

Nashville Children's Theatre Dragon

Nashville, Tennessee



Every year, the Nashville Children's Theatre draws in more than 70,000 children and adults to see productions such as "Go, Dog, Go!" and "The Reluctant Dragon." Located adjacent to the Nashville metro buildings downtown and highly visible from the street, the dragon guarding the newly renovated theatre required a coordinated effort between the artists and galvanizer to produce, and will be viewed by approximately 300,000 people each year.

With such high visibility, the artist wanted to ensure the sculpture would remain aesthetically pleasing for generations to come. Galvanizing was specified to prevent unsightly rust from marring the whimsical look of the sculpture.

The dragon needed to appear solid in form, yet be fashioned with enough air holes to properly ventilate it. This was achieved by skip welding under the scales and adding holes later disguised as part of the sculpture. This extra effort preserved the realistic dragon-like appearance. All components of this elaborate sculpture were galvanized, from the anchor apparatus for the dragon support, to the curling tips of the dragon's wings – totaling more than 3,000 pounds of galvanized steel. To ensure low maintenance and to preserve the dragon for decades of children to enjoy, galvanizing was the best choice to protect the dragon from corrosion.



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