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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **A World-Class Global City-Building Forum Set for June 30<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Detroit**

***Rock Ventures and Creative Class Group Partner to Bring CREATE: Detroit to Motown***

Detroit, MI – As the city is rising and reurbanizing, Detroit will host the inaugural [CREATE: Detroit](#), an ideas festival featuring leading city builders and urbanists from across the globe, to share best practices and ideas for how to build creative and more inclusive cities, on Tuesday, June 30 from 2:00-6:30 p.m. at the College for Creative Studies.

Hosted by world-leading urbanist [Richard Florida](#), the [Creative Class Group](#) and presenting sponsor [Rock Ventures](#), CREATE: Detroit will offer lessons learned from an array of cities including, Miami, San Francisco, Toronto, Queens New York, Las Vegas, Detroit and Endeavor Global. Other sponsors for the event include [Shinola](#) and [M1/DTW](#).

“Great cities shape their own narrative, and they create a new story for the world. Detroit is charting a new path back and a guide for other cities to follow,” explained Richard Florida, Director of the Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto. “There’s no better city than Detroit to come together as urbanists and city builders to share insights and best practices for building more creative and inclusive cities.”

A feast of ideas for everyone and a workshop for change-agents, CREATE: Detroit will offer something for everyone who cares about Detroit, and about America’s cities in general. Speakers include leading CEOs, non-profit leaders and experts in urban economic development from Detroit and around the world:

- **Richard Florida**, Director, Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto
- **Don Katz**, Founder and CEO, Audible.com
- **Jukay Hsu**, Founder, Coalition for Queens
- **Rana Florida**, CEO, Creative Class Group

- **Joanna Harries**, Vice President, Endeavor Global
- **Matt Haggman**, Program Director, Knight Foundation
- **Maggie Hsu**, Chief of Staff, Las Vegas Downtown Project
- **Robert Elmes**, Executive Director, Galapagos Art Space
- **Kim-Mai Cutler**, Technology Journalist, Techcrunch
- **Steven Pedigo**, Director, Creative Class Group
- **Melissa Price**, CEO, dPOP!
- **Justin Mast**, Managing Director, M1/DTW
- **Randall Fogelman**, Vice President of Business Development, Detroit Eastern Market
- **Matt Clayson**, Director, Detroit Creative Corridor Center
- **JJ Curis**, Gallery Director, Library Street Collective
- **Tiffany Massey**, Fine Artist, Red Bull House of Art
- **Amy Kaherl**, Director, Detroit Soup

“We are committed to bringing the brightest minds to the city to continue to position Detroit as a place to be for world-class innovators,” said Rock Ventures Vice President Lisa Dancsok. “Events like CREATE: Detroit help charge the momentum and elevate Detroit on a national stage.”

For more information about CREATE: Detroit and to purchase tickets (space limited), visit: [www.create-detroit.com](http://www.create-detroit.com).

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