



AUBURN CORD DUESENBERG
AUTOMOBILE
MUSEUM



FRAMING OUR FUTURE

OUR HISTORY

For 45 years, the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum (ACDAM) has provided a meaningful experience through the significant portrayal of the automotive industry as a transformation in the American story. We are dedicated to preserving the history of design, engineering, and architecture; celebrating its relevance to our present and future; and continuing to be a driving force.



We believe that learning about history and evolution matters. We will continue to serve the national public by *sharing what we preserve in a way that will continue to inspire future generations*.

We celebrate all of this inside of our building, **which is our number one artifact**. Inside this rich artifact's walls is a unique, unparalleled, experience of walking in the footsteps of the greatest, self-made visionaries in our nation's history.

That experience transcends beyond these walls through ever-evolving modes of outreach, the sharing of our collections, archives, and the ability to continue to influence future waves of innovation.



Located in the former Auburn Automobile Company Administration Building, the ACDAM is the only automobile museum in the world housed in the original headquarters building of the automobiles it represents. The building's history and its collection have been a significant part of our local, regional, and national economy.

Ninety years ago, industrialist E.L. Cord intended our building to be a capstone to his empire. Designed by A.M. Strauss, the Art Deco masterpiece served as the brain and nerve center of the Auburn Automobile Company (AAC) and Duesenberg, Inc.. Out of this building came some of the most epic and forward-thinking designs in automotive history. Innovative designers, marketing geniuses, and tenacious engineers all contributed.

OUR CHALLENGE



The doors of the AAC closed in the summer of 1937. Forty-five years ago, the building was saved from demolition and was slowly brought back to life as an historic time capsule. In 2005, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior bestowed upon ACDAM the status of National Historic Landmark, which is the highest distinction in the country. Regarding the history of the site, it is stated that, "The facility possesses national significance in commemorating the history of the United States of America."

Now, the building houses the rolling sculptures of the 1920s and 1930s that shaped the history of America and invites people from all over the world to celebrate its significance.

The building also preserves the essence of its original purpose and interprets that story through its exhibits and programs.

Our building needs to be preserved, restored, and rehabilitated to continue to meet its standards as a National Historic Landmark, and to protect its integrity and its priceless, irreplaceable contents.

The critical needs are:

Replacement

- Deteriorating roof and rooftop air handlers, which are allowing leakage into the building
- Deteriorating cast iron window lintels with stainless steel
- Deteriorating brick

Repair

- Original metal windows and frames
- Electrical and security system
- HVAC, plumbing, and utilities
- Plaster

Restore

- Historic paint colors
- Building finishes
- Original floors
- Masonry repointing

These are significant projects which are needed to preserve our past and secure our future and we can't do it alone, but you can help!



FRAMING OUR FUTURE

We are inviting \$4M of support to address the critical needs of the building's structural integrity. This will place us in a position to embark upon an informed building preservation and rehabilitation plan that will honor the legacy of all who contributed to one of the country's most innovative and influential periods.

Your support will help us move into the future with the ability to influence the leaders of today and tomorrow by sparking their curiosity and engaging in them a sense of wonder and inquiry.

The museum continues to implement new programs and events which make a lasting connection with our visitors and our community. We are bringing our collection to life by offering "hands-on" experiences, which include rides in the vehicles and the creation of educational programs that are based in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math). We are seeking new ways to remain relevant to the present with the creation of new partnerships that support the cultural and educational resources offered in our community and make Auburn a destination for our visitors.

We value our place in the community and with your help we will continue to grow the cultural landscape of Auburn and DeKalb County.



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NEED TO KNOW MORE?

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