

ULI Chicago 9th Annual Vision Awards
July 11, 2024



Project Finalist: Steppenwolf Theatre Campus Expansion | Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Project Team:

Developer/Owner: Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Architecture Firm: Adrian Smith Gordon Gill Architecture

Project Manager: CBRE (former)

Project Description: Since their humble beginnings in the '80's, Steppenwolf has grown to become a nationally-recognized Tony

Award-winning theatre company. Growing from a church basement in Highland Park, their success and vision has led to their expansion on Halsted Street in Chicago. Steppenwolf Theatre's campus began with one building, housing a proscenium theater and a black box theatre, and parking to the south of the building. In 2010, it expanded with the acquisition and renovation of an adjacent retail building and parking lot to the north. The latest addition is a stunning new building that houses a new theatre-in-the-round and numerous spaces for collaboration. Lead by Steppenwolf's lauded Ensemble and their visionary leadership, a contiguous cultural campus has been created that not only provides more space for their craft, but also serves budding artists of all ages. Steppenwolf previously owned the Jandorf Building nearby on North Ave., which housed offices and rehearsal space. The sale of the Jandorf Building provided the final piece of the financial puzzle that allowed the project to move forward. The Liz and Eric Lefkowsky Arts and Education Center is a \$54 million complex designed by Gordon Gill of Chicago's Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill and built by Norcon and is the new focal point of Steppenwolf's campus.