

Detroit-based James H. Cole Home for Funerals celebrates 100 years

- James H. Cole Home for Funerals first opened in June 1919 in Detroit's "Black Bottom" neighborhood
- Fourth generation of Cole family members own and operate the business' two Detroit locations
- Throughout 2019, the business will host a series of events to mark its centennial anniversary

DETROIT (January 2019) – The year 2019 marks the centennial anniversary of a Detroit business fixture, the <u>James H. Cole Home for Funerals</u>. The business will mark this milestone with a yearlong celebration sharing the faces and stories of the people who have been providing compassion and service to Detroiters for 100 years.

The James H. Cole Home for Funerals first opened its doors in June 1919 on the lower east side of Detroit on St. Aubin St. in an area commonly known as the "Black Bottom." The family-owned business was first helmed by James H. Cole Sr. He required every member of his staff to extend compassion to grieving families and superior customer service to all in the community. This focus fueled the business' growth, and it relocated several times over the next few decades as a result. Today, the James H. Cole Home for Funerals has 50 employees, services approximately 1,800 families annually and has two locations. Its main chapel is located at 2624 W. Grand Blvd; its secondary location is at 16100 Schafer Highway.

Now owned and operated by third and fourth generation family members Karla M. Cole, President, and her sons, Antonio and Brice Green, the James H. Cole Home for Funerals has the most licensed funeral directors of any funeral home in the area with a total of 12. The business recently received the prestigious Pursuit of Excellence Award from the National Funeral Directors Association, recognition for its proven track record of maintaining high standards and providing excellent service.

The Cole family will host a number of events during the centennial year including the Legacy Breakfast on April 18 at the Northwest Activities Center and sponsored by Fifth-Third Bank. In July, it will host the Cole Family Festival in the lot adjacent to its W. Grand Blvd. location. Open to all members of the community, this event promises fun for all ages. To close out its anniversary celebrations, the Cole family will host its Centennial Gala on September 14 at the Roostertail on Detroit's riverfront and will be headlined by soul singer Dwele.

"Since our business first opened in 1919, we've been committed to caring for Detroitarea families in their most pressing time of need," Cole says. "While we've certainly grown over the decades, we've remained true to our founding principles of compassion and service to the community. We look forward to honoring the families, communities, and employees who have enabled our success throughout this centurylong journey."



For more on the James H. Cole Home for Funerals and its yearlong anniversary celebration, visit <u>www.cole100.com</u>.

About the James H. Cole Home for Funerals

James H. Cole Home for Funerals provides high quality funeral services for approximately 1,800 Metro Detroit families each year. This fourth-generation family owned company has become a pillar of the Detroit community. Compassion, quality and excellence has been the foundation of this business for 100 years. As a recent winner of the National Funeral Directors Association's "Pursuit of Excellence Award", the James H. Cole Home for Funerals is positioned to remain an industry leader for the next 100 years. Learn more by visiting www.jameshcole.com.

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