Site Concepts

Existing Site Constraints

The site has a number of existing conditions that will be preserved with any additions made to the existing building. University Avenue has a 35’ setback through the corridor of campus. The existing digital sign and nearby utilities will be avoided with any site work. The current drop-off lane is too narrow and does not allow multiple lanes of traffic, creating backup at the entry, greatly affecting the patron experience. From the parking area the front doors of the building cannot be seen, creating the perception of a much longer walk. To the south of the building is a water management area that must be maintained for site drainage.

Site Opportunities

Gallagher-Bluedorn has a tremendous opportunity to engage with the community as they pass the center on University Avenue. Strategies to capitalize on the opportunity might included creating outdoor rooms and an expanded entry, while exposing the arts within to those passing by. There is an opportunity to better connect with campus by acknowledging the visual axis to the campus from the main entry. The program creates great opportunities for donor and fundraising opportunities as a gateway to campus and shaping the identity of the university.
A new, dynamic entry plaza for the Gallagher Bluedorn will allow patrons to use the drop-off lane to its full potential, creating an outdoor room for events and pre-function conversation. The multi-purpose room will showcase sponsor and patron events, while the roof terrace at the balcony level will allow patrons a place to enjoy the view of the surroundings.
A new presence on University Avenue will create strong connections with the community, while exposing the arts and activity to students and patrons. Natural daylight will filter through shading screens, allowing for occupied areas to be lit with natural illumination.