

Department of Architecture
School of Architecture and Allied Arts
University of Oregon

ARCH 281 Fall 2005 Intermediate Architectural Design I
Professor Nancy Cheng

ASSIGNMENT 5: ALBERTA COMMUNITY THEATRE

OBJECTIVES

DESCRIPTION To complement the rich visual arts activity on Alberta street, a group of community leaders feel it would be really useful to create a new venue for performance. Residents and visitors could express dreams and visions through plays, dance, music and the spoken word. Regularly scheduled events would draw people to the area more consistently than the monthly Alberta Last Thursday Artwalk. Creating an attractive hall that seats 150 people would give a home to local theatre and provide a forum for interaction.

To complement the performance hall, a lobby café would welcome people off the street and classrooms would allow younger members of the community to learn about performing arts. The center will be run by a Aleasha Jones, who will manage part-time staff, teachers and visiting artists with the help of an advisory board.

Along with her Advisory Board, Aleasha cares about building sustainably and wants to give the area a green open space. She sees beautiful gardens and creative expression as healing forces in the city. The garden should contain a story-telling area and integrate sculpture or decorative arts.

To maximize the utility of the facilities, Aleasha would like you to propose how her vision of the theatre could be complemented by other activities. She appreciates the training activities of the Sabin Development Group, Oregon Tradeswomen, Sisters in Action for Power and the Community Cycling Center and wants to offer relevant classes. She would like the building to be busy day and evening, serving many audiences, but she doesn't want to compromise the identity and focus of the center.

CONSIDERATIONS With the board, she has developed the attached initial building program. For the first meeting on Friday Oct. 28, she has some questions for you:

IMAGE & IDENTITY

How will first-time visitors experience the theatre? What should the place look or feel like?

PROGRAM ACCOMMODATION

What activities should go together?

Are the spaces adequate for the planned activities and number of people? What furnishings & equipment are needed?

PRECEDENTS

What examples do we have for how space and form foster human activity & interaction? What can we learn from them?

SCHEDULE To prepare for the meeting, you need to do the following:

FOR FRIDAY, OCT 21

- A summary of your research reading
- Space-planning & ergonomic references for your activity
- Program activity proposal, cluster diagrams for the program at 1/16"

FOR MONDAY, OCT 24

- 1/16" scale plans & section color-coded diagrams of an example theatre
- THREE 3 color-coded volumetric models of your design
(Yellow for public foyer, orange for house, red for stage, blue for active backstage prep areas, grey for service, green for garden)

FOR WED, OCT 26

- revised models
- plan & section circulation diagrams 1/16"
- Answers to the "Considerations" questions

FOR FRI, OCT 28

- Daylighting models & images
- Revised color-coded 1/16" models & diagrams
- Design Statement that incorporates text from Daylighting assignment and "Considerations" answers
- 1/8" color-coded sections

REFERENCES

Special Attributes of a Regional Theatre
Christos G. Athasopoulos, Contemporary Theater: Evolution & Design
Michael Forsyth, Auditoria: Designing for the Performing Arts
Peter Rice, An Engineer Imagines, Ch. 16, The Full-Moon Theatre

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Alberta Street Performance Center Program

<i>SPACE</i>	<i>CHARACTERISTICS</i>	<i>AUDIENCE</i>	<i>ACTIVITIES</i>	<i>QTY</i>	<i>SIZE</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Performance Hall	Dignified setting suitable for formal performances. Includes 400 s.f. stage	youth to adults, capacity 130-150	music, theatre, meetings	1	2200	2200
Youth Clubroom	Noisy gathering space	ages 11-18	doubles as performance prep area & rehearsal space	1	800	800
Children's Room	Bright, colorful daylit space with special areas for groups of specific ages	aimed towards ages 3-10	play, music training, acting	1	800	800
Staff Office	four occupants			1	250	250
Director's Office				1	125	125
Lobby with Café	inviting space with tables & chairs, open to the garden. Includes ticket office			1	1000	1000
Café Kitchen	no cooking, coffee & tea prep			1	150	150
Restrooms	includes handicapped accessible stall			2	240	480
Storage				1	200	200
Electrical & Mech'l Room				1	100	100
				NET SQ FT		6105
				Net to Gross Factor		1.25
				GROSS SF		7631
Garden	includes covered outdoor performance space					