

Asheville, N.C.'s Biltmore Baptist Undergoes Sanctuary Renovation

Brawner & Associates was contracted by MG&A (Myrick, Gurosky and Associates, Inc.) for a sanctuary renovation at Biltmore Baptist Church in Asheville NC. The project included AVL upgrades, relocation of AVL control rooms, staging and sets, ceiling treatments and the addition of audience seating risers to increase seating by 400. Brawner was responsible for all video and lighting elements in addition to staging and scenic elements. The fast track project ran 12 weeks from design to installation.

Brawner & Associates designed and provided a modular stage using Brawner's very own signature Innovation Series Modular Staging. The 3500 sq ft stage itself is comprised of (144) 3'X3' aluminum, self locking custom stage risers decked with plywood and carpet. Audio and video floor pockets are distributed throughout the stage deck and can be moved anytime from event to event if necessary. The stage surface can be switched from wood/carpet to illuminated glass top, tile or Marley at anytime. The shape of the stage can change anytime due to its modular design.



In addition the stage set was designed using Brawner's signature Innovation Series Graphic Walls which provided the client a totally transformable stage set. The set included three screen towers, a front of stage facade and modular choir risers for over 250. The set included multiple self illuminated, graphic panel set walls which feature replaceable re-printable mylar graphics allowing unlimited flexibility. The graphic panel set walls were designed with a handicap door built into them allowing access to the backstage area without compromising the design. The graphics can be changed out two or three times a year or can be changed every message series allowing complete transformation.



The project included the complete relocation of the video control room, audio booth and lighting booth. The entire video system was upgraded from standard definition to digital HD. The system included (2) Panasonic HPX370 HD cameras/CCUs as well as (3) Panasonic HPX170 hand held HD cameras and a Ross Crossover 12 digital video switcher with Extron digital HD routing.

The new HD Video system also included (3) 8k Barco DLP projectors. The new center screen was a large-format Dalite electric video screen 146"x 260". The new side screens were Dalite Perm wall screens 132" x 235". The center screen was designed to raise and lower to reveal the baptistery on the rear wall. All video screens are built into 28' custom set towers for a very contemporary, finished look. Control of video screens and projectors are accomplished through a convenient Extron touch panel.

The lighting system upgrade included multiple new motorized lighting positions built from chrome trussing designed to match the set. The lighting system also featured new lighting fixtures, added dimming control, completely new circuit distribution and new networked control systems. Multiple new LED lighting units were added for the set lighting. The lighting was designed to allow improved flexibility for production work and weekly services in addition to supporting the new stage and set design.

"We really enjoyed the relationship we have developed with Biltmore" states Donnie Brawner, owner Brawner & Associates. "We were brought into this project by Carl Setterlind, Minister of Music at Biltmore. The goal was total transformation of the worship center space. The timeline was tight on this deal and required a lot of attention to detail early on. Many times the renovations are more difficult then the new construction projects due to the obstacles. In this case the worship space was truly transformed as much as any we've seen."

"It has been a pleasure to work with Brawner and Associates in creating a completely new worship center for our church" said Carl Setterlind, Worship Pastor for Biltmore Baptist Church. "Their professional ingenuity created a completely unique product for our church. I was extremely pleased with the way they used their creative abilities to match our own environment. These guys always follow through with whatever they say, going the extra mile to ensure that we are satisfied with the final product. They are completely original, not taking the cookie-cutter approach to any of this work."

Organizations and companies in this story

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