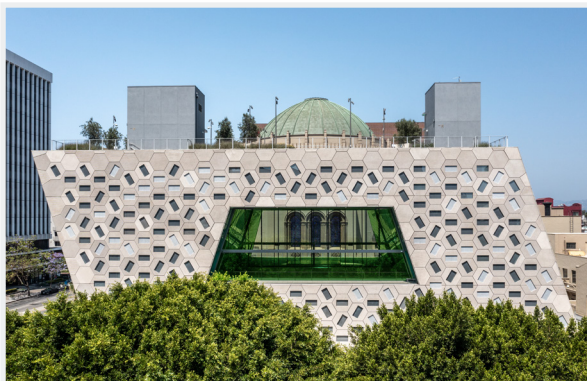


A space designed for older adults



GenSpace is located in the heart of Los Angeles in **Koreatown**, one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the country. It is situated in the gorgeous new Audrey Irmas Pavilion, designed by internationally acclaimed architectural firm Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), and is easily accessible by bus or metro.

An Age-Friendly Environment

Wallis Annenberg GenSpace features a truly age-friendly environment — barrier-free, safe, and comfortable — that will contribute to our goals of promoting wellness, connection, and lifelong learning, while inviting participants to take ownership of the space.

Within the newly-constructed Audrey Irmas Pavilion, GenSpace not only adheres to all code requirements, but is the result of extensive collaboration with one of the country's leading age-inclusive architects, Susi Stadler of Stadler &. Our work together ensures that GenSpace — as well as its furniture and amenities — is fully supportive of older adults, utilizing an age-friendly approach that embraces four design principles to empower people in their later years.



Connection

Supporting a sense of belonging and community

Health and Well-Being

Providing cognitive and physical stimulus

Safety and Comfort

Making older adults feel strong and enabled

Growth and Learning

Engaging participants with design elements that create learning environments

Distinctive Features Inside GenSpace

Privacy

GenSpace features two unisex, single-occupancy bathrooms, giving visitors the privacy to take medications and the flexibility to have a helper in the bathroom without drawing special attention. The private bathrooms contain fold-down seat covers and a softer resin floor as opposed to hard tile, offering additional safety and support.

Exercise and Wellness

Older adults will be greeted with a safe wood floor and support rail around a beautiful central “Sunken Garden,” designed to encourage visitors to be mobile and “walk the loop.” Seating niches have been integrated along the path, offering participants plenty of opportunities for rest. Another opportunity for exercise will be the beautiful and dramatic staircase on GenSpace’s south side (107 risers from the ground floor). We have improved the visibility on this staircase so that older adults can feel safer using it, marking each stair nosing with a special metal strip and increased lighting.

Connection and Comfort

Acoustic and lighting comfort allows older adults to easily connect and participate in GenSpace’s many activities. The installation of fabric walls and ceiling panels helps to dampen reverberation, making it easier for participants to hear each other and class instructors. GenSpace’s lighting has been adapted to be softer and more even between indoor rooms and outside areas, which is significantly easier on older eyes as they adjust between light levels.

Choices

GenSpace’s open areas — such as the “Lounge,” the “Tech Bar,” and the stunning “Sunken Garden” in the space’s center — are designed to provide choices based on older adults’ comfort levels. These flexible areas are open enough to be observed from afar, but also designed to encourage gatherings and connections with others, allowing for close-up engagement in classes. The furniture for GenSpace supports this wide array of different engagement styles, with a variety of seating options for a variety of bodies.

