

Midwest House Returns to Grand Rapids for December Summit, Capping a Two-City, 800+ Attendee Year

Following Sold-Out Inaugural Summit and Expansion to Columbus, Midwest House Brings Its Signature Gathering Back to Bamboo Grand Rapids on December 2–3, 2026

GRAND RAPIDS, MI, UNITED STATES, August 21, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Grand Rapids, MI] — [August 21, 2026] — [Midwest House](#), the innovation community that has spent more than a decade championing the Midwest's innovation economy at SXSW and beyond, today announces the return of the [Midwest House Summit](#) to Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Summit will take place December 2–3, 2026 at [Bamboo Grand Rapids](#) — the same venue that

hosted the event's sold-out inaugural edition in December 2025. The announcement comes on the heels of Midwest House Summit Ohio (July 29–31, 2026, Columbus), completing a two-city, multi-state Summit series that has collectively drawn more than 800 attendees and featured more than 90 speakers.

The inaugural Midwest House Summit in Grand Rapids, held December 3–4, 2025, established a benchmark for what a Midwest-rooted innovation Summit can look like. The event drew 533 total attendees, including 156 founders and CEOs, 79 venture capitalists and investors, and 336 guests from outside the Grand Rapids area — representing 18 states.

“For more than a decade we’ve been bringing the Midwest to the world in Austin, TX, and these Summits have been an opportunity to start bringing the world back home,” says Ted Velie, co-founder and CEO of Midwest House. “We believe that a more connected and collaborative region is the key to a more competitive region - and Midwest House continues to act as a convening force to do just that.”



Audience at Midwest House Summit, Grand Rapids MI, December 2025

The Midwest House Summit Columbus extended the model into a new market, bringing Midwest House's format to Columbus for three days of programming across two stages at Rev1 Ventures and the Idea Foundry in the Franklinton Arts District. The event drew attendees from across Ohio, Michigan, and 10 additional states, and featured more than 45 speakers on topics ranging from ecosystem building and venture capital to human-centered AI and regional competitiveness. The two events together reflect what Midwest House has built: a replicable, community-rooted Summit series designed to grow the region's most important gathering for founders and ecosystem leaders — city by city.

Midwest House Summit Grand Rapids — December 2–3, 2026

The second annual Midwest House Summit Grand Rapids returns to Bamboo Grand Rapids, the 40,000-square-foot innovation hub at 2 Fulton Street W in downtown Grand Rapids. Building on the momentum of the inaugural event — and incorporating lessons from the Summit's expansion to Columbus — the December Summit will bring together the Midwest's leading founders, investors, civic leaders, and builders for two days of programming, deep connection, and community.

Tickets are available now at midwesthousesummit.com

Location: Bamboo Grand Rapids, 2 Fulton Street W, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Date: December 2–3, 2026

Tickets: <https://luma.com/qgst3fc7>

More Info: <https://midwesthousesummit.com>

About Midwest House

Midwest House is an innovation community and cultural embassy dedicated to telling the story of the Midwest's rise as a global innovation force. Through events, media, and strategic partnerships, Midwest House connects the region's top builders, doers, and dreamers with audiences around the world. Since 2015, Midwest House has reached more than 70,000 attendees through its programs at SXSW and across the Midwest — including 10,000 registered attendees at SXSW 2025 alone — representing the companies, universities, cities, and startups that define the region's creative and economic future. Learn more at: <https://midwesthouse.org>



Panel with Dug Song at Midwest House Summit, Grand Rapids MI, December 2025

About Bamboo Grand Rapids

Bamboo develops and operates community hubs that create a more innovative ecosystem. With locations across Michigan, Bamboo is home to a growing community of founders, creators, and forward-thinking companies. Its flagship location at 2 Fulton Street W in downtown Grand Rapids anchors West Michigan's startup and creative economy and served as the home of the inaugural Midwest House Summit in December 2025. Learn more at: <https://bamboocowork.com>

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