

FERRIS WHEEL

ENTREPRENEURIAL HUB
& COWORK SPACE

FUN ARCHITECTURE

CASE STUDY



Giving Innovation a New Home



When the visionaries of Skypoint Ventures set out to rehabilitate an historic seven story building in downtown Flint – once home to the city's largest furrier – they needed an architect who shared their flair for FUNky and could take the concept to the next level. FUNchitecture was the perfect fit.

The building, which had been an iconic landmark before sitting vacant and dilapidated for several decades, was transformed within a matter of months into a thriving and bustling innovation and entrepreneurial hub of activity. It was completely gutted, then outfitted with new elevators, mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, new public and barrier-free restrooms, and kitchens to service community workspaces on the upper floors.

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Continued from front...



The ground floor exists now as the new home of 100K Ideas, a place where business start-ups can vet their ideas for services or products with the assistance of experts who help get them launched and bring success to fruition. As a bonus, the mezzanine and original set of stairs make it a great place to host parties and special events.

The upper floors contain primarily open space and are easily reconfigurable using a unique modular wall system developed through 100K Ideas called "Divide by Design." The aluminum frame system accepts a

variety of wall materials, including glass, drywall, white boards and even cardboard. On these floors, mobile workers can rent desk or office space in a "we work" type of membership.

New floor-to-ceiling windows face Saginaw Street, welcoming building tenants and guests and allowing natural daylight into the space. This, coupled with large expanses of fire-rated glass on the south façade, make the space bright and cheerful for the first time in the building's history – as the fur coats that previously filled the facility flourished best in a cool, dark environment.

