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In order to make the "conceptual study" of the proposed Plainfield Arts Center usable for symphony concerts, the following areas need to be considered:

1. Stage

The proposed stage is 28' x 42' (1,176 sq. ft.)

Avon Middle School North stage is 3,180 sq. ft. and is too small for symphony concerts 4,000⁺ sq. ft. is a good minimum size for a stage.

Fly space over the stage needs acoustical treatment to make it usable for symphony concerts.

2. Auditorium

The theater volume is too small for optimum sound dispersal.

Balcony must not overhang the floor by more than two rows, with the overhang raked to provide proper acoustical treatment for the seats below.

Will 600 seats be enough to allow the arts center to be a viable performance venue?

3. Rehearsal room

The proposed rehearsal room is 20' x 32' (640 sq. ft.)

Hendricks Symphony's rehearsal room (too small) is 36' x 66' (2,376 sq. ft.) with 10' ceilings. Wenger Facilities Guide recommends a minimum of 2,500 sq rehearsal space with 15' ceilings. Avon Middle School North band room, 45' x 65' (2,925 sq. ft.), is a workable rehearsal space. The rehearsal room should not be adjacent to the stage (for sound proofing).

4. Storage

There must be storage adjacent to the rehearsal room (in addition to rehearsal space). Wenger Guide suggests a minimum of 600-800 sq. ft. (plus piano storage).

5. Orchestra Pit

To maximize the usability of the venue, there needs to be an orchestra pit that can hold 75 musicians and their instruments.

This would allow for performances of ballet, opera and musical theater.

There needs to be an elevator or some method of moving equipment from stage to pit level.

Not included above are more general items necessary for an arts center. We are eager to assist you in any way to make this facility as viable as possible for the arts community.