

# Carolina Theatre Newsletter

Fall 2023



## Construction Highlights

We are pleased to share with you the latest progress and updates, as work continues toward restoring the historic Carolina Theatre. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Decorative plaster restoration work continues in the theatre house by our specialty contractor, Evergreene Architectural Arts. The auditorium ceiling, proscenium arch and organ loft elements are now complete, and work has begun on the wall moldings and the textured surface treatment on the walls.

Four of the large wall murals, which were recreated from photographs of the original artwork, have been installed. The remaining two will be installed when the doorway decorative plaster work is finished.

Restoration of the under-balcony ceiling is also underway. This ceiling will be richly decorated with a guilloche pattern on beams, cast plaster medallions, and egg and dart moldings.

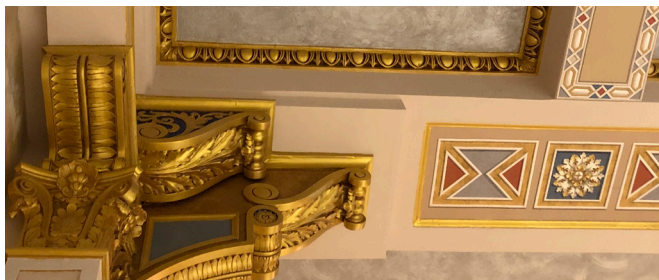
Underground utilities, including water and gas, were completed this summer, making way for the layout and preparation of new sidewalks on North Tryon Street and 6th Street.



*Audience chamber interior*



*Decorative plaster work on balcony level and restored mural panel*



*Detail of ceiling decoration including egg and dart moldings*



*Detail of the organ loft and proscenium*



Conceptual image of The 100 Club as conceived by DLR Architects

## Design Feature: The 100 Club

Named for a generous group of donors pledging \$100,000 to the renovation of the theatre, The 100 Club will be located below the main lobby and will boast a fully stocked concessions area, public washrooms and an intimate seating area.

Since it is part of the new construction and not the original 1927 structure, The 100 Club will reflect a more contemporary design than inside the theatre. The lobby will be modern in aesthetic and provide an intimate space that can also be used for private events.

Many thanks to our 100 Club Donors for making this stunning room a reality.

## End-of-Year Giving

As we look towards the close of the 2023, we hope you will consider a year-end gift to the ongoing efforts to bring the Carolina Theatre back to the community. In addition to general gifts, you can contribute to specific items like a popcorn maker, a kegerator, future programming and more. To learn more, visit [www.carolinatheatreclt.org/give](http://www.carolinatheatreclt.org/give).

## Recent Events

In September, Foundation For The Carolinas hosted futurist Dr. Chris Rice who gave a fascinating presentation, *Drivers of Change: Trends Shaping the Future Through 2038*. Friends of the Theatre, FFTC fundholders and community members learned about the key drivers – such as housing, technology, environment and climate – that will shape our world over the next 15 years.

This event is a glimpse into the type of programming we intend to bring to the Carolina Theatre in the future. We thank everyone that was able to join us and look forward to bringing you more content in the coming year.

## Blast From the Past: Historic Highlight

Did you know? A fire broke out at the vacant Carolina Theatre on the morning of November 13, 1980, severely damaging the stage area. Likely started by vandals, the flames would have

caused far more destruction had it not been contained by the old fire curtain, which worked just as it had been designed to do, dropping at the front of the stage and preventing the blaze from burning further into the auditorium.

The newly renovated theatre will feature a state of the art fire detection system complete with sprinklers and a new fire curtain.



Carolina Theatre Fire: Thick Smoke Fills Stage

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