

# The Franklin Institute

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Role:** Architect for Renovation and Historic Preservation; led team of engineers and specialist consultants

**Program:** Multi-media presentation in a renovated historic rotunda, transforming its use as a special events space and exhibit area, including adjacent lobby and support areas

**Area:** 10,000 sf

**Status:** Opened in 2008

**Description:** This project included the renovations of Franklin Hall and the main entrance foyer space, Jordan Hall. Franklin Hall, a National Memorial housing a 30 ton marble statue of Benjamin Franklin, is modeled after the Roman Pantheon. All existing surfaces – marble, bronze and acoustical plaster - were cleaned and restored to conservation standards.

New dramatic lighting was introduced, providing ultimate flexibility for lighting the memorial, creating special exhibit effects, and for rental events. We re-introduced controlled natural lighting into Franklin Hall and provided acoustical surfaces, critical for the new exhibit multi-media show and the well-functioning use of the Hall for banquets and lectures.

