Every year, Kimball Office hosts a group of Maryville University Interior Design students to teach them about our company, process, and culture. What is even more exciting, however, is what the students teach us.
The Kimball Office Experience

There are two groups that make the trip from St. Louis to Jasper: Maryville Juniors who are visiting for the first time, and returning Seniors who desire to take part in the Kimball Office experience for the second time. The Juniors start out at a fast pace that continues for most of the trip. The two and a half days spent at Kimball Office are jam packed with tours, CEUs, and product knowledge. During the tours of manufacturing plants, test labs, and corporate offices, students are introduced to the people who make up the Kimball Office family. From the hard working craftsmen to the driven designers, there's a sense of pride and accomplishment in all who are encountered.

"Excellent! I enjoyed being treated as a client, not just a student. Less intimidating & realistic. This trip confirmed that I am heading in the right direction. Inspired."
- Maryville University Junior

“It was the most professional experience. We were encouraged to ask questions and we were extremely comfortable the entire time. As students, this experience is immensely valuable in every way.”
- Maryville University Junior
New Insight

Because the Seniors already have an understanding of Kimball Office, their trip is focused on further interaction and feedback. Along with CEUs, Seniors are engaged in a networking session, marketing challenges, and design projects in which they discuss ideas for marketing tools and product concepts. The Seniors get to express their interests, wants, and concerns and Kimball Office gains new insight to the next generation of designers.

By participating in the networking session, students get to meet other professionals whom they normally wouldn’t have exposure to from other departments inside Kimball Office. The marketing challenge gives students a chance to think strategically about promoting our products through creative concepts. Kimball Office learns more about what would draw the eye of a young designer. Finally, the design session provides product development with fresh thoughts and intriguing concepts on new product and applications.

“Kimball is great! I loved getting to see so many different facets of the company and everyone is always so knowledgeable.”
- Mary Petschel, Maryville University Senior

“The tour was really interesting and exciting in many ways. I learned a lot in an enjoyable way. Amazing! Great tour with great people and staff.”
- Rawan Abu-Isaid, Maryville University Senior
Building Relationships

What is most exciting about the Maryville student visit is that Kimball Office builds relationships. The purpose of the visit is to further the knowledge of these young designers. We are not asking them to purchase or sell our products; we are only inviting them to learn, share their experience, and remember us in their future careers.