

For Immediate Release

## Kansas City Automotive Museum Brings Home Top Honors from National Conference in Los Angeles

**Kansas City, MO** — The Kansas City Automotive Museum (KCAM) has returned from the prestigious National Association of Automobile Museums (NAAM) Conference at the Petersen Museum in Los Angeles with two national awards that highlight the museum's growing impact on the community and the automotive museum industry.

KCAM received the **Award of Excellence** for its *2nd Annual Grand Prix Autocross*, a unique and inspiring event that gives students with physical and cognitive challenges the opportunity to navigate a specially designed racecourse in golf carts—simulating the experience of driving a car. Last year, more than 30 local children participated.

“These kids may never get the chance to drive a car—a milestone many Americans consider a rite of passage,” said Dennis Wellner, President of the KCAM Board of Directors. “This event allows them to experience a piece of that independence and joy.”

The museum was also honored with a **NAAMY Award** for its *Art Car Project*, a hands-on workforce development initiative in partnership with students from the Olathe Advanced Technical Center and Olathe 21st Century Academy Students. Students restored a donated Ford Mustang, collaborated with a local car wrap artist to execute a custom design, produced a “Making of the Art Car” documentary video, and presented the finished car at the December Mecum Auction. This project offered students real-world experience in automotive repair, creative design, video production, and auction marketing.

The NAAMY Awards are presented annually by the National Association of Automobile Museums to recognize innovation and excellence in museum programming, education, collections stewardship, marketing, and community engagement.

The **Kansas City Automotive Museum**, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is dedicated to preserving and celebrating Kansas City's pivotal role in the history of the automobile. Through educational programming, exhibits, and community events, KCAM serves audiences of all ages—from preschoolers to retirees—fostering a deep appreciation for the artistry, culture, engineering, and legacy of the automobile.

For more information, visit [www.kansascityautomuseum.com](http://www.kansascityautomuseum.com) or contact Alana Zimmer at [azimmer@kansascityautomuseum.com](mailto:azimmer@kansascityautomuseum.com).