Our commitment to the arts

The arts at Ohio State are bold, innovative and engaging. They make our university community stronger and more vibrant. Whether in dance, design, theatre or music, Ohio State trains students to work across artistic mediums and disciplines, to be well-rounded, creative and ambitious. And our facilities provide a space for students, faculty and community members to create, collaborate and explore the arts.

Since 2009, the College of Arts and Sciences and the university have invested more than $40 million to renovate our arts facilities.

Most notably, Hopkins Hall and Sullivant Hall, renovated in 2011 and 2013, respectively, illustrate significant advancements for the Departments of Art, Dance, Design, and Arts Administration, Education and Policy.

Philanthropic contributions from Jeanne Schulze and the Lawrence and Isabel Barnett Charitable Foundation made possible the unique spaces of the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, the Barnett Center for Integrated Arts and Enterprise, and the Barnett Theatre in the beautifully renovated and historic Sullivant Hall.

"The arts are essential to our well-being — for our mental health, for our spiritual health, for our emotional health."

—Patricia Heaton, BA theatre '70, Emmy Award-winning actress
A new home for music and theatre
The next phase of renovations is dedicated to the School of Music and the Department of Theatre.

The new space for the School of Music will honor great faculty like Professor Donald McGinnis, and train future musicians, music educators and conductors. Our new theatre building will invite the community to witness bold new works, and provide a home for the Moving Image Production program. Together, these facilities — located centrally and prominently near the Oval — will anchor the university’s ambitious new Arts District, and reinforce our commitment to the creative disciplines.

The Arts District will be accessible to the vibrant and evolving High Street corridor — and create a bold new entryway to the Columbus campus. Shovels for the new facilities are scheduled to be in the ground in autumn 2019.

The university and its leadership have made a significant commitment to this project, investing the majority of funds needed for the music and theatre phase of the Arts District. But we can't do it alone.

How you can help
Private philanthropy will be sought for $50 million of the $160 million music and theatre project. Alumni, friends and supporters in Buckeye Nation can help us ensure the new home of the performing arts at Ohio State is a unique, cohesive and innovative arts and performance district.

Your gift will bring vital resources to our music and theatre programs, and help create a dynamic space that welcomes students, faculty and staff, alumni and community members to experience the arts.

Please give today to the Music and Theatre Building Fund (316340), or contact our team to learn more.

go.osu.edu/musicandtheatre

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