

2014 Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

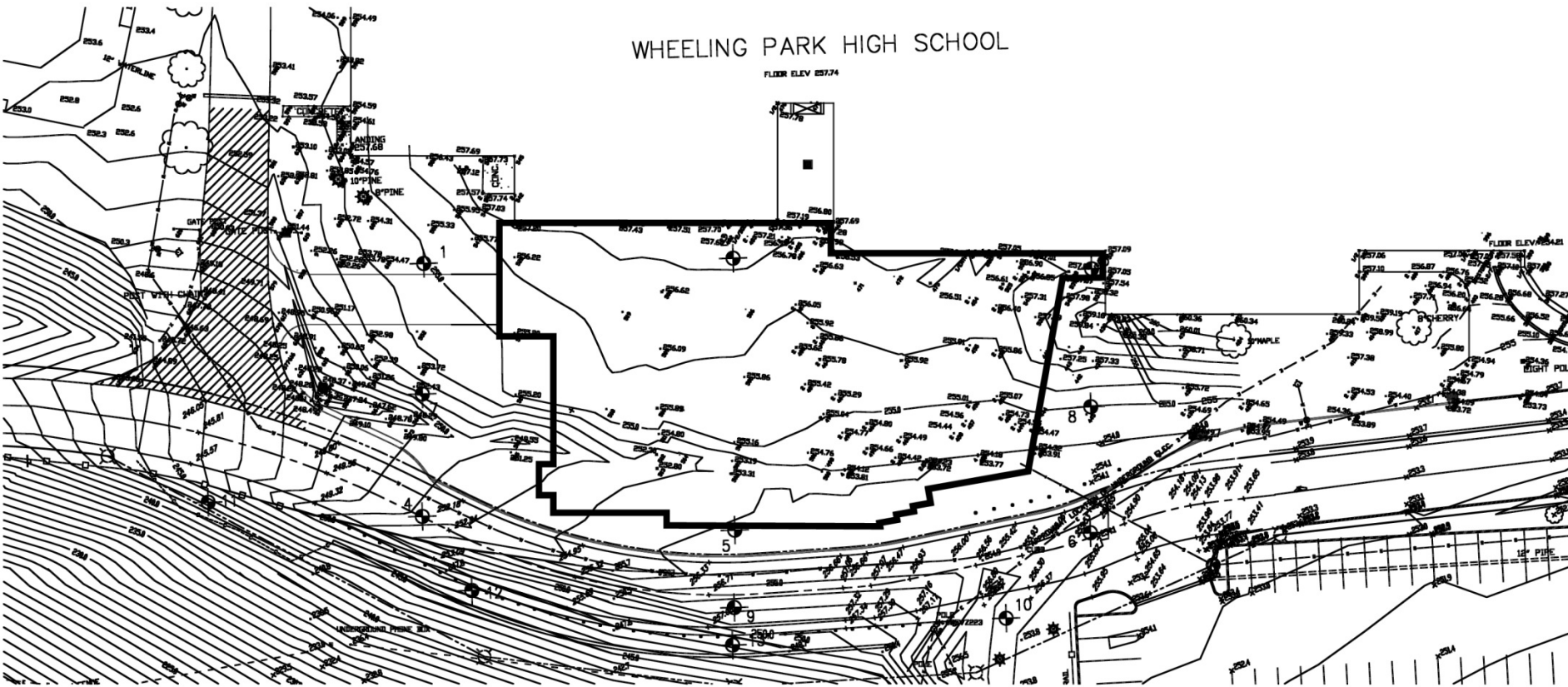
J.B. CHAMBERS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER at Wheeling Park High School

Ohio County Schools
Wheeling, West Virginia

J.B. CHAMBERS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



SITE PLAN



Open House Event

Community Environment: This project became a reality because of the vision of the Ohio County Administration, Staff and the Board of Education. With the assistance of the School Building Authority who provided \$5 million in funding, local legislators, Wheeling-area foundations and organizations, as well as businesses and individuals the project was able to attract the funding to complete the project. A major contributor is the J.B. Chambers Memorial Foundation, for whom the Performing Arts Center is named after, which donated \$1 million.

More than 100 local workers were involved in the construction of the facility.



Open House Event

Community Environment: The community's support was witnessed during the open house event on March 12, 2012, which was so great that an estimated 2,000 curious and excited guests attended. Hundreds of additional participants attended the grand opening and dedication ceremony on April 10th.

The Performing Arts Center is not only a state of the art facility available to elementary, middle and high school students; it is also available to local community groups, colleges, universities as well as performances by the Wheeling Symphony.



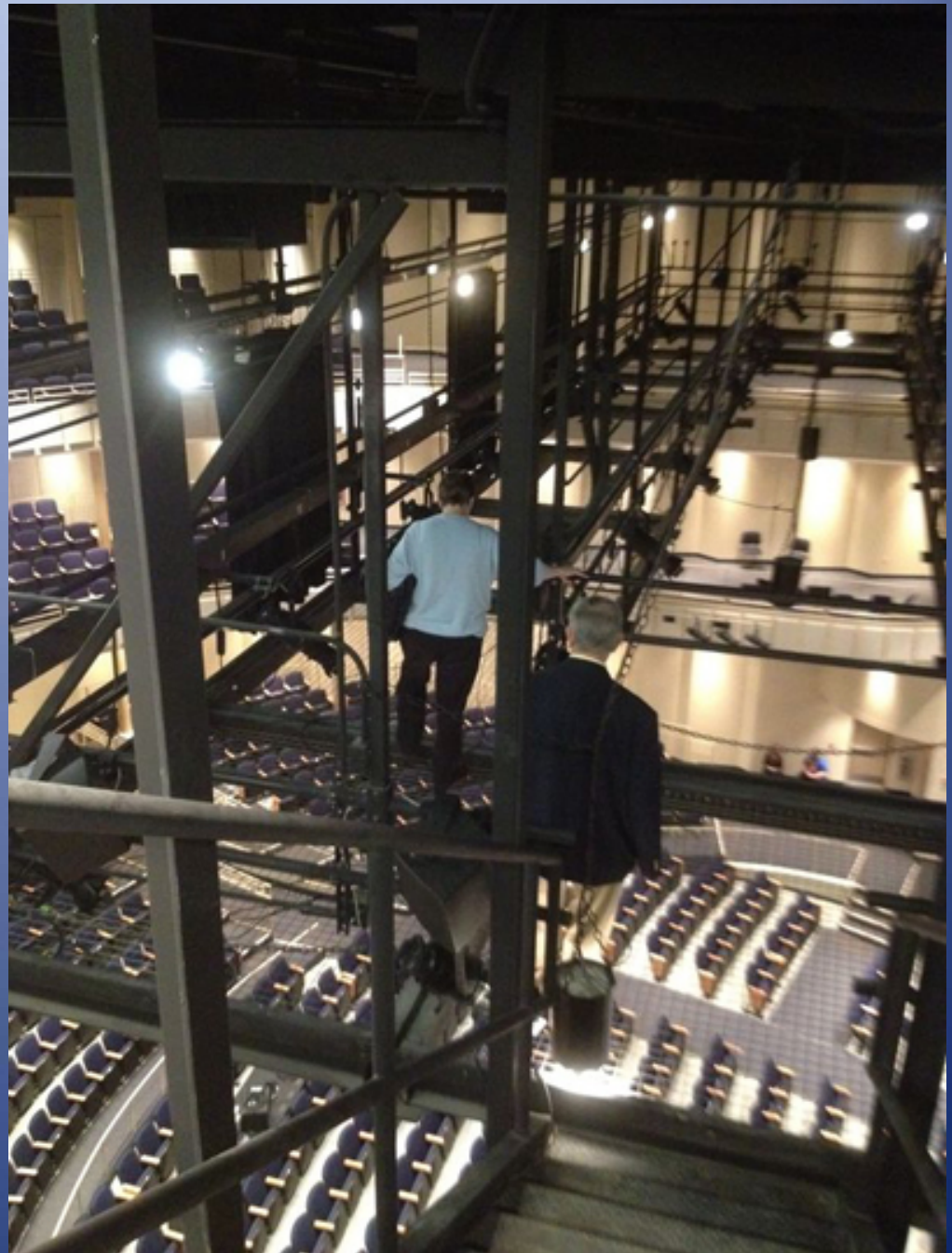
Walkable Tension Grid

Learning Environment: The facility was created to support a long-standing and robust Performing Arts Program. It provides a professional-grade Theater to showcase both musical and theatrical performances, and is used as a workshop for classes in performance and production.

In response to Wheeling Park's unusual concentration on performing arts and theater technology, the project showcases various components not typically found in public school facilities:

A Steinway grand piano was donated by the late opera star Eleanor Steber, giving the students the opportunity to use the highest quality professional equipment.

A lighting catwalk and walkable tension grid provides crew access during performance.



Utilizing the Highest Quality Professional Equipment

Learning Environment: A mid-house mix workstation allows direct audio control operations during performance.

Touch screen computers operate 350 lighting and rigging circuits, and audio controls.

An open-view lighting and audio booth is located at the back of the house.

All of these systems are utilized as hands-on training for the Theater Arts students.

It serves as a cultural hub for expansion of the arts within the school system and is an extension of the classroom for art, music, theater, speech, television and radio.

For these students, standing onstage in this unique venue is the first step of a dream-come-true.



Theater from Stage and Sold-Out Crowd

Physical Environment: The Theater was designed as a Gallery configuration with 2 Gallery levels, providing the audience with optimal proximity to the stage. This allows even the back row of ground floor seating to be within 100 feet of center stage, and enhances the acoustical performance of even the unplugged presentation of student voices.

This addition was built on to the front of the High School complex located on a site above a steep wooded park. The Theater is linked to the existing school with a compact but dynamic 2 story Lobby space. The Lobby features a central monumental stair, connecting the open balcony of the upper Lobby to the curtainwall-glazed angular geometry of the ground floor. The oversized mid-point landing on this stair looks out onto the entry plaza on one side, and into the dramatic cascading hillside of the park on the other.



Theater Side Views from Main Floor and from Gallery Level

Physical Environment: Ground floor seating for 800 persons is formed by curved elevated tiers with open railings; the 2 upper galleries each seat 200, but are only 4 rows deep. Ground floor side-aisles provide direct level access to stage.

Backstage, the 4,000 SF engineered stage floor system is supported by a full array of professional equipment, including a demountable orchestra shell and a suspended walk-able tension grid. A structural steel grid-iron loft above the stage provides crew access to the motorized rigging equipment and smoke control vents.

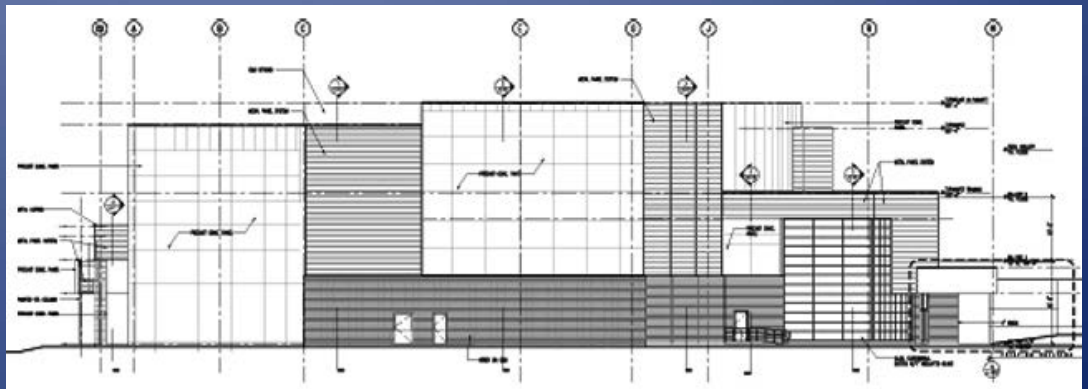
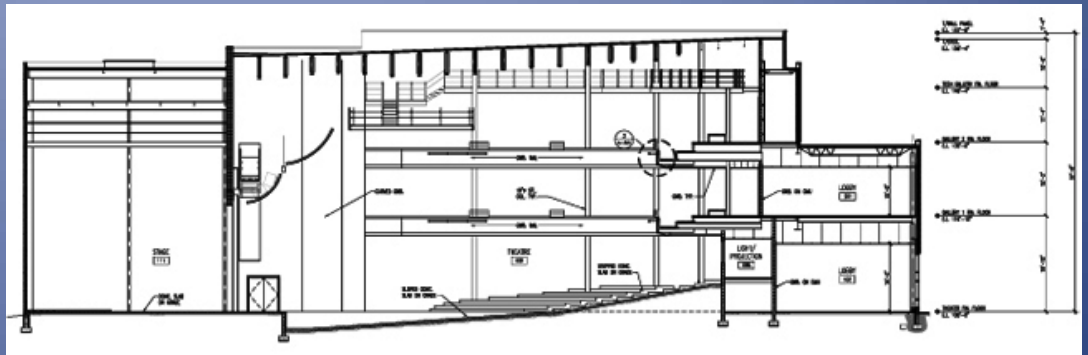
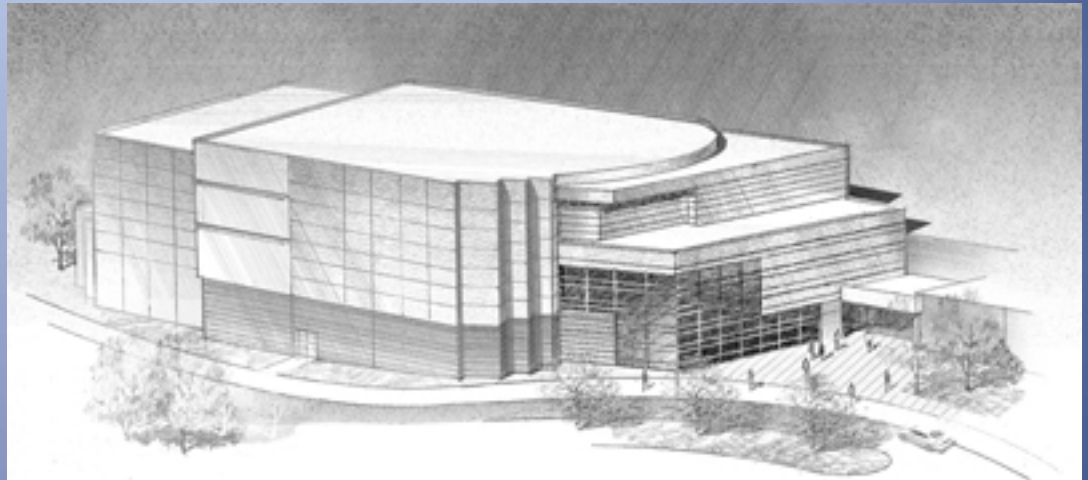
A 1500 SF Scene Shop is located behind the building. This high-bay studio provides open volume workshop space for set construction and equipment transfer. It has large doors, connecting the loading dock to the stage for deliveries and stage equipment. On the inside, a 20 FT high opening allows access and inter-mobility for tall stage equipment and set assemblies.



Artist's Rendering, Building Section, and West Elevation

Planning Process: A user group was formed, comprised of teachers in the Performing Arts and related technical classes, as well as school administrators. They participated in a series of programming sessions with the architects and theater consultant to define the scope and form of the facility.

A Gallery Concept was selected as the theater type. The concept was developed through successive iterations into a concise, final plan, responding to the precise conditions of the existing surrounding facility. Based on this plan, the project was optimized for Budget as detailed construction documents were completed.



Stage from Gallery Level and Lobby with Monumental Stair

Planning Process:

CONSTRUCTION:

- Masonry and pre-cast concrete wall panels with structural steel frame.

MATERIALS:

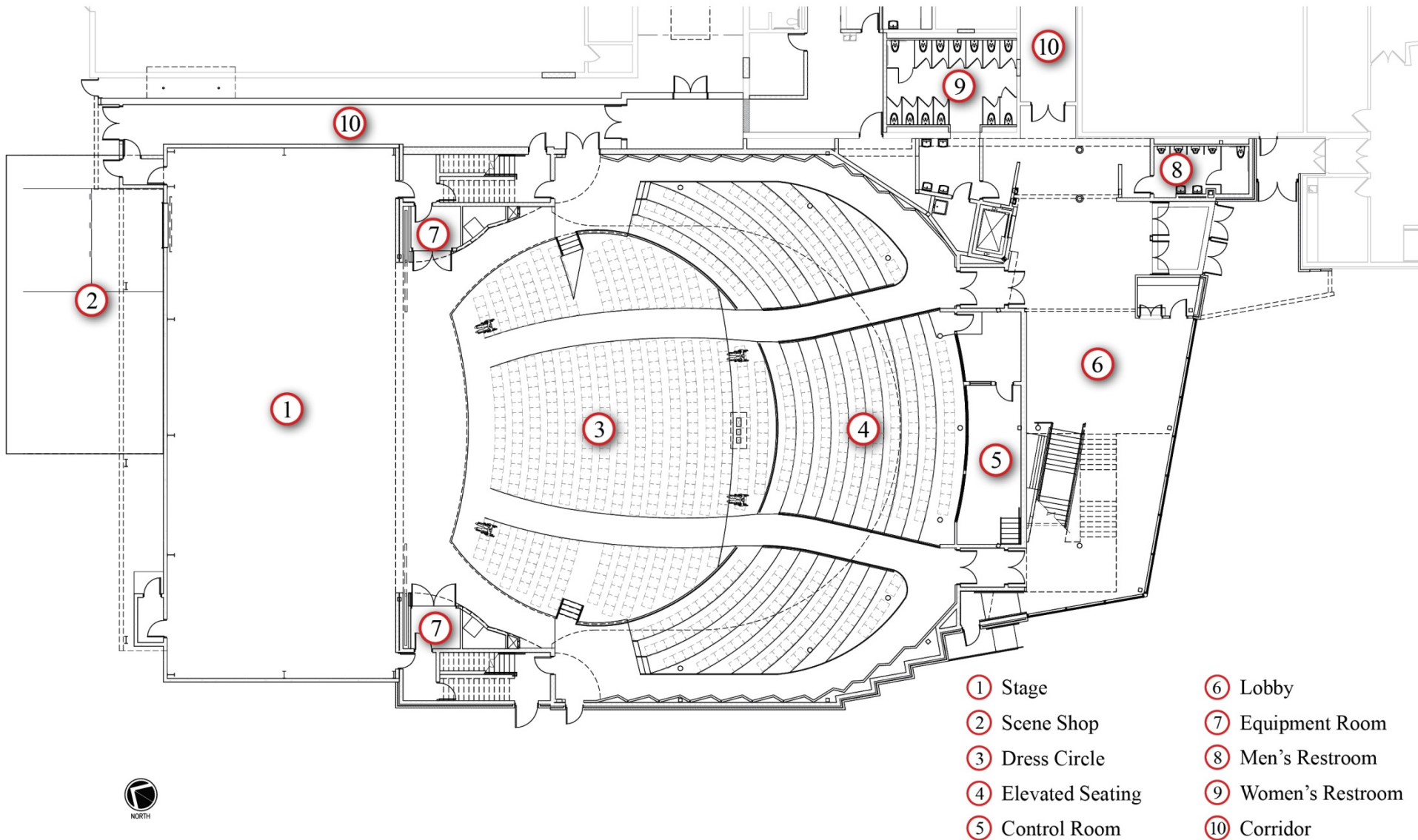
- Brick, pre-cast concrete, glass curtainwall, metal siding on exterior.
- Drywall and exposed masonry interiors.
- Decorative metal guardrails, with illuminated strip edge-lighting at interior steps and aisles

STAGE FEATURES:

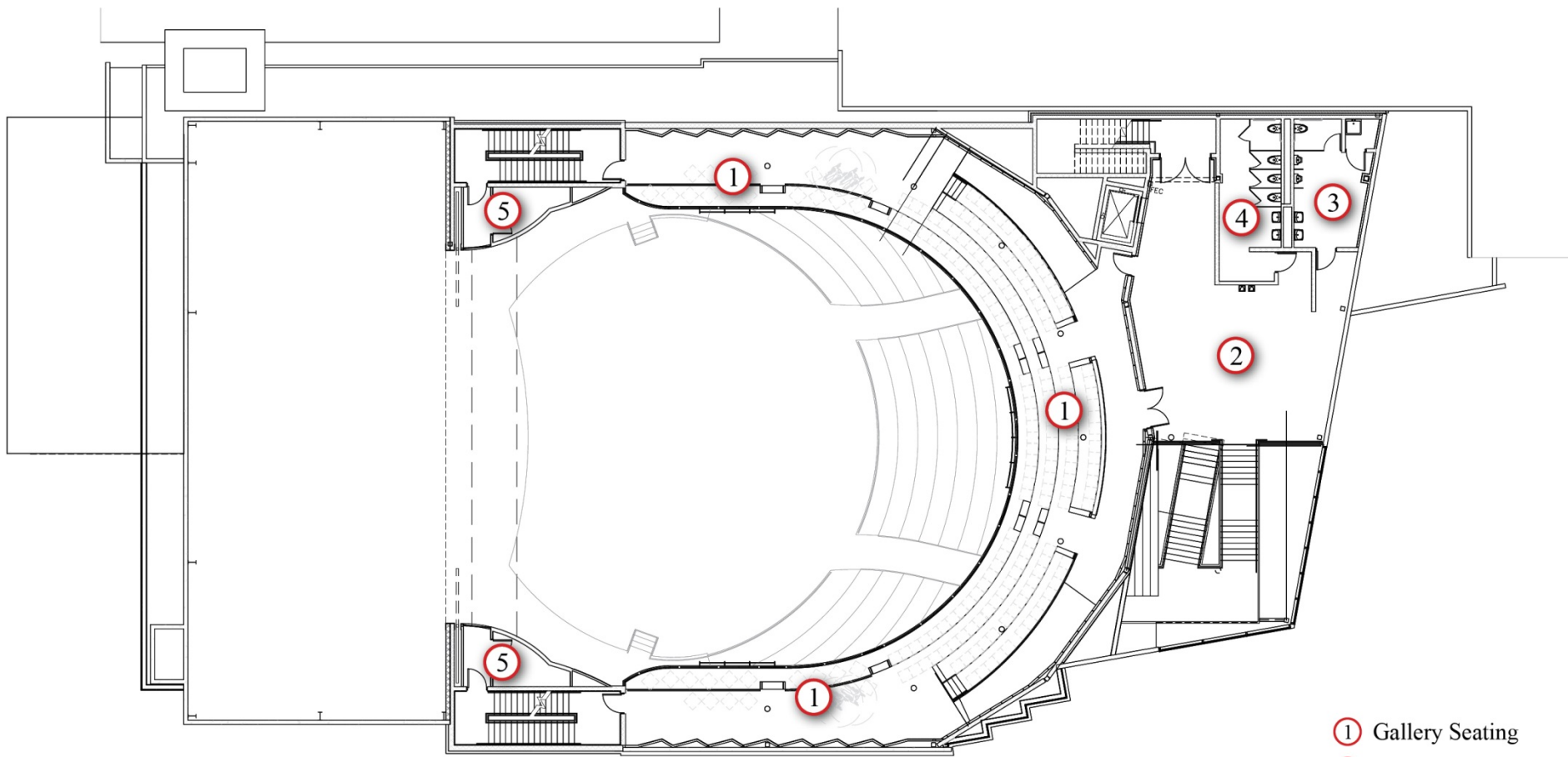
- Direct level access from ground floor side-aisles
- Demountable Orchestra Shell
- Multi-layer engineered stage floor system
- Gridiron loft with professional-grade rigging system
- Access catwalks and Technical Gallery
- Walkable Tension Grid system (for stage lighting)
- 1500 SF Scene Shop



Theater Floor Plan



Gallery 1 and 2 Floor Plans



- ① Gallery Seating
- ② Upper Lobby
- ③ Men's Restroom
- ④ Women's Restroom
- ⑤ Equipment Room



NORTH

Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

Project Data

Submitting Firm :	McKinley & Associates
Project Role	Architects & Engineers
Project Contact	Ray Winovich, RA
Title	Project Architect
Address	32 20 th Street – Suite 100
City, State or Province, Country	Wheeling, West Virginia 26003
Phone	304-233-0140

Other Firm:	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.
Project Role	Theatrical Consultant
Project Contact	Van Phillips
Title	President
Address	301 North Fifth Street
City, State or Province, Country	Lafayette, Indiana 47901
Phone	765-423-1123

Other Firm:	BAi, LLC
Project Role	Acoustical Consultant
Project Contact	Charles Bonner
Title	President
Address	4006 Speedway
City, State or Province, Country	Austin, Texas 78751
Phone	512-476-3464

Construction Firm:	Jarvis, Downing & Emch, Inc.
Project Role	General Contractor
Project Contact	Dan Loy
Title	Project Manager
Address	200 GC & P Road
City, State or Province, Country	Wheeling, West Virginia 26003
Phone	304-232-5000

Exhibition of School Planning and Architecture

Project Details

Project Name	J.B. Chambers Performing Arts Center
City	Wheeling
State	West Virginia
District Name	Ohio County Schools
Supt/President	Dr. Diana Vargo
Occupancy Date	April 2012
Grades Housed	9 - 12
Capacity(Students)	1200 Seats
Site Size (acres)	12,000 SF
Gross Area (sq. ft.)	34,000 SF
Per Occupant(pupil)	21.25 SF
gross/net please indicate	gross
Design and Build?	No
If yes, Total Cost:	
Includes:	
If no,	
Site Development:	\$660,000 (including road)
Building Construction:	\$9.2 Million
Fixed Equipment:	N/A
Other:	
Total:	\$11 Million