



# Performing Spaces

The **Department of Theatre Arts** boasts three performance spaces: the **Charity Randall Theatre** and the **Henry Heymann Theatre**, both housed in the Foster Memorial, and the **Richard E. Rauh Studio Theatre**, located in the Cathedral of Learning. All three provide state-of-the-art performance and technical experiences for Pitt students.

## Foster Memorial

Located on the University of Pittsburgh's campus, on the Forbes Avenue side of the Cathedral of Learning, directly across the street from Schenley Plaza.

Just as the Cathedral of Learning is the symbol of Pitt's academic tradition, the landmark Foster Memorial represents the University's deep commitment to the performing arts. The Foster is one of the three majestic Charles Klauder buildings of Indiana limestone occupying the Cathedral of Learning green. The crown jewel of Oakland's Cultural Corridor and East End performances spaces, this gothic-inspired arts complex emulates Pittsburgh's tradition of

preservation and practicality and provides Pitt students and the greater community with a warm and intimate setting for artistic exchange.

Conceived and initiated by members of the city's venerable Tuesday Musical Club, the building was completed and dedicated in 1937. The Foster Hall Collection, the principal repository for materials pertaining to the ragtime composer, was founded by Indianapolis pharmaceutical giant Josiah Kirby Lilly and given to the University to be housed in the building. Dedicated in Lilly's honor were the Charles J. Connick stained-glass windows of Shakespeare and Beethoven in the lobby, as well as Lilly Court, the plaza behind the auditorium.

The Foster Memorial Museum is the 12-sided wing housing Pitt's Center for American Music, which contains one of the nation's most significant collections of 19th-century music. The museum is open to the public Monday–Friday from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM, and guided tours may be scheduled. Admission is free.

Completely handicapped accessible for audience members and performers, the Foster Memorial is a tribute to passion of creativity and imagination. The theatres in the Foster Memorial are alive year-round with the sounds of music and words—the very inspiration for this timeless tribute to one of Pittsburgh's own.

## Fred Kelly Lobby

The Kelly Lobby commemorates Pittsburgh performer Fred Kelly, whose brother Gene was just one of the many Pitt-connected Kellys in the arts, as well as outstanding Pitt Theatre alumni who have received the theatre arts department's annual Fred Kelly Award.

# The Charity Randall Theatre



The **Charity Randall Theatre** is located inside the Foster Memorial located at 4301 Forbes Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213

The 454-seat Charity Randall Theatre, dedicated in 2003 following a \$3.2 million renovation of the Foster, replicates the grandeur and features of the original Foster auditorium, from the restored 1930s seats (identical to those first installed in New York City's Radio City Music Hall) to the grand lighting of the theatre's upper vault, evocative of the Cathedral of Learning's majestic Commons Room. The mainstage is equipped with technical, sound, and lighting capabilities to carry UP Stages Theatre and its guest companies far into the future.

In 2019 a new handicap elevator was installed in the Foster Memorial which allows patrons direct access to both the Charity Randall and the Henry Heymann Theatres.

# The Henry Heymann Theatre



The **Henry Heymann Theatre** is located on the bottom floor inside the Foster Memorial.

The theater honors the university's longtime scenic designer, and theater donor, Henry Heymann, who taught scenic design from 1968 until he retired in 1993. The Heymann Theatre was created in 2000 in a space that formerly served as the memorial's social room, which hosted USO dances during World War II. A little-known tunnel also extends from the Heymann Theatre to under the loading dock level of the Cathedral of Learning, connecting the two buildings. During the 2003 renovations to the memorial, the downstairs dressing room area was reconfigured to accommodate dressing rooms and men's and women's showers

This unique theatre offers audiences and players intimacy in a 137-seat (and 3 wheelchair spaces) venue.

# The Richard E. Rauh Studio Theatre



The **Richard E. Rauh Studio Theatre**, located in the lower level of the Cathedral of Learning, is a typical black box theater in that it is a square, unadorned room with black walls, a flat floor, and chairs that can be moved or removed to accommodate a particular production. It was originally designed in the early 1960s by Ned Bowman, associate professor of Speech and Theatre Arts. It is home to department mainstage and student-directed laboratory productions and various other theatrical events. This space has also been home to local theatrical productions during the summer academic hiatus. In 2017 the Studio Theatre was named in honor of Pitt alumnus Richard E. Rauh who donated \$1 million to support it and the university's theater productions.