

# THE BABY GRAND

## INTEGRATING SOUND AND MUSIC

A COMMUNITY CASE STUDY - NOVEMBER 2009

### ABOUT THE FACILITY

The Baby Grand is the smaller of two magnificent venues at the Grand Opera House in Wilmington, Delaware. The historic Grand first opened in 1871. The Baby Grand debuted next to the Grand in September 2000. The Downtown Wilmington location where it now stands had once been occupied by the Aldine Theatre.

The 300-seat Baby Grand hosts a variety of different performances. This intimate venue features many small independent musical acts. Its stage stretches 56 feet, and has a proscenium arch opening that measures approximately 36 feet wide by 17 feet high. The Baby Grand and The Grand combine to draw approximately 100,000 people to their shows each year.

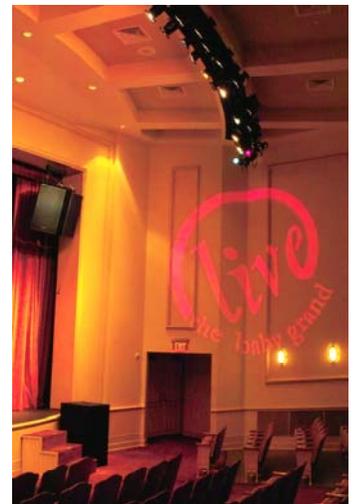


### THE SOUND SYSTEM

The Baby Grand's configuration made the installation team's job challenging. Howard Fulton, Audio Engineer for the Grand Opera House, explained that horizontal coverage was difficult because the Baby Grand's seating area is wider than its proscenium.

"The Technical Applications Group at Community was instrumental in assessing the room response," said Fulton. "Based on that information, they recommended specific loudspeakers and their placement. They also supplied the basic tuning data for each of the different devices which we entered into the Sabine Navigator. The settings were so accurate that only minor changes were needed when the installation was complete."

The installation team set out to cover the entire Baby Grand with quality sound. They used two i2W8 loudspeakers from Community Professional as stage rail fill speakers. They hung clusters with two iHP-3594 three-way loudspeakers apiece on both the left and right



side of the proscenium to service the main audience area. The team also used two iHP1296 loudspeakers as stage monitors, and a pair of TLF218 subwoofers to augment low frequencies for the entire audience. In addition, the system features a 40 channel Soundcraft K2 mixing console with meter bridge, located in a booth at the back of the house.

Fulton couldn't say enough about the i2W8. "This loudspeaker is an amazing and versatile full-range device in a compact package. The 120° horizontal dispersion and low profile make it ideal for stage rail placement to warm up the first three rows. It also works well as a stage monitor when a wide area needs to be covered.

### SOUND SYSTEM (CONTINUED)

I have a second pair mounted to the ceiling of a 2500 square foot lobby. These are used as a full-range PA for pre-show performances by local music students.”

Since the installation was completed in September 2009, visitors to the Baby Grand have enjoyed improved intelligibility. The new system has also provided more even horizontal coverage.

### EQUIPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Two Community i2W8 loudspeakers
- Two clusters with two Community iHP-3594 three-way loudspeakers apiece
- Two Community iHP-1296 loudspeakers as stage monitors
- Two Community TLF218 subwoofers
- 40 channel Soundcraft K2 console
- Processing by Klark-Teknik 1/3 octave equalizers, Sabine Navigator DSP, two Drawmer DL251 two channel compressor/limiters, and a Yamaha SPX 990 digital FX unit
- QSC RMx 2450 amplifiers



**TLF-218**

### THE LOUDSPEAKERS

The multipurpose i2W8 is perfect for under-balcony fill, foreground music, distributed systems, main cluster downfill, monitor use, and other applications requiring sonic quality suitable for either music or voice reproduction. Centrally mounted in a “Super-V” configuration on a pattern control horn offering ultra-wide 120° horizontal coverage, the LF transducers provide an exceptionally uniform midrange pattern not found in competitive designs.



**i2W8**



**iHP-3594**



**iHP-1296**

Community’s iBOX Series of installation loudspeakers has been expanded to offer portable versions of all iBOX full-range models, equipped with handles, rubber feet and stacking cups on four recessed corner mounting points.

The iBOX family of high performance, high-quality loudspeakers covers the widest range of applications of any manufacturer. iBOX offers an easy-to-use solution that comes with installation accessories and mounting brackets, making it the most versatile system available.

*Community has been a leading supplier of professional loudspeaker systems since 1968. Headquartered in Chester, Pennsylvania, Community distributes its products to over fifty countries on six continents.*