

THE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A LOOK INSIDE

THE PALLADIUM

On Saturday, Carmel's **Palladium concert hall**, the anchor for the Center for the Performing Arts complex, opens to the public. The \$126 million venue seats 1,600 and boasts acoustic refinements throughout the hall.

GRAPHICS AND TEXT BY STEPHEN J. BEARD • THE STAR

THE DESIGN

The Palladium's design architect, David M. Schwarz of Washington, D.C., drew inspiration for the hall's classical design from Andrea Palladio's 1591 Villa Rotunda (below) in Vicenza, Italy. Indiana-based CSO Schenkel Schultz was the architect of record, and Indianapolis-based Shiel Sexton oversaw the construction.



BACKSTAGE

The backstage area includes three dressing rooms for performers with private showers. It also includes a green room, a guest conductor's space and an artist's reception room.

ROOF

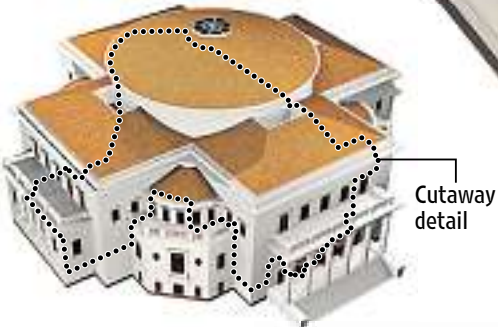
The Palladium's roof is made of 1-foot-thick precast concrete. The roof's exterior is layered with clay tile.

EXTERIOR

The building's exterior is clad with roughly 15,000 pieces of Indiana limestone.

EVENTS

The donor amenities room above the west lobby is one of eight areas in the building that can be reserved for private receptions. Other areas include lobbies, terraces and the Robert Adam Room that overlooks the Monon Trail.



THE PALLADIUM'S ACOUSTICS

Many acoustic pieces in the hall work together to control the sound created on stage and keep outside sound to a minimum. Some features are apparent, while other pieces — ventilated seating, plaster molding — are more subtle.

KEEPING NOISE OUT

Soundproof anterooms filter out noise from the lobby during a performance. Each anteroom is made of foot-thick concrete walls that are padded with 2-inch-thick sound board. Patrons can use the anterooms for catering and storing coats and other items.

All doors leading into the main hall are 2½ inches thick.

Velour curtains can be deployed to absorb sound or tucked away for quieter performances. There will be no fixed curtains or carpeting.

Carpeting in the outer hall and the anterooms deadens external noises.

Brazilian cherry hardwood flooring throughout the hall was chosen for its resonant properties.

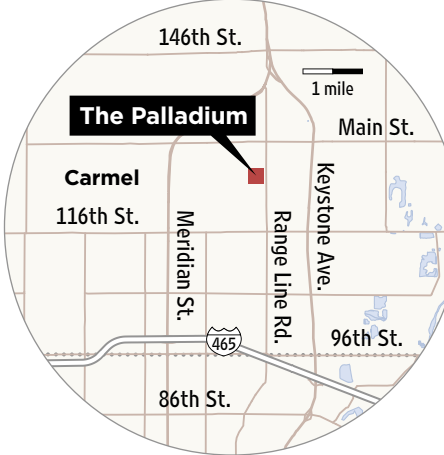
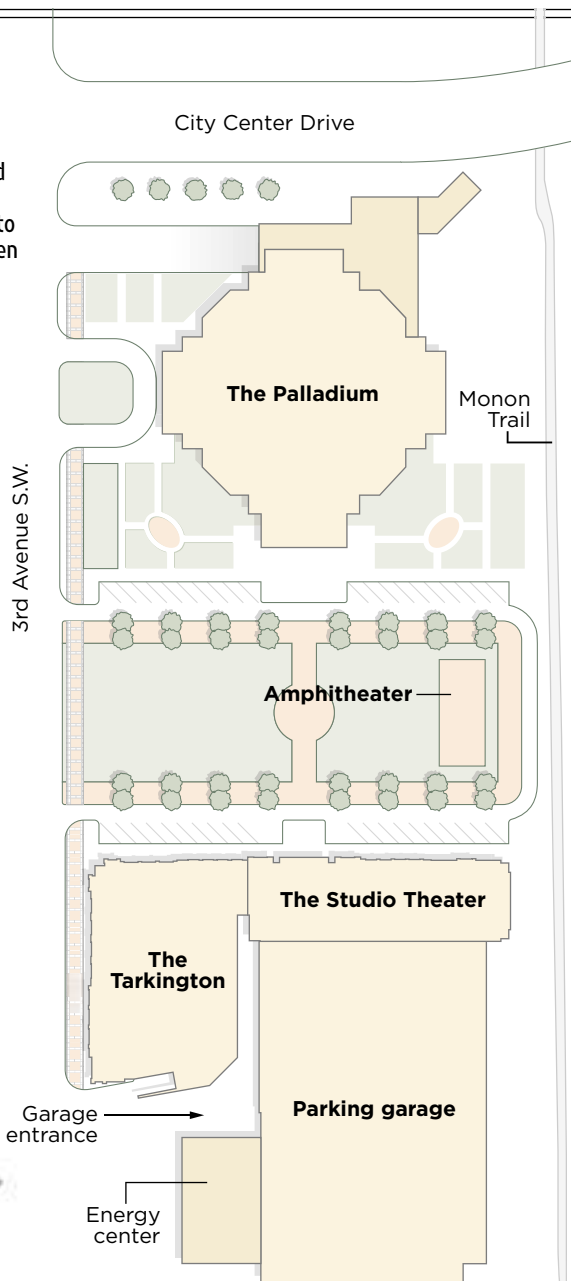
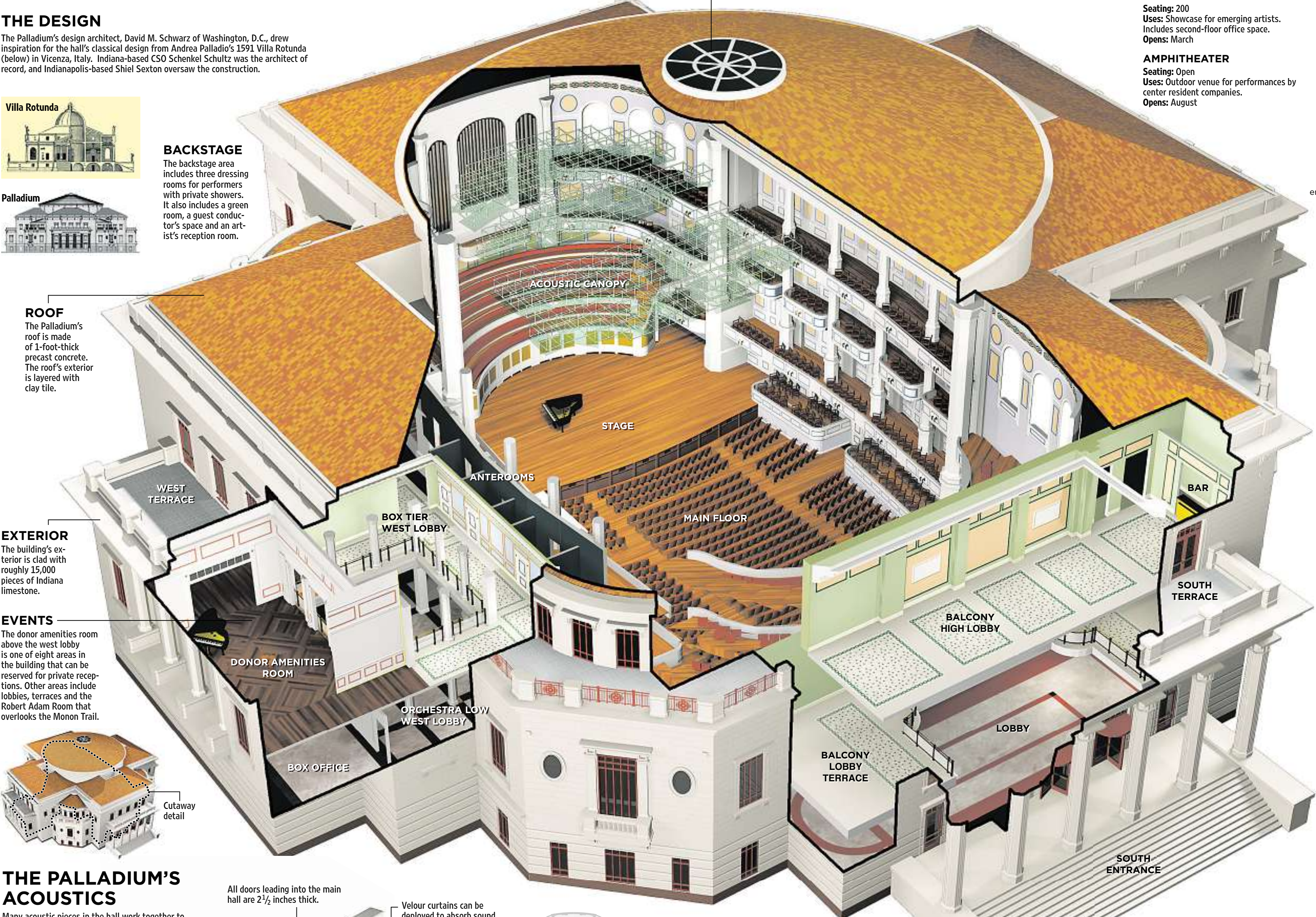
Sources: Center for the Performing Arts; City of Carmel; CSO Architects; Shiel Sexton; Artec Consultants

NATURAL LIGHT

An oculus roughly 80 feet over the main hall has a built-in sound barrier and shade to block outside sounds and light, if required.

INTERACTIVE

For a virtual tour of the concert hall, visit [indystar.com/palladium](http://indystar.com/palladium)



DIRECTIONS

**From the south and east**  
From I-465 take Keystone Avenue (Exit 33) north to 116th Street. Drive west to Range Line Road. Drive north to City Center Drive/126th Street. Go one block west on City Center Drive and turn left on 3rd Avenue.

**From the south and west**  
From I-465 take Meridian Street (Exit 31) north to 116th Street. Drive east to Range Line Road. Drive north to City Center Drive/126th Street. Go one block west on City Center Drive and turn left on 3rd Avenue.

**From the north**  
From U.S. 31, turn left on Range Line Road and drive south to City Center Drive/126th Street. Drive west on City Center Drive and turn left on 3rd Avenue.

PARKING

Motorists can access the 600-space parking garage on 3rd Avenue, south of the Palladium. The city has not made a decision on parking fees for the garage.

PRICE TAG

The Center for the Performing Arts complex cost \$174.7 million, with roughly 72 percent going toward the Palladium construction costs. Portions of the costs also go toward the City Center. A breakdown of the cost:

The Palladium	\$126.2 million
Center Green, roadway and streetscape	\$2.6 million
Tarkington Theater	\$13.5 million
Studio Theater	\$3 million
Amphitheater	\$150,000
Energy center	\$7.7 million
Parking and stormwater retention	\$10.5 million
Theater rehearsal and offices	\$500,000
Project management and development fees	\$990,000
Office building	\$9.7 million

SEATING AREAS

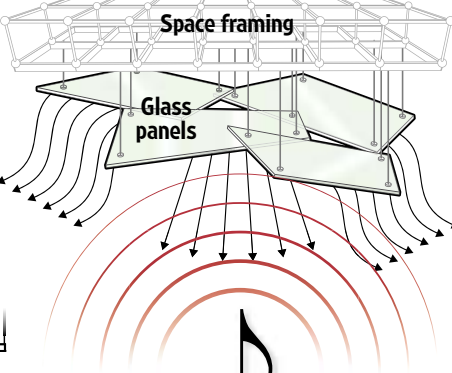
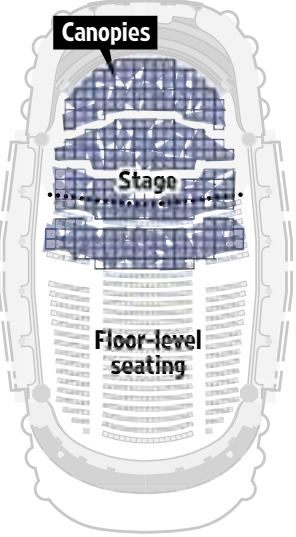
The Palladium seats 1,600, with roughly half of the seats located on the main floor. The rest are on three upper levels and a choral terrace behind the stage. Individual seat prices vary by performance and section.

VENTED SEATS

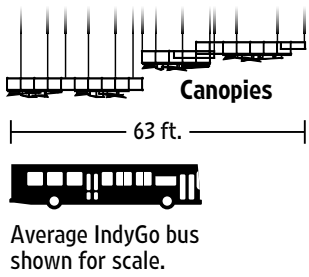
A heating and cooling "energy center," located 700 feet south of the Palladium, eliminates mechanical sounds. Each chair covers a low-pressure vent that allows air to drift slowly into the hall. Cushions are made of dense foam and mohair fabric to ensure they will not absorb too much sound.

THE CANOPY

A 63-foot-wide set of acoustic canopies — the centerpiece of the hall's acoustics — is made up of four steel trusses and more than 60 glass panels. At roughly three feet per minute, a winch motor system can raise and lower the 46-ton canopies from 34 to 60 feet above the stage and the first six rows of seating.



SIZE



Tempered glass panels vary in thickness from ¾-inch to 1½ inches. The fixed panels are angled slightly in different directions to redirect sound throughout the hall.

