



## Request for Proposal: Sound System Assessment

The Missoula Children's Theatre (EIN 81-0332120) seeks a qualified consultant to provide a comprehensive assessment of the sound system inside the theatre. Following the assessment, the consultant will provide recommendations detailing tiered pricing approaches that MCT could implement to improve the sound system.

The Missoula Children's Theatre was built in 1998 as an addition and renovation of the former Central School. The school's gymnasium was renovated to become the theatre. While some elements of the sound system have been purchased in the last five years, the majority of the sound system is original to the 1998 setup. At the time, MCT's system was reinforced as an auditorium. MCT has made piecemeal improvements to the system over the years as the budget has allowed but hasn't had the bandwidth to make significant investments in the sound system as a whole.

MCT is preparing to launch a large-scale fundraising campaign to address building infrastructure needs. Upgrading MCT's sound system will be a part of this campaign effort. To better understand the best path forward, MCT is seeking a sound system assessment, including an acoustical model of the space, that will analyze components of our current system and make recommendations for areas including, but not limited to:

- How to best even out sound reinforcement to improve the patron experience
- How to create more flexibility in sound systems when the stage is configured differently
- How to improve the stereo separation or create surround-sound options
- How to best set up on-stage microphones to pick up all sound zones without interfering with fly system or sight lines
- How to avoid overdriving the house microphone

Once the assessment is complete, the consultant will deliver a proposal that details a comprehensive solution to improve MCT's sound system, including pricing for suggested equipment, labor, etc. The proposed solution should have at least two tiers – one less expensive and one more expensive – so that MCT can make an informed decision based on what will be manageable within our budget.

Proposals should be submitted electronically to Carlyn Schulzke at [cschulzke@MCTinc.org](mailto:cschulzke@MCTinc.org) by March 7 at 5 pm. A selection committee will decide on finalists and will schedule follow-up interviews for the week of March 24. If selected, the consultant(s) should complete their assessment before June 2025, with the full proposed solution submitted by August 2025. Being selected as the consultant for this study does not guarantee future work with MCT when proposed solutions are implemented.

All expenses related to this proposal submission, including travel, lodging, etc., cannot exceed \$3,000. MCT representatives are happy to answer questions about current equipment before proposals are submitted. Please contact Carlyn Schulzke at [cschulzke@MCTinc.org](mailto:cschulzke@MCTinc.org) with questions.