



# Ten Places in Philadelphia That Will Take You Back to 1924

Local spots that existed during Curtis' early years.

## 1. Academy of Music (1857)

Modeled on Milan's La Scala, and once home to the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Academy is said to be the oldest continuously operating opera house in the U.S.

## 2. Aloft Philadelphia Downtown

(Formerly Liberty Title & Trust Building, 1924)

Though visitors today will encounter a modernized interior, the bones of the Art Deco Liberty Title & Trust Building remain. The building was vacant for two decades before Aloft purchased it in 2017.

## 3. Bellevue-Stratford Hotel (1904)

Curtis chamber groups once played in its elegant ballroom. The Bellevue-Stratford—once called the Grande Dame of Broad Street and now the Hyatt at the Bellevue—remains a stately example of French Renaissance-style architecture.

## 4. Danta & Luigi's (1899)

This restaurant was already 25 years old when Curtis was established, and it is now one of the oldest Italian restaurants in the U.S. Housed in two converted townhouses, it is famous for its old-world Italian cuisine.

## 5. Macy's Center City (1910)

Wanamaker's is long gone but the marble-lined Grand Court of this National Historic Landmark remains. In recent years, Curtis' organ students have performed on the store's celebrated Wanamaker Organ.

## 6. Marra's Restaurant (1927)

The class of 1927 would have been the first to sample one of Marra's brick-oven pizzas and Neapolitan cuisine. Today, the restaurant is run by the founders' grandchildren.

## 7. McGillin's Olde Ale House (1860)

Though Curtis was founded at the height of prohibition, McGillin's stayed open at the time by serving food and ice cream (and "perhaps, a few teacups were tipped on the second floor," notes the tavern's website).

## 8. McNally's Tavern (1921)

Originally a working-class lunch spot, "McNally's Quick Lunch" opened at the trolley turn atop Philadelphia's highest hill. In 1927, it moved across the street, where it remains as a family-friendly pub.

## 9. Shane Confectionary (1911)

In the candy business since 1863, this Market Street shop contains many features from the 1920s, including a cast-iron buttercream churn from the era.

## 10. Tacconelli's Pizza (1921)

Originally a bakery, Tacconelli's converted its 20-by-20-foot brick oven to pizza production after World War II. The Tacconelli family is now in its fifth generation running the restaurant.