

COLORADO SYMPHONY FUNDING AGREEMENT & NAMING RIGHTS FOR BOETTCHER CONCERT HALL

Parks, Arts & Culture Committee

Aug 4, 2026



DENVER
ARTS & VENUES

INTRODUCTIONS/WHY HERE TODAY



Gretchen Hollrah, Executive Director
Jen Morris, Chief of Staff



Daniel Wachter, President & CEO
Julie DeWoody, Chief Philanthropy Officer

- For the first time since its opening in 1978, Boettcher Concert Hall will be undergoing a major \$120M renovation beginning in summer 2028
- DAV is seeking the approval from City Council to allow the Colorado Symphony (CSA) to solicit certain naming rights of the Boettcher Concert Hall building and other internal assets to raise \$15M towards the \$120M renovation and for DAV to approve the names following the city's naming rights policy

BOETTCHER'S RESIDENT COMPANY: THE COLORADO SYMPHONY



Our Vision

We inspire and unite humanity through live symphonic music, connecting communities across Colorado and beyond.

Our Mission

We inspire Colorado and audiences everywhere. We live our vision through unmatched artistry and bold innovation. We expand access, foster education, and create lasting memories through live symphonic music experiences and meaningful personal connections.

- ✓ 80 full-time musicians from more than a dozen countries
- ✓ 150+ concerts annually
- ✓ 200,000+ attendees at Boettcher Concert Hall each year



ANNUAL COMMUNITY IMPACT

Access, Education + Economic Impact

- 66% of all Symphony attendees attended programming at free or reduced cost
- ~5,000 DPS students attended free performances at Boettcher Concert Hall
- \$2.1M annual state and local tax revenue generated
- \$57.4M in economic impact in Denver

Source: Colorado Symphony Economic Impact Assessment, BBC Consulting 2026



BOETTCHER CONCERT HALL RENOVATION: PROJECT SCOPE

The \$120M budget will allow for full renovation of the existing Boettcher Concert Hall including:

- New education center
- Better acoustics aligned with industry standards
- Open lobby and opportunities for community programming
- More accessible seating
- Two new restroom facilities with ADA improvements
- Enhanced public circulation
- Upgraded stage area including more efficient LED lighting
- Fire/Life/Safety Upgrades
- Upgraded HVAC

PROJECT FUNDING

The total project cost is estimated at \$122M*

- ✓ \$20M VIBRANT Denver Bond (City)
- ✓ \$16.8M 2008 Previously appropriated (City)
- ✓ \$5.3M 2024 FDA Tax Appropriation (City)
- ✓ \$64.9M Denver Arts & Venues CIP (DAV capital)
- ✓ \$15M Colorado Symphony Association (CSA)

**\$2M previously spent on infrastructure design and project feasibility in 2024-25*



BOETTCHER CONCERT HALL RENOVATION – PLANNED KEY MILESTONES

2026

- Design RFP Issued (5/21)
- Design Firm Notice to Proceed (Nov)
- Funding Agreement & Ordinance finalized/approved (Sept)

2027

- Renovation design work complete Q4
- Construction (CMGC) RFP (Q1)

BCH Closed for Construction: June 2028 to August 2029

2028

- Design issued for construction (Feb)
- Construction Notice to Proceed (June)

2029

- Construction (through end of Aug)
- First performance (Sept)

PROPOSED FUNDING AGREEMENT

- **CSA agrees to raise and contribute not less than \$15 million to the City on or before February 1, 2029**
- **The Agreement gives CSA the right to solicit the naming of the building and select assets inside the city-owned BCH as a fundraising tool**
 - ✓ The internal Concert Hall will remain “Boettcher Concert Hall” in perpetuity, however the Boettcher Foundation is in agreement with DAV and CSA that the building name can be sold i.e. “XXXX Symphony Center”
- **CSA will utilize the naming rights to raise their \$15 million commitment to the renovation project**
 - ✓ 100% of the \$15M raised from naming rights will go directly to the city for the sole purpose of funding the renovation
 - ✓ Anything above \$15M will go toward building renovation
- **Naming rights will be sold to philanthropic donors and will not be sold to those in the tobacco, liquor, marijuana, or adult industries**
 - ✓ CSA will be required to submit a fundraising plan, and seek approval from DAV on any collateral or materials used for the purposes of soliciting and selling naming rights
 - ✓ Limited to only names of families and individuals
 - ✓ DAV’s Executive Director must approve each donor/naming right before made official
 - ✓ Naming rights will be limited to a maximum of 25 years
- **CSA will provide quarterly fundraising reports to DAV regarding the status of the fundraising efforts**

ASSETS THAT CAN BE NAMED

The following areas are approved to be named for fundraising purposes. Any additional minor areas are subject to DAV Executive Director approval

Symphony Center name - Speer side and in Galleria
Performance stage
Education Center
Grand Lobby, other lobby spaces
Musician's lounge(s)
Instrument case storage area(s)
Box office
Lounge and areas supporting concessions
Backstage dressing rooms for conductors and guest artists
Reception/Event room(s)
Production room

Library(ies)
Stagehand break area
Practice/warm-up/audition/rehearsal rooms
Seats/seating sections
Guild shop
Staircases
Elevators
Coat check area
Loading dock
Stage door entrance

NEXT STEPS

- CSA Funding Agreement approval at PAC (today)
 - Other contracts forthcoming to City Council for approval:
 - ✓ Architect/design (via DOTI)
 - ✓ Contractor/build (via DOTI)
 - ✓ Operating agreement (DAV/CSA)
- Upon City Council approval of the CSA/DAV Funding agreement, CSA will begin fundraising campaign (Q4 2026) with a deadline to provide their \$15M commitment on or before February 1, 2029
- Construction scheduled to begin June of 2028 through August 2029
- When out of the Hall, CSA aims to thrive by performing at other venues across Denver and Colorado
- First performance in renovated building September 2029 – community celebration!



THANK YOU & QUESTIONS

