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arts centers



arts centers

The adaptive reuse and historic preservation of this structure required creative problem solving techniques. The Watertown Arsenal Building 312 is a 30,100 square foot, steel framed, high bay space previously used to manufacture America's armaments for nearly 200 years. Redeveloped into affordable commercial real estate, the site is located in a busy retail campus and is now the new home for the non-profit, Arsenal Center for the Arts.

Performing the work required that special attention be paid to minimizing noise and dust infiltration to the adjacent operational bank and restaurants. With the building listed on the historic register, work was restricted to the interior. By bringing equipment and trucks within the existing structure to erect the steel, the building exterior remained unaltered and construction traffic was minimized.

The once vacant building was transformed into two theaters – a 380 seat main auditorium with a full stage, a 125 person Black Box theatre, three levels of classrooms, offices, a studio and public spaces.

Working with the Owner, Owner's Representative and Architect, the team weaved the scheduling and delivery of in-kind donations and contributions of building materials into the project to maximize cost savings.





Photo: Warren Patterson



Photography: Peter Vanderwarker

Project:
Arts Center/
Theater Build-out
Theater Build-out

Owner:
The Arsenal
on the Charles

Architect:
Amsler Mashek
MacLean
Architects, Inc.

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“The entire Richard White Sons team instilled a level of confidence in us that was reassuring... their schedules and budgets were competitive yet realistic, and they delivered a class A facility as promised. The Project was fun and with RWS at the helm, I could sleep at night.”

WILLIAM J. BYRNE, JR., P. E.

VICE PRESIDENT OF CONSTRUCTION

Beal Companies, LLP

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