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LOCAL ROOTS. GLOBAL MISSION.

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The Space Needle is a registered trademark of Space Needle LLC and is used with permission.

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To encourage collaboration and flexibility, the entire campus is an extended workplace. It gathers people into small office neighborhoods and offers informal indoor and outdoor areas for interaction and quiet work.

Together, We Can Make a Difference Now

Explore interactive exhibits and powerful stories highlighting how the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and its partners are working to improve the quality of life for billions of people around the globe.

Find out how ordinary people are changing the world—and get inspired to take action. Arrive Curious. Leave Inspired.

Planning a Visit

LOCATION
500 Fifth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington

SQUARE FOOTAGE
900,000 square feet (Phase 1); additional 400,000 square feet in Phase 2

PROJECT PARTNERS
• Architectural & Workplace/Environmental Graphics: NBBJ
• Contractor: Selber Construction Company
• Development Manager: Seneca Group
• Landscape Architect: Gustafson Guthrie Nichol
• SMEP, AV/IT, Acoustics Engineer: Arup
• Civil Engineer: KPFF Consulting Engineers
• Mechanical Contractor: McKinstry
• Electrical Contractor: Cochran, Inc.
• Technology Consultant: TechPMgroup
• Visitor Center Exhibit Design: Olson Kundig Architects

SEATTLE CAMPUS FACTS

PROJECT
Three six-story office buildings (two buildings completed in Phase 1; Phase 2 may add a third building)

LOCATION
500 Fifth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington

SQUARE FOOTAGE
900,000 square feet (Phase 1); additional 400,000 square feet in Phase 2

CAPACITY
1,750

Seating
50

PROJECT PARTNERS
• Architectural & Workplace/Environmental Graphics: NBBJ
• Contractor: Selber Construction Company
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LOCATION
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HOURS
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Visit discovergates.org for summer hours and holiday closures.

ADMISSION
Free. Drop-ins welcome. Schedule ahead for group tours on our website.

ACCESSIBILITY
Exhibits are wheelchair-accessible.

CONTACT
discoverycenter@gatesfoundation.org
(206) 709-3100 x7100

ONLINE
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DiscoverGates
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A PLACE FOR COMMUNITY AND INNOVATION

For our permanent home, the Gates family chose a location in the heart of Seattle, next to Seattle Center. Here, employees and partners work together to help all people get the chance to live healthy, productive lives. Completed in spring 2011, the campus reflects our values in its design, commitment to sustainability, and connection to the community.

COMMUNITY

Enlivening Fifth Avenue North Public art, benches, landscaping, and our Discovery Center turn a walk along Fifth Avenue North into a pleasant, engaging experience. An audio tour provides information about the work of the foundation and the environmentally friendly campus. Audio tour maps are available in the Discovery Center, the reception building, and online at gatesfoundation.org/audiotour.

SUSTAINABLE FEATURES

Our campus is designed to operate efficiently for a century or more. With sustainable design integrated throughout every aspect, our campus buildings were awarded LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification.

RECEPTION BUILDING & CAMPUS OVERLOOK

5TH AVENUE N MERCER ST HARRISON ST

ENTRY PLAZA

Phase 2

DIGITAL ART

Enjoy the work of international artists on a digital screen, starting with Korean artist Kimsooja’s “A Needle Woman” and “To Breathe.”

WELCOMING STREETSCAPE

A wide sidewalk and large wooden benches invite neighbors, bus riders, and visitors to take a pleasant stroll or relax.

POETRY

Find inspiration from around the world in poems running along a bench-height wall.

PUBLIC PARKING GARAGE

We partnered with the City of Seattle to build the LEED® Gold certified Seattle Center Fifth Avenue North Garage. It serves Seattle Center, our staff, and the foundation’s Visitor Center.

DISCOVERY CENTER

Explore interactive exhibits and discover ways to get involved.

ADMISSION

Admission is free and open to the public.

PHOTO CREDITS

Illustration: ©NBBJ/Studio 216.

ATRIUM

The central gathering place for staff, this airy space uses radiant heat and passive ventilation to conserve energy.

LIVING ROOFS

Living roofs—1.4 acres on the garage and more than half an acre on campus buildings—insulate, reduce the heat-island effect, limit rainwater runoff, and add a bird-friendly habitat.

RAINWATER STORAGE

A one-million-gallon underground tank stores rainwater for use in reflecting pools, irrigation, and toilets.

THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE

A 750,000-gallon underground tank minimizes energy used to cool buildings. It stores water chilled at night for recirculation during the day.

WINDOWS

Highly engineered windows conserve energy while letting in exceptional daylight and views.

LANDSCAPE

Plantings feature native and non-invasive drought-tolerant plants and trees.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Energy- and water-efficient systems reduce the load on regional power supplies.

SMART LIGHTS

Smart lights automatically dim in natural light and inactive spaces.

VENTILATION

Under-floor air ventilation saves energy and simplifies future space modifications.

SUSTAINABILITY

Conserving Resources

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DESIGN

Connecting New Pathways

When first imagining the campus design, architects at Seattle-based firm NBBJ were inspired by a map of the globe illustrating the pathways of world commerce and travel. To realize this concept of connection to the work of the foundation, they drew lines from a point in Seattle to places around the globe where our grantees work to address the needs of the world’s most vulnerable people.

These initial drawings developed into the sweeping, outward-reaching arms of the campus buildings. While conceptually connecting the foundation to its global work, these arms are grounded in Seattle: they rest on buildings that align with the Seattle street grid.
SUSTAINABLE FEATURES

- **Land:** The central gathering place for staff, visitors, and the community, 5TH AVENUE N.
- **Living Roofs:** Living roofs—1.4 acres on the garage and more than half an acre on campus buildings—insulate, reduce the heat-island effect, limit rainwater runoff, and add a bird-friendly habitat.
- **Rainwater Storage:** A one-million-gallon underground tank stores rainwater for use in reflecting pools, irrigation, and toilets.
- **Thermal Energy Storage:** A 750,000-gallon underground tank minimizes energy used to cool buildings. It stores water chilled at night for recirculation during the day.
- **Windows:** Highly engineered windows conserve energy while letting in exceptional daylight and views.
- **Landscape:** Plantings feature native and non-invasive drought-tolerant plants and trees.
- **Energy Conservation:** Energy- and water-efficient systems reduce the load on regional power supplies.
- **Smart Lights:** Electric lights automatically dim in natural light and inactive spaces.
- **Ventilation:** Under-floor air ventilation saves energy and simplifies future space modifications.

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RECEPTION BUILDING

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WELCOMING STREETSCAPE

A wide sidewalk and large wooden benches invite neighbors, bus riders, and visitors to take a pleasant stroll or relaxing break.

CONNECTIONS

Connecting New Pathways When first imagining the campus design, architects at Seattle-based firm SOM were inspired by a map of the globe illustrating the pathways of world commerce and travel. To make this concept of connection work well in the foundation, they drew lines from a point in Seattle to places around the globe where our grantees work to address the needs of the world’s most vulnerable people.

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EDUCATION

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The living roofs are designed to absorb 90 percent of the water that falls on them.
OUR SEATTLE CAMPUS

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SEATTLE CAMPUS FACTS

- **PROJECT:** Three six-story office buildings (two buildings completed in Phase 1; Phase 2 may add a third building)
- **LOCATION:** 500 Fifth Avenue North, Seattle, Washington
- **SQUARE FOOTAGE:** 900,000 square feet (Phase 1); additional 400,000 square feet in Phase 2
- **SITE SIZE:** 12 acres
- **CAPACITY:** 1,700

**PROJECT PARTNERS**
- Architectural & Workplace/Lighting/Environmental Graphics: NBBJ
- Contractor: Sellen Construction Company
- Development Manager: Seneca Group
- Landscape Architect: Gustafson Guthrie Nichol Ltd.
- SMEP, AV/IT, Acoustics Engineer: Arup
- Civil Engineer: KPFF Consulting Engineers
- Mechanical Contractor: McKinstry
- Electrical Contractor: Cochran, Inc.
- Technology Consultant: TechPMgroup
- Visitor Center Exhibit Design: Olson Kundig Architects

SEATING CAPACITY: 1,700

**PLANNING A VISIT**

**LOCATION:** 440 Fifth Avenue North

**HOURS:** Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.

Visit discovergates.org for summer hours and holiday closures.

**ADMISSION:** Free. Drop-ins welcome. Schedule ahead for group tours on our website.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Exhibits are wheelchair-accessible.

**CONTACT:** discoverycenter@gatesfoundation.org

**ONLINE:** discovergates.org

**Discover Gates**

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Helping save lives, together.

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PROJECT PARTNERS

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Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Discovery Center

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