

StudioNews



Photos: Denise Riesen Photography

ENVIRONMENTS

Chicago Bulls Locker Room & Advocate Center

Coach Hoiberg isn't the only new thing to the Chicago Bulls, as the team recently unveiled updates to their locker rooms at the United Center and to their adjoining training facility at the Advocate Center.

Chicago Scenic worked closely with United Center's Senior Vice President of Operations Terry Savarise and Chicago Bulls Director of Creative Services Jon Shoemaker to refresh the look of both spaces.

Upon entering the Advocate Center, guests and players alike walk through a hall completely decked out with Bulls graphics and signage, as well as a wall of 'half basketballs' that are painted grey, silver, or gold corresponding to non-playoff years, playoff years, and winning years.

Chicago Scenic worked with Fast Corporation of Sparta, Wisconsin to create a lasting, realistic basketball look—ultimately choosing to create several basketball molds from a real NBA ball and pull fiberglass castings to ensure they didn't crack, deflate, or puncture.

Custom walnut benches line one side of the hallway, providing a place to sit and admire the colorful representation of Bulls playoff history.

Further into the building, another basketball wall curves around a hallway leading to the training center locker rooms. A custom fit mesh wall connects to the basketball wall and the team's 15 player jerseys are encased and mounted to the mesh wall. The player timeline that runs along the opposite wall consists of more than 300 small plaques with the names of every Bulls player.

Across the street at the United Center, Chicago Scenic installed a third basketball wall in the player's lounge adjacent to the locker room. Large-scale murals are painted on several of the walls in the lounge and in an adjoining medical room, sophisticated and bold reminders of the Chicago Bulls' legacy.

CSSI PROJECT DIRECTOR: Gary Heitz
PROJECT MANAGER: Will Burns
JOB LEAD: Alan Gugel
ORIGINAL DESIGN CONCEPT: DesignHaus Studio



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Stories Bus Shelters Tell



Shedd Amphibians

John G. Shedd Aquarium’s special exhibit Amphibians—which Chicago Scenic built and installed in May 2015—is attracting public attention with its over 40 species of frogs, salamanders and caecilians. In an effort to help spread the word further, Chicago Scenic teamed up with longtime partner JC Decaux to create two customized bus shelters featuring larger-than-life amphibians.



The centerpieces of each shelter were undoubtedly the giant bull frogs, hand-sculpted and painted at Chicago Scenic. Teams began with large blocks of foam from which they CNC-cut the general shape of the

frog, then sanded each piece by hand until the figure’s eyes, nose, and toes came to life. They were then hard-coated to survive the elements.

Steel armatures were custom made to attach each frog to a metal skid that sits on top of the shelter. As a final touch, teams created beds of faux foliage and large vinyl letters spelling the name of the exhibit.

Mosquito Awareness



As the Zika Virus continues to pique awareness across the globe, a Mosquito Control Team in Chicago created a campaign to help prepare and educate downtown commuters.

Chicago Scenic was called upon to help create the visual campaign, which was perched on top of a JC Decaux bus shelter in a high traffic area.

The completed mosquito was a work of art, meticulously sculpted and painted. Chicago Scenic Metals Department created a steel armature consisting of the mosquito’s eight legs and a frame for its body. The body was hand carved from foam, then hard-coated, sanded, and painted. Its wings were custom-made from fiberglass and securely attached to withstand wind and rain.

Chicago Scenic conducted hours of research before creating the mosquito so as to make it look as realistic as possible, down to the curves of its body and size and position of its eyes.



Photos: Denise Riesen Photography



LEGO® Bus Shelter

Commuters at Michigan Avenue and Randolph Street are enjoying a newly decorated bus shelter that appears to be made entirely of oversized LEGO bricks. The new project, overseen by Chicago Scenic’s Project Director Gary Heitz, is a promotion for the Museum of Science & Industry’s new “Brick by Brick” exhibit that celebrates LEGO bricks and spotlights 13 of the world’s engineering marvels created from thousands of the tiny bricks.

In addition to the bus shelter above, there are three other shelters in the city that have side panels packed with the tiny LEGO bricks. The Museum encourages passersby to take a photo and guess how many LEGOS are inside. Winners get a free pass to the Museum and the LEGO exhibit.





Photo: Chicago Cubs/Steve Green

ENVIRONMENTS

Cubs Memorabilia Now On Display

Wrigley Field proudly welcomed back players and fans this season with new stadium and clubhouse renovations. Chicago Scenic was part of that effort.

Chicago Scenic built five display cases that now reside in the Concourse under the bleachers. The case exteriors resemble metal girders in the stadium's interior and are painted the same iconic green. Cubs and Wrigley artifacts are on display, including

historical photographs, Ryne Sandberg's retired jersey, and the Shawon-o-Meter.

Chicago Scenic built and installed an additional inset case outside the Cubs locker room. That case required special security locks since it displays a private donor's collection on loan.

CSSI PROJECT DIRECTOR: Gary Heitz

PROJECT ARCHITECT: VOA

CASE DESIGNER: Younts Design



TV | FILM

PBS NewsHour with President Obama

When PBS NewsHour announced its impending interview event with President Obama in Elkhart, Indiana, designer George Allison called upon Chicago Scenic to help set the scene in just one week.

To create the intimate interview setting in Elkhart's Lerner Theatre, the Chicago Scenic crew worked around the clock gathering Steeldeck® from our vast rentals inventory and building and inserting custom-fit deck plugs to create the curved risers. Bright red carpet was laid down to create aisles.

Six white columns, representative of the iconic white columns at the White House, stand on the perimeter

of the stage. Chicago Scenic worked with graphic specialist Moss to produce the four graphic banners bearing PBS's logo. Those were attached to custom-fit flats and mounted in between the columns.

One of the most prominent elements on stage was the custom-printed circular rug—also provided by Moss—on which the President and PBS interviewer Gwen Ifill sat throughout the event.

Chicago Scenic also provided the chairs for the viewing audience, as well as the white chairs and tables in center stage.

ENVIRONMENTS

Pop-up Shops

NFL Draft



For the second consecutive year, the NFL Draft transformed Chicago's Grant Park into a playground of football interactives, retail pop-ups, autograph and photo sessions, and, of course, the player selection of 32 NFL teams. Working with Gensler, Chicago Scenic helped transform 6,000 sq. ft. of drab, empty space on Michigan Avenue into the official NFL Draft Store in under one week.

Teams worked vigorously onsite to bring Gensler's 'football cave' to life. Made of more than 350 cardboard boxes hung from the ceiling and tacked to the existing wall, fans and players alike visiting the store walked through the belly of a larger-than-life football to browse through gear for every NFL team. Project Manager Jean Burch says of the installation, "It was a very organic process, lowering and raising the boxes to achieve the football sculpture shape."

Chicago Scenic also provided the graphics that wrapped around columns, hung from the ceiling, and clung to the windows of the shop. Three player cut-outs stood at the entrance to the store as a fan photo-opp. Throughout the draft, NFL players visited the store for autograph and photo sessions.

Adidas at the College Baseball World Series



How does a vendor stand out at the College Baseball World Series? By dropping buckets full of paint over a brand new line of baseball cleats.

Chicago Scenic recently worked with Match Marketing Group to create this eye-catching display for an Adidas pop-up shop at Omaha Baseball Village to celebrate the new 'Dipped' cleat line.

Job Lead Steve Hemphill created the seven paint sculptures by wrapping fiberglass around steel armatures, then pouring over layers of resin to create a realistic 'waterfall' effect. Each paint was matched to the colors of the cleat line.

Hemphill also created a custom bat holder for Adidas's new Aeroburner bats that sat next to a batting cage. Every 50 hits, a confetti canon was triggered and the lucky fan won a bat to take home.

Chicago Scenic also created several bases that were scattered throughout the festival grounds. Attendees who found the bases brought them back to the Adidas store for a prize.

We don't want to brag, but...

We're always pleased when others recognize our work. Here are three awards our projects recently won.



AASLH Leadership in History, Award of Merit

History Clubhouse
Missouri History Museum
St. Louis, MO

Chicago Scenic worked closely with the Museum designer Nicole Gray D'Orazio and Kraemer Design on the museum's first long-term exhibition designed just for kids. It's a play place for kids, sure, but it's also a space designed to instill an enduring interest in their state and community.

Full story in StudioNews Vol. 24 No. 4



NewscastStudio 2015 Set of the Year Award

Chicago Magazine & RedEye Set
Chicago, IL

The broadcast set used for Chicago Magazine and the Chicago Tribune's RedEye webcasts won the Newscast Studio 2015 Set of the Year Award. The set was designed by Provost Studio and built by Chicago Scenic Studios.

The "webcast" category is the competition's newest category and illustrates the broadcast industry's movement toward web-based programming.

Full story in StudioNews Vol. 24 No. 3



AIA Chicago Small Projects Award 2016, Citation of Merit

Pyramid Bench
DuPage Children's Museum
Naperville, IL

Designed by ArchitectureisFun, Chicago Scenic created the 13 interactive pyramids and blocks on display at the DuPage Children's Museum. Nine of the interlocking pyramids comprise the structure that has become the museum's central play and meeting spot for kids and parents.

Full story in StudioNews Vol. 25 No. 1

