

PROJECT BRIEF



Project Name: Wareham Hall Renovation

Grant Program: SPRINT

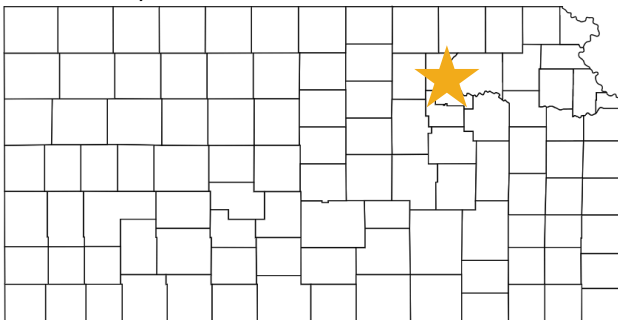
Project Date: January 2024 - February 2024

Project Summary

The historic Wareham Opera House in Manhattan has served as a community entertainment venue for more than 140 years. The project received \$250,000 in SPRINT funding to support architectural and design planning activities necessary for the future rehabilitation and redevelopment of the historic structure. The planning work positioned the facility for an ongoing long-term restoration into a modern performing arts and community events venue that supports downtown revitalization and economic development.

Location

Manhattan, KS



Grantee Information

The Wareham Hall Renovation Fund is a nonprofit-led capital campaign established to raise and manage funding to restore and redevelop the historic Wareham Opera House in Manhattan into a modern performing arts and community events venue.

Goals and Objectives

Goal: Expand access to arts, education, and performance space and strengthen downtown vitality and tourism.

Objective: Develop plans and specifications to support future restoration, modernization, and code/ADA compliance improvements.

Budget Overview

Grant Amount: \$250,000.00

Total Project Budget: \$250,000.00

Expense Categories:

- Architectural Design: \$250,000.00

The total estimated project budget for the Wareham Hall renovation is \$40 million, inclusive of all fund sources.

Target Population

The primary target population is the broader public served by the revitalized Wareham Opera House in Manhattan—including local residents, regional visitors, artists and performers, students and faculty at Kansas State University, and downtown businesses that benefit from increased cultural activity and foot traffic.

Sustainability

The project is sustainable because, once fully redeveloped, the venue is designed to generate operating income through ticketed performances, event rentals, concessions, and touring acts across a wide range of programming. The project uses a layered capital stack, including private philanthropy, public funding, and historic rehabilitation tax credits to reduce debt burden and upfront capital pressure.

Outcomes

The primary outcomes of the Wareham Opera House project in Manhattan are the completion of architectural and design planning activities needed to advance the long-term rehabilitation of the historic facility.

Activities and Timeline

2023: Initial architectural design completed.
2024: Extended design phase to accommodate purchase of adjoining building to expand the theater's footprint.*
2025: Construction begins.
2027: Estimated opening.

*Grant-funded portion of project activities.

Contact Information

For any queries or additional information, please contact

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