Project Highlights

Hotel Update

As the excavation of the job site continues, we can’t help but daydream about the future of the Carolina Theatre and the building that will begin to rise in the coming months. The Intercontinental Hotel that will sit on top of the theatre’s new lobby, and office space will bring the floor count to 32 stories. The building will be more than 400 feet tall! As a comparison, the Fifth Third building across Tryon Street from the theatre is 447 feet.

Hotel guests will enter the building on the 6th Street side and ride express elevators to the Sky Lobby just below the rooftop restaurant. From there, guests will go down to lower floors for their stay in one of the 256 luxury rooms.

Fundraising Update

The capital campaign is over, but there is still work to be done. We’re almost half way to our goal of $4,500 to purchase a popcorn popper for the theatre, and we’d love you to help us cross the finish line.

We accept and appreciate gifts of $25 and above. All donations are tax deductible. Please visit our website to make your gift today!

Donate Now

Fun Fact

The last film to be shown in the theatre was Bruce Lee’s Fist of Fury on November 27, 1978.
Blast From the Past: Historic Highlight

**Carrier Chiller Serial No. 7**

The Carolina Theatre was one of the first venues in the area to be air conditioned. It was originally called “Manufactured Weather.” No doubt a welcome relief to our hot humid summers, the theatre’s primary weather maker was the seventh centrifugal chiller made by the Carrier Company. Chillers produced cold water used to cool air as it circulated through the theatre. By the 1960s, key parts needed for maintenance became scarce, and it was taken offline.

A pioneer in the early 1900s, Carrier has since grown to a well-trusted name in the air conditioning industry. Now part of United Technologies, the company maintains a manufacturing presence in Charlotte.

Design Feature

**Historic Murals**

The Carolina Theatre’s original murals were crafted to add to the Mediterranean feel of this atmospheric theatre, designed by R.E. Hall. The murals created the allusion that audience members could peer over the theatre’s architecture and out into open-air gardens. The walls were even upfitted with vines and other foliage to further this outdoor feel.

In the 1930s, sound was introduced to movies. To accommodate this new development, the theatre did a renovation and added new acoustical panels on top of the original murals. New murals that represented North Carolina foliage were painted on these panels. The adhesive used to attach these new panels unfortunately destroyed the original murals. The Carolina Theatre team has been working with Evergreene Architectural Arts to approximate the original 1927 murals. When the theatre reopens in 2021, you will once again get the opportunity to look out over the Spanish landscape.