

# Save the Bohm Theatre Follow-up Report

## Survey Responses

### 177 people responding

It's clear that people think something should be done to "Save the Bohm."

### Save the Bohm

- 95.5% - Yes
- 2.25% - No
- 2.25% - Maybe

### Why Save the Bohm?

- Entertainment – 80.7%
- Local Economy – 75.9%
- Architecture – 71.7%
- Memories – 28.3%

### What should it be used for?

- First run movies – 82.7%
- Performances/Plays – 75.9%
- Classic films – 64.2%
- Concerts - 58.6%
- Lectures – 48.8%

### Would you support a multi-year initiative?

- Yes – 57.7%
- No – 4.2%
- Maybe – 38.1%

### Next Steps – 3 – 6 months

- Form Friends of the Bohm Advisory Board
- Building Stabilization Study
- Acquisition
- Apply/seek for funding for Rehabilitation Master Plan
- Apply for façade grant to stabilize rear of building
- Develop business plan based on mixed use
- Conduct Rehabilitation Master Plan
- Begin fundraising

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Over the past few months the Albion Downtown Development Authority and Albion Community Foundation have been seeking input from the community about whether or not we should take on an initiative to save the Bohm. With 177 people responding, the majority of you agree that the Bohm has the potential to be a great community performing arts facility that will support: first-run and classic films, live music, dance and theatrical performances; and the presentation of lectures and seminars.

The greatest concern of those for and against saving the Bohm is the question of cost, so we have been focusing our efforts on getting a more concrete cost estimate. Since the priority is to stabilize the building, a building stabilization study will be completed within the next month that will give us cost estimates and recommendations for repairing the exterior of the building. This study is being funded by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Albion Community Foundation.



### *Why you think the Bohm should be saved*

*It's the right thing to do*

*It would give people something to do, especially youth*

*It is a symbol of Albion's heart and soul*

*Not saving it would be just another blow to the psyche of the Albion community*

### **Albion Community Foundation Sends Team to League of Historic American Theatres Conference**

In July Nidia and Jim Wolf, Mary Slater and Dick Lewin represented the Bohm Theatre at the conference, where they were able to: participate in workshops about planning successful historic theatre renovation projects; make contact with vendors for theatre rehab projects; and learn from those

who currently own and operate historic theatres. They found that it is possible to operate a multi-use theatre, but you have to be creative.

### **Pizza Hut to Support Save the Bohm Initiative with Red Box Fundraiser**

Be on the look-out for Pizza Hut's Red Box fundraiser, which is slated to support the Save the Bohm initiative.

*Did you know that for every dollar invested in the preservation of historic theatres, seven dollars are returned to the community?*

### **Saving Downtown Theatres Is the New Trend**

Michael Moore wants to bring downtown theaters back. The Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker has a plan to refurbish or prop up downtown movie houses in his home state of Michigan - and eventually nationwide.

The way to rescue downtown movie houses, Moore said, is to run them as nonprofit ventures staffed mostly with volunteers. That slashes costs and gives the community a stake in the theater's survival, he said. And we are making sure that anyone who may have contact with Mr. Moore, knows about what we are trying to do in Albion to save the Bohm Theatre.