

# Revive the Rich History of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

**Celebrating the Honor and Bravery of Our Veterans**



**The City of Chattanooga Department of Education, Arts & Culture together with community partners and veterans organizations has a commitment and a vision to help transform Memorial Auditorium into a living, breathing memorial to our soldiers and sailors and revive this historic building's original purpose...**



## **Veteran's Day**

**November 11, 2009**

**From Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium  
City of Chattanooga Department of Education, Arts & Culture  
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

The City of Chattanooga Department of Education, Arts & Culture wishes to salute our local veterans as we look at ways to reach out and connect with the community in reviving the purpose and original vision of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium...

This historic building was erected to not only provide a beautiful space for top-level performances, Broadway shows, and community events—but most importantly, it was built to honor the men and women who serve their country through the Armed Services. For many, this historical connection has been lost over the years and it is time to revive the original purpose of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium as we celebrate the honor and bravery of our veterans.

Nearly every city and region has a veteran's memorial park—while the greater Chattanooga area does not have a veteran's memorial park, it does have Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium, which as we reach out and connect through the arts and through sharing the stories and honoring the lives of local veterans, the auditorium becomes that missing veteran's memorial park, metaphorically speaking, a living, breathing memorial to those who have served so bravely.

Thank you from Our Family to Yours,

The City of Chattanooga  
Department of Education, Arts & Culture  
**Missy Crutchfield, Administrator**



## Steps in the process of reviving and revitalizing

### Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium...

**Chair Campaign**—Launching a chair campaign in 2010 to raise funds for the renovation of the Community Theatre inside Memorial Auditorium and the Veteran’s Mural Project through a fundraising campaign similar to the successful Tivoli Theatre Chair Campaign to fund renovations at the Tivoli two years ago.

**“I Have a Story” Project**—Connecting with the local veterans groups, the library, and Hospice of Chattanooga to collect stories, interviews, and photographs for a book project while engaging youth in the interviewing process.

**Veterans Focus Groups**—Working in focus group sessions with local veterans organizations to envision the future vision for and use of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium.

**Renovation of the Community Theatre**—Renovating the Community Theatre inside Memorial Auditorium to become a first-class affordable, accessible community theatre engaging particularly youth and seniors, and all community members in arts programs that address social issues through Education, Arts & Culture’s signature initiative “Remember Your Dream.”

**Chattanooga Music Club Celebration Events**—Enhancing the Chattanooga Music Club “Fourth of July” Celebration Concert to further honor Chattanooga’s local veterans and spotlight the creative projects underway.

**Chattanooga Garden Club memorial planters**—Working with the Chattanooga Garden Club to maintain memorial planters on the front portico of Memorial Auditorium to honor

**Channel 3 Local Veteran’s Documentary**—Partnering with Channel 3 to compile their veteran’s story project into a documentary that can be screened at the “Fourth of July” Celebration Concert and other events at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium.

**“Arts in Healing” Workshops for Veterans and Returned Troops**—Working with artist Cam Busch in connecting “arts in healing” workshops with local veterans organizations and returned troops to further Education, Arts & Culture’s outreach to the local veteran’s community.

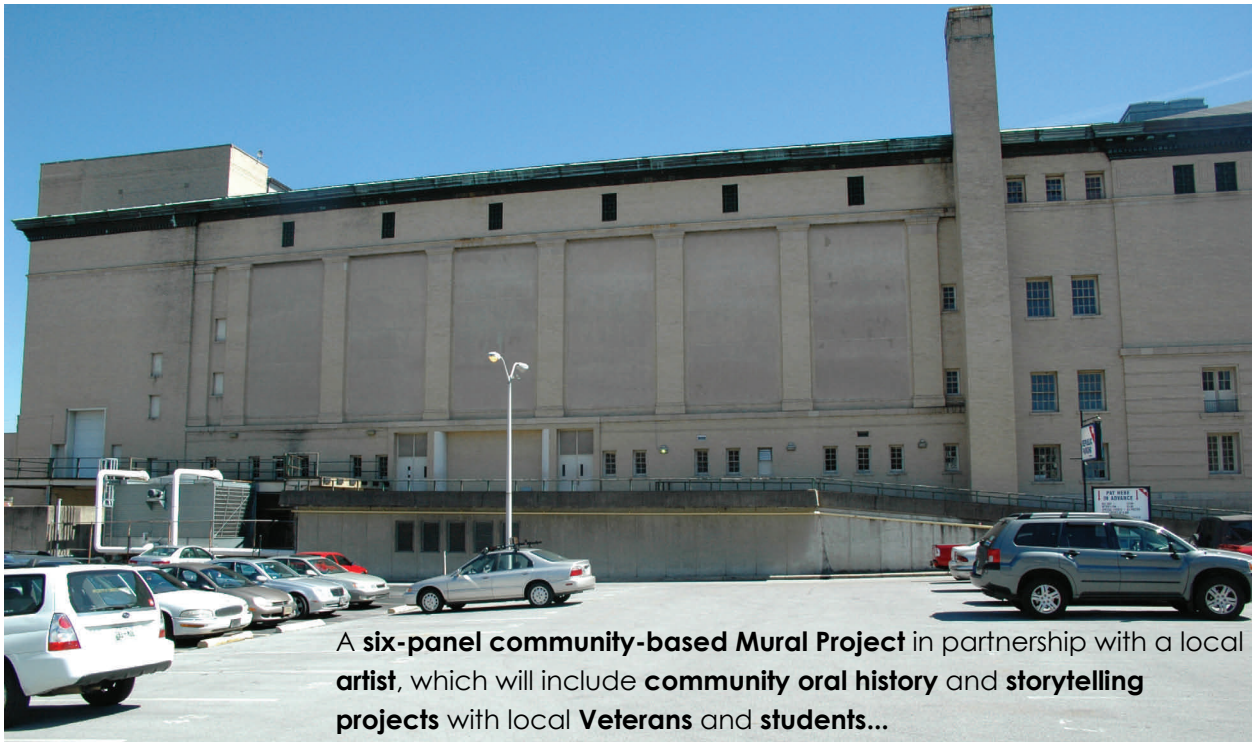
**“Welcome Back” Celebrations for Troops**—Making Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium the place for Welcome Back Celebrations for returned troops.

**Community-based Mural Project**—The *culmination of these revitalization efforts* will be a community-based Mural Project in partnership with a local mural artist which will include community oral history and storytelling projects with local Veterans and students.



# Revive the Rich History of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Auditorium

Celebrating the Honor and Bravery of Our Veterans



A **six-panel community-based Mural Project** in partnership with a local **artist**, which will include **community oral history** and **storytelling projects** with local **Veterans** and **students**...

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