



# Hillside Theater Interior Restoration Project Funding Request Proposal for Whole Foods



## Funding Request Proposal and Narrative

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation requests \$54,470 of funding support from Whole Foods to underwrite specific interior components of the Hillside Theater Interior Restoration Project at Taliesin in Spring Green, WI.

This funding request would cover the following specific improvements:

Reupholstering of 240 theatre seat cushions	\$34,800
Fabrication of 50 triangular foyer, inglenook and restroom bench cushions	\$9,020
Reproduction of 30 new dining room chairs	\$4,050
Conservation of Historic Theatre Curtain	\$4,000
Fabrication of 240 disc supports for theatre seat cushions	\$1,800
Reproduction of 40 new dining room chair cushions	\$800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,470</b>

The total budget for the full Hillside Theater Restoration Project is \$430,000. A full project budget is attached with this proposal.

The interior restoration of Hillside Theater is an important first step in the overall restoration of Hillside Theater. This essential enhancement is one that would usually be sequenced toward the end of an overall building preservation project. In the case of this project, however, starting the overall restoration plan with a focus on interior improvements will immediately enliven the gathering experience of theatre-goers, lecture and corporate seminar participants, and special dining room guests. This focus on interior enhancements prior to the Foundation's implementation of the overall preservation plan for the facility will transform a critical element of this underutilized asset to its original glory as an architecturally stunning site for rewarding cultural, scholarly and community events

The preservation plan for Hillside Theater was created by the Foundation's preservation and curatorial team composed of Jim Erickson (Taliesin Estate Manager), Margo Stipe (Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Curator and Registrar of Collections) and Tom Waddell (Artifact Collection Manager, Taliesin). The plan that they created for the Hillside Theater Restoration was submitted to and enthusiastically approved by Taliesin's Preservation Oversight Committee. This committee of preservation experts ensures that all restoration work is done with expert care and exacting standards.

Estimates for all project costs have been generated by respected conservators who have a combined track record of meticulous historic preservation projects with The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation at Taliesin in Spring Green, WI, Taliesin West in Scottsdale, AZ and other national historic landmarks throughout the United States. The gifted craftspeople assembled to complete the necessary work on this project are:

### **Upholstery Works (Lannon, Wisconsin)**

Joe and Liz Ilnicki, <http://www.upholsteryworksinc.com/>

*Upholstery Works' past contributions to restoration projects at Taliesin have included complete reupholstering of all historic built-in furniture at the main house at Taliesin.*

**Textile Conservation Services (Indianapolis, IN)**

Harold Mailand, <http://www.textileconservation.com/>

*Harold Mailand of Textile Conservation Services has previously worked on restoration at Taliesin, performing a series of basic repairs to the historic Hillside Theater curtain.*

**Duncanson Wood Works (Mineral Point, WI)**

Joel Duncanson, [http://wilkiestudio.com/joel\\_duncanson.htm](http://wilkiestudio.com/joel_duncanson.htm)

*Duncanson Wood Works is a specialized woodworking firm which recently performed restoration work on window sashes for Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Chapel.*

In addition to the specialized work that these vendors will contribute to the project, the preservation and restoration team at Taliesin will perform additional carpentry, paint, and repair work associated with the project. The cost of labor associated with those efforts is not included in this project request and allows for an even greater amount of conservation work to be completed on the interior space of Hillside Theater as outside conservators and internal staff combine forces for an even deeper impact on the finished results of this project.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation is greatly appreciative of the spirit of collaboration that has continued to expand between the Foundation and Whole Foods. Whole Foods presence at both Taliesin and Taliesin West for each new Academy for Conscious Leadership has been as instructive and inspiring for our community as it has been for the leaders at Whole Foods who have gone through that innovative program. Consideration of this \$54,470 gift to complete important interior restoration work at Hillside Theater is a deeply generous next step in this continuing relationship, one which the Foundation hopes will branch out in new and exciting directions. With commitment of a gift toward the future of the Hillside Theater, the Foundation will be honored to enroll Whole Foods as a member of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Leadership Circle. The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Leadership Circle represents the premiere philanthropic supporters of the Foundation's programs and activities.

**About Taliesin and Hillside Theater**

Taliesin was the home of architect Frank Lloyd Wright located near Spring Green, Wisconsin in the southwestern part of the state. The Taliesin Estate includes 600 acres and five Frank Lloyd Wright-designed buildings.

The Hillside Theater is a remarkable setting on the grounds of the Taliesin Estate. This historic theater was the gathering place for Frank Lloyd Wright and his apprentices as they deepened their approach to understanding architecture and design by immersion in cultural and artistic life from all the performing disciplines. The Hillside Theater has continued to be a convening place for artists, innovative thinkers, community arts presenters and public forums. Planned restoration efforts to Hillside Theater will expand the capacity for more exciting cultural and educational events to continue in a robust and well supported manner.

Wright first designed the home for himself in 1911. From that time until his death in 1959, Wright continuously changed the home and the surrounding landscape, which included buildings that he had designed for his family.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation owns Taliesin and works collaboratively with Taliesin Preservation, Inc. (TPI), an independent Wisconsin non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization that owns

the Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center in Spring Green. Together, both organizations work to preserve the Taliesin Estate in Spring Green, Wisconsin as an eminent example of the vision of Frank Lloyd Wright and to educate the public about the history and importance of Taliesin and Wright.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation assists TPI in research regarding the buildings on the Taliesin Estate, its on-site collections, and with decisions regarding landscape maintenance. TPI and the foundation share a maintenance agreement of the estate for non-preservation related activities. Additionally, some preservation work during the summer is carried out with assistance from apprentices in the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture.

### **Our Mission**

- Preserve and steward Taliesin, Taliesin West, and the Taliesin Collections.
- Shape architecture and design at the highest level
- Transform people's lives through the living experience of Frank Lloyd Wright's body of work.

### **About the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation**

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, established by Frank Lloyd Wright himself in 1940, is dedicated to transforming the way people connect with their environments and their relationship to the physical world through the living experience of Frank Lloyd Wright's body of work.



The Foundation owns **Taliesin West** in Scottsdale, Arizona, and **Taliesin** in Spring Green, Wisconsin; both are National Historic Landmarks with robust tour operations, educational outreach, retail operations and other activities. In May of 2012, the Foundation launched the first phase of the Energizing Taliesin West™ initiative, a pioneering effort to transform the entire National Historic Landmark Taliesin West site into a “net zero” energy customer, producing as much energy as it consumes annually, while maintaining the historic and architectural integrity of the site

The Foundation runs **Taliesin, Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture**, with fully accredited undergraduate and graduate degree programs (a continuation of the apprentice program Wright established in 1932).

In 2012, the Foundation announced the permanent transfer of the Frank Lloyd Wright Archives to the collections of Columbia and MoMA under a joint acquisition and stewardship agreement under the new name **The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation Archives (The Museum of Modern Art | Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, New York)**.

The Foundation owns and manages the intellectual property for all of Frank Lloyd Wright's designs, drawings, plans, art and other creations from his prolific 70-year career; and engages in a variety of meaningful outreach programs and partnerships.