

THEATER OF LIFE

Homeless

The homeless- a diverse group of people who found themselves excluded from society and the economy. By losing the roof over their heads, they become invisible to us.

The theater has the power to make the homeless visible and give them a voice. It can make us realize that their stories are our stories, and terrifyingly little separates them from us. The homeless are the theater's connection to the raw reality of daily life. The homeless are inspiration. The homeless are us.

Shelter

An essential part of the theater's program is a permanent homeless shelter. The shelter and the theater have a symbiotic relationship. The theater provides shelter, funds soup kitchens and education programs. In turn, the homeless keep the theater in tune with society's struggles.

The shelter program may expand on the steps of the auditoriums, providing a place to sleep or study. The building can dynamically adjust the use ratio, depending on the situation in the city. In our climate, the theater might spend the winter gathering stories to tell in the summer. The boundary between life and theater in the building is blurred, as often life itself becomes theater.

Platforms

The theater consists of five platforms. Each platform has a different configuration, connection to the outside, and overall theme and technology. The platforms can be a stage, classroom, shelter, or serve any other needs. All platforms have the ability to receive and host large stage props and relief equipment, either by bringing them from the street or by lifting them up with elevators. All platforms are also ADA accessible via platform lifts installed throughout the building.

- **The Street Platform** is leveled with the sidewalk, open to the street and can serve as the secondary entrance.
- **The Tree Platform** contains the preserved mature oak tree and is lit with diffused lights through the skylight.
- **The Skyline Platform** has a direct view of the Downtown St. Paul skyline and can use it as a backdrop. Also, the platform has an elevator connecting it to the production area in the basement of the building.
- **The Shelter Platform** is directly adjacent to the permanent homeless shelter and serves as a kitchen soup, cafe, and community center.
- **The Black Box Platform** is isolated from the outside and can be completely blacked out. It has another elevator connecting it to the production area in the basement.

Unity

All platforms are interconnected with shared seating and united with the tree-like canopy structure. No matter what platform we are on, here or in life, we are always aware of other platforms, their views, ideas, and experiences. We always feel that we are part of a larger whole.

The building mixes and mingles our individual echo-chambers, bringing us closer together. By exploring the complex network of platforms and steps, we learn the experiences of other people, bringing ourselves closer to the truth.

The building recognizes that our conclusions, outlooks, and actions will forever differ. However, it teaches us to respect each other. We are all connected. We are in it together.

Monolith of the building exposes its structure, essence, echoing its mission of revealing the truth. The theater is fully open to the surrounding, taking the stories and context in.



Today, the theater greets the refugees fleeing the war. The community and the troupe are directly engaged in relief efforts. It is the Theater of Life in its truest sense. People take the stage as actors of their own life.

The Theater of Life inspires traditional plays, connecting spectators with the community's problems, stories, and issues. On special occasions, the people who inspired the plays are available to talk to.





OPEN TO THOSE IN NEED
MAKING THE INSIVIBLE VISIBLE, SHOWING THE RAW TRUTH ABOUT OUR SOCIETY

SHELTER

A SPONGE FOR COMMUNITY ISSUES

IN TIMES OF CRISIS, CAN EXPAND TO THEATER

SPACIAL SYNERGY

RAISING AWARENESS OF COMMUNITY ISSUES

THEATER

HOSTING A VARIETY OF REVENUE-GENERATING EVENTS

CREATING PLAYS BASED ON DAILY LIFE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

LIVING AND LEARNING
ACTOR OF YOUR OWN LIFE

LIFE

LIVING THROUGH STORIES, EXPERIENCES

PERSEVERING

CONCEPTUAL SYNERGY

PASSING ON STORIES, EXPERIENCES, MEMORIES

PLAY

EMPOWERING

ANALYZING, DRAWING CONCLUSIONS

YOUR LIFE ACTED

An idyllic unobstructed view of St. Paul. Those seeking to unearth the true image of the city must enter the building hiding under their feet, or glance at what's inside through the skylights.



A view from the shelter pod. The Theater of Life is committed to serving those in need by having a permanent homeless shelter.

