



PRESS RELEASE

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Renovation Project in the works for Eagles Theatre

WABASH, IN – The Eagles Theatre Building (*owned and operated by the Honeywell Foundation*) will receive a top to bottom renovation. In the process, a key historical landmark will be reimagined. From architectural and interior design updates, to entirely new educational and hospitality programs, the project will revitalize a community center for the arts and entertainment.

Tod Minnich, CEO of the Honeywell Foundation stated “The Eagles Theatre Building is much more than a movie theatre. It is a place where countless events, activities and memories are made. The renovation project will help us better utilize the entire building, and introduce entirely new opportunities.”

The Eagles Renovation Project is working to raise a total of \$18 million to support the construction costs as well as sustaining funds to ensure ongoing maintenance and programmatic support. \$13.4 million of the total \$18 million has already been secured. “What is really exciting about this project is that the goal encompasses the funds needed to ensure its long-term viability. Well beyond just sprucing up a building, this project seeks to provide transformative programs that will enhance our region,” commented Dave Haist, Chair of the Honeywell Foundation Board of Directors.

Construction on the building is scheduled to commence this fall with an estimated timeframe of 18-24 months, and will include the following floor by floor upgrades:

The Basement - Dressing rooms and storage areas below the stage of the theatre will be revived to accommodate amenities needed in order to produce more live events such as concerts, lectures, and theatrical productions. An approximate 40 seat second theatre will be added with state-of-the-art sound and comfortable seats. This additional theatre will allow for more movies and live events on the main Eagles Theatre stage. Three music lesson rooms will be created to allow for a variety of vocal and instrumental lessons.

First Floor - Renovations will increase lobby space by encompassing what are now two storefronts. Renovations will create an east lobby for patrons to enter the theatre, as well as a west lobby with access to the upper floors. Restrooms will be improved to accommodate patrons with mobility needs or disabilities and a family restroom will be added. Seating capacity in the theatre will increase to approximately 550 by opening the second floor balcony which will feature two suites. The backstage will be renovated and the movie screen will be mobilized to allow for more live events.

Second Floor - Film / video and recording studios, along with a large group editing space, will be created on the second floor. The Honeywell Foundation is partnering with Heartland Career Center to expand the latter's interactive media program. Through this program high school students will be able to receive certifications or dual high school / college credits in the areas of video and audio.

Third Floor - This floor includes impressive windows that offer a beautiful and unique space for a number of events. Three rooms will be available for rent. In addition, the Honeywell Foundation plans to offer special programs on this floor such as art workshops for seniors and adults, as well as preschool art programs.

Fourth Floor - With hand-painted ceilings and a central dome, the fourth floor ballroom was once a spectacular space for hosting private parties and events. Renovations will restore this floor to its former glory as well as provide modern amenities. The goal is to make this a premier space to host an event which can seat up to 200 guests.

The Honeywell Foundation seeks to provide artistic, social, cultural and recreational opportunities for all. The Foundation operates the Honeywell Center, Honeywell House, Eagles Theatre, Charley Creek Gardens, the Dr. James Ford Historic Home and the 13-24 Drive In. All programs and activities are supported by gifts from individuals, businesses, the Indiana Arts Commission (a state agency) and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency).

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