



RIVOLI THEATER RESTORATION COALITION

PROGRESS REPORT 2023

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A LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

When we first began this endeavor more than a dozen years ago, Pendleton's Historic Rivoli Theater was an oft-cited blight on the heart of downtown. Sitting unused since the early '80s and steadily falling into disrepair, many saw only a boarded-up building with a wrecking ball in its future. That all changed when a coalition with a long-term vision to transform this vaudeville-turned-cinema into the modern performing arts venue our city deserves was formed.

Our early days were spent acquiring the theater and stopping its decay. Through volunteer work and support from the community, we cleaned out decades of detritus and improved the safety of the structure. With help from funders and government agencies, we were able to abate environmental hazards. Additionally, collaboration with archeology students and historians has helped us to better understand the historical significance of our work.

Along the way, as we've completed the first of three phases of construction that will ensure the building makes it another century, Eastern Oregon has grown and progressed around us. With new festivals and events bringing more and more people to Umatilla County, it's clearer than ever that arts and entertainment is, and will continue to be, a significant driver of local tourism. The Rivoli Theater will be an exciting new piece of infrastructure for our community's thriving cultural organizations and will no doubt improve the economic outlook of Downtown Pendleton for years to come.

We're busy planning our next phases for renovation and developing programming for a future Rivoli Theater that will be home to film and music; dance and lecture; comedy and performance; and celebrations and memorials. We're proud to be building a new center stage for the people of Pendleton and their guests.

We thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

The Rivoli Theater Restoration Coalition Board

ABOUT THE RIVOLI THEATER

The Rivoli Theater Restoration Coalition is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to transform Pendleton's Historic Rivoli Theater into the Northwest's premiere showcase for excellence in arts, information, and entertainment. We are restoring the theater and transforming it into a regional contemporary performing arts and cultural center. The restoration process is divided into three parts. The first phase was completed in March 2024.

Currently, our organization continues our work to restore the building while offering programming that enriches our community by offering space to gather, think analytically, consider external perspectives, and interact critically with visual media. Through these programs, we are able to fulfill our mission to engage our community through art even before the theater's restoration is completed.

2023 was a banner year in the history of our project and we felt it was time to share an update with our community. We have completed the project's first phase of construction and gathered in person with our supporters at our first community fundraiser in years after our project was paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are grateful for your continued support and hope you will continue to stay involved as we move forward into the next stage of our project. Read on to learn more about what we have been up to over the last year.



A HISTORY OF THE RIVOLI THEATER RESTORATION PROJECT

2011

FEB Feasibility study completed
MAR 501(c)(3) status approved



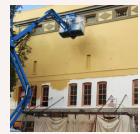
2012

JUNE Title transferred to the Rivoli Coalition
JUNE Phase One environmental assessment
JULY Roof resurfaced
SEPT Marquee deconstruction



2013

APR Façade repair
AUG Façade painted
SEPT Structural Assessment
NOV Total asbestos abatement



2014

FEB Archaeological dig
DEC Strategic plan completed
DEC Phase One architectural and engineering plan request for proposals issued



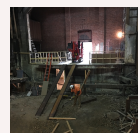
2016

MAR Main floor demolition by Umatilla County Corrections
MAY La Luz benefit concert



2017

JUNE Phase One construction contract awarded to Kirby Nagelhout Construction
OCT Phase One construction begins
OCT Chamber Ambassadors' Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



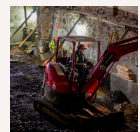
2021

- Beam removed from building



2022

FEB Awarded \$1.5M grant by the State of Oregon



2023

JAN Phase One construction resumes after COVID-19 pandemic
OCT Rivoli Theater Halloween Costume Ball - the first fundraising event since the COVID-19 pandemic



ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL IMPACTS OF RURAL THEATERS

92%

of Art House theater patrons say that art house theaters “enhance the cultural life of the community.”¹

75%

say their local art house theater “serves as a point of community pride.”¹

Heritage tourism in Oregon supported more than 1,300 jobs & contributed \$55 million in labor income in 2019.²

Oregon heritage organizations and events attracted nearly three million visitors in 2019.²

The nearly 3 million Oregon heritage visitors in 2019 spent about \$26 per visit—or \$77.6 million.²

1. Art House Convergence. “National Data Surveys.” Midway, UT: Art House Convergence, 2020.

2. ECONorthwest and Oregon State Parks. “Economic Impacts and Value of Oregon’s Heritage Organizations and Events.” Portland, OR: ECONorthwest and Oregon State Parks, 2022.

PHASE ONE CONSTRUCTION

The construction and restoration of the Rivoli Theater is a three part process. The first phase was completed in March 2024. The first phase included all of the preparation work necessary to remove hazardous or damaged materials, reinforce the building, restore the Main Street façade, and prepare the building for plumbing and electrical work.

During phase one construction we:

- replaced the roof surface,
- removed two oil tanks,
- removed a 1000 cubic foot basement furnace,
- restored the Main Street facade,
- completed a structural assessment and report,
- removed asbestos,
- completed a preliminary architectural evaluation,
- painted the lobby,
- completed electrical servicing,
- completed basement subsoil excavations,
- conducted an archeological dig
- reinforced the building's foundation to improve its ability to resist earthquakes

Now that this initial phase has been completed, we are preparing for the second of the three construction phases. This stage includes the primary construction of the theater.

PHASE ONE CONSTRUCTION



WHAT'S NEXT?

PHASE 2 CONSTRUCTION

In 2024 we will release a Call for Proposals for Phase Two of the Rivoli's construction. This phase will include most of the major construction needed to construct the performing arts center within the newly cleared and reinforced outer shell of the historic building. This includes all components necessary for a functional theater including exterior improvements, interior walls and floors, and mechanical, plumbing, and electrical services. We anticipate that after completing this phase, the building will be partially usable during the third and final phase of construction. Additional details will be shared once a bid on the construction for this phase has been accepted.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

We are launching the Rivoli Theater's community programming in 2023 and 2024. The programming will provide our community with a new way to connect with each other and enjoy film as a communal experience, increase access to the arts in Umatilla County, and help participants learn to critically engage with visual media.

RIVOLI THEATER MOVIE NIGHTS

In 2024 we're hosting a series of quarterly screenings of classic and culturally significant films. A facilitator will introduce and contextualize the film before it starts and facilitate a conversation drawing out the film's connections to present day issues after the screening.

COMMUNITY FILM CLASSES

Later in 2024, we'll introduce community film classes which will offer participants a more in-depth opportunity to discuss, discover, and appreciate film history and analysis under the guidance of an expert. These classes will explore a topic in film history or aesthetics that will then be connected to contemporary social, cultural, or artistic movements.

Both programs provide participants with the opportunity to meet other people from the area and engage in meaningful conversations with each other and consider perspectives different from their own. Additionally, participants will develop a stronger understanding of how images produce their effects and engage critically with visual media including film, television, and advertisements.

We hope you will join us for a program soon!

THE RIVOLI RESTORATION COALITION



PENDLETON'S HISTORIC RIVOLI THEATER, RESTORED FOR A NEW GENERATION...

The Rivoli Restoration Coalition is working to restore the historic Rivoli Theater and transform it into Eastern Oregon's premiere performing arts center. We're excited to announce that the first phase of construction was completed in March 2024. We're grateful for the building's history and the continued support of our community.

Now that phase one is finished, there will be two more phases of construction to complete before the new performing arts center will be open to the public. Thank you for your continued support!



WHAT'S NEXT?

- Phase 2 Construction includes all components necessary for a functional theater including exterior improvements, interior walls and floors, and mechanical, plumbing, and electrical services.
- New community programming in 2023 and 2024.

GET INVOLVED!

- If you're interested in volunteering with the Rivoli Restoration Coalition, send us a message at liza@rivolitheater.org.
- If you'd like to receive periodic updates on our work, sign up for our email list on our website.

SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL LIST!



CONTACT US!



liza@rivolitheater.org



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www.rivolitheater.org



Thanks again for your support of the Rivoli Theater Performing Arts Center restoration project. We are so grateful for our community's continued commitment to helping us turn the Rivoli Theater back into a gathering space where the arts are celebrated. We are excited about the year ahead as we move into the next phase of the theater's construction. We hope you'll join us at one of our community programs or events soon!

THANK YOU!

SUPPORT OUR WORK

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