

“The Central Oregon Center for the Arts would provide our community with a deeper connection with the performing arts to help enrich our cultural world, especially our youth.

“Such creativity has proven to be the most important step to human development.”

– James Knox,  
*Professor of Music, Central Oregon Community College;  
Founder/Director Bend Children’s Choir*



“A performing arts center is mandatory for Central Oregon as evidenced by continued sold out shows in venues that do not provide the space, rooms, wings, technology, etc. required for any quality production.”

– Michelle Mejaski,  
*Choreographer/director of Mejaski Productions*

“Central Oregon’s performing arts organizations have steadily outgrown their available venues, many of which are rented from churches and schools. Meanwhile, Bend has grown into a city deserving of first-rate traveling productions from Broadway and elsewhere.

“Nothing would unleash the creative energy and vigor of our local arts culture more than a first-class performing arts center.”

– Clyde Thompson,  
*Founder and Director Emeritus, Central Oregon Mastersingers*

Arts and Economic Prosperity 5: The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations and their Audiences in the Central Oregon Region, a study conducted by Americans for the Arts, reported:

- Total arts and cultural annual expenditures in the region represented \$34.66 million
- Event-related spending totaled \$24.7 million, excluding the cost of event admission
- Nearly 1,000 full-time-equivalent jobs were supported by arts and culture
- \$18.52 million in household income paid to residents

Central Oregon has continued to experience explosive growth in the wake of that study. It seems clear that the above numbers therefore have grown, making COCA even more viable and more necessary.



[centraloregoncenterforthearts.org](http://centraloregoncenterforthearts.org)



## WHO WE ARE

We are a coalition of professional and business people, educators, musicians, and patrons of the arts who believe that it is time for a modern, multi-use performing arts center in Central Oregon. Our goal is a world-class facility designed to serve the cultural needs of Central Oregon.

Such a center would provide a gathering place for artists and teachers to share their knowledge, vision and voice via music, theater, dance, photography, sculpture, exhibitions, installations, lectures, workshops, and all other manners of creative expression.

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The Central Oregon Center for the Arts is organized as a corporate entity under Oregon state law.



“The Central Oregon Center for the Arts will enrich and enliven the cultural life of Central Oregon by creating a comfortable and welcoming campus of entertainment and education for artists of all disciplines and for those who appreciate and patronize the arts.

“It will serve as a permanent home for local ensembles of all kinds, it will create jobs, and it will contribute to the area’s cultural life and financial well-being.”

– Michael Gesme, conductor,  
*Central Oregon Symphony and the Cascade Winds*



## WHAT WE ENVISION

- A fully equipped state-of-the-art theater of up to 1,200 seats, large enough to host touring Broadway companies
- A smaller theater of up to 600 seats for concerts and productions that don’t require a larger space
- A “black box” space of up to 400 seats for small productions and presentations
- A green room, dressing rooms and backstage restrooms
- Space for readings, presentations, and workshops
- Rehearsal spaces
- Instrument-storage spaces
- Space to support an arts education program to help engage the community
- An anchor restaurant/brew pub that would be open during regular business hours
- Retail shops and community areas that will provide broad returns on investment and new creative opportunities
- Adequate and easily accessible parking



## WHAT IMPACT CAN WE EXPECT?

By providing comprehensive access to arts, theater, music and dance to residents and visitors, the Central Oregon Center for the Arts will make significant cultural and economic contributions to the vitality of Bend, Deschutes County and Central Oregon.

## WHAT ARE THE NUMBERS?

- The building’s size will be approximately 92,000 square feet
- The entire facility, including parking, likely will cover from 5 to 10 acres

## HOW WILL COCA BE FUNDED?

Its estimated cost will be up to \$80 million, or more. COCA will be paid for through a comprehensive fundraising strategy that includes state and federal grants, a capital campaign, special events, e-marketing, and more.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Ask us at [info@centraloregoncenterforthearts.org](mailto:info@centraloregoncenterforthearts.org)

