

The Whiting, 1241 E. Kearsley St., Flint, MI 48503

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 2, 2008

Contact:

Wendi Fournier
Advertising and Promotions Manager
The Whiting
(810) 237-8689
wfournier@thewhiting.com

The Whiting Goes Green!

Flint, MI – The Whiting is going green! From the implementation of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) to the recycling of plastic products, The Whiting is taking steps toward making its facility a safer and more environmentally friendly gathering place.

Currently it costs The Whiting \$9,454.18 per year to illuminate the work and task lights at the theater and uses approximately 812.04 kilowatt hours per day. We are in the first phase of converting much of our lighting to compact fluorescents and LEDs. We have replaced the lighting in two hallways from incandescents to more energy efficient lights. One balcony hallway has been converted to compact fluorescent lights, which are recyclable and far less hazardous to the environment than incandescents. Another hallway has been completely switched over to LEDs. We are hoping to see what type of lighting will best suit The Whiting, furthering our greening initiatives. Our ultimate goal is to replace every light bulb in our building, which number over 2,400 (with the exception of stage lighting, for which there currently is no replacement option), with a more energy efficient means of lighting. By implementing LEDs it would reduce the cost to illuminate the work and task lights by \$6,997.03 annually and reduce its daily power usage by 600.99 kilowatt hours.

In addition to energy conservation, the reduction in waste products is a simple yet important part of the greening process. We have provided plastic bottle recycling bins throughout our facility as a means for a clean disposal of the soda and water bottles we sell at concessions. We have also made the move to more environment friendly concession products, including biodegradable cups, napkins, plates, silverware and coffee stirrers.

Our housekeeping staff is utilizing eco-friendly “Sustainable Earth” cleaning supplies and products that are naturally derived and not full of harmful chemicals. This change will help promote a healthy environment and better suit our efforts to keep our institution, as well as our Earth, clean.

The Whiting also currently has recycling bins for paper and cardboard, which our staff uses to recycle all paper and cardboard products used in our offices, as well as recyclable material from our performances.

Currently we are partnering with a group of Senior Electrical Engineering Students from Kettering University who are conducting an energy audit to help us become more aware of possible wasted energy. From this audit, we will determine our carbon footprint which will establish ways that will allow us to better utilize our energy resources.

If you would like to learn more about our greening initiatives or find out how you can help, please contact **Linda Moxam, Director of Development for The Flint Cultural Center Corporation at (810) 237-7382.**

The Whiting is a member organization of the Flint Cultural Center Corporation and is dedicated to bringing the performing arts to the community. The Whiting is a nonprofit organization and an Equal Opportunity Employer providing programs and services without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex or handicap.

****High Res Images are available upon request.**

To secure tickets or request images, please contact Wendi Fournier at

(810) 237-8689 or wfournier@thewhiting.com**

###