



**LS Group and USAI Lighting**  
 Kimpton Cottonwood Hotel  
 Omaha, Nebraska, USA

The Kimpton Cottonwood Hotel in Omaha, NE worked with LS Group and USAI Lighting fixtures to create a transformative space where guests feel like they are in present day during the daylight hours and are transported back in time at night, reminiscent of the movie "Midnight in Paris."

According to Kristen Kordecki, Commercial Projects Director at LS Group, "We knew that quality of light and colour temperature were going to be a huge part of achieving this transformation/transportation. Throughout the hotel, the static colour temperatures vary, allowing guests to partake in this experience."

The design team used just under 500 USAI downlights throughout the hotel. Between the different series, beam spreads, finishes, trim types, and colour temperatures, there are 29 different types of fixtures overall.

One of the unique challenges of the project was needing to include a variety of colour temperatures. At the time, USAI was one of the only manufacturers offering static colour temperature warm enough at no additional cost. Their downlight offering allowed the designers the flexibility to specify a variety of downlight types for various spaces and uses all from one single manufacturer.

The designers balanced decorative lighting with LED lighting and used different colour temperatures throughout. They

intentionally utilised incandescent style LED lamps in the decorative fixtures to create a warm ambient light in anticipation of the architectural lighting being slightly cooler. Even the cooler colour temperatures (2700K and 3000K) rendered warm in the space against all of the wood and warm finishes used throughout.

To enhance the space, the adjustable pinspot downlight trims allow the light to focus where needed while helping to create a quiet ceiling. Rather than seeing the light fixtures, guests see the light and can experience and enjoy the hotel without noticing or paying attention to where the light is coming from.

Thanks to the high power, larger aperture downlight series, the designers were able to use a minimal quantity of downlights in the fitness centre and meeting rooms. The 65° beam spread option in the high power downlight allowed for light on the vertical surfaces of the meeting rooms even though the ceilings were very low.

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Images courtesy LS Group and USAI Lighting.

