



## riverside theatre

### vero beach, florida

The theater originated in 1973 as the home for the Vero Beach Theatre Guild with limited accommodation for both performers and patrons. Over the years, the Riverside Theatre was formed and became the new occupants, and several backstage additions followed. It was 25 years later that the Board committed to improving the public spaces to enhance the overall theater-going experience with a new air conditioned lobby which leads you directly into the auditorium, plenty of restroom facilities which are conveniently located, an audience chamber with improved sightlines and acoustics, and the addition of a new 185 seat flexible studio theater which is used for anything from contemporary theater to dinner parties.

The original 608-seat auditorium was dismal, and acoustically inadequate which suffered from a poor performer-to-audience relationship. An entirely new audience chamber replaces the former continental seating arrangement with a sloped 500-seat bowl with aisles to access the seating and a 200-seat balcony with wrap-around side boxes to bring the audience closer to the stage. These boxes create ledges, that together with new ceiling articulation help to diffuse sound and provide a richer acoustic environment. A new 5,500 sq. ft. lobby is designed where it may connect with the flexible studio through a large acoustically rated opening to provide banquet space for up to 600 persons, the only space of its kind in the area. The lobby connects all public spaces on both levels, including the new founders room, and provides a connection to the main lobby floor through a series of overlooks. The dramatic form of the addition and glazed openings provide an identity and connection to the surrounding park and community.

Today the venue is home to America's largest and most successful small town professional theater.

#### Project Information

Area:	43,000 sq. ft.
Scope:	Renovations and Additions
Services:	Complete Architectural Services
Completion Date:	March 2007
Client:	Riverside Theater
Contact:	Allen Cornell      772.231.5860
Architect of Record:	Zeidler Partnership Inc (Michael Nelson - Director).
Contractor:	Proctor Construction Co.
Project Delivery:	Construction Management
Construction Cost:	\$13.8M



