

# Historic Rialto Theater prepares for grand re-opening

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BOZEMAN - Construction continues at the Rialto Theater as it prepares for its grand re-opening in just a few months.

Built in 1908 and made into a theater in 1924, the Rialto Theater is a Main Street staple in downtown Bozeman.

"It's a place for the community to gather, to experience something worthwhile, a catalyst for arts and culture," said Drew Fleming, production and operations manager at the Rialto.

It's been empty for more than a decade, and now it's getting a much-needed makeover.

Designed by Bozeman group 'ThinkTank,' the Rialto will feature a theater called the Black Box, with high-level acoustics and seating for up to 400 people, along with a few other unique spaces.



"There's an amazing space upstairs, it's called the light box," said Fleming. "It's got an awesome skylight, [and then there's] the Burn Box up front, it's one of the only second-floor downtown bars facing the street," he said.

Designers will even be keeping a little bit of the flair from the original building with a 1920s art-deco inspired exterior.

"The design-team at Think-Tank has decided to go with the original 1920s art-deco theme for the front façade," Fleming said. "So it'll have a ticket booth out there, and it'll be restored to what it looked like back in the day."



The Rialto will feature an array of performances, from music to art, while also allowing for private events. But most of all, the Rialto aims to be a creative space for the community.

"Bozeman needs this space, Bozeman deserves this space, and ultimately it's going to be the community that benefits from the Rialto Theater," Fleming said.

The grand opening for the Rialto is January 26th; below are a list of performances. You can find tickets [here](#).

- Jan. 16 – Hippo Campus
- Jan. 17. – Victor Wooten Trio
- Jan. 26 – Car Seat Headrest
- Jan. 27 – Reggie Watts

