

PROJECT BRIEF



Project Name: Historic Theater Renovation

Grant Program: BASE 2.0

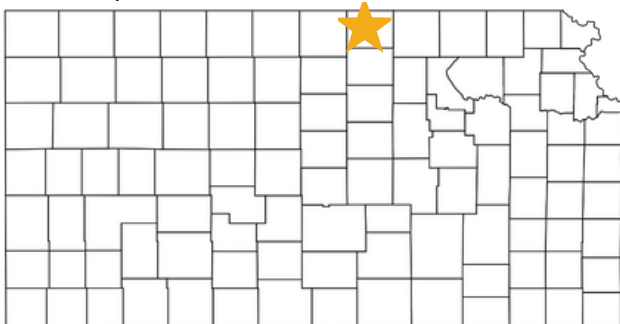
Project Date: April 2023 - April 2025

Project Summary

The Blair Theater, located in a rural, socioeconomically underserved Kansas community, received BASE grant funds to complete critical capital improvements including HVAC and roof repairs, upgraded lighting/sound/video systems, stage and rigging improvements, and enhanced seating and restroom facilities. These updates will enable the Blair Theater to sustain programming and support long-term operations.

Location

Belleville, Kansas



Grantee Information

The Blair Center for the Arts Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization formed in 2000 to restore and operate the historic Blair Theater in Belleville, Kansas.

Goals and Objectives

Goal: Expand access to arts and entertainment programming for a socioeconomically underserved, rural population by restoring the historic Blair Theater.

Objective: Complete critical facility upgrades to modernize the theater and diversify programming.

Budget Overview

- BASE amount: \$450,000.00
- Match amount: \$150,608.50
- Total project budget: \$600,608.50

Expense categories:

- Construction: \$250,776.87
- FFE: \$286,106.63
- HVAC: \$59,825.00
- Architectural fees: \$3,900.00

Target Population

The target population for this grant includes historically underserved, low-income, and marginalized groups, with a focus on school-aged youth who benefit from access to arts and education programming.

Sustainability

The capital improvements modernized the facility, enabling the Blair Theater to host live events, expand programming, and attract more visitors which will generate ongoing revenue through ticket sales, concessions, and private events.

Outcomes

- The Blair Theater estimates the economic impact of the theater renovation to include an estimated 29,950 attendees annually, \$815,089 in local economic activity, and \$73,358 in tax revenue.
- Increased access to the arts for underserved populations, improved student academic performance and engagement, and stronger community health and quality of life.

Activities and Timeline

2024 Q3: procurement conducted for seating, audio, lighting and emergency egress

2024 Q4: stage sound and lighting installation, construction begins for HVAC, window replacement, plumbing and electrical work

2025 Q2: construction completed for HVAC, window replacement, plumbing and electrical work

Contact Information

For any queries or additional information, please contact

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