



GLOBAL ARTS LIVE ANNOUNCES THE PLATFORM AND TAKEDA THEATER AT THE PLATFORM

The newly named performing arts center in Kendall Square will open in Fall 2026.

A multi-year sponsorship from Takeda enhances cultural offerings on the site of its new Global Research & Development (R&D) Center.

585 Kendall developer BioMed Realty is creating a hub for arts and sciences to shine in Cambridge's Canal District Kendall.

CAMBRIDGE – Embargoed for Sep 24, 2025 – [Global Arts Live](#), the accomplished Cambridge nonprofit presenting organization, announced today that the forthcoming 45,000-square-foot performing arts center it is helping to launch in Kendall Square will be known as [The Platform](#) (incorporated as 585 Arts) and that [Takeda](#) -- a global biopharmaceutical company and Massachusetts' largest life sciences employer -- has become lead corporate sponsor of The Platform's main performance space, to be known as the **Takeda Theater at The Platform**. Developed by [BioMed Realty](#) to benefit the Cambridge community as part of its 585 Kendall project, The Platform is scheduled to debut with an opening celebration on September 19, 2026.



The Platform features a state-of-the-art main stage accommodating 400 patrons, a rehearsal studio that matches the working space of the 3,100-square-foot main stage, a 125-seat cabaret stage, and public gathering spaces in a ground-floor commons area with an indoor garden, bar, and café. As a new facility in the regional cultural ecosystem, Takeda Theater at The Platform addresses a long-documented need for a mid-sized professional theater that benefits the broader arts community.

The performance and rehearsal spaces at The Platform will be available to independent artists and community organizations at subsidized rates, with 25 nights per year offered rent free. The entire center has been designed with close attention to accessibility that ensures it will be welcoming to all visitors.

Photo this page: Dancers from Jean Apollon Expressions make use of the in-construction space now known as Takeda Theater at The Platform. Photo courtesy Global Arts Live.

Beyond the performances presented by local independent artists and community organizations, one-third of The Platform's artistic programming will be curated by Global Arts Live, including music and dance performances that the organization has presented locally for 35 years.

Global Arts Live Founder & Director of Artistic Programs Maure Aronson says "The Platform will significantly increase our programming and expand the boundaries of what we're able to present. For years Global Arts Live and other area presenters have faced challenges in securing appropriately sized, affordable performance spaces. The Platform will give audiences a chance to see more jazz, more dance, and a wider range of performing artists."

The Platform name (formerly known as 585 Arts) and accompanying brand identity have been developed in partnership with Proverb Agency, a Boston-based creative marketing firm. The building's exterior texture was inspired by the vertical folds of a theater curtain, rising to reveal what's behind it; its rounded form evokes a warm, welcoming space. The logo echoes these design elements and gestures to the shape of the main stage.

Global Arts Live Chief Executive Officer Connie C. Chin says the name reflects the facility's cultural and community mission. "The Platform is not just a performance venue. It's a platform for supporting artists and nonprofits; a platform for work that expands our perspectives; a platform for culture, connection and conversation. Serving as a vital cultural hub, local, national and international artists will have a home to create and present meaningful work. We can all be grateful to BioMed Realty for envisioning and bringing to life this stunning, multipurpose facility that truly meets their mission to advance human health and unleash human potential. We are beyond thrilled that Takeda, a company focused on creating better lives for citizens across the globe, has stepped up to support a space designed to enhance the social and cultural lives of the people of Cambridge and Greater Boston."

The main stage will be named **Takeda Theater at The Platform**, in recognition of the company's \$3 million, multi-year sponsorship agreement. Takeda has leased 585 Kendall's approximately 600,000-square-foot lab and office space that will be the home of Takeda's Global Research & Development (R&D) Center—creating a purpose-built facility to deliver life-transforming therapies for patients. The lease is part of Takeda's long-term strategy to create one Cambridge campus in Kendall Square, along with its suburban campus in Lexington.



"Our purpose has always been to create better health for people and a brighter future for the world. This means bringing new solutions to patients with limited or no treatment options and it also means strengthening the communities where we live and work," says **Julie Kim, president of the U.S. Business Unit and U.S. country head for Takeda**, and who was appointed to be Takeda's next CEO. "Takeda Theater at The Platform will be a place where people can connect and inspire one another through the performing arts. Our continued support for the Cambridge community is unwavering, and we are proud to be part of this important, creative space."

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In addition to providing vital arts and cultural spaces to Kendall Square, BioMed Realty, Takeda, and Global Arts Live have committed to developing 585 Kendall with environmental sustainability top-of-mind, partnering to achieve key sustainability goals including LEED and WELL certifications. The building will be:

- water- and energy-efficient;
- supplied by 100% renewable electricity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- equipped with enhanced ventilation; and
- built with biophilic design principles to improve the well-being, comfort, and productivity of occupants and visitors to the building.

BioMed Realty, a Blackstone portfolio company and the largest private operator of world-class real estate for the life science and technology industries, developed the cultural hub with the Cambridge community in mind and selected Global Arts Live to operate the performing arts center including its main theater and its 15,000-square-foot ground floor public space. 585 Kendall was designed by **CBT Architects**, and is being built by **Suffolk**.

“Since long before we broke ground at 585 Kendall, this has been a project for—and informed by—the Kendall Square community,” says **Salvatore Zinno, Senior Vice President of Development at BioMed Realty**. “We are confident that our decision to enlist the expertise of Global Arts Live to establish and operate The Platform arts center will bring our local arts and science communities, neighbors, and visitors alike, together to showcase and contribute to the artistry, innovation, and ingenuity that defines the Canal District Kendall neighborhood.”

The Platform is currently under construction at 585 Kendall Street in Cambridge, located a few blocks from the Kendall MBTA station, and is scheduled for occupancy in Spring 2026. After a spring and summer spent installing equipment, moving in, and testing the systems and spaces, The Platform will have its grand opening celebration in Fall 2026.

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MEDIA INFORMATION

For more information about The Platform, the 585 Kendall Development, and partners in the project, contact the media representatives below:

- *For Global Arts Live/The Platform* -- John Michael Kennedy / jmk@jmkpr.com / 212-842-1752
- *For Takeda* -- Media_Relations@takeda.com
- *For BioMed Realty* -- Ivan Alber / ivan.alber@biomedrealty.com / 619-840-2181

Previous press releases

- [10.26.2022 -- BioMed Realty Celebrates Groundbreaking of 585 Kendall with Takeda and Global Arts Live](#)
- [1.21.2025 -- Community Driven Sustainable Development Project at 585 Kendall Reaches Major Construction Milestone](#)