

# National Aviary News

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NATIONAL AVIARY

## QUICK FACTS National Aviary Expansion

- \$18.5 million expansion and renovation project comprises extensive renovations and upgrades to the old facility and the integration of an expansive new addition
- Architectural design by SPRINGBOARD Design
- Construction by Mascaro Construction
- Project comprises construction of the new Helen M. Schmidt FliteZone Theater; rooftop Sky Deck for bird of prey lure-flying demonstrations and releases; Bistro to Go café; classrooms; new facade; and a new grand entrance and lobby space.
- The 125-seat Helen M. Schmidt FliteZone Theater is **the world's first and only indoor theater constructed exclusively for the presentation of live, free-flight bird shows** enhanced by video, music, lighting and stage design.
- **Wings!**, the first show in the FliteZone Theater, opens October 9, and will run daily at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Wings! will feature macaws, eagle owls, vultures, silver gulls, and a Harris hawk in free flight, against a video background of their wild habitats. Music, voice over and sets make the show a complete theatrical experience.
- The expansion and renovation is a 45,000 square foot construction project. Of this, approximately 35,000 square feet was renovated or upgraded, while an addition comprises approximately 10,000 square feet of new space.
- The Aviary's expansion and renovation has been developed with the goal of achieving a **Silver LEED Certification** for green building standards.
- New glass-fronted entry pavilion employs extensive use of fritted glazing, which makes the windows appear solid to flying birds. This eliminates the risk of wild birds striking the building from the outside. **This design feature makes the National Aviary expansion the first explicitly bird friendly building in the region.**
- Visitors and staff can for the first time enjoy the convenience of on-site food service with the opening of **Bistro to Go at the National Aviary**. Locally owned, *Bistro to Go* is known for its fresh and varied menu. Free Wi-Fi will also be available in the café. Patrons visiting the café only are not required to pay admission to the National Aviary.

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