

**SAVE THE**



A Downtown Bryan Association  
project... to purchase and restore  
The Queen Theater.  
Please help!  
[www.downtownbryan.com](http://www.downtownbryan.com)

# *Save the Queen*

*News Release - May 26, 2010*

The Downtown Bryan Association (formerly known as DBEDA) is undertaking an exciting new project to purchase and restore the Queen Theater in Downtown Bryan. The poor condition of the historic Queen Theater has long been a topic of the discussion among citizens from Bryan and College Station. Everyone in our community agrees that restoration of the Queen will be the crowning touch in the very successful effort to rejuvenate Bryan's downtown.

The ultimate objective for the project is to restore the building into a community entertainment venue. There are several obstacles to the use as a conventional theater but, initially, the finished theatre will become the offices of the Downtown Bryan Association and the Downtown Visitors Center.

In order to complete the project, the Downtown Bryan Association will need to raise \$200,000 for the purchase and approximately \$850,000 for the restoration. We want this project to be a community project, not a City of Bryan project nor a project funded by a few individuals. The more individuals who have taken part in this worthwhile effort, the more individuals in our community will be able to take pride in the finished Queen Theater. We will not accept any contributions greater than \$1,000 during the fundraising for the purchase price.

The fundraising has already begun and the response of the community has been phenomenal. The first 25 individuals who have been approached for financial support have pledged a total of \$25,000. Yes, that is correct. I don't expect that we will receive that level of support throughout this campaign, but I have been overwhelmed to see the magnitude of not only financial support but also the level of excitement expressed by each and every community member who learns about the new future for OUR Queen. This is a worthwhile project that we can all undertake for ourselves. It is not for someone else, it is for us - our community, our pride.

The Queen Theater is the centerpiece of Downtown Bryan. Its current rundown condition is an eyesore in the midst of a beautiful and historic downtown area. Renovating it will literally put a crown on that downtown restoration project.

With support of the community, the Downtown Bryan Association will have the exterior restored by the time of the Texas Reds Festival in 2011. We are working on plans for the complete interior restoration but it is too early in the project to accurately predict a completion date for that effort. We are already looking forward to a grand reopening of the Queen, celebrating our community's commitment to the future.

For additional information contact:  
Ben Hardeman, Chair  
979-218-8453  
Downtown Bryan Association