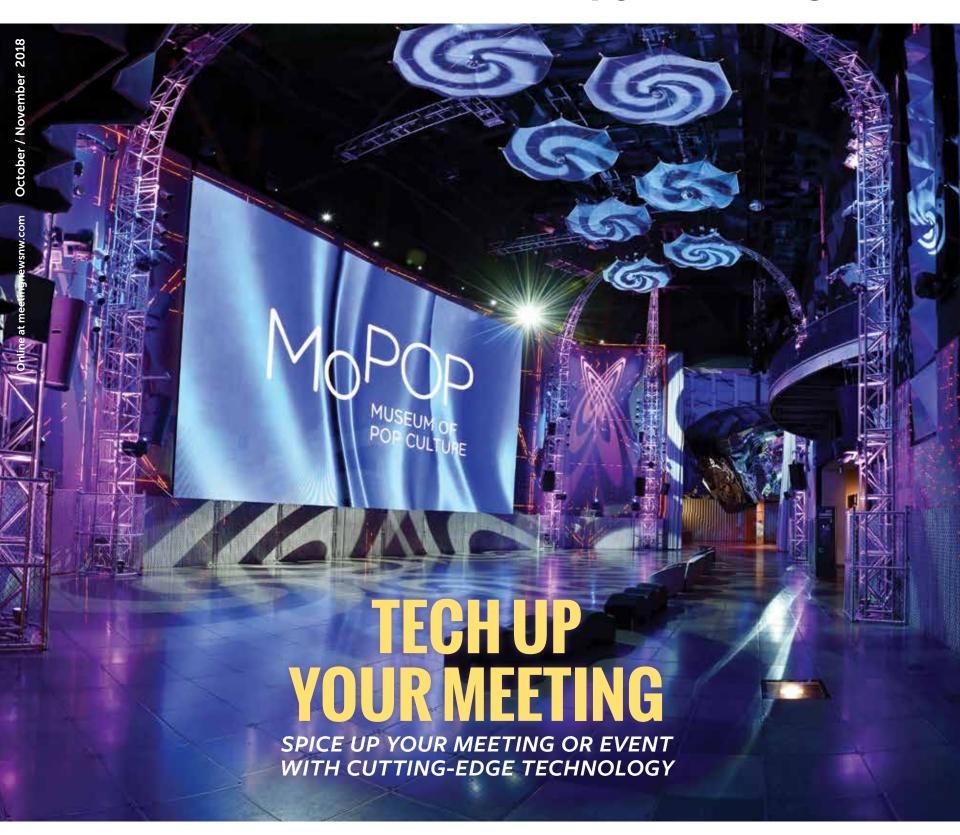
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Tech Up Your Meetings

SPICE UP YOUR MEETING OR EVENT WITH CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

By Tamara Muldoon

While most meeting facilities offer basic audiovisual equipment, sometimes you need more sophisticated technology. Services such as video recording, live streaming, video-conferencing or theatrical lighting can be prohibitively expensive when you have to hire an outside vendor. The solution is to select a venue that already has those capabilities. Here is a selection of the Northwest's high-tech meeting spaces.

MUSEUM OF POP CULTURE, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Seattle's iconic Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP) is also a spectacular high-tech event venue. Located in Seattle Center, MoPOP is near the Washington State Convention Center.

The amorphous Frank O. Gehry-designed building's unique spaces accommodate many types of private functions including meetings, lectures, promotional events, dinners and receptions. Some rooms are available during museum hours; however, the largest spaces may only be reserved for groups after-hours.

Sky Church, with its soaring atrium-like ceiling, holds up to 200 people. One of the world's largest high-definition screens dominates one wall. Built-in sound, lighting and video capabilities allow groups to produce high-tech events with minimal set-up time and no additional equipment cost.

The Lounge, overlooking the East Lobby, holds 100 for a reception. The intimate Blue Lounge, perched above Sky Church, holds 40. Plasma screens can project event-related content while versatile lighting allows you to create special moods.

Lobby and retail areas do double-duty for private evening events. Other spaces include the Learning Labs—a traditional-style meeting room seating 60—and the JBL Theater with fixed auditorium seating for 190.

Originally called Experience Music Project, a re-branding to Museum of Pop Culture in 2016 allowed exploration of broader cultural influences. Groups meeting at MoPOP also have access to the museum exhibits, an added benefit.

Downtown Seattle offers lodging, meeting spaces, restaurants and attractions accommodating almost any size group. For more information go to visitseattle.org.

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AMC FACTORIA 8, BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

When you need an auditorium-style venue with outstanding audiovisual capabilities, consider AMC Factoria 8, a Bellevue movie theater. An AMC spokesperson notes that "every auditorium is equipped with state-of-the-art house projectors and house sound systems. A trained professional can display your content onto an auditorium's screen from a laptop, DVD/Blu-ray, Click-Share, DCP (Digital Cinema Package) and much more." And, the recently-renovated facility features comfy power recliner seats.



Factoria 8 is perfect for a meeting, lecture, product promotion, training, film festival and more. Eight auditoriums seat from 78 up to 286 guests. It is conveniently located near the junction of I-405 and I-90, with an abundance of free parking.

The in-house concessions service provides more than popcorn and candy. Factoria 8 offers the AMC Feature Fare menu including stone-fired flatbread pizzas, chicken & waffle sandwiches, gourmet loaded hot dogs, pretzel bites, gluten-free snacks and Coke Freestyle machines, allowing groups to select from more than 120 Coca-Cola beverages. Outside catering service is allowed, subject to management approval and a catering fee. Alcohol cannot be served on the premises.

With more than 5,500 hotel rooms and a vibrant downtown chock full of restaurants and shops, Bellevue makes an attractive meeting destination. Learn more at visitbellevuewashington.com.

CONFLUENCE TECHNOLOGY CENTER, WENATCHEE, WASHINGTON

The Confluence Technology Center in Central Washington was specifically designed to provide a technologically-advanced meeting, training and videoconferencing facility for the region. The 12-million-dollar project, spearheaded by the Port of Chelan County, created one of the finest high-tech meeting venues in the Northwest.

The Center's 9,000 square feet of meeting space divides into as many as 10 separate rooms, The largest space seats up to 180 people. Each meeting room has built-in audiovisual





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equipment including lectern-integrated DVD player and computer, ceiling-mounted screens and LCD projectors, an electronic document camera and more. On-site meeting support staff and technicians ensure that every event goes smoothly.

Capabilities like high-bandwidth WiFi and wired Internet, conference call facilitation, tele- and video-conferencing, audio and video recording, and a dedicated computer lab are standard here.

This facility is perfect for business meetings, virtual meetings, training programs, and conferences where connections with remote presentations and/or recording is desired.

Wenatchee's central location between Seattle and Spokane makes it a convenient meeting destination. The city offers plenty of lodging, dining and entertainment options. For information, go to wenatchee.org.

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY (PSU), PORTLAND, OREGON

Portland State University's urban campus includes two versatile, high-tech facilities: Viking Pavilion at the Peter W. Stott Center and Smith Memorial Student Union. Both are adjacent to the South Park Blocks greenway and convenient to public transit and I-405. The campus has several parking structures including a 1,100-space garage near Viking Pavilion.

Portland State Conference & Event Services can provide on-site ticketing, audiovisual support, a café, and event childcare. Food and beverage service is arranged through PSU Caters. The on-campus University Place Hotel has 235 rooms plus complimentary hot breakfast, a restaurant, and meeting space for up to 400 guests.

In summer, additional campus housing options include studio rooms, suites and residence hall rooms.

The Campus Audio Visual Event Team (CAVET) provides audio, video and computer equipment rental, set-up and support. Services include: audio amplification and recording, projection equipment, lighting equipment, teleconferencing, event videography and live streaming.

The new Viking Pavilion sports arena, which opened in April 2018, seats up to 3,400 guests. Its 15,000-square-foot floor accommodates banquets up to 750, 60 trade show booths, or seminars for 480. Use the two 20-foot high-definition video boards for presentations or live views of a presenter or entertainment.

The arena's spacious concourse features floor-to-ceiling windows and views of the South Park Blocks. This area is perfect for banquets or receptions. An adjoining patio allows your event to expand outdoors. There are also six breakout rooms with capacities from 30 to 72 people. The Practice Gym holds up to 700 guests.

Two blocks away is Smith Memorial Student Union (SMSU)—the campus "living room," which contains a food court, café, convenience market, ATMs, lounging areas and a game room. SMSU has 16 separate meeting rooms totaling more than 20,000 square feet. The largest, Smith Ballroom, holds up to 600 guests. This facility is especially well-suited for small to medium-sized conferences requiring general session space plus many breakout rooms. It also is suitable for banquets, receptions, lectures, small trade shows and more.

For help planning your Portland meeting, contact Travel Portland at *travelportland.com*.

CONNECT

Museum of Pop Culture

- 144,000 square feet of museum/event space
- Seated capacity: theater-style up to 190, banquet rounds up to 250 and receptions up to 2,500

Janelle Doig, senior manager, venue experiences 206-262-3464

janelled@mopop.org mopop.org

AMC Factoria 8

- 8 theater-style meeting and event rooms
- 286 seated capacity in largest room

Crystal Rhoads, corporate events consultant 913-213-2353

crhoads@amctheatres.com

amctheatres.com/reserve-theatre/private

Confluence Technology Center

- 9,000 square feet of meeting and event space
- 10 meeting rooms
- 180 seated capacity in largest room

Tricia Degnan, building manager & conference center coordinator

509-661-3118

tricia@ccpd.com

ncwctc.com

Portland State University - Viking Pavilion at the Peter W. Stott Center

- More than 27,500 square feet of meeting space
- 10 meeting and event rooms
- 3,400 seated capacity in largest room Jenna Wilson, general manager - Viking Pavilion Portland State Conference & Event Services

503.725.9372

wilsonjl@pdx.edu

pdx.edu/conferences/vikingpavilion

Portland State University - Smith Memorial Student Union

- More than 20,000 square feet of meeting space
- 16 meeting and event rooms
- 600 seated capacity in largest room
 Pili Sueoka, campus scheduling coordinator
 503-725-2377

ishannon@pdx.edu pdx.edu/student-union/meet



