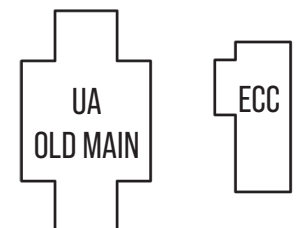


SAMUEL E. KELLY ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER



Location: Seattle, Washington
Architect: Rolluda Architects
Completed: 2013
Size: 26,000 square feet
Client: University of Washington
Function: Cultural Center



For More Information:

<http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/>

<http://www.rolludaarchitects.com/uw-ethnic-cultural-center>


photo credit: Rolluda Architects

SAMUEL E. KELLY ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER


The Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center (The Kelly ECC) is “an inclusive and affirming space that cultivates a transformative student experience...[to] serve and empower historically marginalized and underrepresented students by providing educational and cultural opportunities for holistic development.” The Kelly ECC was originally created to recruit, retain, educate, and graduate minority students at the University of Washington. Today, the Center does so much more as it is a historically and legacy “home away from home” rooted facility offering an extensive and holistic range of resources for students. For many UW students, the Kelly ECC is safe, welcoming, comfortable, healing and supportive. It is also the largest and oldest college cultural center in the United States, committed to its mission to create inclusive space to support students in their academic success.

Mission:


- **Foster cultural enrichment and equity** for our intersectional community in order to create social change at UW and beyond.
- Practice the philosophy that a **significant amount of student learning takes place outside of the classroom** through involvement in student organizations, interactions with faculty and staff, connection to campus resources, and opportunities to take on leadership roles.



The ECC started as a student activist movement that demanded a minority educational program.



After a 3 year process of negotiation, design development, and construction, the ECC opened its doors.



ECC was intended to be a temporary building but eventually became a permanent achieving LEED Gold certification.



Location + Context

The Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center was originally built in 1970 on the same site in which it sits today. The original building was 8,000 square feet and the rebuild of the 26,000 square foot center was completed in 2013. The center sits right on the outside of the campus; just a 5-minute walk to campus. The ECC is also a 14 minute walk from the Intellectual House, University of Washington’s Indigenous student center. The architecture of the Kelly ECC blends into the campus, is approachable, dignified and welcoming. The front facade incorporates natural wood and warm colors sized to a human scale and incorporates ample vegetation along the walkways and building perimeter.

SAMUEL E. KELLY ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER

Driven from Within

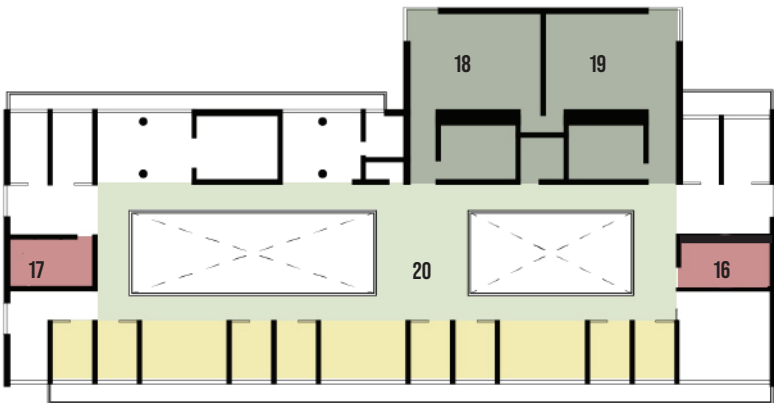
The programming provided at the Samuel E Kelly Ethic Cultural Center is designed around providing holistic support to underrepresented students. The program design and spaces need to realize the center's mission drove the architectural layout and organization of the Samuel E Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center. The building organization lays out as such: the ground floor is a community space with staffing and amenities to support the building's functions; the second floor offers unique and specific spaces for different ethnic and cultural groups and activities; the third floor offers wellness and resources spaces as well as a view over the campus.

Floor Plans | NTS

- business / administration / faculty
- cultural activity spaces
- student club spaces
- social + informal gathering spaces
- meeting rooms

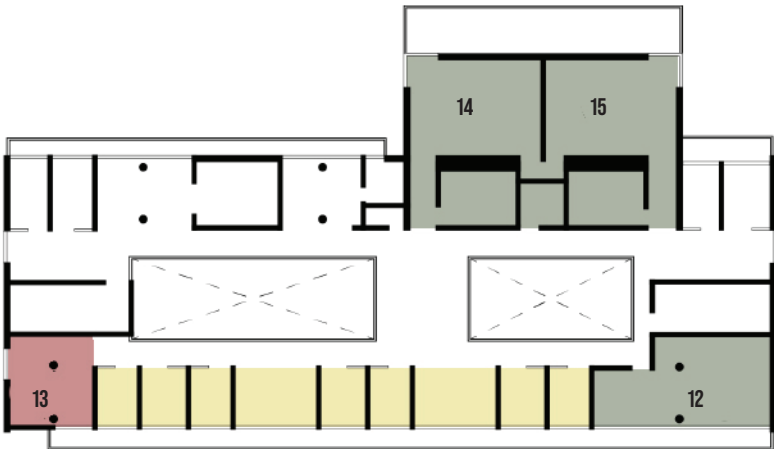
LEVEL 3: Student Resources and Wellness Spaces

- 16. Leadership without Borders
- 17. Wellness Room
- 18. Asian Room
- 19. Black Room
- 20. Balcony



LEVEL 2: Student Club and Conference Rooms

- 12. Pacific Islander Room
- 13. Student Resource Room
- 14. Native Room
- 15. Chicano Room



LEVEL 1: Administration and Community Spaces

- 1. Community Lounge
- 2. Welcome Desk
- 3. Leadership Lab
- 4. Administration Conference Room
- 5. Computer Lab
- 6. Library
- 7. Administration Offices
- 8. Kitchen
- 9. Unity Room 1
- 10. Unity Room 2
- 11. Performing Arts Studio



The LEADS Program Model

The Kelly ECC describes their unique approach to holistic student success as LEADS (Leadership, Education, Advisement, Diversity and Space)

LEADERSHIP

- The Kelly ECC works under the philosophy that a significant amount of student learning takes place outside of the classroom through involvement in student organizations, interactions with faculty and staff, connection to campus resources, and opportunities to take on leadership roles, both on campus and off. The Kelly ECC Leadership Team works to create intentional experiences for students that promote Leadership, involvement, and success.*

EDUCATION

- Education through social justice is a core component of the Kelly ECC.*

ADVISEMENT

- Full-time advisors are available to offer guidance to individuals and organizations regarding a variety of issues including event planning, funding proposal development, member recruitment and retention, officer transition, facility use, and campus resources and referrals.*

DIVERSITY

- Through programs and events hosted by the Kelly ECC and our student organizations, we aim to celebrate and enhance the communication and exchange of intersectional perspectives and values.*

SPACE

- The 26,000 square foot facility provides study and meeting space for students and groups, a computer lab, cultural conference rooms, multipurpose rooms, a dance studio, a social justice library, a wellness room, our Leadership without Borders center, and a wonderful and welcoming staff of professional and student workers. The building is designed for sustainability and is LEED Gold certified. Our Ethnic Cultural Theater allows our students and groups to explore their creative expression to an audience of 161.*

For more information, visit <http://depts.washington.edu/ecc/mission>



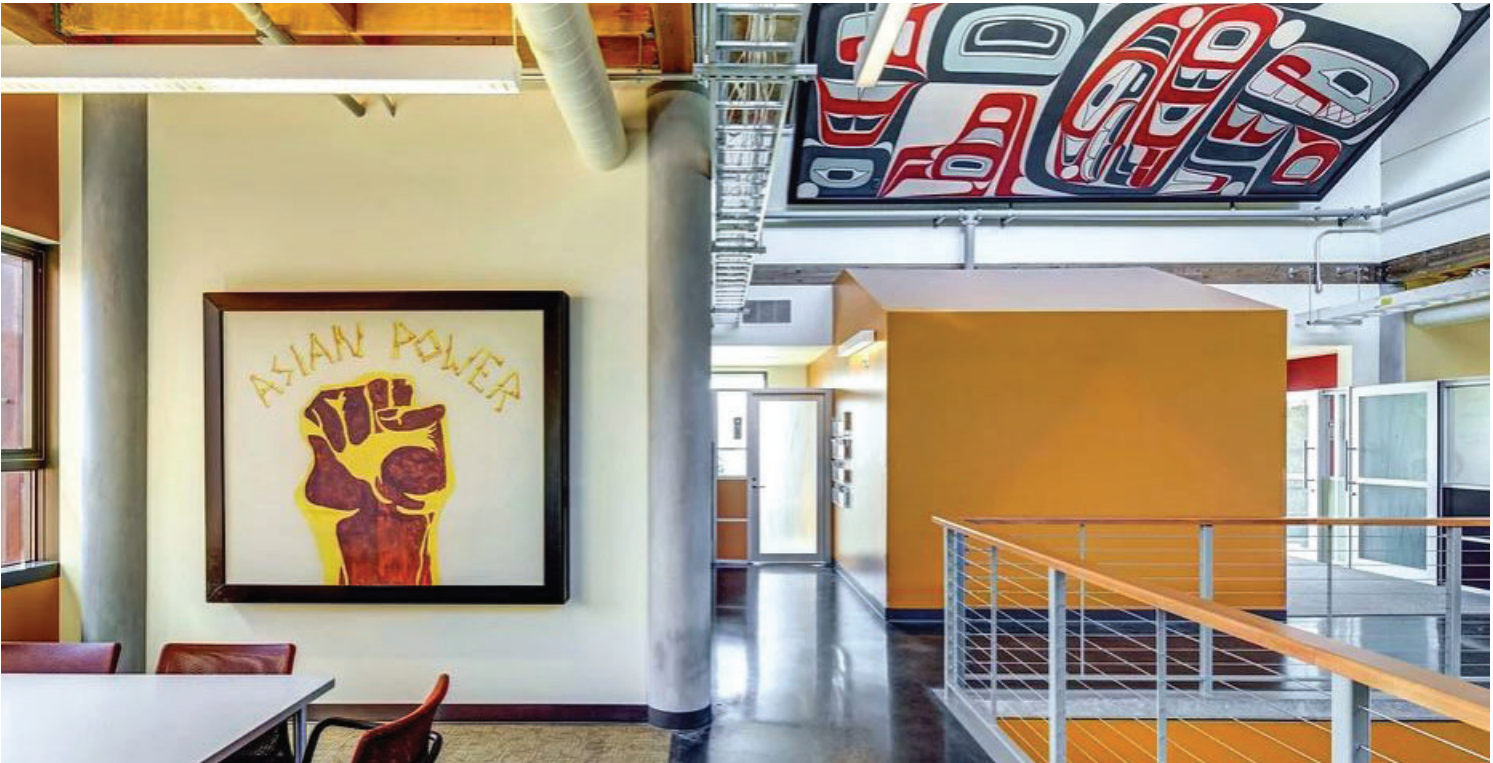
photo credit: Rolluda Architects

SAMUEL E. KELLY ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER



Art + Artifact

Works of art are displayed throughout the Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center. Art works are hung from the ceiling, on the walls of the center, and draped over the railings in the central atrium space. Many of the pieces displayed come from the original Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center (before the rebuild and renovation), cut out and salvaged from the original walls. Some of the work, such as that in the atrium, is student and club work, displayed informally, providing ownership and expression to the people who use the facility. Each tells a story woven through history about the students represented through this center. Art is also expressed in its living form through dance and music.



BEARERS OF CULTURE
Eddie Walker, 1972

Inspired by the spirit, minds, and office labor of Black women and the women who helped fund the first Black Student Union at the University of Washington.



ASIAN MURAL
Jesse Reyes, 1985

Representation of achievement through diversity, sacrifice, and determination of Asian Americans of distant and recent times.



SOMOS AZTLAN
Emilio Aguayo, 1972

Embodies the dawning of a new era for all Spanish-speaking people, and a cultural blend of past and present which drives self-identity and self-determination.



REFLECTIONS
Michael Lee Beasley, 1985

Symbolic reflection of students' time on campus, mature development of knowledge, skills, and spirit, and a symbol of honor.