

# ALWAYS ON... Todd Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity

NEW HOME  
CENTER  
for DANCE  
and CREATIVITY  
180-seat studio theatre  
Seven  
Rehearsal  
Studios  
Union Station Location  
More Classes

Kansas City Ballet  
*Igniting the Future Campaign*  
Capital Campaign Newsletter June 2010



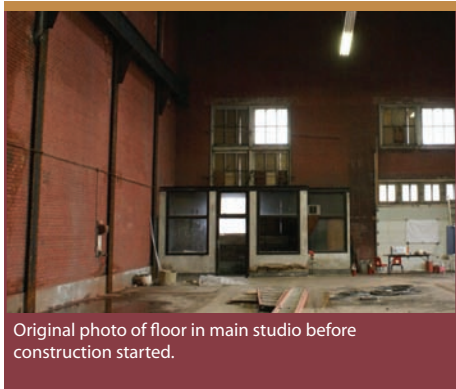
Dancer Kimberly Cowen. Photographer Kerry Johnson

## LATEST UPDATE

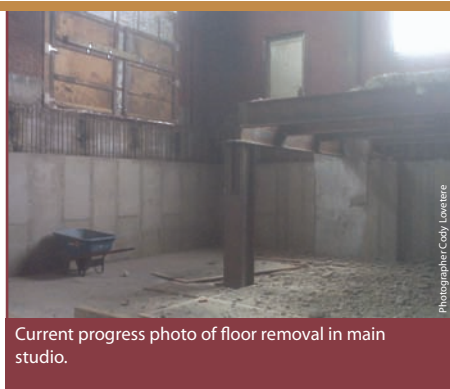
### KANSAS CITY BALLET PRESENTS TO DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

Kansas City's Downtown Council (DTC) has played a crucial role in the ballet's ability to move forward with the construction of the Bolender Center. Securing state and federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits, expected to generate approximately \$10.5 million to renovate the building, has been key to the overall financing of the project. On Thursday, May 6, Dr. John D. Hunkeler, co-chair of the Igniting the Future Campaign, and Executive Director Jeffrey J. Bentley updated the board of the DTC on the progress of the Bolender Center.

Key to fundraising for the remainder of the project is the development of a strong Corporate Cabinet for the campaign. Bentley invited members of the group to become a part of the Corporate Cabinet, consisting of individuals with strong ties to the local business community who feel strongly about and can be advocates for the campaign to build the Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Corporate Cabinet, contact Alison Patterson at 816-931-2232 x1307 or [apatterson@kcballet.org](mailto:apatterson@kcballet.org).



Original photo of floor in main studio before construction started.



Current progress photo of floor removal in main studio.

Photographer Cody Lovetere



Rendering of the Bolender Center's main 180-seat Studio Theater.

Photographer Kerry Johnson

## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

### FLOORS COME OUT!

Telling someone the floor of Studio 1 is going to be dropped 10 feet and actually doing it are very different things! Recently, crews began removal of the original floor on the north side of the building to create the dance floor as seen above. According to JE Dunn site superintendant Travis Reed, the first step was creating new walls around the perimeter to keep the building stable. After that the demo began, including a solid 10'x10' two story column of concrete.

Keep checking our website for new photos of demolition and construction. If you would like to take a tour this summer, please contact Alison Patterson at 816-931-2232 x1307 or [apatterson@kcballet.org](mailto:apatterson@kcballet.org) for the schedule

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

### SPECIALIZED FLOORS - BALLET GETS THE LIFT IT NEEDS

Speaking of floors did you know the Bolender Center will be equipped with specialized floors for different types of dance – a ballet class requires a much different floor than a tap class. Proper floors are very important; they mean a safer environment and longer careers for our professional dancers and students.

The Bolender Center will be **ALWAYS ON**

A Day at the Bolender Center 10-11 a.m.



Creative Movement class for 3-4 year olds  
KCB guest choreographer works with company members in Studio 1  
Ballet Master leads rehearsal in Studio 2  
Gift shop opens

## KCB SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

### *Raising Funds to Purchase Floors For the School Studios*

It's not all carpools and lessons at KCB for Steering Committee members Jill Peterson, Suzi Kilbride and Vicki duBois. In addition to being moms and professionals, these three will be working hard to kick-off the School Campaign for the Bolender Center. The School campaign is igniting the future by setting a goal of \$100,000 to fund the floors in the four, second floor school studios.

"As parents, we work to make sure our children have the best opportunities possible. So when the Ballet announced the renovation of the Bolender Center, we wanted to be a part of the campaign in some way. This wonderful new building is creating opportunity for our own children as well as the children of this community to have one of the best training facilities in the country. Who wouldn't want to be involved?" said Jill Peterson.

All of the Bolender Center studios will be equipped with special floors for dance – sprung floors for ballet class are very different than the floors needed for a tap or Pilates class. Proper floors mean a safer environment and longer careers for our professional dancers and students.

The Bolender Center will be one of the finest facilities for dance in the country and will better serve the needs of students, offering broader and more diverse levels of dance for the pre-professional and recreational student, including "wellness" programs for children, young adults and adults.

To make your gift to the School Campaign, contact Alison Patterson at 816-931-2232 x1307 or [apatterson@kcballet.org](mailto:apatterson@kcballet.org).

## Campaign Leadership

### Co-chairs

Julia I. Kauffman  
John Hunkeler, MD  
G. Mark Sappington

### Advisory Committee

Hon. Peggy Dunn  
Shirley Helzberg  
Joan Horan  
Steve McDowell  
Jeannette Nichols  
Wendy Powell  
Sally Quinn  
Valerie & Don Sanders  
Sally Wood

### Steering Committee

J. Scott Francis  
Michael Frost, PhD  
Darcy Howe  
Suzi Kilbride  
Siobhan McLaughlin Lesley  
Dennis Marker  
Jill Peterson  
Rick Poccia  
Mike Thiessen

### KCB Campaign Staff

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Shari Caraway - Capital  
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J. Scott Francis

## DONOR LEADERSHIP APPRECIATION

**J. Scott Francis** is from a family of philanthropists, and he in particular believes the arts are vitally important to any city. As a Ballet season subscriber for many years, Scott is now a critical member of the Igniting the Future Campaign: as a donor, serving as Co-Chair of the committee and now participating in the Steering Committee. Scott had a unique friendship with Todd Bolender, namesake of the new Center for Dance and Creativity, and that relationship taught him the perseverance and physical toughness that dancers need to make it to the top. In a letter to many of donors and prospective donors, he also explains that it takes similar mental fortitude to renovate a neglected city landmark, assigning it a higher purpose that then becomes the heartbeat of the city. And you have responded. To date this special appeal has raised over \$118,000 for the Bolender Center campaign, and it isn't over yet. The Ballet dancers, staff and students say, "Thank you Scott!" and thank you to the many donors who have are making a difference to the Kansas City Ballet.

**OUR NEW HOME COMES INTO BEING ONLY WITH YOU.**

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