



FREEMAN ARTS PAVILION VENUE IMPROVEMENTS

SELBYVILLE, DELAWARE

Gillis Gilkerson, renowned for their dedication to craftsmanship, has worked alongside the Freeman Arts Pavilion to lead multiple rounds of venue improvements that are sure to leave a lasting impression.

In 2023, a state-of-the-art box office and main entrance was built, kicking off the first phase of a multi-phase plan. The box office and main entrance weave innovation, wood, and modern design into the fabric of the arts pavilion's identity. A canteen and restroom complex were added in 2024, both meticulously planned to blend functionality with the modern aesthetics planned for future improvements. The canteen creates a permanent food service outlet for the venue, to complement food trucks and mobile vending locations.

In July 2026, The Freeman Arts Pavilion unveiled a \$40 million dollar transformation, complete with a significantly larger, permanent stage and back-of-house facility. A reoriented 30-foot graded lawn enhances sight-lines for guests and performers, and offers both permanent seating options and a lawn area. The improved backstage facilities are designed to meet modern touring requirements, enabling the venue to continue to attract high caliber talent. While the venue's size and capacity remain the same, at 5.3 acres and 4,000 guests, the 2026 transformation marks a bold new chapter for the venue.

Under the leadership of Project Executive Dwight Miller, Project Manager Robin Steininger and Superintendent Dale Reinhold, the team has taken on each year's challenges with focused determination. With the pressure of ensuring the project's completion for the venue's first concert of each season, every detail has mattered. Gillis Gilkerson rose to the occasion, with gratitude, passion and dedication, knowing how important this space will be to so many, for years

"Gillis Gilkerson has transformed our venue, enhancing the experience for both performers and guests, all while improving the safety and efficiency of operations. Gillis Gilkerson's professionalism and adherence to schedule were critical, ensuring our venue has opened on time, year after year."

PATTI GRIMES | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JOSHUA M. FREEMAN FOUNDATION



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