

# Capitol Theatre Gallery Wall



- 1. Artist Showcase, 2023:** On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Capitol held a celebration in honor of the Theatre's centennial. A highlight of this celebration was the Artists Showcase, which included performances from 4<sup>th</sup> Wall, Windsor Dance eXperience, Arts Collective Theatre, and more!
- 2. Oldest Capitol Photo, 1928:** This photo was taken in 1928 and is believed to be the oldest existing photo of the Capitol Theatre. Originally called London Avenue, the Capitol Theatre's front street is now known as University Avenue.
- 3. The Windsor Symphony Orchestra:** As managing tenants of the Capitol Theatre, the Windsor Symphony Orchestra is an integral part of the theatre's history! Currently under the direction of Robert Franz, the WSO is Windsor's only professional orchestral group.
- 4. Capitol Marquee and WIFF:** Few events are as highly anticipated by the Windsor community as the Windsor International Film Festival. Did you know that this festival has been named the largest volunteer run film festival in Canada? The Capitol Complex is proud to have WIFF as one of its renters!
- 5. David Suzuki at the Capitol, 2015:** Environmentalist, advocate and author, Mr. David Suzuki, came to the Capitol Theatre on June 22, 2015, to promote his book, *Letters to My Grandchildren*.

His presentation (which was live streamed to dozens of schools across the Windsor Essex region), focused on the importance of getting outside and enjoying nature.

6. **Gone With the Wind, 1938:** This 1938 advertisement for the Capitol Theatre's showing of *Gone with the Wind* perfectly encapsulates the classic ad style of the time. Directed by Victor Fleming and starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh, *Gone with the Wind* received 13 Academy Award nominations and is considered by many to be one of the great classic films.
7. **The Capitol Theatre Auditorium, 1948:** Taken in 1948, this photo of the Capitol auditorium shows off the grandeur of the original stage.
8. **The Wiz, 2019:** There's no place like home! Arts Collective Theatre 2019 production of *The Wiz* was a massive hit, drawing in crowds from all around the city.
9. **Margaret Atwood Book Signing, 2013:** David Suzuki is not the only famous author to promote their book at the Capitol Theatre! In 2013, Margaret Atwood came to Windsor for the annual *Bookfest*.
10. **Give My Regards to Broadway:** Jazz, classical, Broadway, and more! Over the last century, patrons of the Capitol Theatre have had the opportunity to see it all.
11. **Capitol Theatre Marquee, 1995:** After a massive restoration effort, the Capitol Theatre reopened its doors to the public on September 20th, 1995, with a production of *Big River*.
12. **The Pentastar:** Of the three theatres that make up the Capitol, the Pentastar is the largest. It seats up to 620 people and has a fully dressed stage. The theatre is easily distinguishable due to its ornate gold designs, its lush red curtains, and the timeless rounded ceiling.
13. **Breakfast at Tiffany's, 1961:** Did you know that *Breakfast at Tiffany's* grossed approximately 14 million dollars? First released in 1961, *Breakfast at Tiffany's* quickly became a fan favourite and has become one of Audrey Hepburn's most iconic roles.
14. **Up In Lights:** From the Windsor Symphony Orchestra to the University of Windsor Concert Band, many of Windsor's most notable music organizations have had their name up in lights across the Capitol Theatre marquee.
15. **Welcome to Loew's Theatre:** The Capitol Theatre (known at the time as Lowe's Theatre), officially opened its doors on December 30th, 1920. You could see a film for as little as 15 cents!
16. **Singin' in the Rain, 1952:** In 1952 the now classic movie musical, *Singin' in the Rain*, screened at the Capitol Theatre. As was the fashion at the time, a short cartoon was also shown prior to the main attraction. This showing of *Singin' in the Rain* advertises a screening of *Tom and Jerry, the Two Mousketeers*.

- 17. The Capitol Theatre Balcony, 1948:** Did you know that The Capitol Theatre was designed by Thomas Lamb, architect of the Pantages Theatre (Ed Mirvish) and the Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre in Toronto? This picture was taken in 1948 and shows the original balcony.
- 18. Chris Hadfield with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra, 2014:** In 2014, the Capitol Theatre and the Windsor Symphony Orchestra welcomed a very special guest, Mr. Chris Hadfield. Chris Hadfield is best known for his service as an astronaut, but he has also made significant contributions to the Canadian music scene. On October 17th, Hadfield and the WSO premiered several of his songs, many of which were written on the International Space Station!
- 19. The Capitol Theatre at Night:** The Capitol Theatre is proud to share its space with many local arts organizations such as the Windsor International Film Festival, Windsor Dance Experience, 4th Wall Music, Arts Collective Theatre, and more! This photo was taken outside the theatre during WIFF in 2015.
- 20. Walt Disney Acknowledges the Capitol, 1938:** Prior to the first Windsor screening of Walt Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*, Mr. Clark of the Windsor Star published several artistic renderings to promote the upcoming release. The promotional campaign was such a success that it was noticed by Walt Disney himself! This letter was sent to Mr. Clark, acknowledging the Capitol Theatre, and thanking him for his efforts in promoting the release.
- 21. Snow White and the Seven Dwarves:** This newspaper clipping from 1938 is one of the many beautiful renderings that were created to advertise the Capitol Theatre screening of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*.
- 22. Cosmos, 2022:** This photo was taken at a performance of *Cosmos* by Windsor Dance Experience. WDX is a frequent renter of the Capitol Theatre and always wows its audiences with incredible choreography and beautiful costumes! The photo was taken by local photographer John Chan.
- 23. 100 Years of Capitol Theatre Memories:** On February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Mayor Drew Dilkens and the City of Windsor presented the theatre with a beautiful plaque in commemoration of the Capitol Theatre's centennial. This plaque honors the legacy of the Capitol Theatre and serves as a testament to its ongoing contributions to the Windsor arts community.