

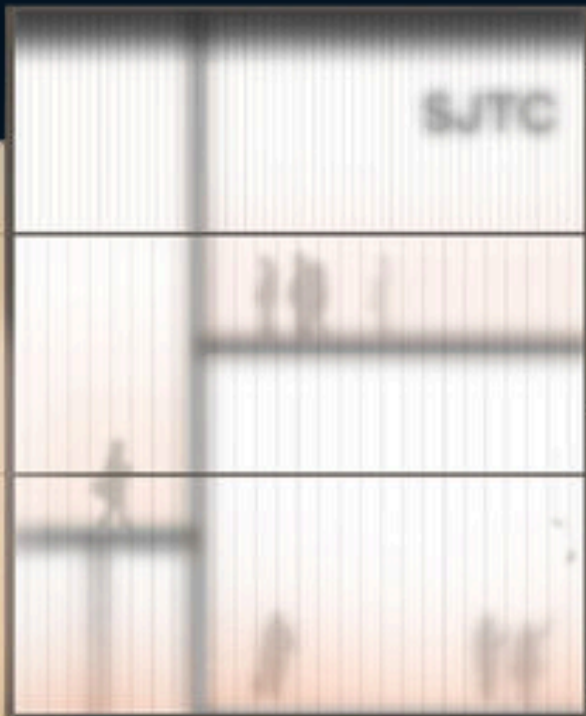


THE SAINT JOHN THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS

The Courthouse Stage

Professional Theatre HERE AT HOME

Southern NB to gain its very own professional mid-size theatre able to seat 250+ audience members.



Vision of Potential

People often ask: Why do we need another theatre on King Square? The answer is—we're not building another theatre. We're building a creation facility: a purpose-designed space where artists can produce high-quality, professional theatre made right here in Saint John.

Nearly every major municipality in Atlantic Canada has a mid-sized professional venue where professional theatres create and showcase their work in home venues. Saint John is the exception; Our community and our region of New Brunswick will benefit from this new kind of facility.

What's at stake? Without proper creation space, we export our talent and lose cultural activity before it can even begin. Building this theatre is the next step in our cultural development.

To drive this work, we established the Atlantic Repertory Company (ARC). Before ARC, Saint John was the largest city in Canada without a professional theatre. The Courthouse Stage will become ARC's home base: the manufacturing floor where New Brunswick theatre gets built.

You've seen what's possible. In 2025, our production of *Come From Away*, with Rogue Productions, was created by an entirely made-in-NB team. Artists from New Brunswick created world-class theatre, for home audiences.

The talent is here. Now we need the facility to train it, refine it, and produce more made-in-NB theatre —built locally, performed locally, and owned by the community it serves.

STEPHEN TOBIAS
Executive Director
Saint John Theatre Company



WHAT WE ARE STRIVING FOR

Through the Courthouse we are:

- Infusing new life into a cultural and historic landmark.
- Propelling the beautification, vibrancy, and economic draw of Uptown Saint John.
- Providing a home for the Atlantic Repertory Company.
- Filling a critical gap in the cultural infrastructure of our community.
- Elevating Saint John as a theatre centre and cultural destination.
- Creating a manufacturing space where theatre professionals can work, grow and thrive.



“Unlike the rest of Canada, our performing arts scene relies on imports—we need a space to manufacture theatre made right here at home.

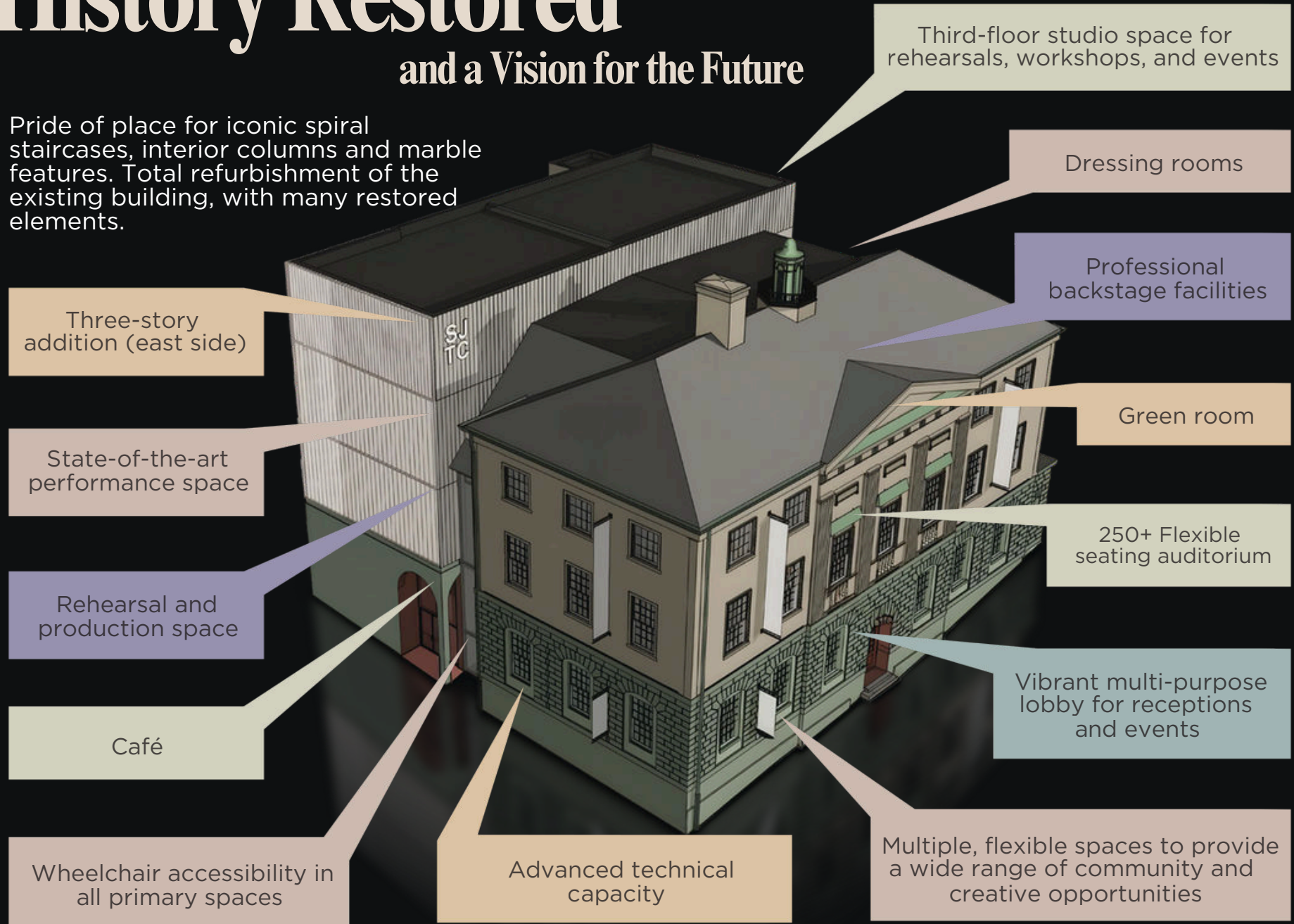
That’s why we’re creating the Courthouse Stage as a creative home for Atlantic Repertory Company artists..”

-Stephen Tobias

History Restored

and a Vision for the Future

Pride of place for iconic spiral staircases, interior columns and marble features. Total refurbishment of the existing building, with many restored elements.



A Wellspring of Possibility

We are building a contemporary multi-functional arts and culture destination in a treasured Saint John heritage building on one of Canada's most historic squares.

WHEN FULLY OPERATIONAL

- Up to 200 performances annually
- More than 100 master classes/trainings
- As many as 35,000 annual visitors or more
- Dozens of other receptions and public events



New Brunswick Made

If you aspire to a career in theatre, on or backstage, you'll have to leave our area. ARC is changing that.

The Atlantic Repertory Company is a made-in-New Brunswick solution to the challenges of the gig economy in the arts. ARC places the SJTC on the leading edge of companies striving to create permanent employment in theatre.

ARC employs emerging artists with ties to Atlantic Canada and who have completed post-secondary theatre arts training.

Through paid residencies, young professionals gain

work opportunities in the various disciplines of theatre production, while also creating and presenting original dramatic work.

Without ARC and SJTC, local performers, technicians, administrators, and other cultural professionals must leave the community to pursue theatre careers. Instead, ARC provides pathways for their professional success.

The repurposed Courthouse will be the permanent home for ARC, the engine room for realizing the possibilities for young artists. Further, Courthouse spaces will serve the entire community in multiple ways.

DELIVERING THE FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES:

- Paid roles for recent graduates of theatre training
- A stream of new content developed in Saint John and delivered around the world
- Young professionals carving out a foothold in the theatre industry
- Opportunities to work with recognized professionals from across Canada
- More theatre professionals choosing to settle and make their lives here
- Greater diversity of actors on stages across the province
- Bolstering the theatre industry in the region with young, trained professionals
- Making the stage a classroom for education and community outreach across the Maritimes

SJTC by the Numbers:

Impact and Reach

140-180
performances of
30-40
cultural works
annually

Approaching
30,000
average total
audience
annually

\$1.2 m
(Budget 2025)

up to
40+
educational
outreaches
annually

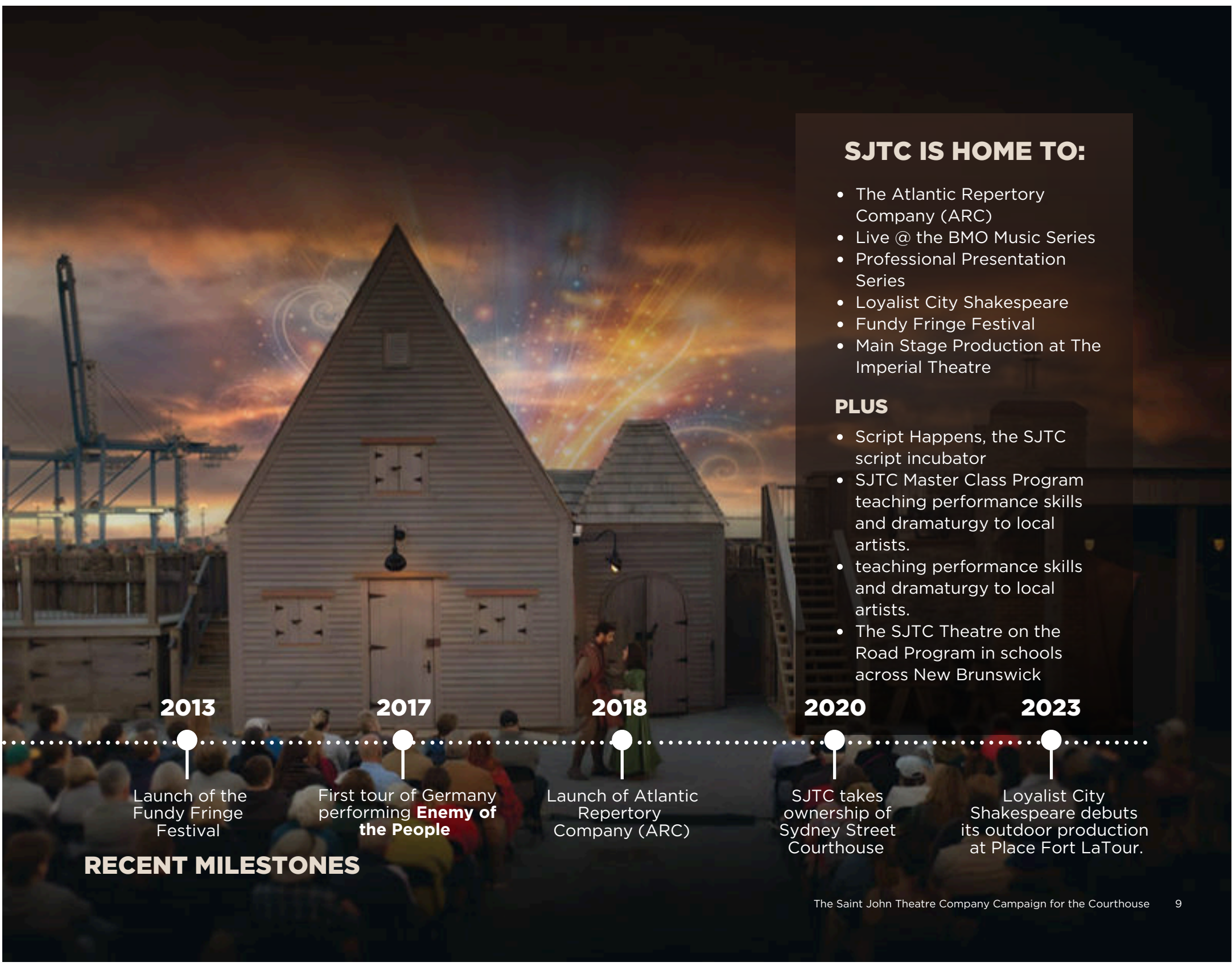
\$0
accumulated
operating
debt

3,000
community-based
artists (approx.)
onstage and
backstage since
1990

66
contractors

11
permanent
staff

up to
30
theatre
professionals
engaged
annually



SJTC IS HOME TO:

- The Atlantic Repertory Company (ARC)
- Live @ the BMO Music Series
- Professional Presentation Series
- Loyalist City Shakespeare
- Fundy Fringe Festival
- Main Stage Production at The Imperial Theatre

PLUS

- Script Happens, the SJTC script incubator
- SJTC Master Class Program teaching performance skills and dramaturgy to local artists.
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- The SJTC Theatre on the Road Program in schools across New Brunswick

2013

Launch of the Fundy Fringe Festival

2017

First tour of Germany performing **Enemy of the People**

2018

Launch of Atlantic Repertory Company (ARC)

2020

SJTC takes ownership of Sydney Street Courthouse

2023

Loyalist City Shakespeare debuts its outdoor production at Place Fort LaTour.

RECENT MILESTONES

The Courthouse Project

\$43 million
Original Estimate

Fully built, fully furnished

\$3 million
Value engineering* completed

**Architects and SJTC team conducted value engineering to reduce initial capital spending*

Total project value for
Possibility Unleashed

\$40

MILLION
(after value engineering*)

Committed from
governments since 2018

\$16.3

MILLION
(all levels and departments)

in the coming year we will
ask the community for

\$10

MILLION

40%

of total project funded
by private sector

Secured nearly
\$20

MILLION
for the Possibility
Unleashed project
as of 2026

\$3.5

MILLION

has been raised by
private sector
donors

\$3

MILLION

total reduction in
project costs
from value
engineering*





“I don’t need easy.
I just need possible.”

- Bethany Hamilton

THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE COURTHOUSE PROJECT

- Create over **200 jobs** (through construction and operations)
- Generate over **\$9.5 M** of labour income impacts from construction
- Generate over **\$1.2 M** of annual labour income impacts from operations
- Generate over **\$15M** GDP impact from construction
- Generate over **\$1.5 M** annual GDP impact from operations

From an economic impact report presented to the City of Saint John by Envision Saint John in March 2022.

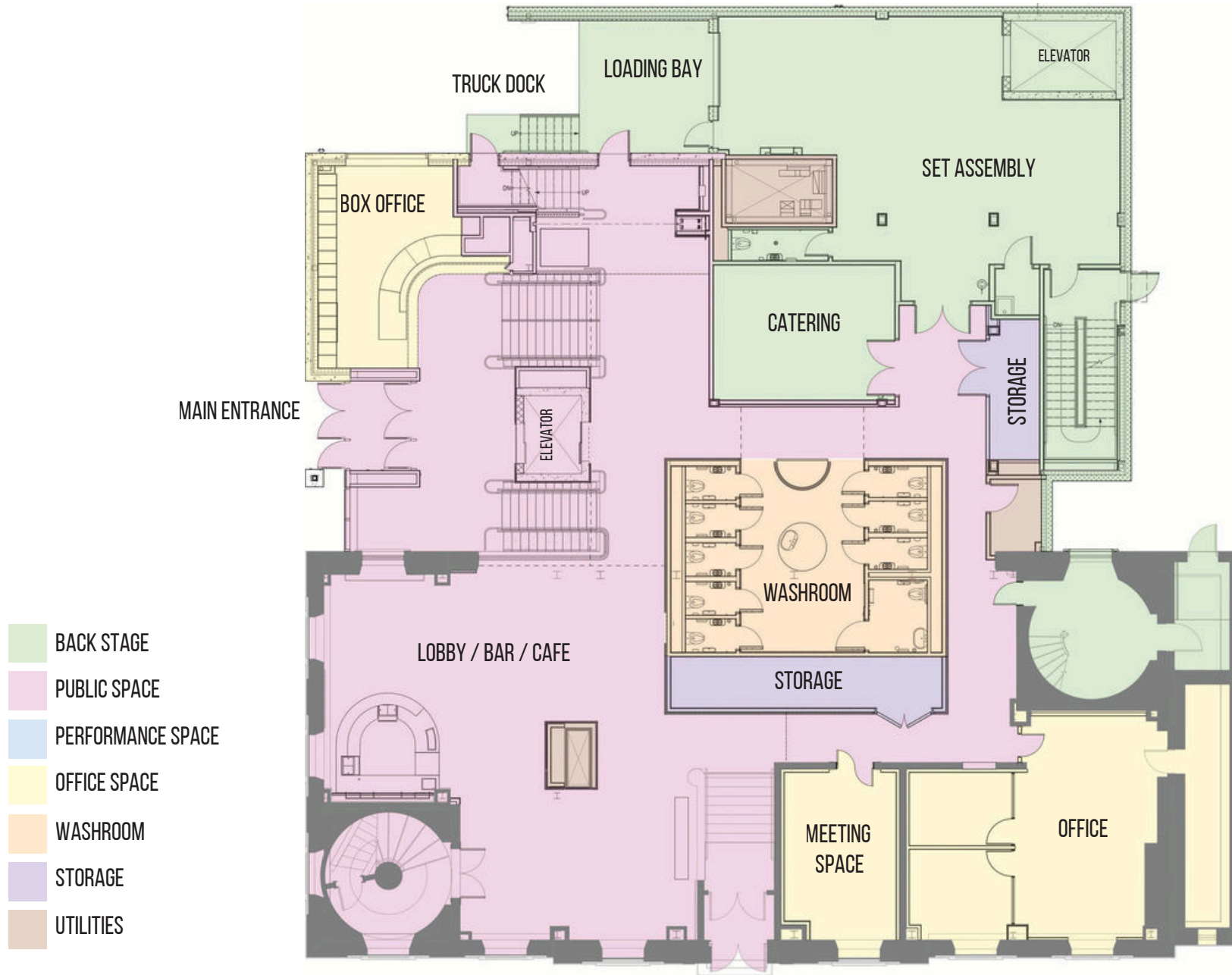
Everything IN ONE PLACE

SPACE FOR:

- Workshops
- Rehearsals
- Events
- Receptions
- Planning
- Discussion
- Set Building
- Costuming
- Refreshments
- Lounging

**images rendered to visualize Courthouse construction

COURTHOUSE STAGE: LEVEL 1



MORE THAN JUST THEATRE

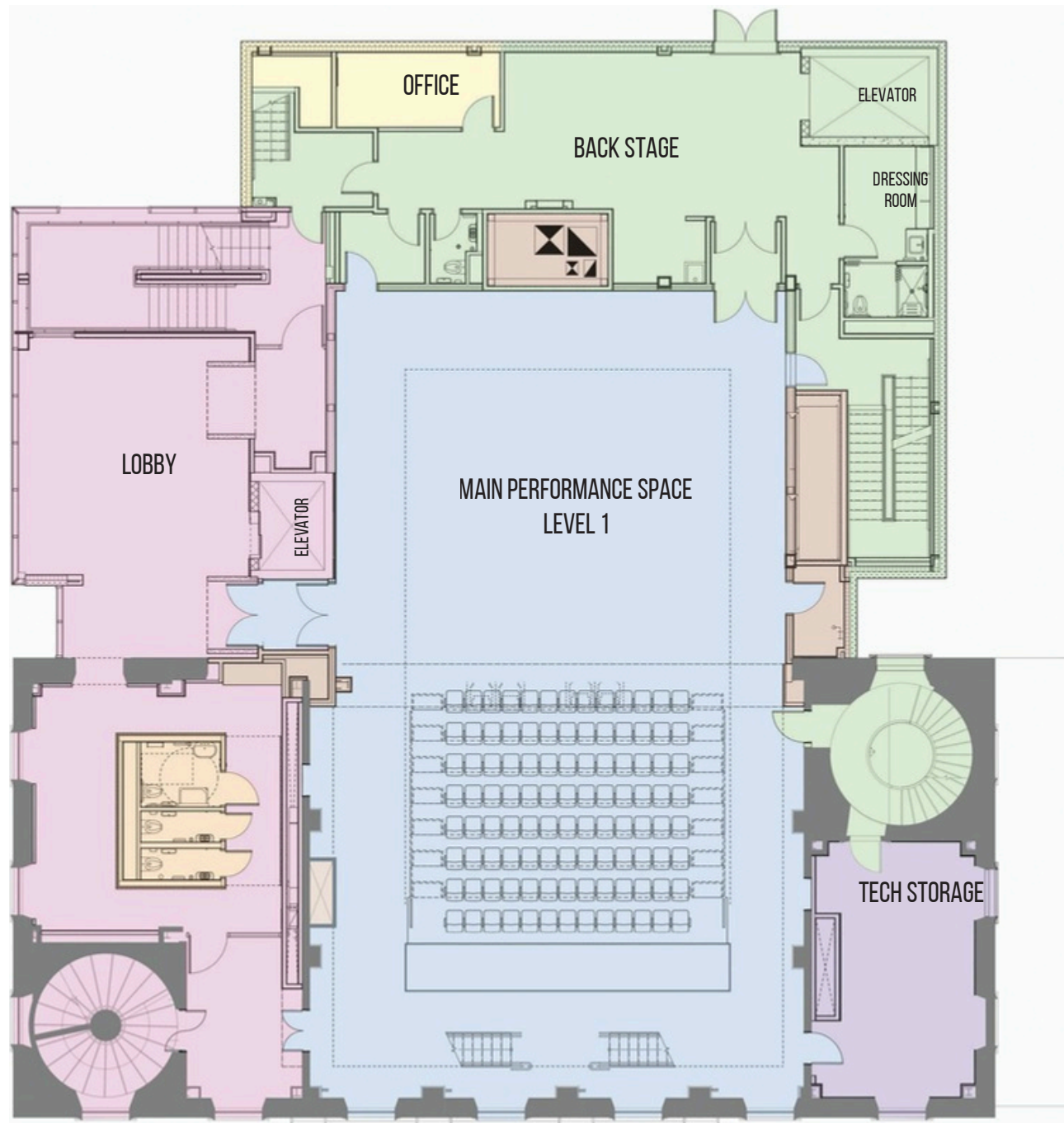
Studio & Workshop Spaces

Intentionally designed spaces for rehearsals, costuming, set design, and professional ARC workshops.

Learn. Perform.
Enhance your
career in theatre

Facilitating students and theatre pros to collaborate on projects, workshops, and productions in Atlantic Canada.

COURTHOUSE STAGE: LEVEL 2



- BACK STAGE
- PUBLIC SPACE
- PERFORMANCE SPACE
- OFFICE SPACE
- WASHROOM
- STORAGE
- UTILITIES

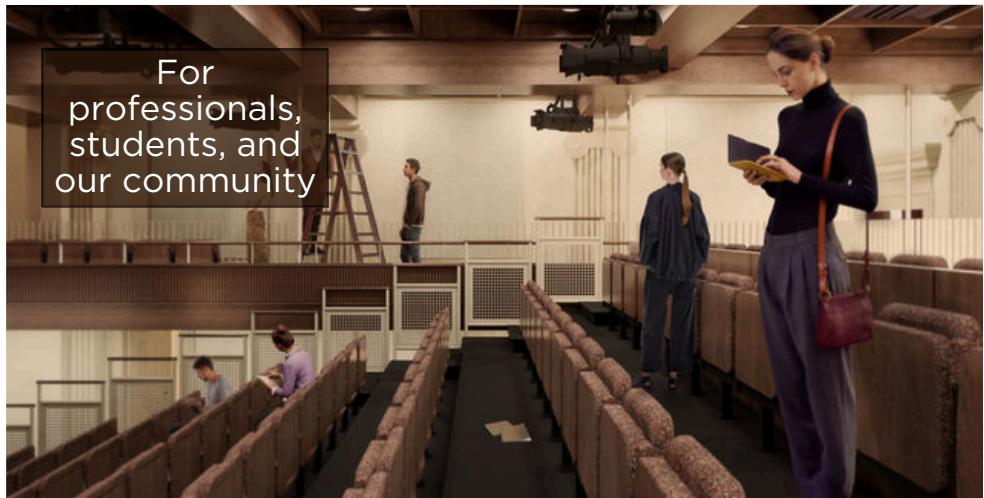


Flexible seating can seat 250+

**images rendered to visualize Courthouse construction

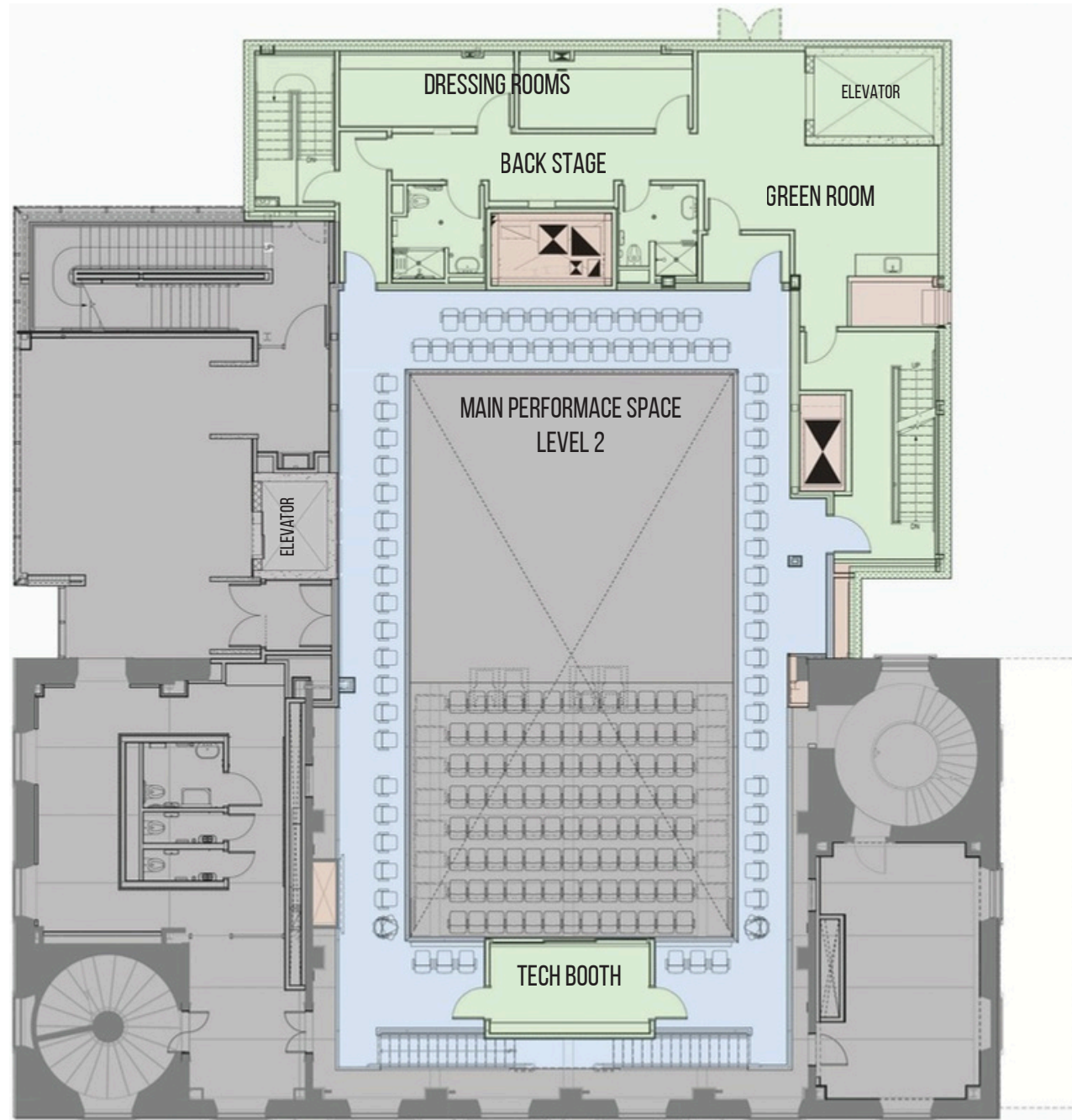


Preserved history meets modern innovation



For professionals, students, and our community

COURTHOUSE STAGE: LEVEL 2.5



- BACK STAGE
- PUBLIC SPACE
- PERFORMANCE SPACE
- OFFICE SPACE
- WASHROOM
- STORAGE
- UTILITIES



SETS BUILT RIGHT ON SITE

The Courthouse Theatre will be equipped with all the necessary tools, equipment, space, and resources required to build scenes for our productions—all within the same walls.

KEEPING TALENT HERE

Fostering local talent is one thing, but keeping it in NB is another. The ARC aims to employ professionals right here in Saint John, keeping our talent from needing to leave home for work.

COURTHOUSE STAGE: LEVEL 3/3.5



Why Saint John Theatre Company?

VISION

We've envisioned a way both to save a treasured historic building, and turn it into a central community and cultural asset.

COMMITMENT

We won't quit.
To back our belief in the project, we have committed a half-million dollars.

TRACK RECORD

With over 35 years of experience and growth, we're known as innovative, resilient and brave, with a strong foundation.

LEADERSHIP & RESPECT

Local leadership, local people, local respect.
We're here because you've believed in us, and in local theatre.

MORE INNOVATION

A home for ARC, a home for a new way of doing theatre in Canada. With the Courthouse's resources, we have new ways to create and thrive.

MORE OPPORTUNITY

The Courthouse allows for more project collaboration, more job creation for theatre professions, and more theatre manufactured here.

GREATER COMMUNITY REACH

From audiences, volunteers, schools, cultural groups, local businesses, community agencies, and service groups, the Courthouse brings possibility.

SUPPORT FOR PERFORMERS

Thousands of performers have had deeply enriching experiences through us. With the Courthouse, we'll make sure a career in theatre in Saint John is more than just a dream.

“People Who Do What They Say They’ll Do”

Through our role in the Foundation, we have supported the Saint John Theatre Company for more than 20 years, including when they opened the Princess Street building.

We support work that we believe makes a difference. We support people who do what they say they are going to do. *That’s the Saint John Theatre Company.*

We are excited about the Courthouse project. We made a grant early to help develop the concepts, and we have made a second investment since then.

We find it to be an honor and a privilege to be able to help with something so worthwhile. When you’re asked to give, we encourage you to be very generous.



Your gift will help to preserve a beloved building at the heart of the city. You’ll grow arts and culture in the community, give young artists a steppingstone to a career, and generate new business activity.

All of it will give the city yet another reason to stick its chest out and be proud, and *you’ll be one of the reasons why.*

**MICHAEL AND
CYNTHIA DOYLE**

President, and Governor
(respectively), Sir James Dunn
Foundation

An Amazing Opportunity

“To re-purpose the Courthouse as a theatre for New Brunswick and the City of Saint John is an amazing opportunity.

The vision and the resourcefulness of the SJTC that created ARC will have an even greater impact with a Courthouse arts centre, both as a home for ARC and as a new theatre venue in the region.

The historic fabric of the Courthouse is already rich with stories from the past. Once it becomes a theatre it will be even richer with stories of Saint John’s future.

Huge congratulations to everyone who is helping make this happen.”



R.H. THOMSON

ARC academy instructor and guest artist
Renowned actor





“Historic buildings have their own stories to tell...breathing new life into this landmark building will enhance Saint John’s entire cultural life, evolving our community while adding more stories for future generations.”

**-John P. Barry, KC
Chair**



Three generations of John Barry’s family worked in the Courthouse, starting in 1915 and ending when it closed

This image is of the unique three-storey spiral staircase inside the Courthouse.

“The Opportunity To Stay Close To Home.”



Working with the Atlantic Repertory Company as a professional actor and theatre creator helped shape my early career in beautiful ways.

The established theatre artists I was able to learn from and create with gave me such confidence in my work, and the company has connected me with many talented peers from across the Maritimes who I hope to continue to work with for the rest of my career.

The ARC Residency created a space where I felt safe to take risks and push myself as an artist across wide-ranging roles and types of text. The ARC process allowed me to offer my best self and gave me room to grow within my practice. The experience of performing

and creating such varied works with ARC is reflected on my resume and has helped me to continue to pursue my passion here on the East Coast.

The addition of the Courthouse stage and a home for the ARC means much needed rehearsal space for the artists in this community, as well as the opportunity to put on even more varied types of theatrical performance.

Its existence as a hub for emerging and established artists means creatives like myself have the opportunity to stay close to home with artistic possibilities around the corner.

CAROLINE BELL

Local theatre artist and former ARC resident

Impact of your Investment

REPURPOSE A TREASURE

Save a valued historic site and reinvent it as a centre of community life a venue with purpose and impact.

NURTURE LOCAL CULTURE

Create a home base for Atlantic Repertory Company; a unique, permanent, year-round operation that generates original content while training & employing young professionals in all the disciplines of live theatre.

GENERATE FRESH ENERGY

Bring additional performances, creative activity and life into the core of the city.

SPARK FINANCIAL BENEFITS

Generate direct economic impact during reconstruction and expansion, and fuel ongoing economic impact (including to local businesses) through expanded year-round operations.

CREATE A PATH TO SUCCESS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Make it possible for local people to build theatre careers in Saint John - actors, musicians, directors AND specialists in staging, lighting, sound, set design and construction, and box support community groups, office and theatre administration.

BUILD OUR CITY

Enhance the capacity and profile of the area as a cultural hub in Atlantic Canada, and its appeal to potential businesses and employees.

FOSTER CREATIVITY

Expand the potential for theatre arts in the region with a new venue that accommodates more varied activities.

STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY

Add opportunities and enhance SJTC capacity to engage and support community groups schools, special interest groups and emerging communities.

How to Give to Possibility Unleashed

GIFTS OF CASH

Cash gifts are highly beneficial to the project and help SJTC meet its cash flow obligations during construction.

GIFTS BY PLEDGE

A pledge is an effective and easy way to give. With a pledge period of up to five years, you can budget your donation. Meanwhile, pledges help the SJTC plan its work throughout the build period and beyond.

GIFTS OF SECURITIES OR PERSONAL PROPERTY

Such gifts are welcome and may be advantageous to certain donors. Please contact the Campaign office to discuss the possibilities.

Gifts made should be made out to **Saint John Theatre Company** and designated for **“Possibilities Unleashed Campaign”** or **“Courthouse”** or **“Campaign.”**

For any questions about giving please contact our team:

Zara MacKay-Boyce

Director of Development,
(506) 652-7582

courthouse@saintjohntheatrecompany.com

Charitable registration number:

140919713RR0001

Note: The Saint John Theatre Company does not give tax or financial advice and advises all potential donors of property or assets to obtain independent professional advice about the tax or other implications of such a donation.



SAINT JOHN THEATRE COMPANY

BMO STUDIO THEATRE
112 Princess St. Saint John, NB E2L1K4

THE SAINT JOHN THEATRE COMPANY CAMPAIGN FOR THE COURTHOUSE