equity work is to disrupt practices that perpetuate power imbalances. That's why for #2023GRSummit we shifted away from a sponsorship model based on tiered benefits. We know our community is very generous and that our supporters have different giving capacities – often due to systemic racism and oppression – and that our supporters have a common goal to transform our community and mindsets to be more inclusive. We invited supporters to donate an amount that reflects their capacity to give and their alignment of values to Summit. Regardless of the amount given, all sponsors received the same recognition for their contribution. Supporters answered the call and gave generously so that we can continue to create an inclusive transformational experience at no charge to attendees.



FREY FOUNDATION



2023 Sponsors



Heart of West Michigan
United Way



HISPANIC CENTER
of western michigan

KCONNECT



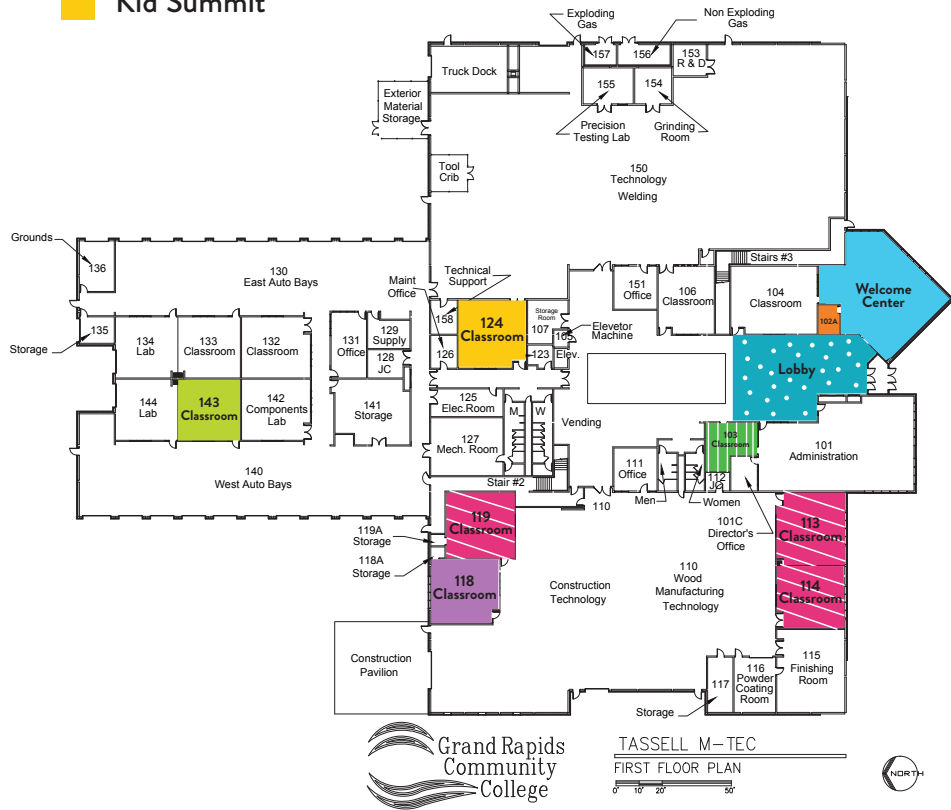
Milinda
Ysasi



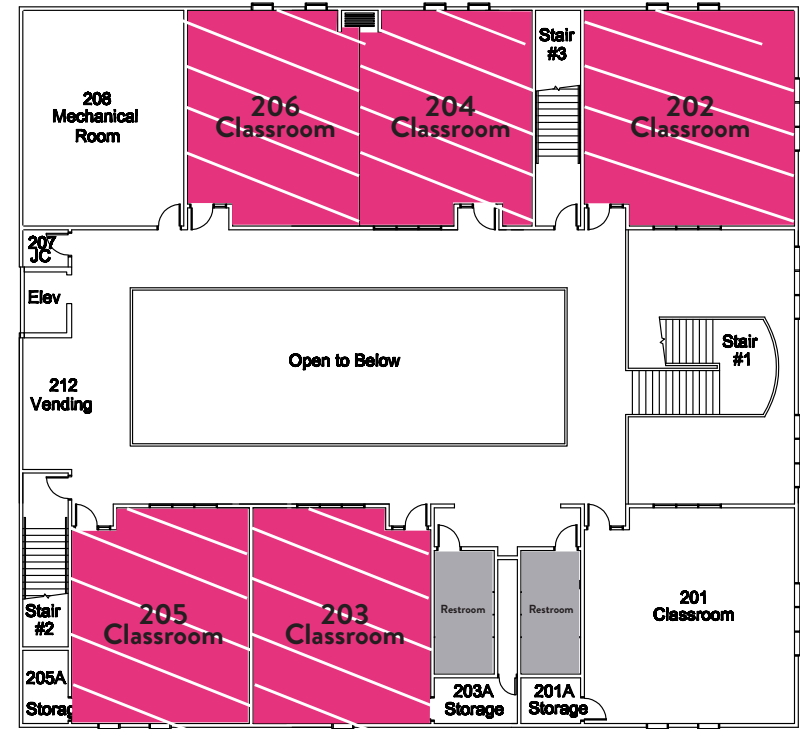
Event Map: Floor 1



- Check-In
- Childcare
- Workshops
- Volunteer/Leadership Room
- Lunch Pickup
- Gender Inclusive Restrooms
- Nursing Room
- Wellness Room
- Kid Summit



Event Map: Floor 2



Notes

Notes

Notes

Notes

Notes

Creative Space

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 18, 2024

**10 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY**



GRAND RAPIDS
NEIGHBORHOOD
SUMMIT

#2023GRSummit

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE



FACEBOOK: @GRNEIGHBORHOODSUMMIT



WIFI: GRCC GUEST

YOUR CITY, YOUR VOICE



GRAND RAPIDS
NEIGHBORHOOD
SUMMIT