

History and Architecture

Constructed in 1922, the Whiteside Theatre was the second grandest movie palace in Oregon at that time. The theatre is probably Corvallis' best historic commercial structure in terms of original design and historic integrity, and features Italian Renaissance details. The upper story of the exterior of the building retains its original ornamented effect, executed in brick, glass, cast stone and plaster, featuring a central cartouche above a mask and two masks atop the cornice on both ends. The entrance to the theatre features a walkway and the words "Whiteside Theatre." The neon marquee was added in 1950.

The original layout of the theatre is intact and numerous interior decorative features remain from the 1920s. The auditorium features gilt stenciled frieze work and decorative cast plaster mouldings. Cove lighting and hundreds of hidden bulbs of red, green, orange and blue illuminate the auditorium. Centrally located overhead is an ornate chandelier, suspended from a grillwork dome, providing indirect lighting. The two theatre business offices retain the original stenciled frieze and ceiling trim. Originally seating 1135 people, the theatre accommodated 800 people until its closure in 2002.

The Whiteside brothers were the pioneers of the movie industry in Corvallis. In 1908 they established the Palace Theatre and eventually operated six additional theatres in Corvallis. The Whiteside Theatre survives as the last of Corvallis' great movie palaces



Join Us

Whiteside Theatre Foundation, a nonprofit corporation, is restoring the Whiteside Theatre to its former grandeur as a centerpiece of downtown entertainment. The Whiteside Theatre is a unique part of our rich history and our vibrant future. Structural and mechanical inspections in 2003 and 2008 confirm that the theatre is exceptionally well-built and structurally sound. Estimates for systems upgrades are in place and restoration will proceed as quickly as funding is available.

As rehabilitation proceeds, the Whiteside Theatre will once again come alive with a diverse array of entertainment, educational programs, and community activities. Join Friends of the Whiteside Theatre and become part of the growing coalition of citizens, foundations, and businesses who are uniting to revive Corvallis' historic movie palace.



For more information, please visit our website:

<http://WhitesideTheatre.org>

or contact us at:

info@WhitesideTheatre.org

Thank you
for your support!

*Photos courtesy M. Conrad and C. Chin. A portion of the text was adapted from the historic resource survey form completed by J. Sanders Chapman (1984).
Design/layout by Anthony & Co.*

 Printed on recycled paper.



Revive the Whiteside Theatre

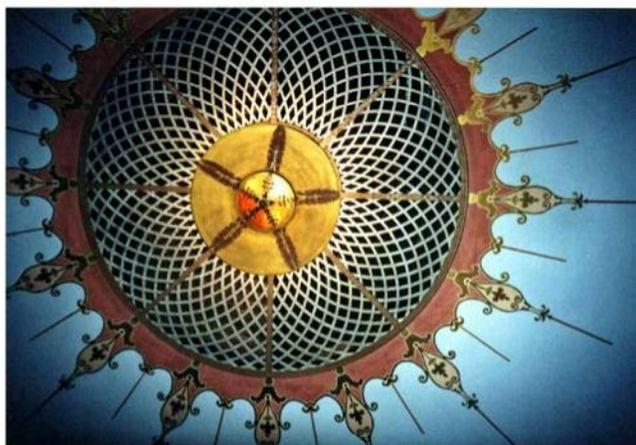


Whiteside Theatre Foundation

The Whiteside Theatre Foundation supports a multi-purpose entertainment and events venue in the restored historic Whiteside Theatre that enhances economic vitality and cultural diversity of downtown Corvallis for the benefit of the entire community.

The Foundation anticipates programming a quality performance and events venue accessible to all while minimally impacting the historic fabric of this venerable theatre. As a nonprofit charitable organization we are committed to collaborating with other downtown businesses to maintain a vibrant and diverse atmosphere that attracts more people for entertainment, dining, and shopping in downtown Corvallis.

Restoration of the Whiteside Theatre will provide future generations the opportunity to see movies on the big screen in a real movie palace and will allow the community to enjoy the opulence of that wonderful era. As an intact historic movie palace the Whiteside Theatre is an important part of our shared heritage.



The Future

Communities across the country are restoring their historic movie palaces to celebrate their unique architectural heritage and their contributions to downtown economic vitality.

The Foundation plans to rehabilitate the historic Whiteside Theatre to meet Leadership in Energy and Environment Design-Existing Buildings (LEED-EB) standards.

The reopening of the 800-seat Whiteside Theatre as a multi-faceted performance hall will expand the range of presentations possible downtown. Touring acts that book the Aladdin Theatre in Portland, the Historic Elsinore Theatre in Salem, and the McDonald Theatre in Eugene will be able to perform at the Whiteside Theatre. In addition, classic films, children's Saturday matinees, Senior Night, multicultural events, educational workshops, local entertainers, and a variety of public gatherings will all have a home at the Whiteside Theatre. The theatre's 1927 Wurlitzer pipe organ is being restored for reinstallation in its original home.

Broad community support is essential to bring the Whiteside Theatre back to life. You can become part of the citizen-driven campaign to revive this community treasure by joining Friends of the Whiteside Theatre.

Yes. I want to help!

Membership Levels

Palace Guardians	\$1000+	Household	\$ 50
Silver Screen Set	\$500	Individual	\$ 35
Chandelier Club	\$250	Student/Senior	\$ 25
Footlights Fans	\$100	Nonprofit	\$ 50

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- Please send me email about upcoming events.
- Contact Me! I have Whiteside stories to share or would like to volunteer.

I am enclosing a membership contribution of \$ _____

I am enclosing an additional contribution of \$ _____

Please make your check payable to

Whiteside Theatre Foundation

P.O. Box 1105

Corvallis, OR 97339

Thank you for your support!



This project is supported in part by a grant from the Oregon Cultural Trust, investing in Oregon's arts, humanities and heritage. This project has been funded in part by a grant from the Pacific Northwest Preservation Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Phase 1 of the Waterworks Project of the Whiteside Theatre rehabilitation is supported in part by a grant from the Benton County Cultural Coalition in 2010 with funds provided by the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Waterworks project is supported in part by a grant from the Heritage Programs Division, State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Additional information:

<http://WhitesideTheatre.org>

Email: info@WhitesideTheatre.org

The Whiteside Theatre Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.