

KEM STUDIO's Skate Bench No. 1 makes its way to Beverly Hills

Million-dollar fundraising effort by Tony Hawk Foundation helps low-income youth

KANSAS CITY, MO. – November 15, 2012 – [KEM STUDIO](#), a design firm fusing architecture and industrial design, had its skateboard-inspired bench featured at the Tony Hawk Foundation's recent [Stand up for Skateparks](#) benefit in Beverly Hills. The fundraiser generated nearly a million dollars to create free, quality public skateparks for youth in low-income communities. KEM STUDIO Principal Jonathon Kemnitzer attended the event and donated two of the studio's award-winning Skate Benches to the cause.

For the auction, KEM STUDIO collaborated with skateboarding legends Tony Hawk and Mike V (Vallely) to create two custom versions of [Skate Bench No. 1](#). Tony Hawk's Birdhouse deck and blue powder coated frame were selected as a "Tony's Pick" item for the auction and Mike V's signed [Elephant Brand Skateboard](#) was paired with a stainless steel frame to be auctioned at the event.

Kemnitzer states, "The skating community really cares about kids and wants to give them opportunities that they didn't have. KEM STUDIO is proud to support these efforts with our Skate Bench No. 1, a bench made from an actual skateboard deck that is influenced by the mixture of skateboard culture and midcentury modern furniture."

The Skate Bench No. 1 project was funded through [Kickstarter](#) in 2011, and Kemnitzer recently gave a presentation to members of the Kansas City Chapter of the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) about the firm's experiences and success with the Kickstarter process. This year, KEM STUDIO partnered with Valent Aerostructures to manufacture the strong, high-quality frames used in the benches and Skate Bench No. 1 was honored as a finalist in the 2012 International Design Excellence Awards (IDEA).

For more information or to order a Skate Bench, visit KEM STUDIO's retail site: [Better Design Better Living](#).

About KEM STUDIO

KEM STUDIO believes the fusion of architecture and industrial design is a natural extension of our underlying design philosophy – Better Design Better Living. By making design more approachable, it becomes livable and necessary in our lives.



1515 GENESSEE ST SUITE 11 KANSAS CITY MO 64102
t 816 756 1808 f 816 756 1828 kemstudio.com

Visit KEM STUDIO at www.kemstudio.com; follow on [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

###

Media Contact:

Maria Doyle
Doyle Strategic Communications
Tel: +1-781-964-3536
email: maria@doylestratcomm.com