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## Grand Theater recognized again as a top theatre venue worldwide

WAUSAU, WI -- December 17, 2025 -- The Grand Theater caps off another record-breaking year with a spot in the 2025 Top 200 Theatre Venues Worldwide as compiled by *Pollstar*. The publication's Year End Edition ranked The Grand 111<sup>th</sup> in the world for tickets sold – our second-highest ever position on *Pollstar*'s prestigious list. The Grand has appeared in *Pollstar*'s Top 150 rankings since 2017.

In addition to finishing in the Top 150 overall, The Grand again shined in comparison to similar markets and venues, ranking second in terms of market size and third for theaters under 1,300 seats. The Grand consistently has been among the top five venues of its size since 2017, and in the top two for market size since 2018.

The public response to shows at The Grand this past year – 73,679 tickets sold for more than \$3.7 million in revenue – marks the third consecutive year of record numbers. The Grand has more than doubled the number of patrons it serves a year compared to 2016.

“It has been another incredible year at The Grand, and to be recognized in *Pollstar*'s Top 150 worldwide for the ninth consecutive year is a tribute to the hard work done by our entire team,” says Sean Wright, Executive Director. “To once again have one of the highest finishes of similarly-sized markets is especially gratifying, because it demonstrates just how incredibly supportive our amazing community is of our 98-year-old historic theater.”

The Grand again ranks 17<sup>th</sup> in the world this year for *all* venues 98 years or older, regardless of size or market. Built in 1927, The Grand is operated by the Performing Arts Foundation (PAF), a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization created in the 1980s to save this historic theater in the heart of Wausau. The Grand continues to rely on local support and charitable contributions to bring world-class performing artists every year.

As The Grand approaches its 100<sup>th</sup> year, that support is especially crucial to complete the \$17 million Second Century Capital Campaign, now in progress to fund a facility-wide construction project that address critical repairs, much-needed upgrades, and a transformational restoration of the theater itself (see [www.grand100.org](http://www.grand100.org)).

“As we enter an important year for the next century of The Grand, we again see the impact of our outstanding patrons from throughout the region who make this possible,” Wright says. “We are excited to share a transformational 2026 with our community, one that will help restore our theater for decades to come and that will continue to bring the best in the performing arts to our historic stage for audiences of all ages to enjoy.”

*Pollstar* is the international trade publication for the concert and performing arts industry. The Grand has been ranked alongside world-renowned theaters such as Radio City Music Hall (New York, NY), Ryman Auditorium (Nashville, TN), and Royal Albert Hall (London, UK).

Find more information about the Grand at [www.grandtheater.org](http://www.grandtheater.org) or call 715.842.0988.

