

A Brief History of the Campus Theatre

1941

The beautiful Campus Theatre ("The Campus") in historic downtown Lewisburg PA opened its doors on January 17, eleven months shy of the attack on Pearl Harbor. It was designed by architect David Supowitz, renowned for his Revival Art Deco architecture, and built by the Stiefel Brothers. The Campus Theatre is one of the last of a dwindling number of single screen movie theaters in the country. The first movie shown was "Love Thy Neighbor" starring Jack Benny and Mary Martin. In its early years, the Campus' second-floor office space served as a USO canteen.

1953

Morris Stiefel's son Harold took over management of the theater, which he and his wife Jacquie ran together until his death in 1988. They took pride in creating a place where memories were made, tears were shed, and laughter roared.

2001

Jacquie sold the theater to Bucknell University film professor Eric Faden who ran it as the non-profit, Campus Theatre LTD.

2006

Bucknell University purchased the building. It leases the theater back to Campus Theatre LTD.

2011

Bucknell and the Campus Theatre expanded their partnership to preserve the historical heritage of the Campus and maintain its importance to the community. The theater underwent a significant renovation.

Today

The original, vintage neon marquee continues to shine brightly and highlights the diverse offerings of the Campus Theatre.

For eight decades this vibrant, historic landmark has continued to play a starring role in the cultural, economic, educational, social and architectural life of Lewisburg's downtown Market Street and the greater community.



The Campus Theatre
*Endowment
Campaign*

413 Market Street • Lewisburg PA 17837
www.campustheatre.org



Endowment Campaign Crucial for Sustainability

Our Mission and Programming

Campus Theatre LTD is committed to preserving, promoting, and operating this historic theater for the cultural enrichment of the greater Lewisburg community and beyond. We strive to provide an enhanced movie-going experience to patrons in an authentic single screen Art Deco theater with state-of-the-art sound and projection equipment.

We bring a thoughtful balance of film programming to the community including popular current films, classics, and independent and culturally significant art films. Our diverse programming includes live music performances, subscription events such as National Theatre Live, special screenings such as our popular Hitchcock, and summer film series, and free holiday movies for families.

Bucknell Film/Media Studies Program

The Bucknell film program offers screenings in connection to their academic courses. These weekly film series are curated to offer a range of cinema akin to independent and art house theaters across the country. All screenings are introduced by Bucknell faculty and are open and free to the public. Films are presented in their original formats whenever possible, allowing audiences to see 35mm film prints as well as the latest digital restorations and releases.

Campus Theatre Association with Bucknell

Campus Theatre LTD is an independent, not-for-profit entity and is fully responsible for its operation including programming, staffing, management, utilities, concessions and fund-raising. The Campus Theatre LTD is responsible, both financially and operationally, for everything within the Campus Theatre building.

Bucknell University owns our building and maintains responsibility for its preservation. It also provides some support through film media studies and other rentals. Despite our financial independence from Bucknell, we have always had a close association with the university as reflected by our name, the orange and blue tile exterior and the bison emblem front and center.



Contact us:

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Looking ahead as the Campus Theatre approaches its 85th birthday, the Board of Directors has launched an ambitious \$1 Million Campus Theatre Endowment Campaign to provide additional income to ensure sustainability for our theatre's future.

The cultural and educational benefits of the Campus Theatre to our community cannot be overstated. We are not only a historical landmark for the region, but a cornerstone for an economically vibrant downtown. This is a challenging time for movie theaters, particularly small, single-screen theaters like ours. Almost unlimited streaming choices for movie-goers accelerated by the Covid pandemic continue to create financial hardships for movie exhibitors. Campus Theatre memberships, ticket sales, and concessions provide revenue to help support day-to-day operations, but a robust endowment fund is needed to ensure the long-term viability and vitality of the Campus Theatre.

As a not-for-profit theater, The Campus depends on its community and its patrons who believe in its mission for support.

Single screen, Art Deco theaters like the Campus Theatre are disappearing. Once gone, they are typically gone forever. With your help, we can continue our mission to bring quality and diverse programming to our community. **Your visionary and generous support will preserve our beautiful, historic treasure for generations to come.**