



# The Headlines

News From Members of the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

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## Vote For Shoji's Restrooms—Top 10 in America

BRANSON, Mo. —The spectacular restrooms at the Shoji Tabuchi Theatre are among the top 10 national finalists for the 8th annual America's Best Restroom award, and online voting continues through July 31.

The awards are sponsored by Cintas Corp., the leading provider of restroom products and services for more than 700,000 businesses. In a Cintas survey, 75% of respondents said they would not return to a business if the restrooms were not well kept. That's why they decided to honor businesses which go "above and beyond" to present a pleasant—even memorable—experience in their restrooms.

The Shoji Tabuchi Theatre faces competitors including Radio City Music Hall and Macy's Department Store. But the theater's restrooms are so outstanding that they were recently featured on the Travel Channel's "Extreme" among the eight most extraordinary public restrooms in the world.

The Ladies and Gentlemen's restrooms at the theatre owned by the legendary Branson entertainer have drawn rave reviews since he built the theater in 1990. Travel Channel Executive Producer Daniel A. Schwartz said, "Shoji's came up as kind of a 'must.' What you can feel even looking at them is the dedication that must have been behind it. It stood out as something extraordinary." A crew of four from the Travel Channel filmed the bathrooms in January.

Tabuchi and his wife, Dorothy, say they planned the restrooms as a gift to their fans. They are reminiscent of the luxurious theaters of the 1930s. The Ladies Powder Room features 1890's Empire Period wainscoting and ceilings. There are fresh orchids every day on the onyx sinks and stained glass and crystal chandeliers.

The Gentlemen's Lounge includes a hand-carved mahogany billiard table, leather chairs and black lion-head sinks from Italy.

Shoji, Dorothy and their daughter, Christina, perform select morning, matinee and evening shows through Dec. 13. For tickets, visit [www.shoji.com](http://www.shoji.com) or call 417-334-7469. To vote for the restrooms, visit [www.shoji.com](http://www.shoji.com) or [www.bestrestrooms.com](http://www.bestrestrooms.com).

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