



TOGETHER, WE

ENHANCE EXPERIENCE & EMPOWER PEOPLE

THE CULTURE OF ARTS





BUILDINGS DON'T BUILD COMMUNITY. PEOPLE DO.

When arts organizations thrive, the neighborhoods, communities, and cities they call home grow stronger. At GBBN, we are committed to helping arts organizations flourish because they are catalysts for positive change and growth; because they move us to think, act, create, and feel alive; and because they bring people together around new and provocative ways of understanding the world.

We are strategic partners for our clients as they consider how and where to grow, and the kind of impact they want to have. We work to support the people who make, fund, champion, and enjoy art and believe in its power to transform lives.

SHARED EXPERIENCES BUILD COMMUNITY

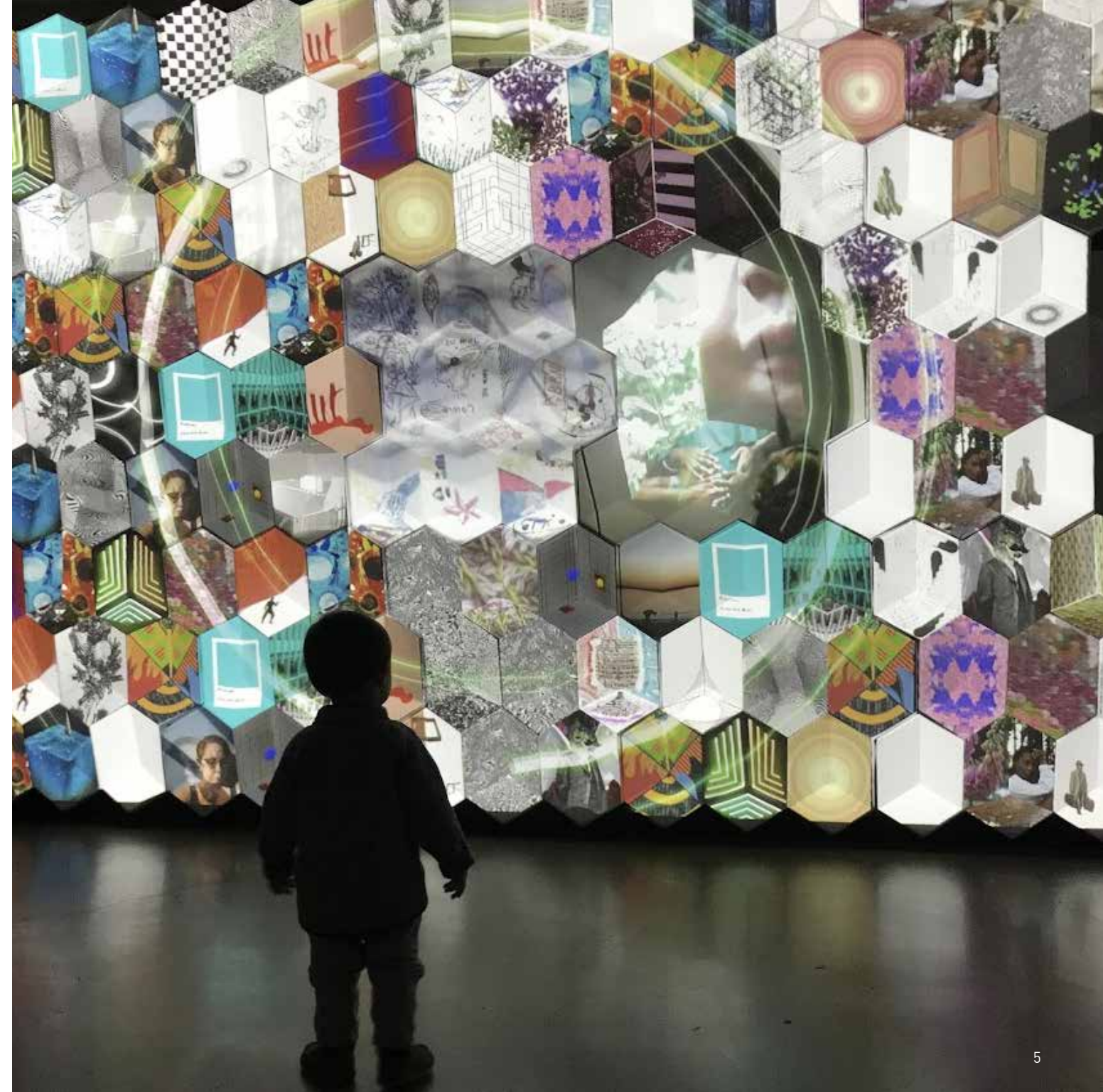
Strong communities create unique art.

In today's mobile, work from anywhere economy, we need shared experiences more than ever.

The arts connect us to new and provocative ways of understanding our shared humanity. Architecture is the conduit that shapes experience and grounds it in our memory. Experiencing the arts in community with others reinforces our connections, assuring us we are not alone as we question and explore themes artists raise in their work.

Design provides a foundation for the arts to flourish.
Design enhances the space that connects people, place, and memory.
Design is a building block for experiences that last a lifetime.

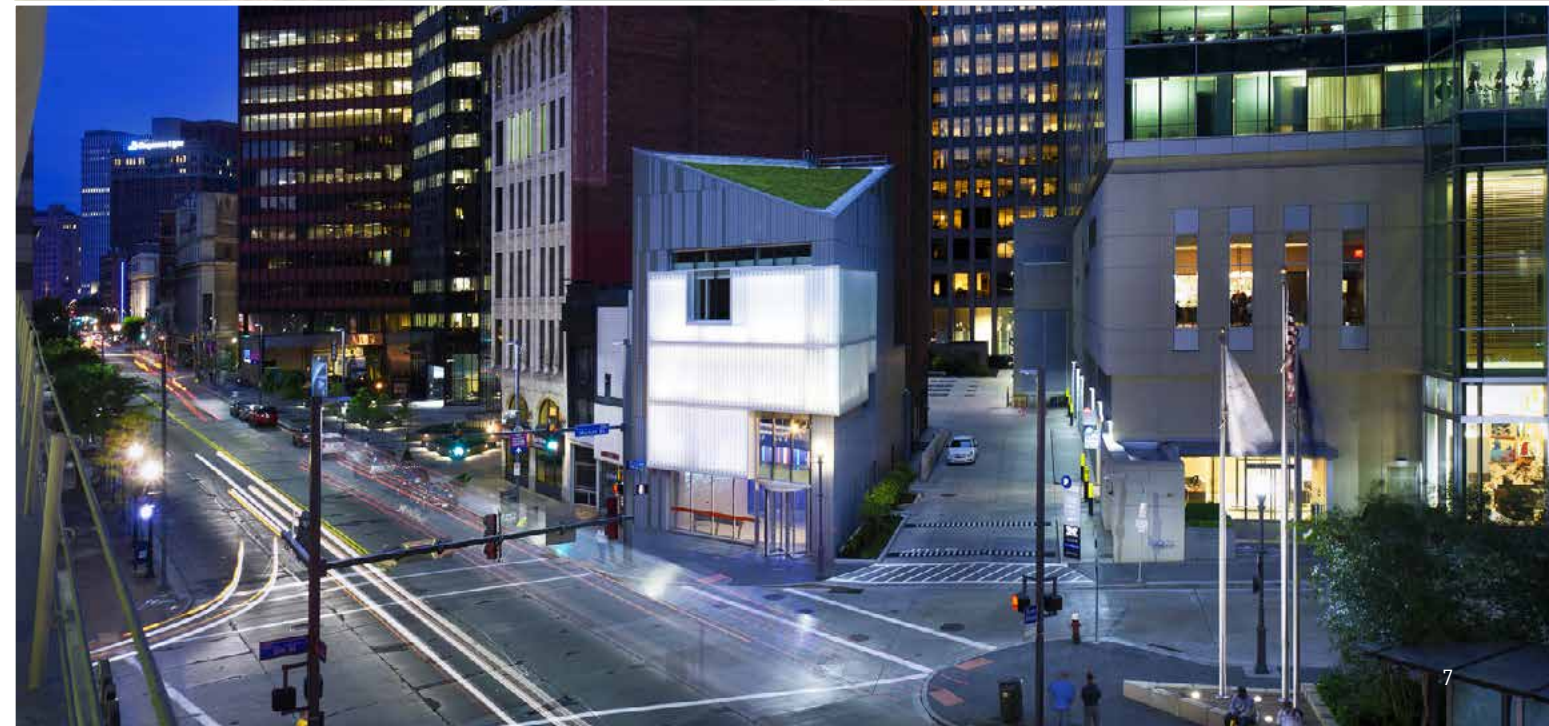
Connecting people intimately through your mission and vision positions you as a destination people repeatedly seek out.



TO BUILD OR NOT TO BUILD

That is the question. Maybe not one Shakespeare's Hamlet ever asked, but one many arts organizations grapple with as they grow. It can be tempting to leap into what seems like a binary choice: repurposing versus building new. Partnering with an architectural planner early can help you evaluate a range of space options to achieve your goals.

At GBBN, we help clients envision their futures and make smart design choices to get them there.



CONNECTING PEOPLE TO PLACE

The arts magnify and enrich the unique qualities of a place.

We make buildings that reinforce the power of place with design that emerges from the specifics of its setting, connecting people to each other and their surroundings. Whether those surroundings are natural or man-made, we recognize the arts experiences that resonate most powerfully in our memories are the ones that connect us to a specific place and time. Our best work strives to be site-specific, yet transformative; of its time, yet timeless.

We make architecture that helps you understand and appreciate where you are.



DESIGN TO LAST A LIFETIME

A great experience goes beyond a great performance or an intriguing exhibit—it ignites the imagination. We use design to help our clients turn their vision for the future into a reality. As good stewards of your resources, we help you allocate your design budget wisely, in ways that will have the most impact on your work and how you do it.

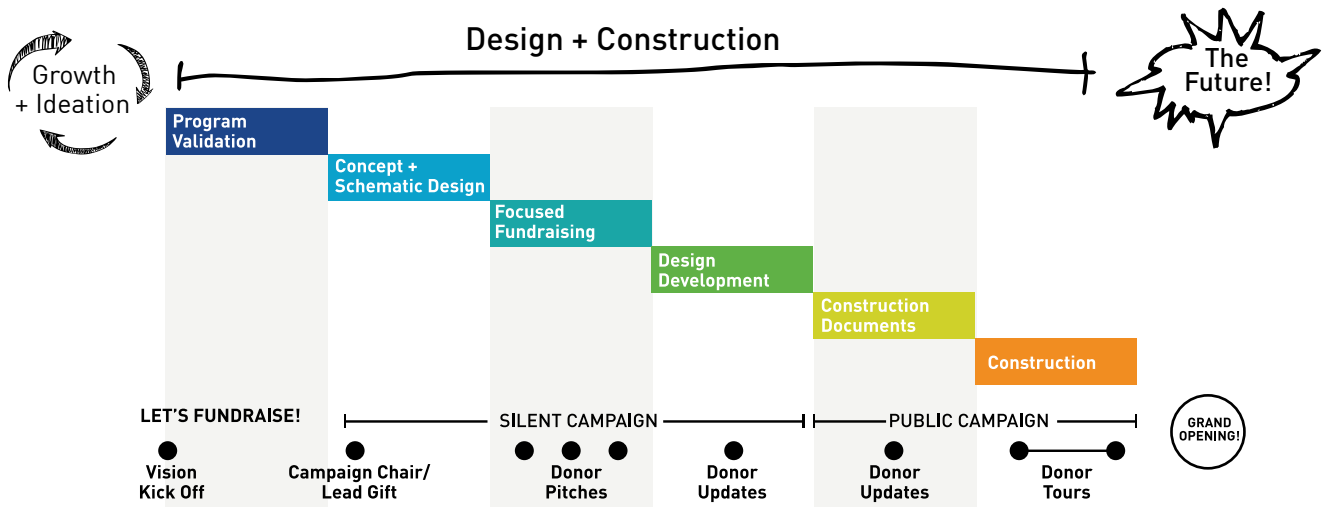
We make every hard-won dollar count by unlocking smart design decisions so your building can last a lifetime by being adaptable and flexible as you grow.



PASSION, PURPOSE, PURSE

Arts projects don't exist without donor support and fundraising efforts. People give because they believe the arts enrich our lives, build community, and attract new talent. Our process understands the need to connect your message to current and future patrons as you fundraise.

We are your partner from the beginning. We help your organization envision the future and the role space plays in your future growth. From establishing the financial stack through the framework for a capital campaign, we are your partner from project ideation through grand opening.



Example project schedule



NAMING OPPORTUNITIES



DEVELOP NARRATIVES



VISUALS



ENGAGE DONORS



TECHNOLOGY

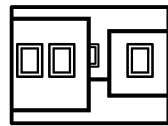
Arts and cultural institutions can strengthen communities by transforming spaces, fostering empathy, reflecting community identity, advancing economic mobility, improving academic outcomes, lowering crime rates, and improving mental health."

MacKenzie Scott
Philanthropist

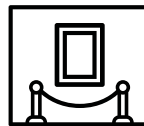
WHAT WE DO

Positively affecting people is the most important thing we do. Our work in the arts complements the work we do—in multi-family housing, libraries, the workplace, civic projects, commercial development, and healthcare—because the arts are an essential pillar in vibrant and resilient communities.

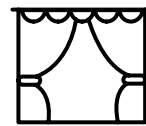
Our arts projects include:



GALLERIES



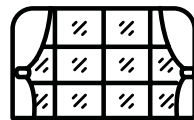
MUSEUMS



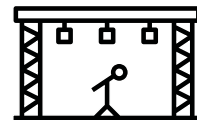
THEATERS



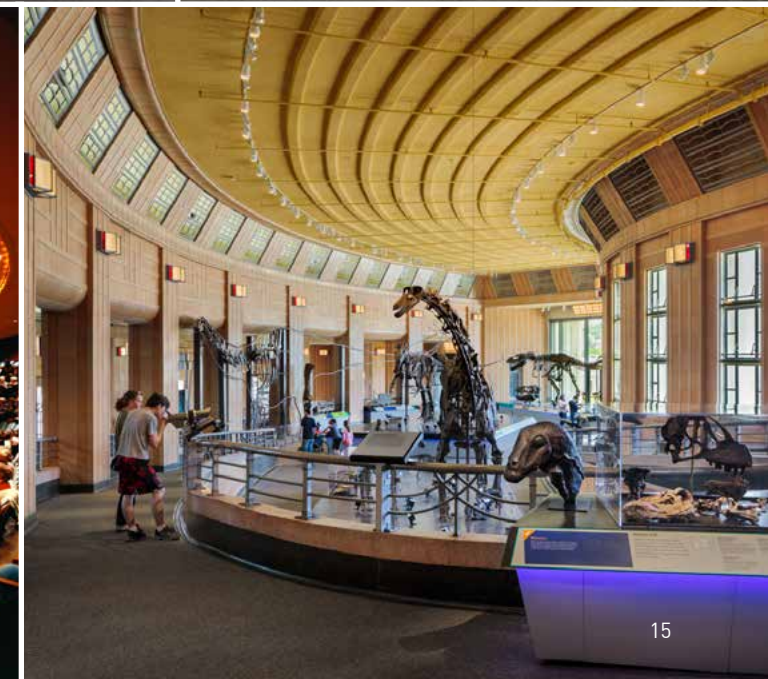
PERFORMING ARTS CENTERS



DANCE CENTERS



MUSIC VENUES





CASE STUDIES

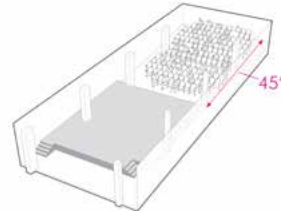
The Otto M. Budig Theater

STRETCHING & GROWING BEYOND THE STAGE

From productions featuring a woman in the title role in *Hamlet*, inter-racial couples in *Pride and Prejudice*, or gender-bending character portrayals in *Titus Andronicus*, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company (CSC) is stretching and growing within their new home and reaching new audiences.

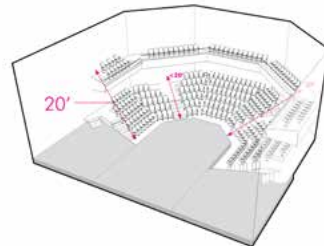
CSC's new home broadens the boundaries of their creative expression through:

- 1. Staging possibilities:** Addition of a thrust stage, catwalk, and fly loft
- 2. Enhanced performer-patron connection:** All patrons less than 6 rows or 20 feet from the action
- 3. Revenue and community building:** from disco nights and corporate event rentals to hosting COVID-19 testing clinics and blood drives.



PREVIOUS THEATER

- ≤45 Ft. Distance to Stage
- 165 Person Capacity
- 9 Ft. Ceiling Height over Stage



NEW THEATER

- ≤20 Ft. Distance to Stage
- 250 Person Capacity
- 35 Ft. Ceiling Height over Stage



Check out the full case study!



Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati A LIVING ROOM FOR AN ECLECTIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati (ETC) audiences seek to be surprised—even shocked— by new perspectives into issues they thought they knew. Renovating ETC’s four buildings to function as one space has made them a more visible, welcoming presence on the block they’ve occupied for 30 years.

The renovation has increased the number of shows they can produce and allowed their staff to work more collaboratively. The new ETC has more social space for people to relax with a drink before a show, discuss what they’ve seen on stage, host a birthday party, or attend a networking happy hour.



FOUR BUILDINGS NOW WORK AS ONE



Check out the full case study!



Contemporary Craft

CREATIVE FREEDOM TO ENVISION THEIR FUTURE

Contemporary Craft had built a strong community of artisans and makers when they went looking for their forever home. After working in rented space for 33 years, they found a new home in an existing building—one that could be repurposed by amplifying their appreciation for found objects, humble raw materials, and the art of craftsmanship.

The new Contemporary Craft in Lawrenceville, a transitioning neighborhood in Pittsburgh, provides the space to make great art and share that work (and the process of making it) with the community. For Contemporary Craft, owning and creating their new space also unleashed newfound creative freedom to envision their future and use art, craft, and design to realize it.



BEFORE



Check out the full case study!

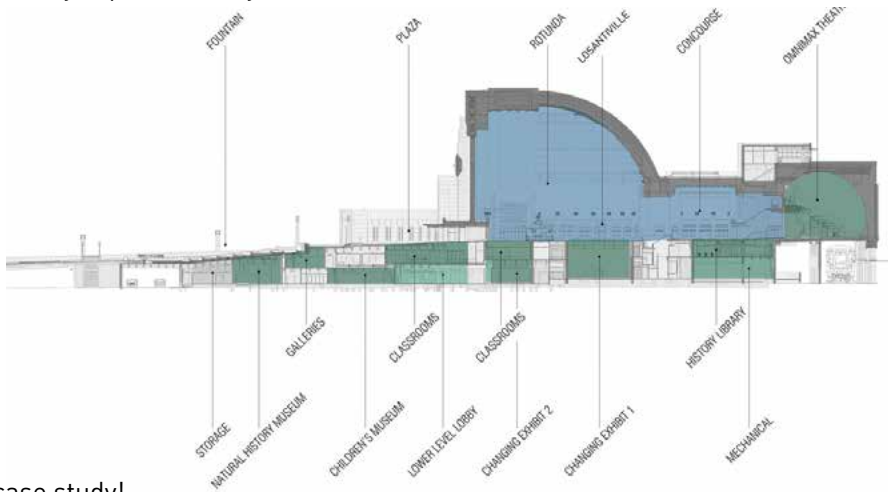


Cincinnati Museum Center

BACK TO THE FUTURE

The greatest artifact in the Cincinnati Museum Center’s collection is the building that houses it: Union Terminal, an 85-year old National Historic Landmark and treasured icon. In restoring Union Terminal back to its original 1933 condition, some of the most important work we did as architects remains invisible to the public, yet it ensures the health and longevity of this beloved institution. This renovation meticulously repaired exterior and interior structural damage and included all new mechanical, electrical, plumbing, security, and data systems.

But historic preservation is only part of story. The way visitors experience the Cincinnati Museum Center has also been transformed. A wide range of art and decorative restoration has been addressed throughout the building, including the Losantiville Dining room and the Theatre, Art Deco marvels rarely experienced by visitors.



Check out the full case study!



BEFORE



AFTER



Aronoff Center for the Arts

SEAMLESS ORCHESTRATION

The Aronoff Center for the Arts, located in downtown Cincinnati, required the seamless orchestration of multiple partners and challenges to ensure the creation of this important performing arts center for the community. As Architect of Record, GBBN managed 13 consultants including design architect Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects as well as additional performing arts specialists. Given the aggressive schedule, the team issued eight bid packages in coordination with the construction manager. The project was completed on schedule and within budget and is a successful steeples in Cincinnati.

The building consists of three very distinct performance spaces: The Procter & Gamble Hall seats 2,719, with a fully equipped stage, state-of-the-art sound and lighting and a beautiful ceiling studded with 3,000 fiber optic lenses that create a starlight effect.

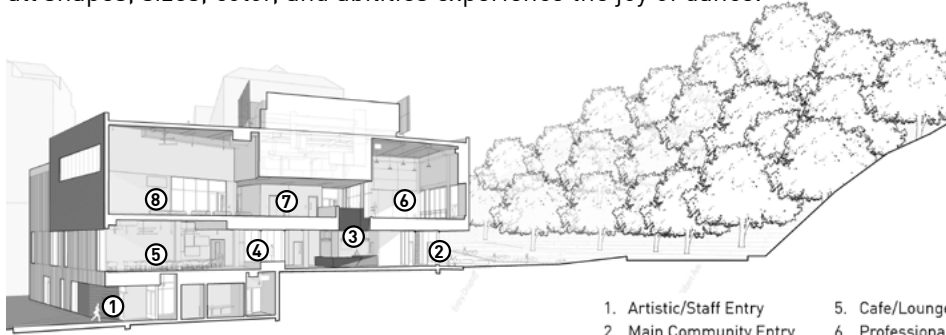


Margaret & Michael
Valentine Center for Dance

MORE THAN A DANCE COMPANY: A COMMUNITY CATALYST

Cincinnati Ballet seeks to break down the stereotype that dance is only for a certain group of people. Their diverse dance company, academy, and programs like Ballet Moves (safely supporting dance opportunities for people with mobility challenges) make them more than a dance company—they're a community catalyst.

The Margaret & Michael Valentine Center for Dance dramatically marks the gateway to Cincinnati's Eden Park arts district. Windows in every studio frame unique views while simultaneously letting passersby see people of all shapes, sizes, color, and abilities experience the joy of dance.



- 1. Artistic/Staff Entry
- 2. Main Community Entry
- 3. Welcome Desk + Portal
- 4. Costume Display
- 5. Cafe/Lounge
- 6. Professional Dance Studio
- 7. 2nd Floor Lobby
- 8. Event Space



Check out the full case study!

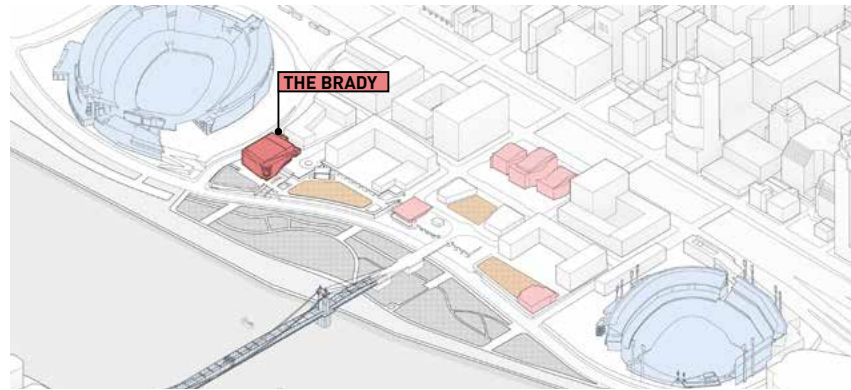


The Andrew J Brady Music Center

“ONE OF THE FINEST SOUNDING ROOMS ON EARTH...”

When an artist loves the house, it shows, as this comment from musician Jason Isbell attests. Experiencing live music with a crowd is a powerful experience. The energy permeating the room fuels both artists and fans. We experience live music with our whole bodies. Nodding, tapping, swaying, bouncing, singing...concerts are kinetic! This venue was designed to embrace people in that energy.

Tucked into the city skyline, the Brady Center offers tremendous views along the Ohio River, elevating a typical concert into a memorable experience. The venue offers sweeping river views from three levels. More than a place for great music, it's a place to see and be seen before and after the show; a place to linger and savor every aspect of being amongst friends and fellow fans.



The Brady completes the Cincinnati riverfront symmetry of landmark riverfront institutions.



Check out the full case study!



GBBN TOGETHER, WE
ENHANCE & EMPOWER



Sample of

NATIONAL REGIONAL & LOCAL AWARDS



We work with visionaries to create spaces that
enhance experience and empower people.

We combine technical mastery and creative
tenacity to find design solutions that help
organizations do their best work and achieve
their goals.

We see architecture as more than just
buildings, because positively impacting people
is the most important thing we do.





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