



MEMORIAL UNION

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

MEMORIAL UNION

The Living Room of Campus

Welcome home to Memorial Union, one of the most beloved and historic destinations on the University of Wisconsin-Madison's campus. Treasured by generations, Memorial Union is a place to come to socialize, discuss current events and be nourished. Thanks to the invaluable input, patience and financial support of the students, along with generous donations from Union members and the community, we have preserved, renovated and updated this historic building with care and welcome you back to the living room of campus.

Memorial Union first opened October 5, 1928, and, until now, has never been fully renovated. The building has been updated to provide 21st century luxuries like modern heating, air-conditioning and sprinkler systems, well-situated power outlets, state-of-the-art AV in meeting rooms, and updated restrooms. The Wisconsin Historical Society helped to ensure proper preservation and restoration of significant spaces, details and murals.

OUR PROCESS

Students spoke, and we listened. With more than 17,000 separate interactions with students, faculty, staff, alumni, members and the community about the design for the reinvestment project, the Union is, and always will remain, a student-led mission and creation. From passing the referendum to renovate Memorial Union, to determining the design and functionality of the space, to finally working in the new kitchens, offices and program areas, students have played an integral role in every part of the Memorial Union Reinvestment.



... TO PROVIDE
A COMMON LIFE
AND A CULTIVATED
SOCIAL PROGRAM
FOR THE STUDENTS,
FACULTY AND
ALUMNI OF THE
UNIVERSITY.



Memorial Union Terrace

The Terrace

The Memorial Union Terrace. It's the same old, brand new space, designed so everyone can access it and enjoy the views, sun and evening concerts and films on the large stage. New seating areas with more orange, green and yellow sunburst chairs have been created.

The dining options have expanded as well, with a bigger Brat Stand and a new BBQ Stand and Daily Scoop location. With 900 feet of new seawall on Lakeshore Path and the creation of Alumni Park next door, a century-old dream to extend the east campus gateway from the Kohl Center to Lake Mendota has finally been realized. The Terrace truly is an undergraduate playground on the lake.



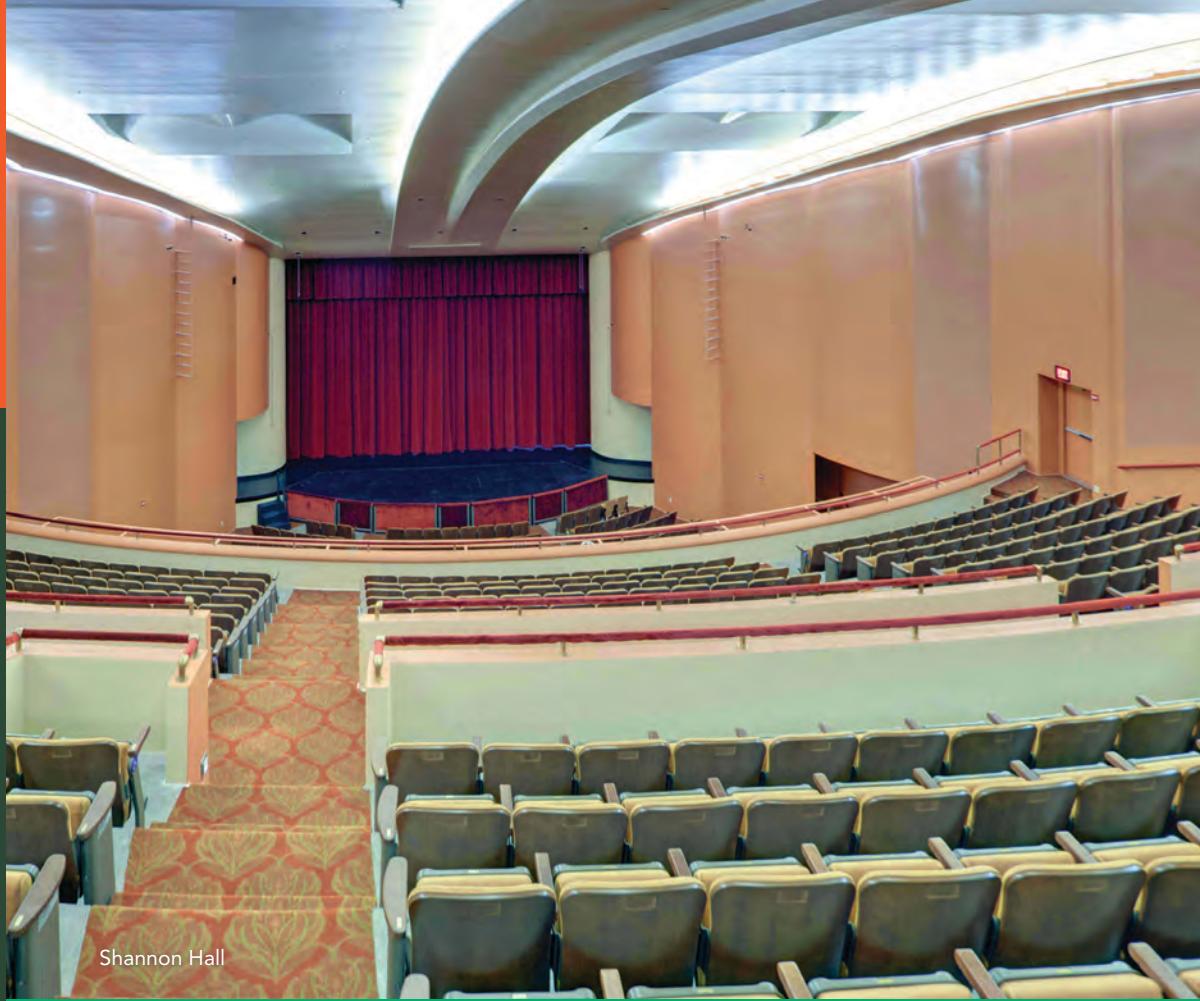
Outdoor UW

Outdoor UW is UW-Madison's outlet to the outdoors: home to the Wisconsin Hoofers, Wisconsin Basecamp and outdoor equipment rentals. In addition to the boat house and storage for all six Hoofer clubs, the Mendota Lodge and Harold C. Bradley Lounge offer space for informal meetings and lounging. The Chart Room features a relief map of Lake Mendota created by UW-Madison student and Hoofer member, Caroline Rose and serves as an interactive teaching tool as well as a piece of art.



Wheelhouse Studios

Wheelhouse Studios is a vibrant creative arts space with three versatile work spaces, flexible studio designs, drop-in art opportunities and classes where artists of all skill levels can follow their passions.



Wisconsin Union Theater

A centerpiece for the performing arts on campus since 1939, the Wisconsin Union Theater has hosted thousands of performances over the decades. Shannon Hall seats up to 1,165 people and has been fully restored to honor its historic Moderne design. The Fredric March Play Circle is an intimate "black box" theater with retractable seats for up to 200. The Festival Room features a sprung wood floor and mirrors and is the approximate size and shape of the Shannon Hall stage, making it ideal for blocking dance and music rehearsals. The back of house, green room and dressing rooms were also upgraded to match the performers' backstage experience to the renovated performance spaces.

Shannon Sunset Lounge

This beautiful new addition to the west wing, with floor-to-ceiling windows and glass doors overlooking Lake Mendota and the Terrace, is a student lounge that also serves as an extension of the Theater lobby during shows.



Der Rathskeller



Gekas Commons



Paul Bunyan Room

Der Rathskeller & Der Stiftskeller

Der Rathskeller and Der Stiftskeller are a uniquely special place, designed to bring people together to socialize, enjoy a meal, play games and be part of the UW-Madison community. The murals, tables, fireplaces and steins have been restored to their original luster and the ceiling was replaced with new cork tiles. One of the biggest changes to this space features a new layout of the kitchens and servery to provide direct views and access to the Terrace from inside. Additionally, the stage in Der Rathskeller was rebuilt and includes improved lighting and a hi-definition screen to make Badger game watches even more exciting.

Gekas Commons

The Gekas Commons, formerly known as the Trophy Room, acts as an extension of Der Rathskeller. The multicultural murals by renowned artist Leo Tanguma, dedicated in March 1996, were commissioned to share the important message of unity through diversity and serve as a constant, stirring reminder of the Union's role as a gathering place for all members of the University community. This room is named in honor of Ted Gekas, a UW-Madison alumnus and Wisconsin Union Association board trustee.

Paul Bunyan Room

The Paul Bunyan Room celebrates the tall tales of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox, which were at peak popularity when Memorial Union was built. The murals, painted by James Watrous in the 1930s, were partially funded by the Public Works Art Project as part of the New Deal. The 40 mural panels have been carefully restored, and the Paul Bunyan Room is once again a social space.



Lakeview Lounge

Lakeview Lounge

This bright dining room and study lounge connects the interior of the building with the Terrace. With floor-to-ceiling windows and sliding glass doors that can be opened to let the the outside in, Lakeview Lounge can be enjoyed in all seasons.

Dining Venues

As tastes change, many of the dining venues have received facelifts or have been completely reimagined. Der Rathskeller and Der Stiftskeller have kept a similar menu throughout the decades, with tweaks to accommodate current expectations. Coffee and ice cream are still essentials from Peet's Coffee and the Daily Scoop. New to the dining lineup includes Strada, an Italian eatery, and Carte, a made-to-order sandwich and salad shop. Lakeview Lounge and Sunset Lounge also serve food and beverages seasonally. Plus, the Badger Market offers snacks, sundries and gifts.



Carte



Daily Scoop



Strada



Peet's Coffee & Tea



Memorial Hall

Memorial Hall

Memorial Hall, built in the Italian Renaissance style to match the building's exterior, is the building's grand entrance and lobby. Memorial Union was built to honor the men and women of UW-Madison who lost their lives while serving in our country's wars and nowhere is this more apparent than with Memorial Hall's Gold Star Honor Roll. Through class gifts from the 1963 and 1967 classes, the Gold Star Honor Roll tells the stories of alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Main Lounge

While its large, Italian-style pillars and central location within the building convey formality, the primary purpose of Main Lounge is for informal meetings, lounging and reading. Main Lounge features high ceilings, natural light and outdoor space overlooking the Terrace.



Main Lounge

Hamel Family Browsing Library

This quiet reading room just off the Main Lounge was designed to mimic English-style men's clubs popular in the 1920s. The ornamental plaster ceiling was restored to its original grandeur.



Hamel Family Browsing Library



Porter Butts Gallery

Porter Butts Gallery

Located next to the Main Lounge, this was the first-ever art gallery in a college union in the United States, setting the example for art as part of students' everyday life. The gallery features thought-provoking exhibitions curated by students of the Wisconsin Union Directorate Art Committee.



Class of 1925 Gallery

Class of 1925 Gallery

Art exhibitions curated by the student-led Wisconsin Union Directorate Art Committee are hosted in the now fully-accessible Class of 1925 Gallery.



Tripp Commons

Tripp Commons

Tripp Commons is a large multipurpose event space with direct access to the Tripp Deck outdoor patio. Special care was taken to repair and restore the floor, ornately painted ceilings and rich, wood paneled walls while preserving the room's original look.

Flags of UW-Madison's schools and colleges adorn the walls. This room is named for J. Stephens Tripp, a Madison area business and civic leader in the early 1900s.



Beefeaters Room



Old Madison Room

Old Madison

Old Madison is a large meeting room, which can be divided into two smaller spaces. The murals were commissioned in 1929 to depict scenes of the city of Madison and the UW-Madison campus in the late 1800s. The original wood floor and murals have been restored.

Beefeaters

Tradition and function come together in Beefeaters. The Beefeaters name honors Wisconsin Union's student leaders: just like the guards of the tower of London, who are nicknamed Beefeaters, the Union's student leaders metaphorically guard the Wisconsin Union and its mission. They are tasked with using the lessons they learn at the Union to serve their communities.



Great Hall



Great Hall



Great Hall

Great Hall

Great Hall is a sophisticated space for concerts, special events and large gatherings of any kind. Restoration was completed on the ballroom floors and stage, and other cosmetic details were refinished to maintain historic integrity and charm. The decorative ceiling has been restored, but there is a large stained glass skylight that has remained covered since the 1940s.



Club Suite Salon Fireplace

Wisconsin Union Club Suites

The six hotel rooms have been elegantly appointed and updated, and many of the original charming details are still in place, including fireplaces in the corner suites.

Additional Meeting Rooms

There are many meeting rooms throughout the building for meetings of all sizes. Meeting rooms include: Founders; Annex; Profile; Boardroom; Park View; William and Char Johnson Council; Langdon; Doris and Gideon Hadary Capitol View; Class of 1924 Reception Room; State; and Terrace Overlook.



Founders Room



Profile Room



State Room



Langdon Room



Doris and Gideon Hadary
Capitol View Room



Board Room

CELEBRATING
90 YEARS



UNION MEMBERSHIP:
BETTER THAN EVER
AND OPEN TO ALL

Every UW-Madison student is automatically a member of the Wisconsin Union when enrolled, but membership is open to all. More than 90,000 Wisconsin Union members support, enjoy and help preserve one of the University's most beloved buildings and all the tradition that goes along with it. For more information, visit union.wisc.edu/membership.



**CELEBRATING
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