



CAPA

Living, breathing art.

CASE FOR SUPPORT CAPA CHURCH PROJECT

Our Mission: CAPA (Columbus Association for the Performing Arts) enriches lives by cultivating and nurturing the arts, spreading an appreciation that can be felt in the hearts, minds, and the economy of our communities.

Our Vision: Columbus is a national destination for living, breathing art.

Strategic Pillars:

- Arts Leader and Collaborator
- Dynamic Presenter
- Education and Outreach
- Stewardship of Performing Arts Spaces



A HISTORY OF PRESERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

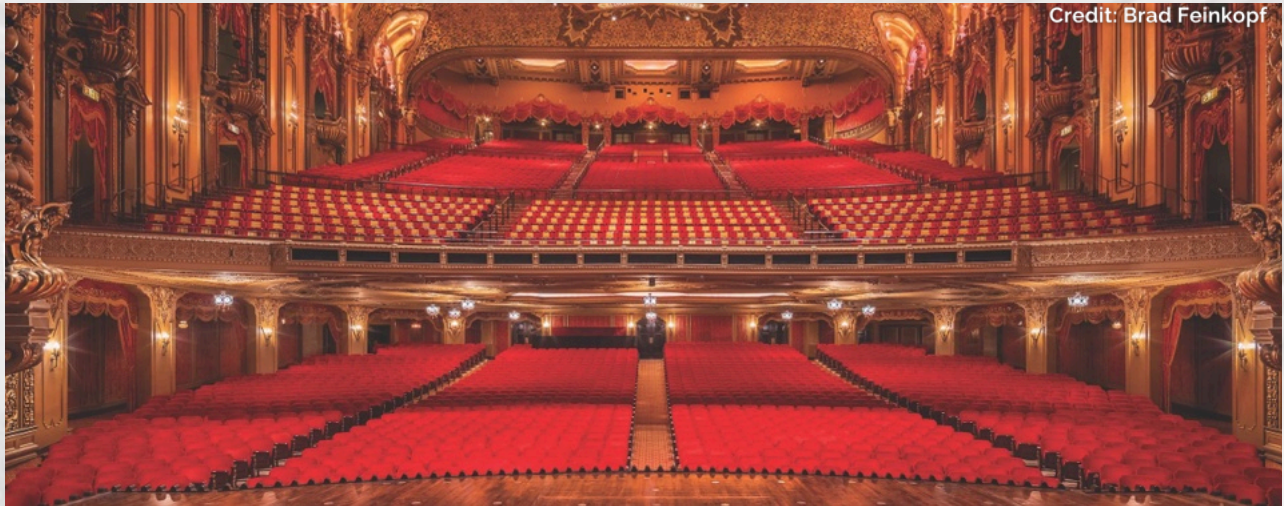
Founded in 1969, CAPA is known internationally for restoring theatres, presenting diverse arts and entertainment programming, and developing innovative partnerships. We own and/or manage seven theatres in central Ohio, including downtown Columbus' historic Ohio, Palace, Lincoln, and Southern Theatres; the Riffe Center (on behalf of the State of Ohio); the Drexel Theatre (Bexley); and the McCoy Center for the Arts (New Albany). CAPA's theatres form the principal physical infrastructure for the performing arts in Columbus, hosting performances and events from local arts organizations, national tours, and community groups.

CAPA's presentations of world-class performances welcome patrons from all of Ohio's 88 counties. We produce the annual CAPA Summer Movie Series (the longest-running classic film series in the nation), as well as Festival Latino and the Broadway in Columbus Series. CAPA education and outreach programs provide diverse arts learning experiences for K-12 students.

CAPA provides shared services to nine central Ohio cultural groups, improving partners' efficiency and effectiveness. Our partners include CATCO, Columbus Symphony, Franklin Park Conservatory, Friends of the Drexel Theatre, Leadership Columbus, Lincoln Theatre Association, McCoy Center for the Arts, Opera Columbus, and Short North Stage.

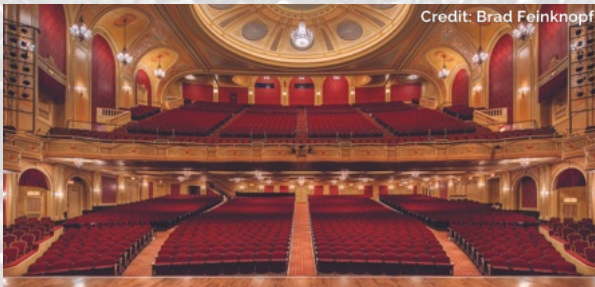
From 2013 until 2020, CAPA's economic impact on central Ohio saw an average increase of 5.5% annually, **growing from \$68.4 million to \$94 million**. And as pandemic restrictions lift, the curtains rise. In our 2021-22 season CAPA's activities in our theatres **served over 400,000 patrons**. Our Education & Outreach programs provided free and low-cost educational and artistic experiences to more than **48,800 community members** of all ages, and we provided **over 43,000 free or subsidized tickets** to CAPA events.

CAPA'S OHIO VENUES



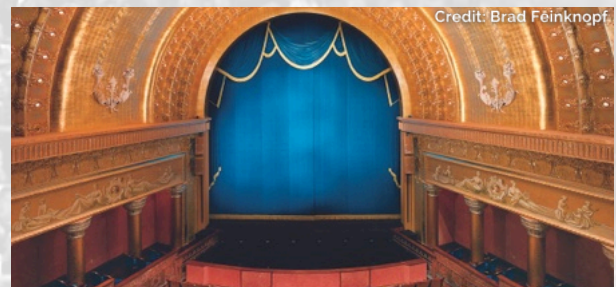
Credit: Brad Feinknopf

OHIO THEATRE – THE OFFICIAL THEATRE OF THE STATE OF OHIO
1928 | 2,801 SEATS



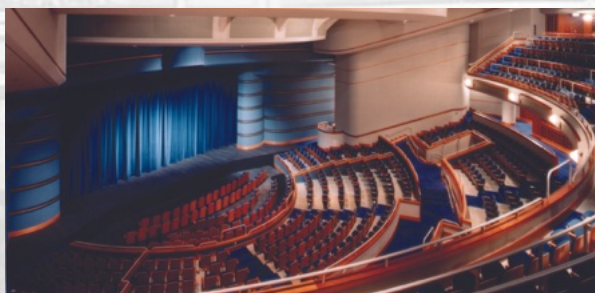
Credit: Brad Feinknopf

PALACE THEATRE
1926 | 2,695 SEATS

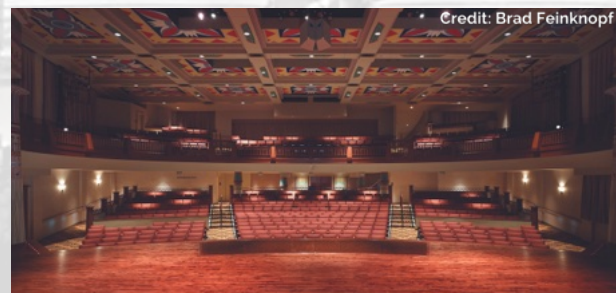


Credit: Brad Feinknopf

SOUTHERN THEATRE
1896 | 919 SEATS



RIFFE CENTER THEATRE COMPLEX
1989 | 1,377 SEATS TOTAL



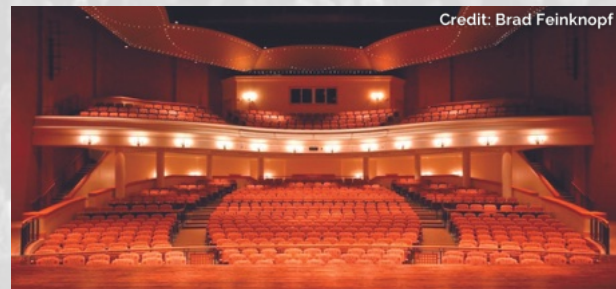
Credit: Brad Feinknopf

LINCOLN THEATRE
1928 | 582 SEATS



Credit: Brad Feinknopf

DREXEL THEATRE
1937 | 400 SEATS TOTAL



Credit: Brad Feinknopf

MCCOY CENTER
2008 | 786 SEATS

RESTORING & TRANSFORMING A DOWNTOWN LANDMARK

In 2013, CAPA purchased the Central Presbyterian Church building at **132 S. 3rd Street** in downtown Columbus. Built in 1857 with an addition built in 1926, the Romanesque-style building is the **third oldest non-residential building in Columbus**. In 2011, the congregation had made the decision to deconsecrate and close the church and sell the building.

Recognizing the building's incredible potential, **CAPA purchased it to create a new performance and event venue in downtown Columbus** that would fill a gap in the existing facilities and preserve the historic building.



MEETING THE NEEDS OF ARTISTS & AUDIENCES

CAPA's venues are critical infrastructure for the Columbus performing arts scene, serving the entire community: pre-COVID, our theatres served over 600,000 individuals each season, with 760 events. In particular the Lincoln (582 seats) and Southern (919 seats) Theatres—the smallest of the downtown Columbus venues owned or managed by CAPA—**have been operating at capacity** for several years. Their modest size and excellent acoustics make them attractive for programming by local arts organizations presenting chamber music concerts, small ensemble performances, or recitals. Both of these venues are also **traditional theatres with fixed seating**, which limits their appeal to some artists, such as local groups that prefer a club or music hall venue.

A slightly smaller venue with a capacity of approximately 300-500, superb acoustics, and flexible seating has long been identified as something missing from downtown Columbus.

A NEW ARTS VENUE FOR A VIBRANT DOWNTOWN

CAPA has engaged Columbus architecture firm Schooley Caldwell to create plans and designs for the new venue that ensure the structural integrity and preservation of this historic building, while making it useful to Columbus' growing population.

These plans will transform the former church building into an ideal venue for:

Arts & Culture Events

Music, theatre, opera, spoken word, and dance performances will make abundant use of the venue. With its fantastic acoustics and adaptable seating configurations, the venue will be a welcoming space for diverse, social arts experiences.

Educational Programs

People of all ages from throughout central Ohio will have an accessible space where they can enjoy new and expanded programs. In the heart of downtown, CAPA and its community partners will be able to serve more students than ever.

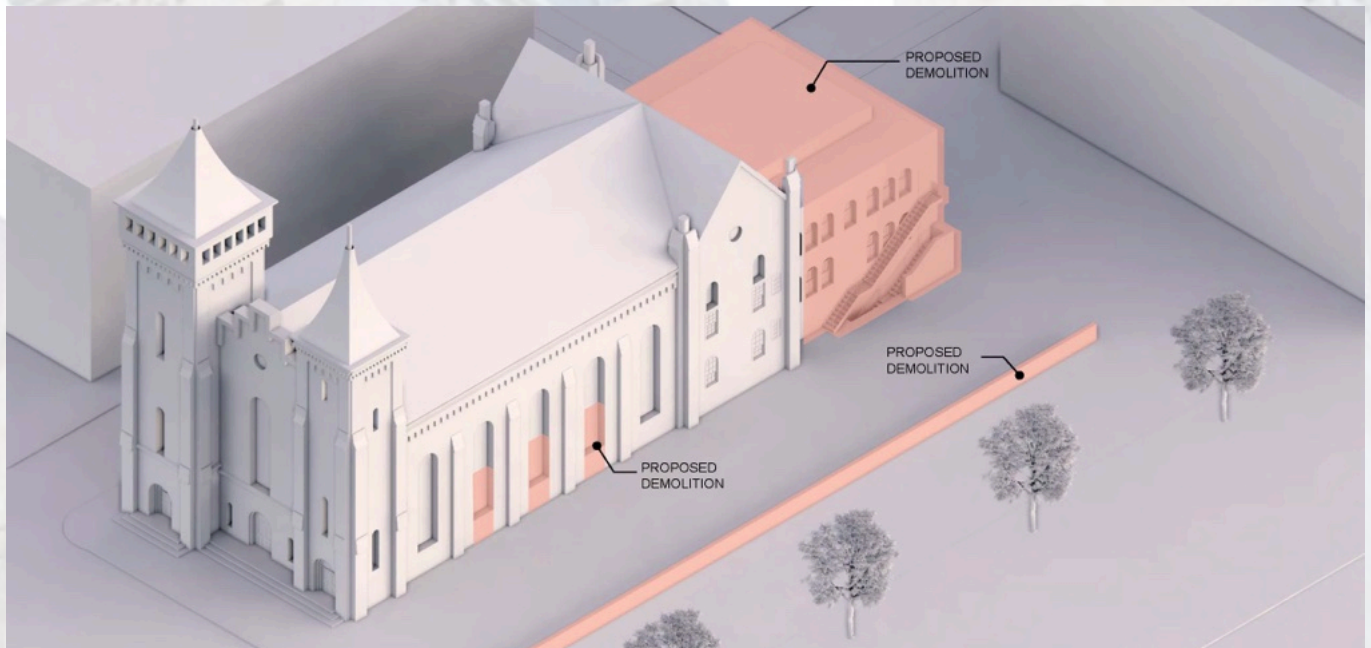
Event Rentals & Gatherings

The venue's main performance space offers the perfect place for weddings, proms, quinceañeras, bar and bat mitzvahs, corporate events, galas, and more. And these events will generate revenue to support building operations and maintenance.

PLANS & RENDERINGS

Planned renovations will be highly sensitive to the historical significance of the structure, preserving its character while incorporating aesthetic improvements, technological enhancements, and accessibility features. Extensive construction and restoration work will address:

- **performance infrastructure**, including dressing rooms, stage space, and acoustic improvements.
- **accessibility, safety, and security**, including ADA-compliant entrances, enhanced security systems, and fire prevention.
- a high-level **visitor experience**, including a beautiful atrium and lobby, concession areas, ample restrooms, and a bar.
- **building preservation**, including structural and external repairs, replastering, and repainting.



INSPIRING PROOF OF CONCEPT

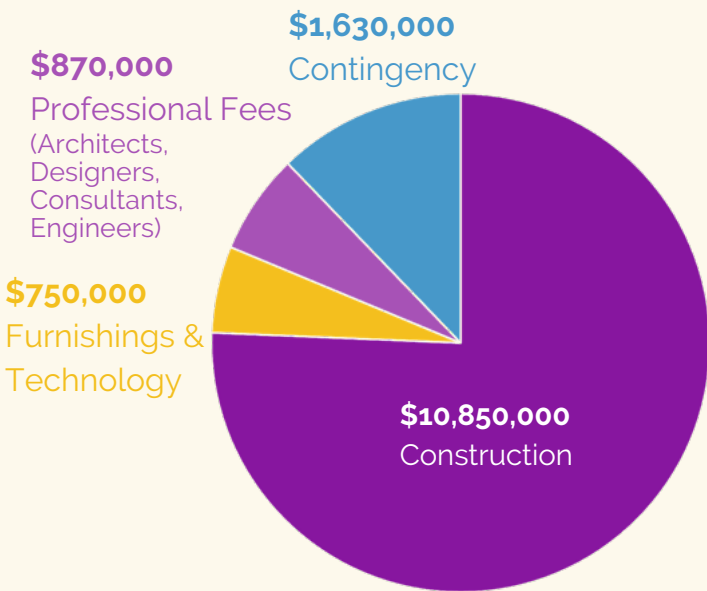


These photos of **Asbury Hall in Buffalo, New York** depict a venue similar to the one CAPA envisions. This historic church building has been renovated as a state-of-the-art event venue, blending vintage beauty with modern design. CAPA will adapt this concept in the heart of downtown Columbus.



A COMMUNITY SPACE WITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

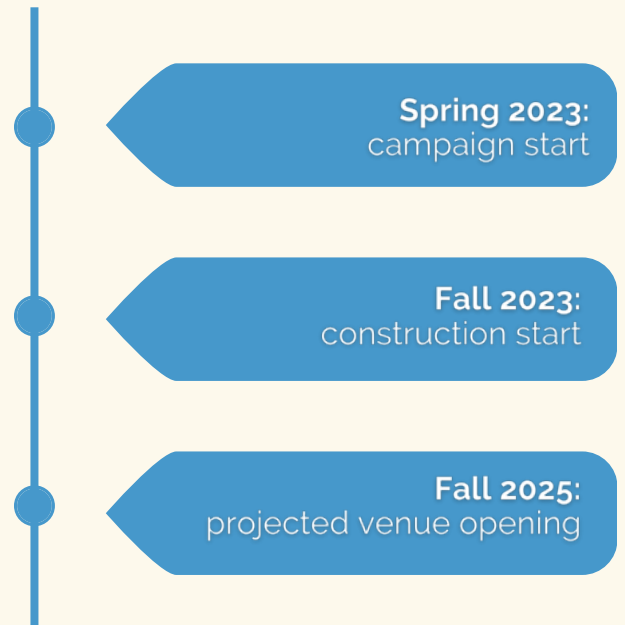
In order to restore and transform this historic structure, CAPA has launched a **\$14.1 million campaign.**



Our business model shows a financially sustainable operation

Once the building has opened, routine maintenance and annual operations will be funded by income generated from event rentals, concessions, and ticket sales, and the theatre restoration fee included with every ticket sold for our theatres.

PROJECT TIMELINE



MAKING COLUMBUS THE PLACE TO BE

This project will have immense cultural and economic value for Columbus.

It will strengthen our city's reputation by filling a gap in current downtown venues. The flexibility of this new venue will inspire innovation from local arts organizations and artists, who can develop performances with this beautiful space in mind. State-of-the-art technology and performance infrastructure will attract world-class touring artists.

It will support our city's economy by helping local businesses recruit and retain a talented workforce. Studies have shown that young professionals (Generation Y) in particular choose where they want to live first, and where they want to work second. Recruiters cite the vibrancy of the local culture and arts community as a major attraction to new talent outside Columbus.

The renovation of the Central Presbyterian Church building will draw audiences downtown to experience exceptional art and enjoy the charm of this new venue.

CARRYING ON A PROUD TRADITION

CAPA's history is rooted in stewardship of historic theatres. Now we continue that tradition with this exciting new project. This campaign will adapt the former Central Presbyterian Church building, so that this beautiful and historic structure can be a gathering space for our community once again.

Our staff's decades of collective experience, combined with the generosity of donors, will make this bold vision a reality for downtown Columbus.

OUR LEADERSHIP

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