For more than a century, the Jacobs School of Music has been synonymous with excellence. Nowhere else have so many of the world’s most preeminent musicians come together to nurture the talents of exceptionally gifted students. In this atmosphere of extraordinary cultural richness, discipline and discovery merge in world-class performers who are deeply engaged with both their craft and their communities.

You are the power behind this unparalleled legacy. You make it possible for the next generation of outstanding talent to develop its abilities, reach its full potential, and share its gifts with the world.

Join us as we seek to raise critical private support as part of For All: The Indiana University Bicentennial Campaign. With your help, we will ensure that this storied institution embraces all the opportunities of the 21st century to inspire students, educators, and audiences around the globe.

Together, we will fulfill the promise of an uplifted century, powered by transformative expression for all.
GOAL #1: STRENGTHEN STUDENT SUPPORT

Students arrive at the IU Jacobs School of Music brimming with talent and drive. They leave as musical activists—committed to connecting others to an expressive life through the transformative power of music.

This revered music school is recognized among the very best in the nation, with Jacobs School alumni powering major orchestras and opera houses all over the world. Unlike other leading music educators, however, the Jacobs School is a preeminent educational resource within a top-tier public research university.

Students at the Jacobs School develop their abilities in a setting of intellectual rigor and entrepreneurial innovation. Their education combines passionate performance with intellectual discovery and emerging technologies with timeless artistry. This convergence channels creative expression into new platforms that bring unprecedented opportunities to reach and inspire others.

Your gift will fund the undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships that will bring the most promising emerging musicians to Indiana University and sustain them as they forge new pathways for musical excellence. You will help students ensure that the rapidly evolving world they enter will continue to be enriched by the unparalleled musical heritage of the Jacobs School.

“I teach to pass down a lineage, to preserve a tradition—and perhaps most of all, to help young people achieve their potential. Donors play a critical role in these aspiring artists’ lives by putting an IU education within reach.”

—Brenda Brenner
Associate Professor of Music (Music Education)
Jacobs School of Music Fairview Elementary School String Project, Director

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GOAL #2: SUSTAIN LEADERSHIP AND FACULTY EXCELLENCE

The Jacobs School is world renowned for its unequaled faculty, comprising some of the world’s most accomplished performing artists and music educators.

Students at the Jacobs School learn from these masters one on one, through individualized mentorships that enable faculty members to share the full value of their extensive experience and their unmatched expertise.

To continue attracting the very best in the world, we must provide compelling professional opportunities that draw faculty and directors of the highest caliber. Endowed faculty positions, professorships, chairs, and directorships are the most effective way to continue renewing the superlative quality of the Jacobs School faculty and directors. These critical positions not only bestow honor upon our most esteemed professors and directors, but also provide resources to advance their creative endeavors.

They provide for legendary musicians like Alex Kerr, whose expressive and charismatic style has made him one of the most accomplished and versatile violinists on the international music scene today. As the holder of the Linda and Jack Gill Chair in Music (Violin), Kerr guides and inspires a new generation of artists and music educators at the Jacobs School.

They make possible the continued leadership of Phil Ponella, holder of the Wennerstrom-Phillips Music Library Directorship. Ponella oversees the William and Gayle Cook Music Library, which is recognized as one of the largest academic music libraries in the world.

Endowed faculty professorships, directorships, and chairs bring the world’s foremost musicians and performers to Bloomington, fostering a community of the most extraordinary talent, creativity, and global expertise.

“The Wennerstrom-Phillips Music Library Directorship creates possibilities for the future of the library that we could never have imagined. It highlights the special significance the Cook Music Library holds not only for the students, faculty, and alumni of the Jacobs School of Music and Indiana University, but throughout the world. I am honored to have their names associated with my work.”

—Phil Ponella
Wennerstrom-Phillips Music Library Director
Jacobs School faculty members represent the pinnacle of accomplishment in a tremendous range of musical and performance genres. From opera to electronic music, ballet to music theory, and early music to jazz, our faculty members ensure the Jacobs School is steeped in knowledge, achievement, and distinction.

These remarkable musicians are just a small sample of the outstanding educators who carry on the great traditions of the Jacobs School of Music. With your help, we can not only retain our best faculty members, but also expand their numbers to build the school's growing legacy.

Jeff Nelsen
A professor of horn, Nelsen has performed with the Canadian Brass and dozens of acclaimed orchestras. He also co-designed both a horn and mouthpiece, commissioned dozens of unique arrangements of music, and has given a TEDx Talk on Fearless Performance, his company which focuses on training musicians and others to consistently perform their best.

Sylvia McNair
A voice faculty member and Grammy award winning soprano, McNair lays claim to a three-decade career in opera, oratorio, cabaret, and musical theater. Her journey has taken her from the Metropolitan Opera to the Salzburg Festival, from the New York Philharmonic to the Rainbow Room. She has had the opportunity to work with the likes of Gershwin, Porter, Bernstein, and Sondheim, to whom she attributes much of her musical journey.

Menahem Pressler
Pressler is among the world's most distinguished pianists and honored musicians, with a career that spans over six decades. He joined the piano faculty in 1955, and currently holds the rank of Distinguished Professor of Music as the Charles Webb Chair. His former students grace the faculties of prestigious schools of music across the world and have become some of the most prominent and influential artists and teachers today.

Jorja Fleezanis
A professor of violin and Henry A. Upper Chair in Orchestral Studies, Fleezanis continues to play a pivotal role in the ensemble and the world of orchestral music. Currently the longest-tenured concertmaster in the Minnesota Orchestra’s history, Fleezanis was also the second woman in the U.S. to be appointed as concertmaster in a major orchestra.
Your support of the Jacobs School of Music sustains a wealth of programs, academies, workshops, and performances that engage the public through ballet, orchestra, chamber music, piano, band, percussion, opera, chorus, and jazz.

GIVING OUR STUDENTS PRICELESS OPPORTUNITIES to perform alongside distinguished Jacobs School faculty like violin virtuoso Joshua Bell, creating chances to connect with the greater community and making IU a place where artists are nurtured.

Ideas are exchanged and creative expression inspires audiences everywhere.
GOAL #3: CREATE WORLD-CLASS FACILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

Attending a performance at the Jacobs School is an unfailingly moving experience. Rapt audiences eagerly lose themselves in the transformative beauty of the music. Preparing students for these performances, and enabling them to reach wider audiences through new digital platforms, requires thoughtfully designed spaces and technologies that equip students to showcase their best work.

The school must build upon its existing foundation to create and sustain the infrastructure not only for instruction, study, and practice, but also for state-of-the-art recording, performance, and engagement with the global community.

The William and Gayle Cook Music Library is a global scholarly treasure, recognized as one of the largest and finest academic music libraries in the world. Its expansive collection of recordings, scores, videos, books, and journals serves not only students and faculty in the Jacobs School and the broader university, but also researchers and musicians throughout the world. As the library moves to all-digital holdings, your gift will help preserve access to these expertly curated materials, grow this phenomenal collection, and ensure that our library remains a vital resource for future generations.

Upgraded media and technologies will enable the school to form unprecedented collaborations with leading musicians, educators, and music professionals around the globe. With your support, we will:

- Equip faculty studios with high-definition videoconferencing capabilities, so that our educators can better connect with students and teach more interactively, offering master classes, private instruction, and group lessons around the globe.
- Enhance our live-stream offerings to welcome audiences further into the captivating world of musical performance and production—incorporating interactive elements like a digital platform that allows viewers to build their own virtual performance sets.
- Enable faculty members to “flip” their classrooms, using video and other technologies to deliver online instruction outside of class, so that the valuable time they spend with students can focus on application, feedback, and collaboration.

World-class facilities and technology give our students and faculty access to 21st-century opportunities that elevate the educational experience and strengthen our legacy.

“Video conferencing allows us to draw on our faculty’s tremendous network to connect students in real time with mentors around the world.”

—Gwyn Richards
David Henry Jacobs Bicentennial Dean
Professor of Music (Choral Conducting)
Revitalizing the Musical Arts Center is critical to meeting the needs and expectations of our students, faculty, visiting artists, and patrons. Built in 1971, the MAC is the Jacobs School’s largest performance venue. Apart from housing breathtaking productions, it’s also a classroom—a living laboratory where we prepare the next generation of elite performers to move and inspire audiences.

But after four decades, this hallmark of performance excellence urgently requires modernization and refurbishment. Your gift will transport the MAC from the analog to the digital era and provide students with the technology and experience they need to excel as 21st century performers.

One of the grandest performance venues in the nation, the Musical Arts Center has an opera theater with seating for 1,460 patrons, room for a 100-piece orchestra, and three wagon stages for its stunning set designs.

Equally important, your gift will ensure the vital evolution of a legendary venue that will draw and delight patrons for years to come. Through your investment, we can renovate the Musical Arts Center with:

- A state-of-the-art recording studio to facilitate professional-grade recording sessions for auditions, competitions, and grant and scholarship proposals.
- Refurbished house seating for patrons to enjoy Jacobs School performances.
- Strategic improvements to audio technology throughout the facility, which will make for a more enjoyable listening experience.

For the past 30 years, the exceptional students of the Marching Hundred went without a dedicated practice space or place to store their instruments and music. Today, thanks to generous gifts like yours, a new indoor practice and storage facility are underway.

But there remains one critical missing element: a dedicated practice field. With your support, we can provide the musicians who play us on to victory an open-air practice stage that befits their extraordinary commitment and service to IU.

Together, we can ensure that our outstanding students have access to the facilities and technology they need to achieve their potential. We will make our classrooms, practice spaces, and performance venues as inspiring as the music within them.
GOAL #4: INNOVATE OUR PROGRAMS AND COURSEWORK

Our students make certain that the musical heritage we treasure has a bright future ahead. These gifted and committed musicians embrace the challenges and opportunities of an evolving cultural and technological landscape, drawing on the lessons they learn at the Jacobs School of Music to forge fulfilling and far-reaching careers.

Meeting the needs of today's students requires a new perspective on the music profession. Graduates now enter a global marketplace, and must be equipped to navigate an increasingly unstructured and borderless world. So, in conjunction with the Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the Kelley School of Business, we created Project Jumpstart, which helps students develop the entrepreneurial skills they need to chart their best path forward and create new opportunities for musical excellence.

Whether it’s building an audience or negotiating a recording contract, applying for grants or auditioning in other countries, these students have questions that are unique to emerging professionals in their industry. Project Jumpstart offers tailored resources such as residencies by prominent arts entrepreneurs, networking events, and one-on-one advising.

When you invest in initiatives like Project Jumpstart, you empower the brightest talents to find and create new ways to share their gifts, engage audiences, and sustain the central place of music in culture and history.

“At the Jacobs School we take every opportunity to prepare our students for careers in which they serve as both performers and ambassadors of our art.”

—Marietta Simpson
Professor of Voice and Assistant to the Dean for Innovation

FOR ALL WHO
SHAPE THE FUTURE
OF MUSIC

Innovative programs like Project Jumpstart prepare students to confidently embark on 21st century careers that engage audiences in new ways and ensure a grand future for music.
The Jacobs School, with its rich history, stellar reputation, and unequaled faculty, is poised to become the model for an agile and responsive center of musical excellence that remains vital throughout the new millennium.

Meeting this call, however, requires a depth of commitment that can only come from you. With your support, we can continue to attract the most promising students and the most accomplished faculty members. We can build and equip extraordinary classroom, practice, and performance spaces. We can give students the tools, skills, and experience to thrive as 21st-century music professionals and build a glorious musical future.

Your gift to the Jacobs School will lift individuals and communities by opening new channels for creative engagement. Together, we can move boldly forward into a new era that celebrates the transformative and life-affirming power of musical expression across the globe.

Together, we will fulfill the promise of an enduring musical legacy and a source of inspiration for all.