

# Carolina Theatre Newsletter

Fall 2017



## Project Highlights

### A Clean Bill of Health for the Carolina Theatre

DARI (Demolition & Asbestos Removal Inc.), an affiliate of DH Griffin, was hired to perform the lead paint and asbestos abatement in the Theatre. After three and a half months, air testing by ECS (Engineering Consulting Services) confirmed the building was safe for continued construction.



*Plaster Mural Baluster Railing*

### Cleveland Construction on Board

Cleveland Construction was retained as construction manager for the Carolina Theatre and plans to mobilize in November. We are looking forward to having them onsite as construction moves forward.

### City Assists with Final Funding

This summer, FFTC approached the Charlotte City Council requesting additional funding for the Theatre's renovation. Council members spoke positively of the project and the Council voted unanimously in favor of the Carolina Theatre receiving \$4.5 million!



*Mezzanine Lobby, 2017*

## Fundraising Update

### Total\*

\$42,716,700

\*As of October 25, 2017; total excludes hotel air rights (\$3M) and 100 Club contributions.

### 100 Club

\$4,900,000

### Fundraising dollars remaining

\$883,300

## In the Remaking

The abatement work by DARI included removing lead paint dust in the attic above the audience chamber.



Check out [this video](#) showing the abatement team vacuuming the Theatre's attic!

## Fun Fact

The Carolina Theatre played *The Sound of Music* for 79 weeks straight, which set the record for the longest consecutive run of the Academy Award-winning film! At the 100th showing, all patrons received a golden ticket commemorating the event.



*Carolina Theatre Staff, circa 1928*

## Blast From the Past: Historic Highlight

### Great Expectations of Former Carolina Theatre Ushers

Local high school student Henry S. Cowell worked as an usher at the newly-opened Carolina Theatre in the spring of 1927. Decades later, he recalled with evident pride the exacting standards set by the Theatre's management. The ushers were expected to be "neat in our light blue uniform, or the white one for summer. No excuses for dirty white gloves, which we washed at home." There were strict rules to be followed: "We could only answer patrons' questions; we had to stand at attention with our backs facing the side wall; we could never glance toward the stage—our eyes had to focus straight in front of us. No funny business."

*Source: "Carolina Theatre was a class act."  
Charlotte Observer, 2 June 2002.*

## Design Feature

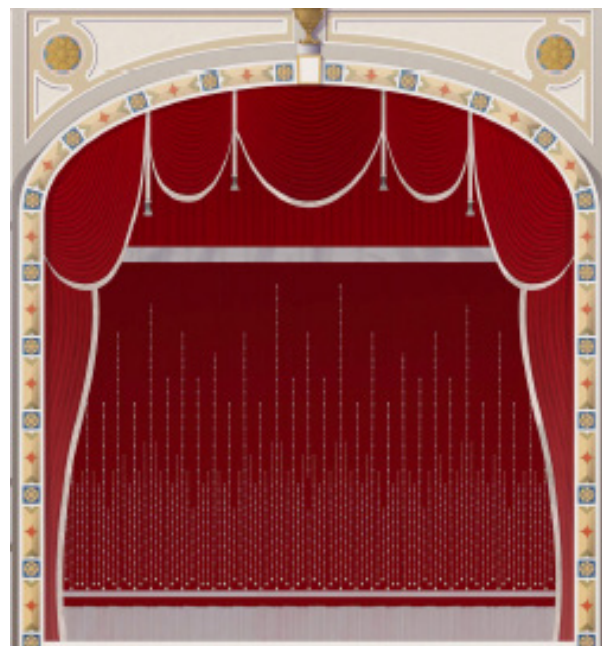
### Special Reveal: Carolina Theatre's Grand Drape

One of the Theatre's most prominent design features will be the grand drape. The drape and its swags are composed of two rich, ruby red velvets. Adding sparkle and life to the drape are silver beading and crystals. Measuring approximately 30 by 50 feet, it features a swagged top and jabots<sup>1</sup> flanking the proscenium<sup>2</sup> opening. The grand drape's four decorative ropes are finished with large bell-shaped tassels.

Not familiar with theatre décor terminology? See below for definitions!

<sup>1</sup> Jabot: an ornamental frill or ruffle

<sup>2</sup> Proscenium: the part of the a theatre stage in front of the curtain



*Rendering of Carolina Theatre Grand Drape and Proscenium*

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