

A Brief History of The National Creative Challenge: Living Statues of The National Theatre

<https://thenationaldchistory.org>



Activity Overview

Grade Level: High School (9th – 12th)

Subjects: Social Studies, History

Estimated Time: 25- 30 min

Materials Needed: Pen or pencil, paper, printed copies of National Theatre Blueprints (see below), camera

Activity Format: Group activity

Summary: In this activity, students will work collaboratively to research original floor plan designs listed in the "Brick and Mortar" section of the *Brief History of The National Website*. Then, each team will create a visual representation of the floor plans using their bodies.

Activity Guide

- Assign students to groups and instruct them to review the "Brick and Mortar" section of the *Brief History of The National* website [here](#). After reviewing the site, each group should select one blueprint that they would like to use as the basis for their "Living Statue". Then, provide the students with a print out of their selected blueprint (see below for handouts).
- A "Living Statue" is an image work activity in which students "sculpt" themselves or others to represent a person, place, feeling, idea, or moment in time. For the purpose of this activity, encourage students to think about how they might represent the elements of the blueprint in abstract ways. For example, if students chose to embody one of the balcony blueprints, they may strike a pose that suggests they are peering over an edge or leaning on a railing. Encourage students to use their whole bodies, including facial expressions.
- Give students time to try out different poses. Students may use pencil and paper to sketch the poses before they create them. Instruct students to try out different poses and document the process using the camera. Then, have students take a picture of their final image.
- Have students determine a slogan or name for their statue that represents the main idea they are trying to convey. Then, have each team present their "Living Statue" to the class. Classmates should try to guess the blueprint or main idea each team was trying to convey before their slogan is revealed.

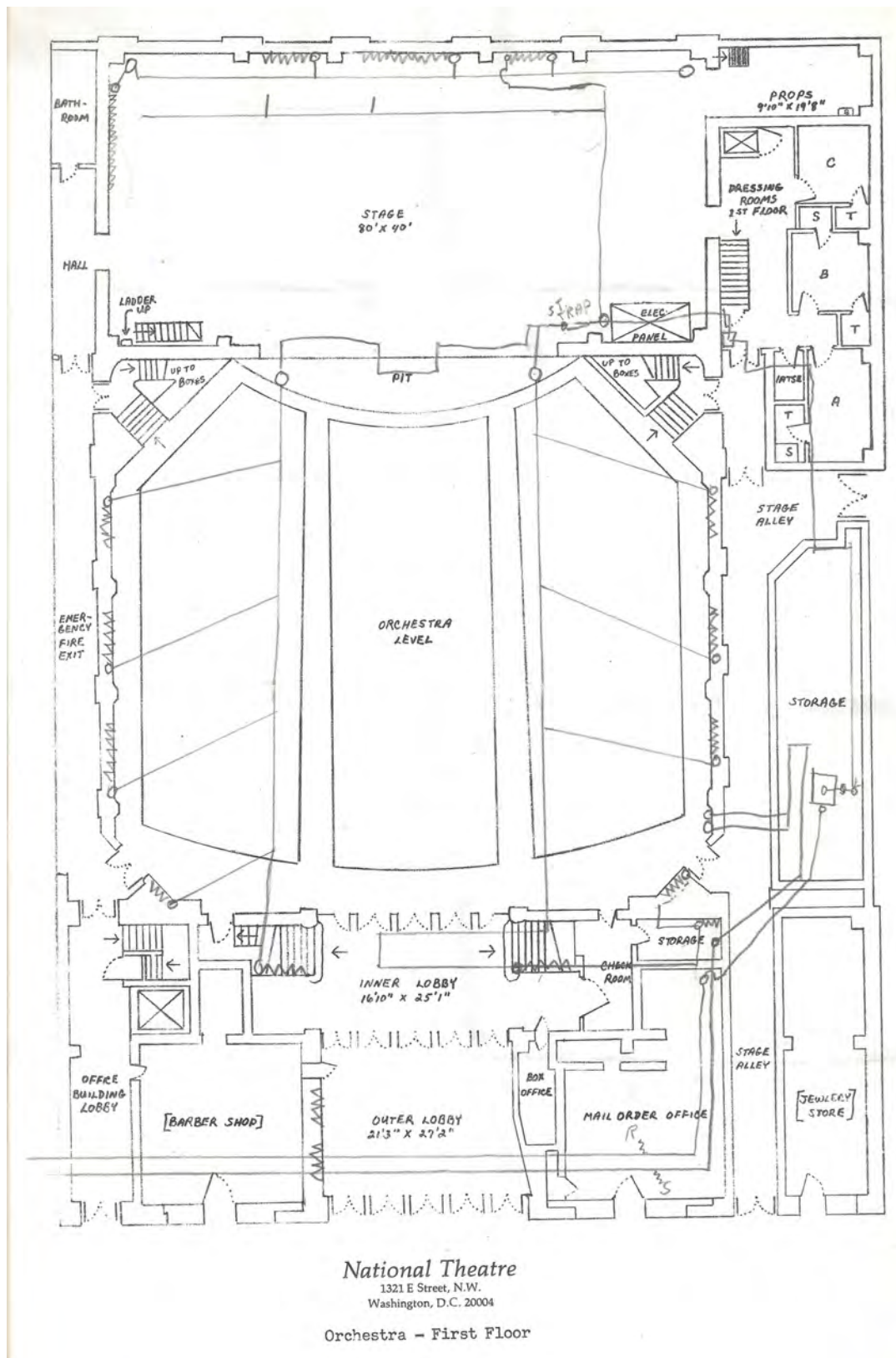


THE NATIONAL THEATRE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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A Brief History of The National Creative Challenge: Blueprint One: Orchestra 1st Floor

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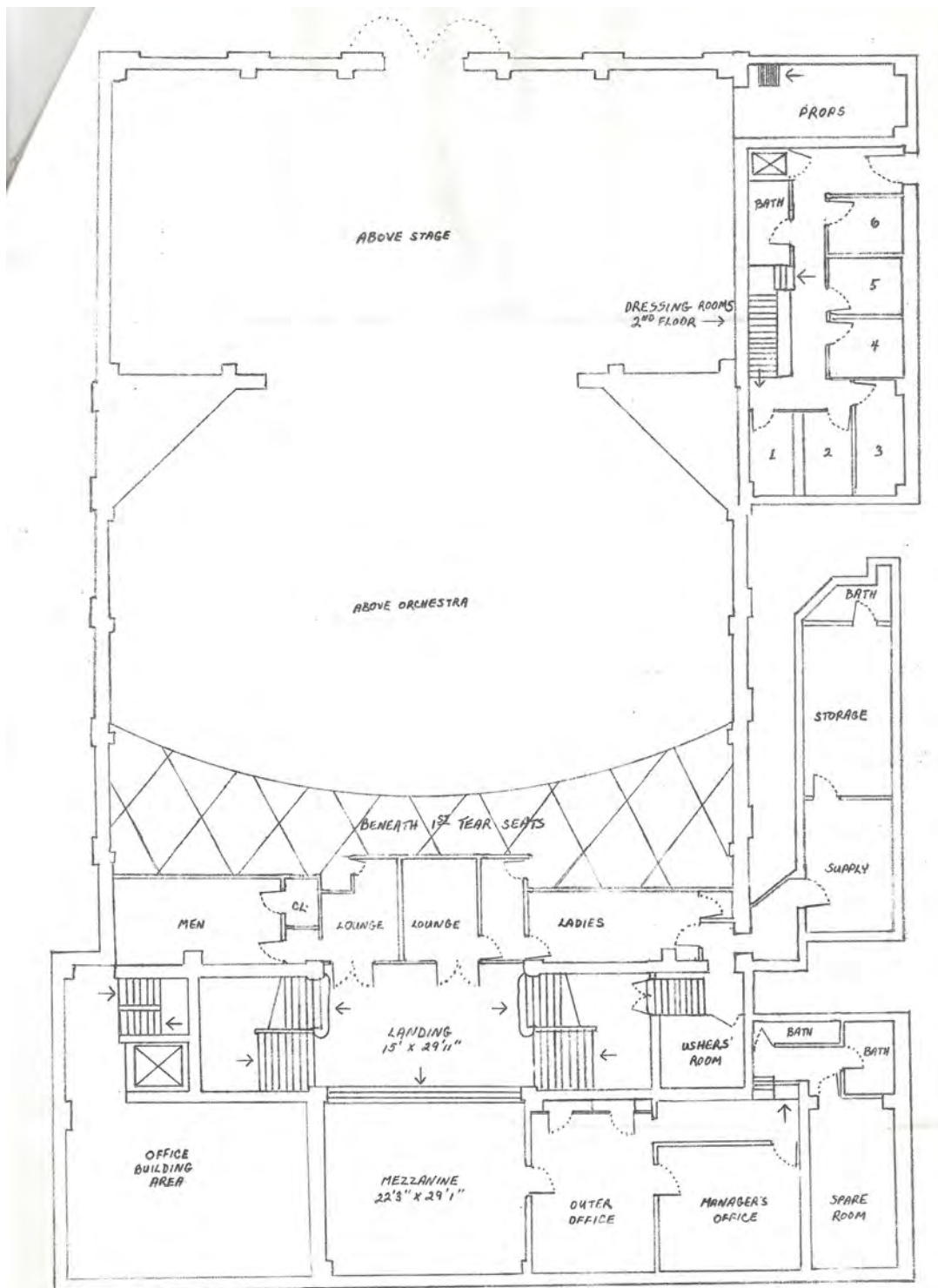


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A Brief History of The National Creative Challenge: Blueprint Two: Mezzanine 2nd Floor

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Mezzanine - Second Floor

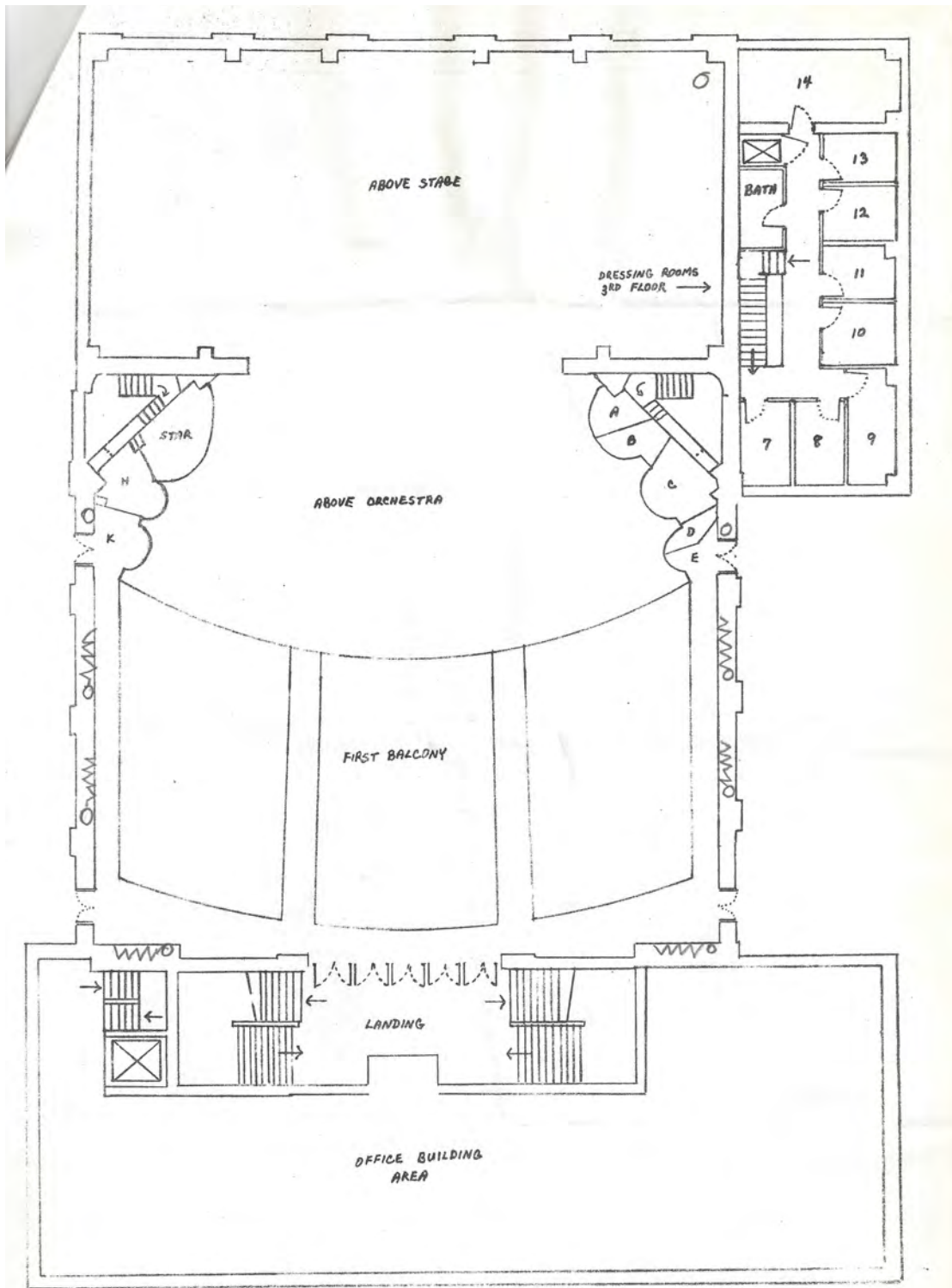


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A Brief History of The National Creative Challenge: Blueprint Three: 1st Balcony 3rd Floor

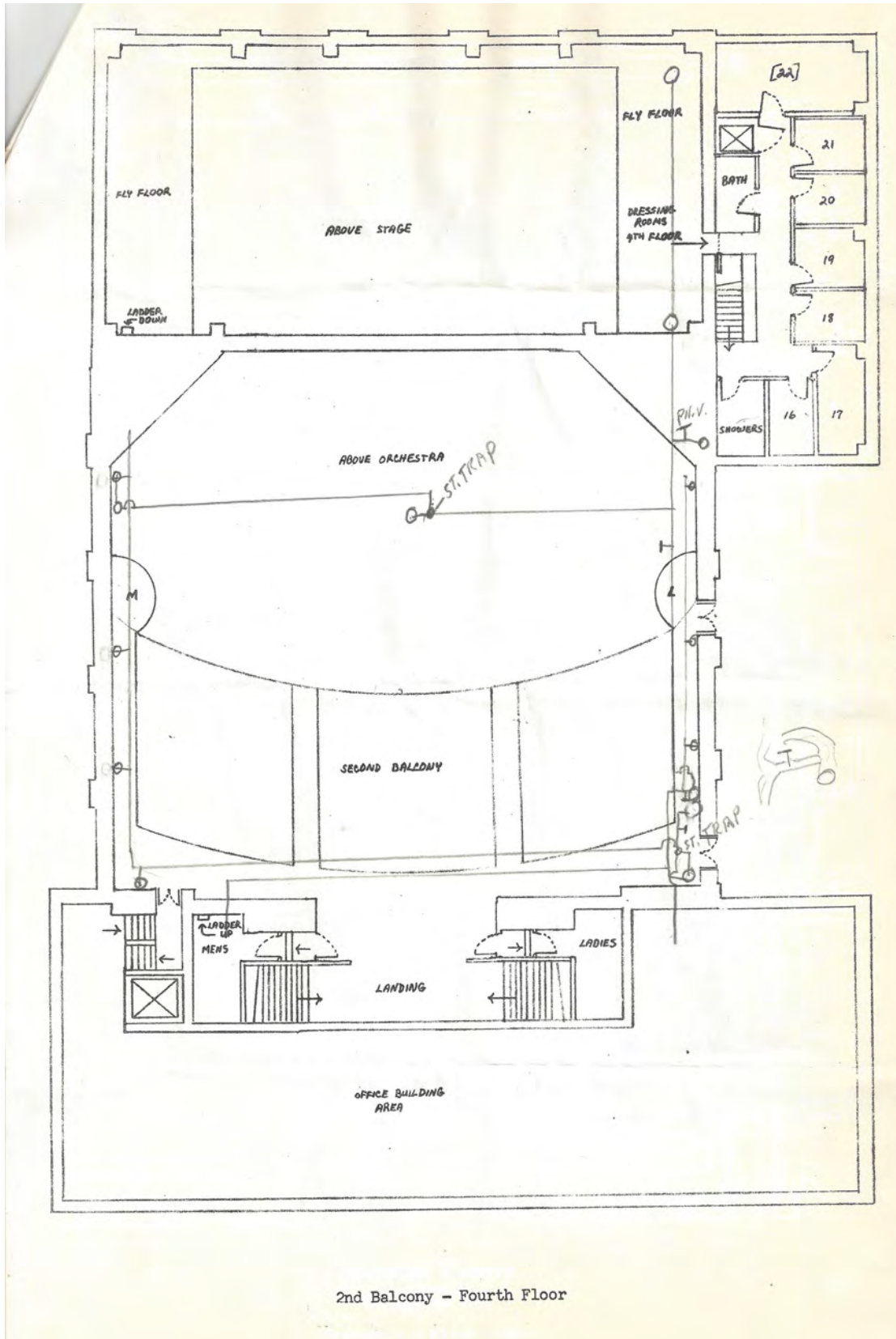
<https://thenationaldchistory.org>



1st Balcony - Third Floor

A Brief History of The National Creative Challenge: Blueprint Four: 2nd Balcony 4th Floor

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2nd Balcony - Fourth Floor



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