

Benefactor

Evan Cartmell



Inside:
Update on Volgenau School 2010 Campaign

An Update on Private Support for George Mason University

Spring 2008

Hylton Performing Arts Center Prepares for Debut

Lead Gifts Lend Names as Construction Begins



Renderings by Holzman Moss Architecture

As Shakespeare wrote, “What’s in a name?” For the Hylton Performing Arts Center, its name represents the community’s generosity and dedication to the performing arts in Prince William County, Manassas, and the region.

Two significant gifts and a unique partnership have moved George Mason University and the community closer to raising the curtain on the new \$44 million state-of-the-art performance facility on the Prince William Campus. Construction begins in February.

The initiative recently received a leadership commitment of \$5 million from the Cecil and Irene Hylton Foundation of Dale City, Virginia, the family for which the center will be named. Of those funds, \$2.5 million is a challenge grant. Plans for raising matching funds are being carried out by the Campaign for the Community Performing Arts Center’s Partnership and Development Committee.

“This gift was the catalyst that allowed construction to begin,” said George Mason President Alan G. Merten. “It is more than fitting that the center carry the Hylton name, which is so respected in the region for its service to the community over many years.”

Cecil D. Hylton and Irene V. Hylton, who established the foundation, always believed in giving back to the communities in which they did business. The foundation continues this legacy by providing funding, in part, for the construction and endowment fund required for the center to come to fruition.

“The arts are very important to the quality of life throughout the Prince William County community, and we are proud to take part in this special project,”

said Conrad Hylton, president of the Hylton Foundation.

Another distinguished name in Manassas and Prince William County will grace

the center’s 1,166-seat performance hall. With a commitment of \$1 million from Carol Merchant Kirby, the center’s main performance space will be named Merchant Hall. Kirby is a native of Manassas and a long-time patron of the arts. She is also an officer of Mason’s Board of Visitors.

“The Hylton Performing Arts Center will be a magnificent milestone for the region, and I am honored to help make it a reality,” Kirby noted.

The design of Merchant Hall is inspired by 19th-century European opera houses. The space will become an important venue for the Prince William Symphony, the Manassas Ballet Theater, the Prince William Youth Orchestra, and numerous other regional performing arts groups. It will also bring to Prince William County and the region outstanding performing artists in music, dance, and theater from around the world, as well as host performances by Mason’s music, dance, and theater departments.

In addition to these two gifts, the Hylton Performing Arts Center will partner with the Didlake Foundation.

The new performing arts center will carry the Hylton name.



Andrew M. Titch/Evan Cartmell

The late Cecil and Irene Hylton



Evan Cartmell

Carol Merchant Kirby



The main performance hall will be named for Carol Merchant Kirby.



A partnership with Didlake Foundation gives the grand foyer a new name.

Didlake Foundation President Rex Parr, '70



Moonshadow Photography

As a part of this relationship—made possible through the estates of Mr. and Mrs. Roger J. Costello—the center’s 10,000-square-foot grand foyer will be named the Didlake Grand Foyer.

“Didlake is pleased to be a major partner in the effort to enrich the lives of all members of our community through arts and culture,” said Rex Parr, '70, Didlake Foundation president.

The foundation supports programs that help meet the long-term needs of people with disabilities in Prince William County and Manassas. The Hylton Performing Arts Center will provide employment and volunteer opportunities for Didlake clients.

continued on next page



The Volgenau School's new building opens in fall 2009.

The Volgenau School Counts Down to 2010

Real Estate Center Built on Local Industry Support

The Washington, D.C., region is one of the most desirable real estate investment markets in the world, and Mason's Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship was created to shape the next generation of leaders in this vital sector of the regional economy. Now, thanks in part to the local chapter of a national real estate association, the center has been able to launch its programs this semester.

The center is working with the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) to provide students the most pertinent education for the regional market. In return, NAIOP is helping support the center's operations.

According to Eric Wells, the 2007 Northern Virginia Chapter chair, the organization's goal is to raise \$2 million for the center. Commitments currently exceed \$1 million. The chapter began the fund-raising effort with an initial gift of \$100,000, and individual members and associates in the real estate community have contributed the rest so far. NAIOP represents commercial and industrial real estate developers, owners, and investors, and service providers for the industry. The Northern Virginia Chapter has more than 780 members.

The Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship relies on resources and expertise within the Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering, the School of Public Policy, and the School of Management. Programs focus on areas that include land use and environmental considerations, acquisition dynamics, and construction management. The center offers real estate certificate programs and concentrations in real estate development in some existing degree programs. A master's in real estate entrepreneurship is being planned.

For more information on the Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship, visit realestate.gmu.edu.

With more than half of its campaign goal amount raised, the Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering is counting on friends and alumni to help finish the job.

The Volgenau School 2010 Campaign was launched two years ago to raise \$20 million for the school to fund its innovative programs, endow scholarships and professorships, support research, and provide an unparalleled education for students. Ernst Volgenau, university rector, and his wife, Sara, gave the campaign a historic start with their \$10 million commitment, which resulted in the school being named for them. It is Mason's first named school.

One of the most visible outcomes of the campaign will be the Volgenau School's new 180,000-square-foot facility. Construction on the \$60 million building, which began in July, is being funded through a combination of public and private funds.

Celebrating the School's Future

A reception in November celebrated the groundbreaking and the future of the new building. The evening featured a showcase of student and faculty research, as well as a program featuring testimonials and video presentations.

During the program, Volgenau School Dean Lloyd Griffiths announced that the 250-seat auditorium in the new building will be named the Sushil and Kamal Jajodia Auditorium in recognition of the generous support to the 2010 Campaign from Sushil Jajodia and his wife, Kamal. Jajodia is director of the Volgenau School's highly acclaimed Center for Secure Information Systems and BDM International Professor of Information Technology.

continued on next page

Hylton Performing Arts Center, *continued*

The foundation will also hold two events each year at the center and display work from its Expressive Arts Program in the center.

Other naming opportunities for the Hylton Performing Arts Center are still available, including the Take a Seat initiative. This program permits patrons who give \$2,500 to have a name plaque on a seat in Merchant Hall. To view a list of opportunities, including rehearsal rooms and studios, visit communityperformingartscenter.com.

The Hylton Performing Arts Center is a partnership between Prince William County, Mason, the City of Manassas, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the private sector. Volunteers are raising \$15 million for the center's permanent endowment. Chairing the volunteer campaign committee are Marvin Gillum, former mayor

of Manassas, and Kathleen Seefeldt, former chair of the Prince William County Board of Supervisors.

The facility's grand opening is scheduled for late 2009. College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean Bill Reeder is excited about the opportunity the new facility presents for students and the community.

"This building is going to have a transformational effect on our region," Reeder said. "World-class performances are coming to the residents of Prince William County and the region, thanks in large part to the generosity of the community."

For more information on making a gift to the Hylton Performing Arts Center, call 703-993-8607.



The central atrium in the Volgenau School's new building will feature a donor recognition wall for those contributing \$2,010.

2010 Campaign, *continued*

Dean Griffiths also reminded the evening's attendees that one of the campaign's goals is to raise individual gifts of \$2,010 from the school's alumni and friends. The names of donors who contribute that amount will appear on a special recognition wall in the central glass atrium, which will serve as the new building's hub and be its distinguishing architectural feature. Donors who give \$5,000 or more will be listed on a separate recognition wall. Contributors will receive a preview of the building at a private reception, at which the walls of names will be unveiled.

Upholding a Reputation

The new building reflects the Volgenau School's reputation for innovation. The structure will be one of Mason's first buildings designed to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver Standard, a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings.

It will also be the first building on campus to provide corporate lease space, giving students and faculty the opportunity to collaborate on real-world research projects with local companies.

"We want our students to have the opportunity to interact with faculty members and the business professionals who will be sharing our space," said Griffiths. "The partnership created by leasing space to corporations builds on our strength as an entrepreneurial university working with the business community."

For more information on the 2010 Campaign and its other naming opportunities, call 703-993-1752 or visit ite.gmu.edu, where you can also watch progress on the new building via web cam.

Fund Established to Bring Mason Inventions Closer to Marketplace

Through their gifts, Mason donors can now assist in the vital behind-the-scenes work that takes new products from research to prototypes to commercial markets.

The Invention to Innovation Project helps fill the gaps in funding for technology development that occur between the early research stage and the new product stage when investors typically take interest in a project. Through private support, the university hopes to ensure that more potential discoveries become products, creating additional revenue for the university and its inventors.

Project funds will be dispersed in two phases. Initially, grants of \$2,500 to \$5,000 will support the evaluation phase, which involves performing market analysis, determining how a product might be adopted by consumers, and investigating risk factors, among other activities. These steps help make the preliminary case for the new technology or product.

Where the technology shows promise, the second phase of funding would be initiated. This phase would grant up to \$50,000 to support needed developments, such as a working prototype, preclinical development, or a detailed business plan.

In the future, revenue from products and technologies successfully licensed by the university will help to replenish the project fund.

For more information, visit entrepreneurship.gmu.edu/innovate or call 703-993-4298.



Evan Cartmell

The 250-seat auditorium in the new building will be named for Sushil and Kamal Jajodia.



Evan Cartmell

From left: Til Hazel, former university rector; Ernst Volgenau, current rector; Sid Dewberry, immediate past rector; and Volgenau School Dean Lloyd Griffiths



Photos by Evan Cartmell

From left: Michael Anzilotti, MBA '83, LHD (Hon.) '03, David Roe, '89, MBA '96, and Marc Broderick

New Leadership for Mason Foundation and Development

The George Mason University Foundation has elected a new board chair and named a new president. In addition, the offices of University Development and Alumni Affairs, which work closely with the foundation, have a new vice president.

Michael Anzilotti, MBA '83, LHD (Hon.) '03, president of Virginia Commerce Bancorp Inc., became chair of the foundation board of trustees on July 1. The foundation generates, manages, and invests private support on behalf of the university. Anzilotti is in his ninth year as a trustee and is the second alumnus to serve as chair.

David Roe, '89, MBA '96, is the new foundation president and the first Mason alumnus to hold this position. Roe joined the foundation staff in 1990 and has served as its chief financial officer since 1999.

Marc Broderick is Mason's new vice president for university development and alumni affairs. He was previously senior associate vice president for institutional advancement at Temple University. Broderick is responsible for raising private support and enhancing alumni relations on behalf of the university. He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology and criminal justice from The George Washington University.

Peter Farrell, '79, MBA '85, continues as president of the Alumni Association. He is in the second year of his term.



Creative Services

Retired history professor
Robert Hawkes

A Professor's Greatest Wish

Members of the Mason community are coming forward to honor Bob Hawkes, a beloved history professor who taught at Mason for 37 years.

In a recent letter to friends and former students, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Dean Jack Censer reported that Hawkes asked him to share that he has terminal cancer. Censer noted that the popular professor's greatest wish is that the department he helped to build will carry on its reputation of being close knit and student friendly.

To see this wish fulfilled, Censer has made a special appeal for alumni and friends to give to the Robert T. Hawkes Endowed Professorship fund, which was initiated by the History and Art History Department when Hawkes retired in 2006. The professorship will emphasize excellence in teaching, as well as a devotion to fostering relationships with students.

"Bob's students have often described him as one of their most influential teachers," said Censer. "We want to pay tribute to that."

Donors who wish to contribute to the Robert T. Hawkes Endowed Professorship should call 703-993-8740 or give online at give.gmu.edu, noting the fund's name.



Steven C. Tuttle Photography

President's Circle Visits Research I

Mason's first building dedicated to research was the venue for a recent President's Circle reception, hosted by George Mason University President Alan Merten (above right) and his wife, Sally. The evening featured a sampling of current research projects, as well as tours of the building's observatory.

The President's Circle recognizes individuals whose gifts totaling \$1,000 and above are received during the fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).



Office of University Development
4400 University Drive, MS 1A3
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

George Mason University Foundation
MICHAEL G. ANZILOTTI, MBA '83, LHD (Hon.) '03, chair
DAVID A. ROE, '89, MBA '96, president

University Development and Alumni Affairs
MARC Q. BRODERICK, vice president

We've Got Spirit—And You Will, Too.

We are pleased to announce that, beginning this spring, *Benefactor* is combining with our sister publication *Mason Spirit*.

The *Mason Spirit* will bring you expanded information on private support and the university as well as news of note for our alumni and friends.

Look for the *Spirit* in your mailboxes in the coming months!

Benefactor

COREY SCHAUT, MPA '07, managing editor and writer
JOAN DALLACQUA, graphic designer

Benefactor is printed with soy ink on recycled paper that includes 25 percent postconsumer waste.

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Fairfax, VA
Permit No. 1532

supportingmason.gmu.edu
development@gmu.edu
703-993-8850