

Timeline History of Memorial Auditorium & Kimball Organ

Auditorium

Building • Events • Kimball

Historical Events

Worcester • US & World

	1673	British attempts for a permanent settlement 1673, 1702
	1713	Jonas Rice established permanent settlement
	1722	Worcester Incorporated
	1731	Worcester became the County Seat
	1775	American Revolutionary War
	1842	Worcester County Mechanics Association established
	1843	College of the Holy Cross established
	1848	Worcester becomes a city; Free Soil anti-slavery party founded
	1850	First National Woman's Rights Convention held in Worcester
	1855	Steam calliope invented by Joshua C Stoddard
	1855	Eli Thayer founds Oread Institute, first four-year college for women
Kimball International formed Piano & Organ Division	1857	
	1861	American Civil War
	1864	Worcester YMCA founded; Mechanics Hall Hook Organ Installed
	1865	WPI founded
	1868	Worcester population: 118,000
	1869	1st trans-continental railroad completed
	1880	Candlepin bowling invented in Worcester
	1887	Clark Univeristy founded
Kimball begins producing pipe organs	1890	
	1895	Dudley Buck soloist at the Worc. Music Festival
	1898	Spanish-American War
	1899	American Guild of Organists founded
	1901	Assembly-line manufacturing concept introduced
	1904	Assumption College founded
	1908	First Model T Ford produced
	1909	Sigmund Freud lectures at Clark
	1911	Worcester Union Station (current building)
	1914	WWI
Discussions for need for an Auditorium facility	1917	WWI Armistice
Auditorium Committee formed	1918	
	1920	Women's right to vote - 19th Amendment
	1926	Robert Goddard liquid fuel rocket first successful launch
	1929	Black Thursday: US Wall Street Crash: Oct 1929- Beginning of 10-yr depression
	1931	
AUD groundbreaking	1933	
Kimball Opus 7119 Installed & Dedicated	1933	Laurens Hammond invents tone wheel generator for Hammond Organ
	1938	NE Hurricane: unpredicted Category 5
Kroll completed mural "The Shrine of the Immortal"	1941	WWII
Kimball Organ Company produced their Last Pipe Organ	1942	
	1947	Worcester Orchestra established
	1949	Worcester Chapter AGO founded
	1950	Korean War
AUD served as Tornado shelter	1953	June F4 Tornado: 94 killed
	1955	Vietnam War (1964)
Virgil Fox concert (with catastrophic Generator power supply outages)	1957	
	1963	Organ Historical Society founded; Harvey Ball: Smiley Face
	1980	
Added to National Register of Historic Places	1983	
Kimball featured in AGO/OHS organ convention	1983	
Kimball Restoration Committees (various) 1984-1998	1984	
Last public concert on the Kimball organ	1992	
AUD roof leaks: damage to pipe organ chambers	1995	
Kimball used in <i>Salisbury St Sampler</i> Tour (Sept 1997)	1997	
	2000	Union Station Renovated (cost: \$32M)
AUD placed on Endangered List	2009	
Latest roof repair (Fall 2012)	2012	
Scene for movie <i>American Hustle</i> filmed	2013	Worcester Population 182,544 (Providence 177K, Springfield 153K)
AUD Ball (Preservation Worcester)	2014	
Rejuvenated attention for AUD preservation: AUD Tours	2016	
Kimball Pipe Organ Festival Concert Week	2016	