

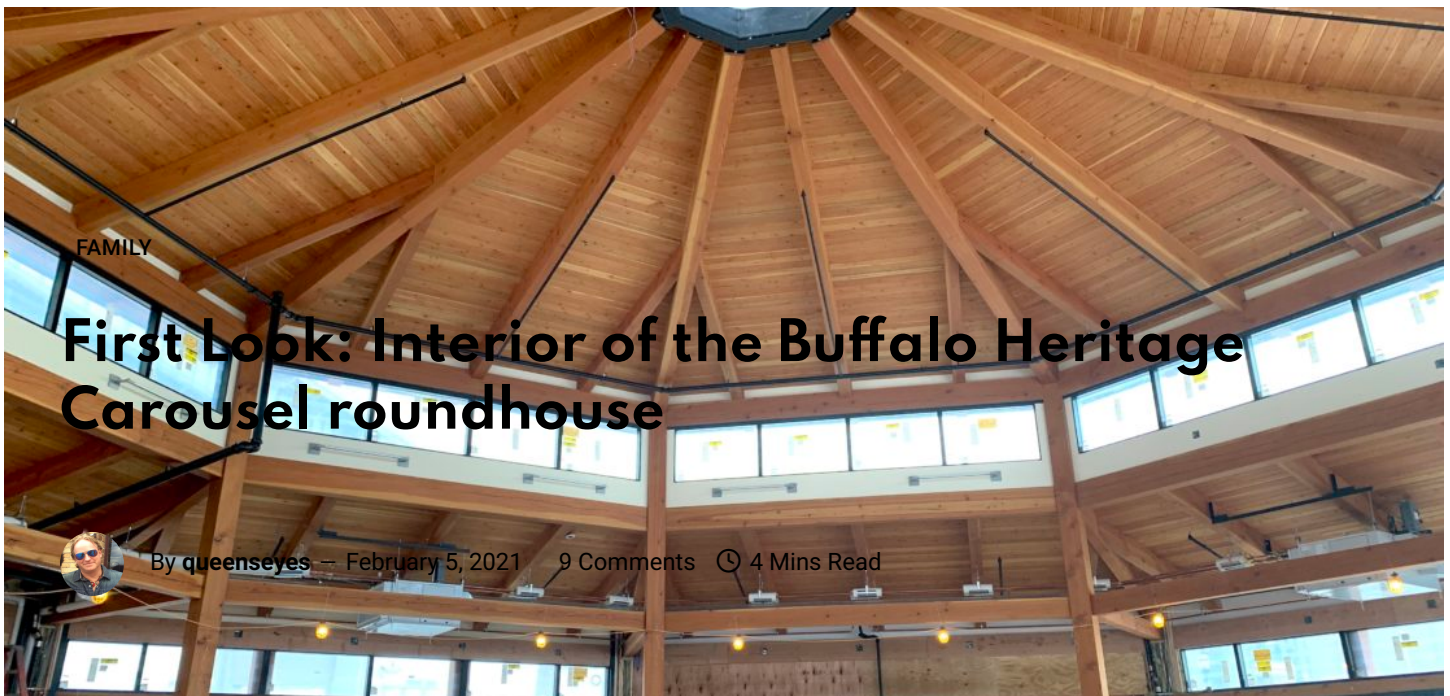
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First Look: Interior of the Buffalo Heritage Carousel roundhouse



By queenseyes — February 5, 2021 9 Comments 4 Mins Read

Seeing the Buffalo Heritage Carousel roundhouse building going up is one thing. Stepping inside is another. Earlier today, I was afforded the opportunity to check out the interior of the future home to the solar powered 1924 DeAngelis Carousel, at Canalside.

I had two initial reactions upon viewing the interior. First, it looks a lot bigger on the inside, than it does from the outside. Second, the sheer amount of wood is impressive.

“It’s renewable Douglas fir, new growth from Oregon,” said Carima El-Behairy, Director Operations and Development for the carousel project. “We’re using as many renewable resources as possible.”

Using sustainable resources aligns with the overall theme of the carousel project, as the carousel itself will be powered by solar.

As we walked and talked, Carima clued me into a couple of other points of interest, which I was not previously aware of. “On that side of the carousel [pointing to the side nearest the water], there will be a Heritage Center. That’s where we will have Bob Kresse’s (Kresse was a civic leader and philanthropist) carousel horse – the lead horse that is not going on the carousel. The Center will also have a 4-foot, scaled down, fully-operational carousel (not modeled after the DeAngelis Carousel), where visitors will be able to see all of the different perspectives, and how a carousel works.”



Carima El-Behairy



Bob Kresse’s “lead horse” can be seen on the right

Aside from being brilliantly, naturally lit, Carima also told me that 5 of the 8 roundhouse walls open up to the outdoors, which means that during the summertime there will be an open-air vibe.

All the music for the Carousel will be supplied by a Wurlitzer Carousel Band Organ, Model 153, it is currently on display at the Hershell Carousel Factory Museum until the Carousel is installed.

In addition to the tremendous amount of blonde wood, and the captivating carousel itself, there will be plenty of other objects of interest to behold. Numerous fanciful and ingenious design details are currently being installed, including iridescent metal-fabric panels to hide wiring and mechanicals, and a gutter system that runs *through* the roof, and then outside (HH Richardson would be proud).



Ultimately, the carousel will not only be fun, it will be enlightening. There be hands-on teaching tools to demonstrate how the solar components work, and there will be educational programming that will detail the history, the craftsmanship, and the regional heritage, all of which will make this showcase development a destination unto itself at Canalside. That said, having the new Longshed Building and Explore & More children's museum nearby will help to create a collaborative multifaceted attraction of magnanimous proportions.

Carima told me that she expects that the carousel will be installed mid March to early April – “Still on target for Memorial Day opening.” There will also be a new website launching soon that will feature all of the ins and outs (and rounds and rounds) of the project, including the history, the programming, maps, updates, photographs, and even opportunities to book the carousel for special occasions.



“We’re going to get it open and do it right,” Carima stated.

To date, this is the only project that I can think of where the act of “horsing around” is not only encouraged, it’s productive!

History: The vintage carousel was manufactured in 1924 by Spillman Engineering in North Tonawanda for Dominick De Angelis. The carousel was in operation until the 1950s at which point it was stored by the De Angelis family until Buffalo Heritage Carousel acquired it with a goal of providing family-oriented recreation on Buffalo’s waterfront and to celebrate Western New York’s industrial heritage.

Learn more about the project and see the wooden carousel horse menagerie.



Bob Kresse Buffalo Heritage Carousel Buffalo NY Carima El-Behairy children DeAngelis
eco_Logic families kids roundhouse waterfront

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Newell Nussbaumer is 'queenseyes' - Eyes of the Queen City and Founder of Buffalo Rising. Co-founder Elmwood Avenue Festival of the Arts. Co-founder Powder Keg Festival that built the world's largest ice maze (Guinness Book of World Records). Instigator behind Emerald Beach at the Erie Basin Marina. Co-creator of Rusty Chain Beer. Instigator of Buffalo Porchfest, and Paint vs. Paint. Founder of The Peddler retro and vintage market on Elmwood. Instigator behind Liberty Hound @ Canalside. Throws The Witches Ball at Statler City, the Hertel Alley Street Art Festival, and The Flutterby Festival. Coming soon... 'fig' Fashion Show. Contact Newell Nussbaumer | Newell@BuffaloRising.com

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Why does a small wooden building require a Director Operations and Development?

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East Auran → shmeagershcolin • 2 years ago • edited

This building will attract tens of thousands of people. Someone needs to run the admissions, maintenance, gift shop, fund raising, logistics, etc. You know, a director of operations and development.

A similar carousel in Albany, Ore., a much smaller city than Buffalo, attracted more than 160,000 visitors in 2019. It has five full-time employees, including an - gasp - executive director.

<https://albanycarousel.com/...>

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shmeagershcolin → East Auran • 2 years ago

I'll rephrase. Why is this small wooden building its own freestanding operation rather than a project of ECHDC, which already has staff? The answer is that one of the reasons that publicly funded projects like Canalside exist is to provide jobs ministrators, consultants, and lawyers.

hcolin • 2 years ago • edited

n a job interview

years ago






r cronies to the bureaucracy.

re to be a carousel, or band organ, or just taped music?

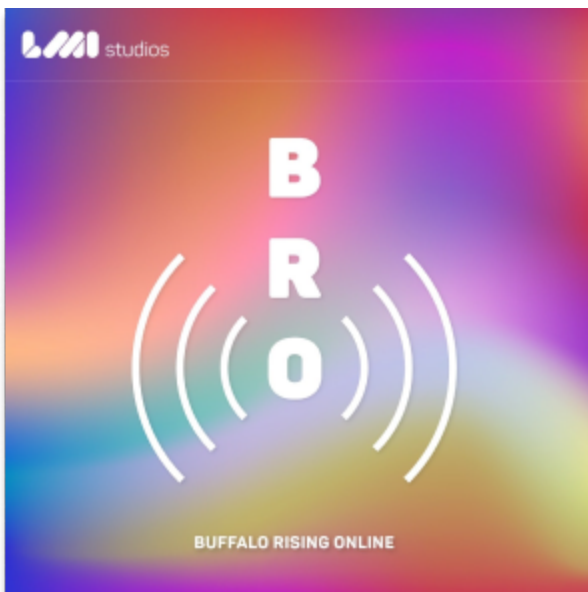
I'm taking my kids there. My worry is this: I hope this project priorities being history, sustainable woods, and too much

and excite freaking kids, not old fuddy duddies.

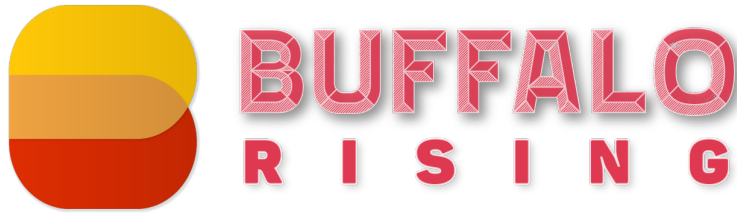
s museum. It's ok, but for example there is a big exhibit on g kidding me. My kids thought learning about the guaranty : museum missed the boat on making kids the focus. Dont

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