

WRIGHT ON!

Quarterly Newsletter SPRING 2017

STATUS OF RENOVATION FUNDING

Generous individuals and foundations have contributed or pledged \$950,000 to date toward the \$1.5 million required to fully renovate and restore our historic Wright Opera House. We're nearly two-thirds to the finish line! That means we have that last critical third to go.

NEW RENOVATIONS AND RESTORATIONS

The completed work will re-establish the Wright as a state of the art facility capable of producing and presenting an unlimited variety of cultural programs and community events. We hope you'll enjoy these quarterly updates as our new way of keeping all our donors and friends abreast of what is going on at the Wright.

WHY RENOVATE?

With cramped backstage and wing space, no dressing rooms and outdated electrics, the Wright can be a difficult sell for many visiting arts organizations. The Wright in its present state restricts even what our local arts organizations can present to our community.

In the coming months, we will be inviting you in to see for yourself how we will knock out the back wall of the theatre to create new space, double the size of the lobby, create long term rental units, and so much more. There's nothing like touring all three floors of this historic wonder to see what we've uncovered, and to sense the excitement of what's to come.

Even with the current limitations, today's Wright regularly partners with the Ouray County Performing Arts Guild, Weehawken Creative Arts, Ouray County Players, Ouray County Arts Association, UpstART and other organizations to present dance, music and theatre. The Wright also provides free or low cost access to many regional nonprofits including Ouray School, Ouray Library, Second Chance Humane Society, Timshel Theatre, dZi Foundation, Ouray Ice Park, and Ouray County Historical Society. Movies are featured on Wednesdays and fun and informative lectures are being scheduled throughout the year.



Thanks

Thanks to our generous community, much has already been completed. And the renovation work continues even as a growing calendar of programming fills the stage!

HERE'S WHAT'S COMING

- Air conditioning for audience comfort even during the hottest summer months
- Overhaul of the electrical system and installation of state of the art lighting and sound equipment
- Enlarged backstage area including dressing rooms and wing space, making it possible to bring to our region entertainment requiring professional facilities
- Retractable theatre wall enabling us to separate or combine the theatre auditorium and the upstairs lobby depending on performance or special event needs
- Expanded lobby with spacious ADA restrooms, additional family restroom, catering kitchen, and show bar/tavern
- Upstairs concession area with catering facilities for community events
- Fire safety sprinkler system
- Foundation and masonry repairs
- Preservation and restoration of the Wright's stately and historic doors, windows, Mesker façade and balcony

WRIGHT

Opera House

EST. 1888 • OURAY, CO

THE WRIGHT'S GROWING THEATRE PROGRAM

2017 will see more theatre at the Wright than ever! The season launches with UpstART's production of *Jericho* by actor and playwright Jack Canfora, who is joining us from New York to perform in his own work. *Jericho* runs April 6-9 with a special free reception following the April 7 performance. Visit our [website](#) for more details and to purchase tickets.

COMING IN 2017

- Ouray County Players will bring you *Treasure Island* the musical in May, the annual summer melodrama and holiday radio play.
- UpstART will follow *Jericho* with *The Tempest* for the summer No Holds Bard Shakespeare Festival.
- Kansas City Actors Theatre follows their successful visit last year with David Ives' *All in the Timing*.
- Central City Opera performs a lively musical theatre and opera revue – *There's a Song for That!*
- More shows to be announced as the season progresses!

a Gift to the Community

A gift to the Wright is a gift to the communities of southwestern Colorado. The San Juan Mountains and the towns of Ridgway, Ouray, Silverton, Durango and Telluride are world-class destinations for anyone seeking natural beauty. Let's work together to make our cultural offerings rival what nature has provided.

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT, VISIT
thewrightoperahouse.org/support-our-capital-campaign

TO VOLUNTEER, VISIT
thewrightoperahouse.org/volunteer



THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THE WRIGHT'S SUCCESS!

Timetable

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Our goal is to complete all phases of the Wright's renovation by 2020 and celebrate with the entire community this next milestone for our historic 140-year-old treasure. To accomplish this, we will be asking everyone to play a role.

- Come to a Wright performance, movie, or lecture.
- Come to one of the Wright's "open house" events we will be holding in the weeks and months to come.
- Volunteer your time, talents and expertise.
- Make a financial gift at a level that feels good for you.

Contact us

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

970.325.4399

THEWRIGHTOPERAHOUSE.ORG

PO BOX 17 • 472 MAIN STREET

OURAY, COLORADO

WRIGHT
Opera House

EST. 1888 • OURAY, CO