



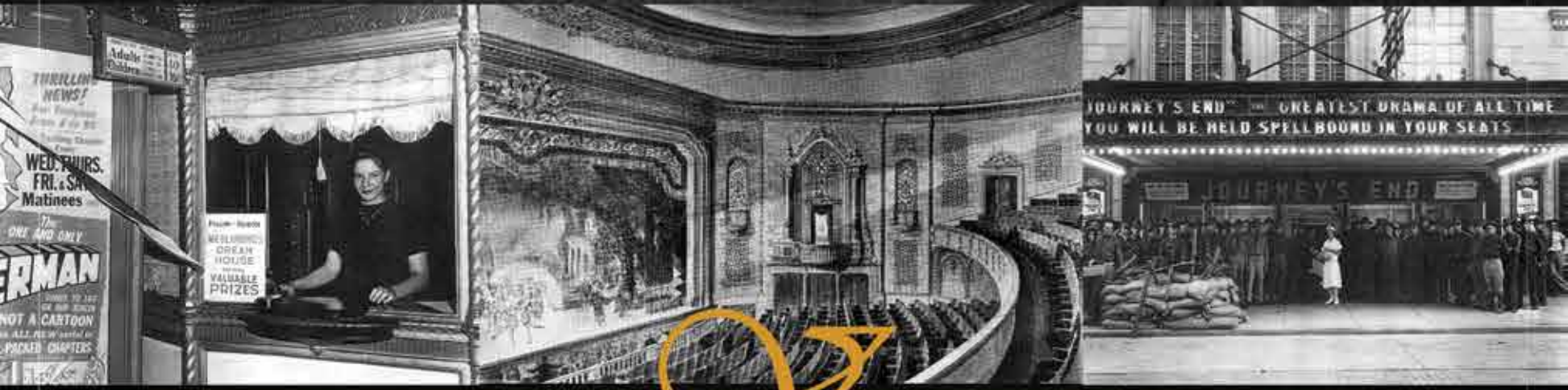
PHOTO BY: 3D TOUR GALLERY PHOTOGRAPHY

100TH ANNIVERSARY

1921 2021

100

VIRGINIA THEATRE







## CELEBRATING ONE HUNDRED YEARS

With your support—as patrons, donors, sponsors, advertisers, volunteers, and friends—the Virginia Theatre is proud to be celebrating its centenary on Tuesday, December 28th 2021. Over the past one hundred years, the residents of East Central Illinois have made countless choices to preserve and protect this space. If it takes a village to raise a child, it definitely takes a community to save a theatre. And that’s exactly what you did. Thank you!

Back in 1920, the United States was still recovering from an immense, years-long international conflict and a global pandemic that impacted millions of lives, closed countless businesses, tested governments, and left the public uneasy and longing to re-connect.

That same year, prohibition passed, F. Scott Fitzgerald published his first novel, women won the right to vote, and radio became a coast-to-coast sensation. It was a time of extraordinarily rapid change as masses of Americans sought out new opportunities, new places to live, and new pastimes.

Here in East Central Illinois, a local theatre manager named Charles “C.C.” Pyle thought the time had come to build a major new entertainment venue in downtown Champaign, an area that had been a cultural hot-spot since the 1860s. He imagined his project first as a world-class, mixed-use, 12-story hotel featuring a vast theatre space. In no time at all, his vision evolved into what would ultimately become a stand-alone performing arts center and movie palace: The Virginia Theatre, which opened exactly one hundred years ago today, on December 28, 1921.

The Virginia was conceived as a European-style opera house: an opulent, welcoming space that would serve the community’s entertainment needs, from live theatrical performances, concerts, and spoken word to dance, comedy, film, and more. Built in less than nine months, the Virginia Theatre was instantly embraced by the community, becoming a beloved entertainment hub and meeting place. A home for both local productions and touring shows, the Virginia has always been where family, friends, and colleagues have gone to “put on a show” one night and see a show the next. Throughout its time, the Virginia has served as a treasured community resource for local dancers, theatre actors, musicians, educators, and comedians, even while it hosts some of the most famous touring professional entertainers of the day. But no matter who is on its stage or screen, it’s *your* Virginia Theatre.

For the past century, this now 1463-seat venue—listed on the National Register of Historic Places—has offered quality entertainment to appreciative audiences. During its almost four decades as an RKO theatre, the Virginia hosted classic comedians, concerts, stage plays, special fundraisers, and films. Later, the Virginia continued its service as a grand single-screen movie theatre, as part of the George Kerasotes chain.

In January of 2000, the Champaign Park District joined in a community-wide effort to save this prized landmark from demolition. After assuming control of the facility, the Park District embarked on what would grow into a 10 million-dollar restoration project to bring the theatre back to its original glory, with modern amenities.

Today, with major restoration work completed and a renewed commitment to ongoing improvements and maintenance, the Champaign Park District looks forward to continuing the Virginia Theatre’s century-long tradition of providing quality entertainment and bringing together a community longing for connection.

Think about what the next one hundred years could bring!

Thank you,

Joe DeLuce  
Executive Director, Champaign Park District

Steven Bentz  
Director, Virginia Theatre

## Special THANKS

To everyone who has ever given,  
to everyone who has ever volunteered,  
to everyone who has ever attended,  
we thank you!

The Champaign Park District would like to thank the City of Champaign, the State of Illinois, our donors, business partners, sponsors, advertisers, patrons, volunteers, and granting organizations for making possible the purchase and restoration of the historic Virginia Theatre.

The Champaign Park District also thanks the following sponsors for their support of the Virginia Theatre’s 100th Anniversary Performing Arts Season!

**Season Sponsor:** WILL radio.tv.online

**The News-Gazette:** sponsor of  
The News-Gazette Film Series

**Rewind 92.5:** sponsor of the  
Rewind 92.5 Movie Series

### CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Kevin J. Miller, *President*  
Craig W. Hays, *Vice President*  
Barbara J. Kuhl, *Commissioner*  
Timothy P. McMahon, *Commissioner*  
Jane L. Solon, *Commissioner*

### OFFICERS OF THE BOARD

Joe DeLuce, *Executive Director*  
Guy C. Hall, *Attorney*  
Jarrod Scheunemann, *Secretary*  
Brenda Timmons, *Treasurer*

### CHAMPAIGN PARKS FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emily M. Corum, *Chair*  
Dijon D. Davis, *Vice Chair*  
Patrick E. Harrington, *Secretary*  
Julie A. Sikorski, *Asst. Secretary*  
Kathy H. Aquino  
Samuel P. Banks  
Sheri L. Boberg  
Brian R. Holding  
Josh D. Robertson  
Arthur J. Thoma, Jr.  
Arthur J. Thoma, III (AJ)  
Kevin J. Miller, *CPD Board Liaison*  
Joe DeLuce, *CPD Executive Director*  
Brenda Timmons

### VIRGINIA THEATRE STAFF

Steven Bentz, *Director*  
Mitch Marlow, *Sales &  
Public Relations Manager*  
Stephen White, *Technical Manager*  
Jeff Headley, *Front of House Coordinator*  
Stephanie Hege, *Box Office Manager*

CHAZ EBERT AND THE COLLEGE OF MEDIA AT UIUC CONGRATULATE THE VIRGINIA THEATRE ON 100 YEARS!

# EBERT FEST

RETURNING TO OUR HOME AT  
THE VIRGINIA THEATRE  
APRIL 20-23, 2022

Passes Available at  
The Virginia Theatre Box Office  
Online: [WWW.EBERTFEST.COM](http://WWW.EBERTFEST.COM)



# Our HISTORY

## A Century of Stage and Screen

The Virginia Theatre's legendary stage has hosted literally thousands of performances in the past one hundred years, while its fifty-two-foot-wide movie screen (the largest downstate) has witnessed historic advances in the technology of film, transitioning first from silent movies to "talkies" and later to 35mm and 70mm films, finally arriving at today's high-definition, digital movie downloads.

Opened in 1921 near the end of the vaudeville era, the Virginia offered the public a wide array of entertainments that included variety shows, "legitimate" theatre, concerts, local fundraisers, dance recitals, celebrity appearances, comedians, and, of course, movies.

The 1920s in Champaign was an era known for its rapid growth, energy, and enthusiasm. At the Virginia Theatre, films were often paired with special live presentations in back-to-back, all-day-long programs that included, for example, a screening of Buster Keaton's silent feature "The General" followed by a live concert with Bruce Wert's Illini Troubadours. The Warner Brothers drama "White Flannels" was no doubt vastly improved by a live performance from Jack Crawford and his Recording Orchestra. And local tenor John Griffin—who often sang before or after Virginia movie screenings—graced the stage at "The Beloved Rogue", while "Lovey Mary" was complemented by an on-stage reading from psychic Alla Axiom.

From the very beginning, comedy and music found a home at the Virginia Theatre, with frequent visits by major national performers such as Will Rogers headlining a schedule that included touring Broadway musicals like "My Maryland", a 1928 romance advertised as featuring "a Male Chorus of 100 and a Girl Chorus of 35".



Charles Pyle  
Courtesy of  
Champaign County  
History Museum



Original Hotel  
Plan Courtesy of  
Champaign County  
History Museum



Virginia Theatre Bat  
Advertisement  
Courtesy of  
Champaign County  
History Museum



503 S. Country Fair Dr.  
Champaign, IL. 61821  
(217) 359-7601

CONGRATULATIONS  
ON THE VIRGINIA  
THEATRE'S 100th  
ANNIVERSARY!



REGISTERED  
PIANO  
TECHNICIAN  
PIANO TECHNICIANS GUILD

We offer used upright  
and grand pianos from

**\$1,000 to \$20,000**

- Fine piano restoration
- Professional piano moving ICC MC 225032
- Piano Tuning and Repair
- Over 40 years in Central Illinois

[www.thepianoshopcu.com](http://www.thepianoshopcu.com)

*Congratulations  
to the Virginia Theatre on 100  
years of excellence from your  
slightly younger community  
partner in Urbana.*

WILL  
100

A CENTURY OF MAKING WAVES

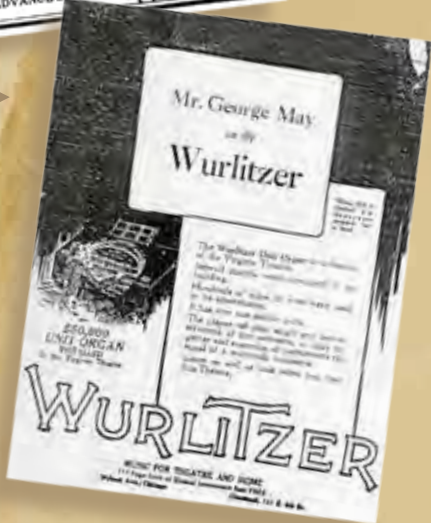


[will.illinois.edu/100years](http://will.illinois.edu/100years)





Virginia Theatre  
1929 Photophone  
Advertisement,  
Courtesy of  
Champaign County  
History Museum



Virginia Theatre  
Wurlitzer  
Advertisement  
Courtesy of  
Champaign County  
History Museum



Virginia Theatre Thelma Leah Rose Dance  
Courtesy of Champaign County History Museum

Dance was also well represented early in the life of the Virginia, with touring acts making numerous stops. Local instructor Thelma Leah Rose started a long-running tradition of annual summer dance recitals in the 1930s.

Today, the Champaign Park District's Virginia Theatre continues to host a broad range of both locally-produced and touring concerts, children's shows, films, stage plays, comedy, and special events. Working together with local companies like the Champaign Urbana Ballet, Roger Ebert's Film Festival, Champaign Urbana Theatre Company, the Park District's own Youth Theatre and Dance Arts programs, Champaign Unit 4 Schools, Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra, That's What She Said, Sinfonia da Camera, and so many others, the Virginia Theatre has always been the place where the community goes to put on a show.

Legendary touring artists who have in recent years also appeared on the Virginia's stage include Alison Krauss, The O'Jays, Vince Gill, Mavis Staples, Alice Cooper, Robert Cray, Chicago, BB King, Kansas, Lily Tomlin, John Prine, Taj Mahal, Mike Birbiglia, Melissa Etheridge, Donny Osmond, Bill Maher, Tommy Emmanuel, Weird Al, Peter Dinklage, Dwight Yoakam, The Second City, Lyle Lovett, Keb' Mo', Mary Chapin Carpenter, Michael McDonald, Brian Regan, Jewel, Rosanne Cash, The Temptations, Nate Bargatze, The Beach Boys, Paula Poundstone, and ZZ Top, just to name a few!

### A Taste of Europe, Right Here in East Central Illinois

Designed to emulate the grand opera houses of Europe, the Virginia Theatre's exterior was done in the Italian Renaissance-Revival style while the interior is in the Spanish Renaissance-Revival style.

Masterfully crafted decorative plasterwork adorns the main and mezzanine lobbies with design motifs repeated throughout the auditorium's ceiling, lighting fixtures, door frames, and pillars.

The theatre's exterior was originally designed to resemble an Italian pavilion, with yellow and red striped awnings covering the side-

# Congrats

to our wonderful neighbors,  
Celebrating 100 Years in Business!

Spritz is also happy to be celebrating a century in business. We are elated to be side by side with such a historic landmark in our community!

Stop by and say "Hi" before the show!

**Spritz**  
JEWELERS  
205 West Park Ave

205 West Park Ave **Spritz** Park Free  
JEWELERS

# MICHAEL'S

## CATERING

The Virginia Theatre has always had a special place in the heart of Michaels' Catering.

Michael Carragher, one of the founders, gifted a donation to honor his mother, Ruth "Tootsie" Carragher. Check out the sign in the concession stand. "Tootsie's Lobby"

*Happy Birthday*

**www.MichaelsCateringEvents.com**  
217-351-2500  
720 S. Neil St., Champaign



walks on the building’s eastern and northern sides.

The interior’s decorative plaster includes heraldic shields and other Spanish Renaissance symbols. Busts of adventurers Cortez, Hernandez, and Alvarado are featured in bas relief on the balcony’s front-facing edge, along with the Christian arms of Ferdinand and Isabella. The ceiling dome was originally finished in silver leaf. Gold leaf complements the auditorium’s largest decorative medallions as well as the proscenium arch.

The Wurlitzer

One of only a few instruments of its kind that is still operated in its original theatre home, the Virginia’s Wurlitzer Hope Jones (Style 185, Special Opus 490) Orchestral Theatre Organ was played at the 1921 grand opening by house organist George May.

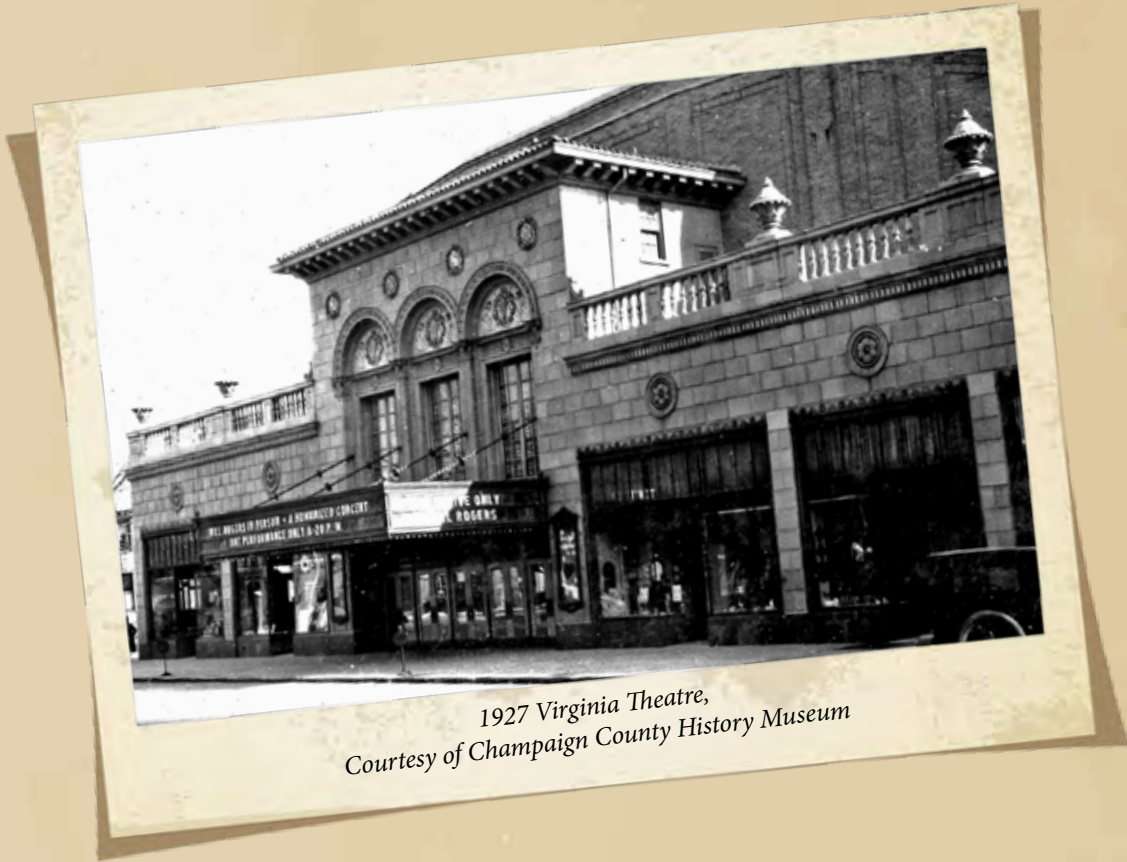
In the 1960s, the Virginia’s 750-pipe Wurlitzer was initially restored by University of Illinois student (and future author of the “Encyclopedia

of the American Theatre Organ”) David Junchen.

In the 1980s, local organist Warren York began his own volunteer restoration of the historic instrument as he launched a renowned twenty-year tenure as Virginia Theatre house organist.

In 2012, a total restoration of the theatre’s Wurlitzer was completed by John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders of Champaign after area resident Jill Knappenberger launched the year-long project with a generous gift in memory of her husband, local attorney Gaylord Knappenberger.

Today, house organist David Schroeder continues the proud tradition of providing pre-show performances on the Virginia’s mighty Wurlitzer!



House Organist Warren York in 1998



**VIRGINIA THEATRE**  
203 West Park Avenue  
Champaign, IL 61820

**BOX OFFICE HOURS**

Weekdays, 10am – 5:30pm and two hours before every show.

**PHONE**

217.356.9063

**EMAIL**

[virginia@champaignparks.org](mailto:virginia@champaignparks.org)

**NEWSLETTER**

Receive timely information via email about all the programs and events happening at the historic Virginia Theatre in downtown Champaign – sign up at [thevirginia.org/enews](http://thevirginia.org/enews)

Congratulations!  
Here’s to another  
100 Years!

[HICKORYPOINTBANK.COM](http://HICKORYPOINTBANK.COM)  
MEMBER FDIC

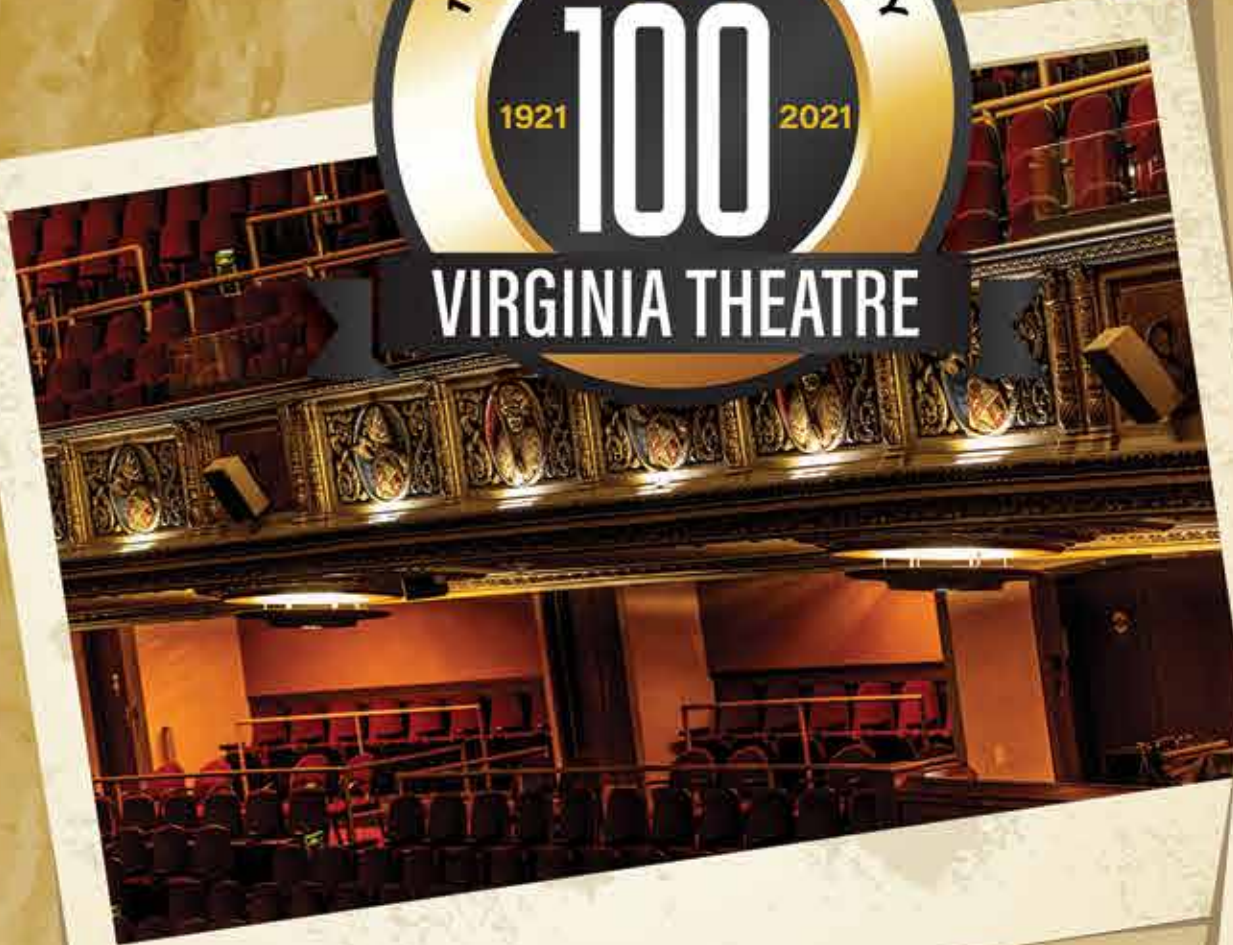
**HICKORY**  
POINT BANK  
Invested.



# Celebrating



VIRGO  
THE  
CHAMPAIGN



## 100 Years of the Virginia Theatre

1919-1920 — Champaign, Illinois resident and theatre impresario Charles “C.C.” Pyle (owner of the Rialto Theater on Church Street) approaches Detroit architectural firm C. Howard Crane to develop plans for a new venue in downtown Champaign, near the Orpheum Theatre. In all, the Crane Company designed more than 250 theatres nationwide, including The Fox in St. Louis, Missouri.

January 4, 1920 — The Champaign News-Gazette publishes a story about C.C. Pyle’s plans for a new building project in downtown Champaign. The plans call for a 12-story, 330-room hotel incorporating a 2,200-seat theatre, a barber shop, a coffee shop, and a bowling alley.

December, 1920 — After their hotel project fails to advance, Pyle’s team instead purchases property at the corner of Randolph Street and Park Avenue, Champaign, with the intention of building a grand, European-style opera house. Crane Co. architect Kenneth Franzheim is enlisted to design the space, with Champaign architect George Ramey overseeing the project locally.

April, 1921 — A \$400,000 agreement is signed with local contractor A.W. Stoolman to build the new theatre. More than 80 firms from across the country help with construction. When funding problems occur, A.W. Stoolman partners with C.C. Pyle to complete the project, which is to be named for Stoolman’s daughter, Elizabeth Virginia Stoolman.

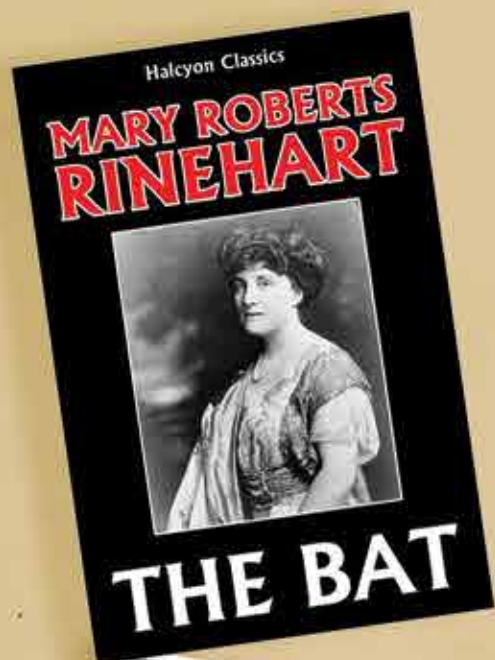
December 28, 1921 — The Virginia Theatre celebrates its Grand Opening with a touring production of the hit Broadway comedy/mystery “The Bat” by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood. Audiences are asked not to reveal the outcome to others so that they too can be surprised when they see it.

December 29-31, 1921 — The Virginia screens its first (silent) films: “Tol’able David” and Buster Keaton’s “The Boat”. Also on the program are live performances by the Virginia Symphony Orchestra (H.M. Weber, conductor) and George May on the Hope-Jones Orchestral Organ.

1924 — C.C. Pyle approaches University of Illinois football star Red Grange during one of the player’s many visits to the Virginia Theatre and offers to serve as Grange’s agent, ultimately brokering the deal to sign Red to the Chicago Bears the following year.

March 10, 1929 — An RCA Photophone system is installed at a cost of \$20,000, bringing talking pictures to the Virginia Theatre.

May 25, 1930 — The RKO Company begins a long-term lease of the Virginia, with a focus on presenting both live performances and movie screenings. Thelma Leah Rose Dance Studio starts a Virginia Theatre tradition of annual dance recitals that continues into the 1970s and is carried on today by programs like CU Ballet, Dance Arts, Twist & Shout Dance & Cheer, and Art in Motion.





# VIRGINIA

## THEATRE

### PARK DISTRICT



June 1, 1936 — 11-year old Champaign resident Buddy Strait attends a screening of “The Ex Mrs. Bradford” with two friends, choosing seats in the Virginia’s large upper balcony. After Buddy falls asleep, his friends abandon him, leaving Buddy to wake up alone after the theatre has closed. While moving about the darkened space, Buddy falls from the balcony to the main floor below and is later discovered by a passerby in the theatre’s foyer. The passerby breaks the front lock and helps the child to Champaign’s Burnham Hospital. Buddy recovers completely, returning home that weekend. It is not known whether he ever attends another movie at the Virginia Theatre.

1939 — RKO celebrates its ten-year anniversary at the Virginia with the first renovation of the still-young theatre, installing new seats, closing up the back wall of the auditorium’s main floor (which was originally open to the main lobby), and placing a new Art Deco-style marquee on the building’s façade.

August, 1954 — The Virginia screens films in “3D” for the first time.

August, 1955 — The theatre’s foyer, front doors, and box office are remodeled at a cost of \$20,000.

June 1, 1967 — A.W. Stoolman’s daughter Elizabeth Virginia Stoolman and her husband William Julian take back control of the Virginia after RKO relinquishes its lease of the theatre.

August 1, 1968 — The Kerasotes Theater Company purchases the Virginia from the Stoolman family, adding it to their successful 61-theatre national chain. While most of the Virginia’s programming in the Kerasotes years is of first-run films, a live stage production of the all nude theatrical review “Oh! Calcutta!” is hosted in 1977, for an appreciative audience.

February 13, 1992 — The Kerasotes Company screens its final picture at the Virginia, Steve Martin’s “Father of the Bride”, following years of industry-wide change that sees countless single-screen theatres close their doors.

March, 1992 — David and Sharon Wyper take over management of the Virginia Theatre for the Kerasotes Company, operating the venue as

a live performance space and booking acts such as Alison Krauss and Lyle Lovett and touring productions of “The Phantom of the Opera” and “A Chorus Line”.

April, 1992 — Community members Leonard Doyle, Kent Freeland, Jeff Goldberg, Brent O’Neill, Kathy Murphy, John Stuff, Eric and Mark Nimrichter, Janet McCumber, Prudence Runkle, Joe DiCiaula, and Lynda Umbarger launch the Champaign Urbana Theatre Company (CUTC) to bring community theatre back to the Virginia and save the building from demolition. CUTC presents its first musical at the Virginia, “The Music Man”, in June, 1992.

December, 1995 — A new non-profit is formed, the Virginia Theatre Group, to oversee restoration and management at the theatre, purchasing the Virginia from Kerasotes with funds secured by a \$500,000 loan from the City of Champaign and \$500,000 in a charitable contribution from Kerasotes, along with another \$100,000 from local photographer and philanthropist William Capel.

April, 1999 — The first annual Roger Ebert’s Overlooked Film Festival is presented at the Virginia Theatre, Champaign.

January 1, 2000 — The Champaign Park District (under Robert Toalson, Director) and the City of Champaign (under Dannel McCollum, outgoing Mayor) announce the Park District’s acquisition of the Virginia Theatre, with the City forgiving its original loan, plus interest, to enable building restoration and programming to resume almost immediately.

2001 — The Friends of the Virginia Theatre are formed to raise funds for the restoration project, with Roger Ebert serving as honorary Chair alongside co-chairs Barb Kuhl and Susan Lobdell. Restoration of the theatre’s electrical, plumbing, and safety features commences. That same year, The News-Gazette launches its classic film series in partnership with the Champaign Park District. The News-Gazette also makes possible the restoration of the theatre’s reel-to-reel projection system.

2005 — The Champaign Park District establishes the Champaign Parks Foundation with its first initiative a major fundraising campaign to restore the Virginia Theatre. Restoration of the theatre’s eastern lobby is started that year.

2010 — Following a large bequest from Michael’s Catering owner Michael Carragher, the Champaign Park District launches a major restoration of the Virginia Theatre’s main and mezzanine lobbies and concession stand. Work concludes just in time for the annual New Year’s Eve concert presented by The Chorale (Julie Beyler, director).

2012 — The Virginia Theatre’s Wurlitzer Pipe Organ is rededicated following its restoration by John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders in a special concert featuring award-winning theatre organist Chris Gorsuch.

2013 — The Champaign Park District completes a 5.5 million dollar “Phase 3” restoration of the Virginia Theatre’s auditorium, stage, and backstage dressing room areas.

2014 — A 4K high-definition digital projection system is added to the Virginia’s booth in a special upgrade led by Ebertfest projectionist James Bond.

2020 — A state-of-the-art, concert-quality “line-array” sound system is installed. Additional restoration efforts at the theatre during its COVID-19 lock-down include tuckpointing the exterior brickwork, replacing the roof, and ongoing repairs to the decorative paint and plaster.

2021 — A new air-conditioning system is installed in the auditorium and in the theatre’s forward lobbies.

Tuesday, December 28, 2021 — Champaign Park District celebrates the One Hundred Year Anniversary of the historic Virginia Theatre with a special presentation of the Broadway play “The Bat: A Comedy/Mystery in Two Acts”, produced by Jeff Goldberg and directed by John Stuff. Performances to run for three nights, December 28 through 30, at 7pm.

With thanks to the Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners, the Champaign Parks Foundation, the Champaign County History Museum, and the donors, patrons, volunteers, stagehands and staff of the Virginia Theatre.





Virginia Theatre Decorative Light Fixture, - Roland Lim Photography



Past Performer: O'Jays



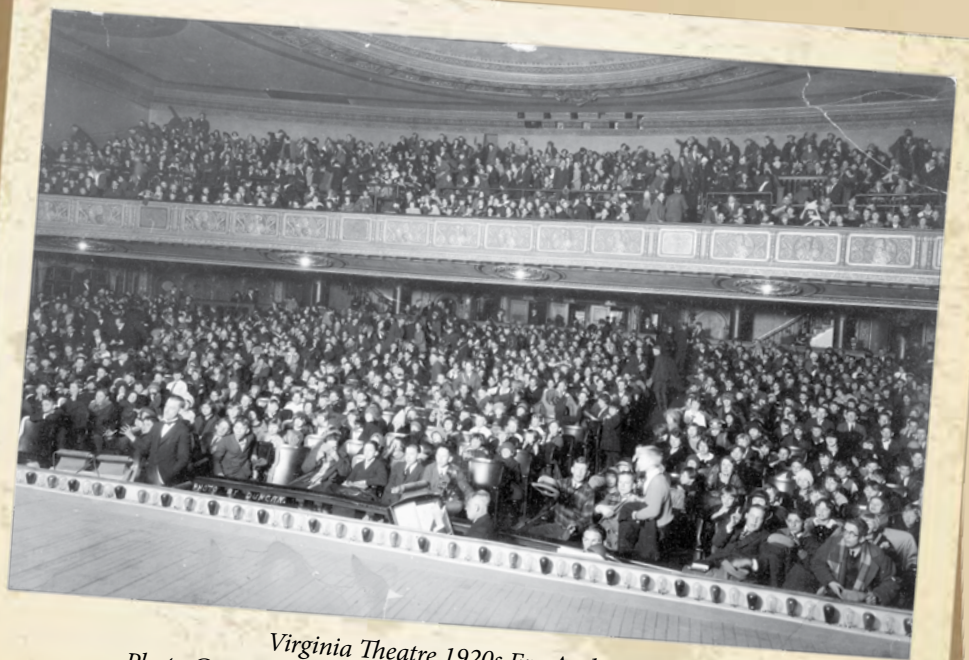
KANSAS, appeared 10/31/17  
- Emily Butler Photography



Melissa Etheridge, appeared 04/30/16



Roger Ebert's Film Festival



Virginia Theatre 1920s Era Audience  
Photo Credit - Courtesy of Champaign County History Museum

# Happy 100<sup>th</sup>



Take a bow and let us applaud you for being one of the most promoter-friendly theaters in America.

EXCEPTIONAL **A**RTISTS







The Virginia Theatre Auditorium  
- Roland Lim Photography.



Virginia Theatre Decorative Plaster Feature  
- Roland Lim Photography



Virginia Theatre Decorative Plaster  
- Roland Lim Photography



**LARRY, STEVE  
AND RUDY:  
THE GATLIN  
BROTHERS**

Saturday, March 12, 2022  
- 7:30pm



**HERMAN'S  
HERMITS**

*starring*

**PETER NOONE**

with Jay Siegal & The  
Tokens and  
The New Colony Six,  
Chicago's Original  
Garage Band

*Three Legends on the same stage!*  
Thursday, May 19, 2022 -  
7:30pm



**DYNASTY ENTERTAINMENT LLC**

Elburn, Illinois 60119  
(847) 323 4800



**Grunloh  
Construction  
Inc.**

217.342.4157  
101 W. Temple Ave.  
Effingham, IL 62401  
[www.grunloh.com](http://www.grunloh.com)

Everything we do focuses around our core mission of providing exceptional building experiences and results to the most demanding clients & projects.





# IT'S TIME TO RECONNECT

*Your hearing is essential.*

*Don't let social distance lead to social isolation.*

## ***Illini Hearing***

***We listen so you can hear!***

United Health Care | Health Alliance | Blue Cross Blue Shield | Aetna

These insurers may cover hearing aids

**With 2 locations to serve you:**

1801 W Kirby Ave, Champaign

1002 Commercial Dr Ste 3, Mahomet



NATIONAL BOARD FOR  
CERTIFICATION IN HEARING  
INSTRUMENT SCIENCES



With 25 years experience in building, repairing, and dispensing hearing instruments, Andy's passion for helping those with hearing loss reconnect with loved ones continues to grow with each successful patient.

**IlliniHearing.com • (217) 552-1730**





1921 Design Concept - Courtesy of Champaign County History Museum



**SUBSCRIBE & SAVE!**

*Best seats. Best shows. Best deals.*

The Champaign Park District offers a flexible subscription program at the Virginia Theatre every season, with a wide range of shows to choose from.

- Discounted tickets
- First choice of premium seats
- Option to keep the same seats when you renew
- First choice of seats to select shows as they're added throughout the year
- Ticket service charges waived on 'VT Series' purchases
- Free News-Gazette, Rewind, and Arthouse Experience movies all year long when you subscribe to six or more 'VT Series' events

Visit [thevirginia.org](http://thevirginia.org) for additional information

*Congratulations*  
*on*



*of serving the community!*



**Mechanical & Electrical  
Consulting Engineers**

*Providing Mechanical/Electrical Engineering for over 70 years.*

1615 South Neil Street / Champaign, Illinois 61820  
Tel 217-356-0536 / [www.ghrinc.com](http://www.ghrinc.com)



Champaign Park District  
Presents

# THE BAT

A COMEDY/MYSTERY IN TWO ACTS

By Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood

Produced by Jeff Goldberg

Directed by John Stuff

Roland Lim Photography: RLIMPHOTO.COM

## DEC 28-30, 2021 – 7PM

*“The Bat: A Comedy/Mystery In Two Acts” Returns To The Historic Virginia Theatre 100 Years To The Day After 1921 Champaign Premiere!*

### CAST

Suzanne Aldridge  
Anita Stein  
Maddie Henson  
John Tilford  
Ryan Gossett

Andy Blacker  
Michael Steen  
Grant Morenz  
Jim Dieker  
Aaron Clark



CHAMPAIGN  
PARK DISTRICT



will  
radio.tv.online  
Illinois Public Media



The News-Gazette®

## 2021/2022 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON

### GORDON LIGHTFOOT - The Legend in Concert

TUE, FEB 1, 2022



### LUCINDA WILLIAMS and her band

TUE, FEB 15, 2022



### THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID, 2022

Sponsored by Sterling Wealth Management  
SAT, FEB 26, 2022



### KEILLOR & COMPANY featuring Garrison Keillor, Prudence Johnson and Dan Chouinard

SUN, MAR 6, 2022

The New York  
Gilbert & Sullivan Players  
present  
**THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE**  
WED, MAR 9, 2022



**LARRY, STEVE AND RUDY:  
THE GATLIN BROTHERS**  
SAT, MAR 12, 2022



**SUN RA ARKESTRA  
led by Marshall Allen**  
FRI, MAR 25, 2022



### HASAN MINHAJ: THE KING'S JESTER

SAT, MAR 26, 2022



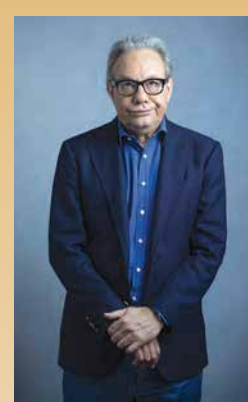
### ROGER EBERT'S FILM FESTIVAL

WED, APRIL 20, THROUGH  
SAT, APRIL 23, 2022



### KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD BAND: Trouble Is... 25th Anniversary

WED, APRIL 27, 2022



### LEWIS BLACK: OFF THE RAILS!

SUN, MAY 1, 2022

**CHAMPAIGN URBANA BALLET**  
Special announcement coming soon!  
FRI & SAT, MAY 6 & 7, 2022



**HERMAN'S HERMITS  
STARRING PETER NOONE  
with Jay Siegal & The Tokens and  
The New Colony Six**  
THU, MAY 19, 2022



**STEVEN BALL,  
Wurlitzer Pipe Organ**  
SAT, MAY 21, 2022

**THE AMERICAN SOLDIER:  
1774-2015**  
SAT, MAY 28, 2022