



News Release

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County Announces Plans for Capitol Theatre Renovations and Construction of Ballet West Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance Building

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The historic Capitol Theatre will undergo a major renovation this summer and fall, and will gain a new neighbor, the new Ballet West Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance. Renovation work in the Capitol Theatre begins in June with an anticipated groundbreaking in July for the Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance.

Salt Lake County's Center for the Arts (CFA), owner and operator of the Capitol Theatre, and Ballet West developed a unique public/private partnership and worked jointly to bring both projects to reality. The combined project will address several long-standing concerns at the Capitol Theatre and will provide Ballet West with a beautiful new home for its professional program and the Ballet West Academy.

"The Capitol Theatre is a much loved and supported County asset within our vibrant and active arts and culture community. The cultural organizations that make their home in Salt Lake County provide exceptional programs that help contribute to our overall quality of life," said Salt Lake County Mayor Ben McAdams. "The County is a strong supporter of the arts and culture in the region by providing both performance spaces through the Center for the Arts and programming support through the ZAP program."

Renovation work in the Capitol Theatre begins on June 28, 2013, and will be complete by November 30, 2013, in time for the annual production of Ballet West's *The Nutcracker*. Key projects include a new HVAC system, improved seating, an expanded lobby, and improved sightlines to the stage. During the five-month renovation period, the Capitol Theatre will be closed for

performances.

"We recognize this closure is a short-term challenge and appreciate the support of the organizations that normally perform in the Capitol Theatre," said Philip Jordan, the Center for the Arts Division Director. "When we reopen in December, we will have a beautiful and much improved Theatre for the performers and the public."

The Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance will serve as a permanent home for Ballet West, with construction scheduled to begin in July 2013 through May 2014. The Ballet will enjoy five dedicated ballet studios for its professional dancers and Academy program, new administration and Academy offices, and program support spaces. Portions of the building will also tie into the Capitol Theatre.

"The realization of the Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance is a dream come true for Ballet West," stated Adam Sklute, Ballet West's Artistic Director. "We are so grateful to our donors, especially the Quinney Foundation, for giving us the gift of studios and space that will allow us to instantly grow our Academy program and offer our professional dancers inspirational creation and rehearsal spaces."

The Capitol Theatre benefits from the Quinney Center for Dance, with an expanded lobby, new public restrooms, new meeting and reception spaces, and new ADA access and seats in the Mezzanine level.

HKS Architects designed the stunning new Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance and planned the renovation of the Capitol Theatre. "We have worked with Ballet West and CFA for several years on this project," said Mike Vela, a Principal at HKS Architects. "The Capitol Theatre is such an iconic building in Utah and we are pleased we get to contribute to this legacy with the new Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance."

Okland Construction will oversee the Capitol Theatre renovations and the building of the Jessie Eccles Quinney Center for Dance. "Okland Construction is pleased to be a part of this exciting project and to help create a new landmark in our Capital City," stated Jeremy Blanck, a Project Executive with Okland Construction.

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