Construction Continues on Sears think[box]

> Foster-Castele Hall Opens at Linsalata Alumni Center

> Medicine Leads Citywide Effort on Brain Health
SAVE THE DATE!
October 5–8, 2017
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on the cover
Kellie Pasini (CWR ’16) uses the laser cutter at the Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears think[box]

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Spring 2017

Campaign Update: Momentum Mounts
Brain Health Effort Begins
Construction Continues on Sears think[box]
Internet of Things Drives Connections
Foster-Castele Great Hall Completes Linsalata Center

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14
20

8

2
4
8

Spring 2017

table of contents
To Our Alumni and Friends:

This edition of Forward Thinking includes a story about a graduate who came back to campus this fall for the first time in a quarter century—and was stunned by how much change she saw.

Yet if she was just back after graduating in 2013, she might have been just as surprised. Think about all that’s opened:

2014: Tinkham Veale University Center (82,000 s.f.)
2014: Wyant Athletic and Wellness Center (24,000 s.f.)
2015: Phase 1 of Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at The Temple-Tifereth Israel (145,000 s.f. total)
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2015: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences renovation (involving more than half of building’s 63,594 s.f.)
2016: Phase 2 of Linsalata Alumni Center (19,614 s.f. for the whole center)

These figures don’t include the Uptown arts, entertainment and dining district, which The New York Times dubbed Cleveland’s “new downtown”; or our 485,000-square-foot Health Education Campus project with Cleveland Clinic, set to open in the summer of 2019; or the 430,000-square-foot landscape project known as the Nord Family Greenway, where construction started this spring.

All of these new spaces themselves would impress in terms of the impact of the Forward Thinking campaign, but your generosity extends well beyond capital projects. To date you have made 88 endowed professorships possible, including more than 30 since the campaign expanded from $1 billion to $1.5 billion in 2014. These awards—among the highest honors a faculty member can receive—help Case Western Reserve attract and keep leading scholars in their fields.

During this campaign, you also have demonstrated tremendous support for students—more than $200 million in scholarships and fellowships for undergraduate, graduate and professional students. This figure is roughly $60 million higher than the 2014 total, another sign that our momentum continues to climb.

The graph to the right of this column includes commitments toward all of these efforts and more. I continue to feel awe at the collective generosity this total represents—as well as the trend toward even greater giving over time. I thank every one of you who has contributed to this campaign. Your engagement already has made a tremendous difference on this campus—and that impact will continue for generations to come.

With gratitude,

FRANK N. LINSALATA
CHAIR, FORWARD THINKING: THE CAMPAIGN FOR CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

“The generosity of our alumni and friends continued to astound. ... Particularly impressive are continuing growth in endowed professorships and student scholarships.”

— Barbara R. Snyder, President
2016 State of the University

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Cleveland is uniquely positioned to play a key role in addressing them. Thanks to support from the Cleveland Foundation and Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, he and experts across the region have a chance to prove him right.

The vehicle for this citywide effort is called the Cleveland Brain Health Initiative (CBHI). Hosted at Case Western Reserve’s School of Medicine, it involves physicians and scientists across the region. Wynshaw-Boris, a professor and chair of genetics and genome sciences, co-chairs the initiative along with Anthony Furlan, a professor of neurology and co-director of University Hospitals’ Neurological Institute.

Cleveland Clinic, Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, MetroHealth Medical Center and University Hospitals all have partnered with the university in the collaboration, which helped persuade the Cleveland Foundation to invest $1.5 million and Mt. Sinai to commit $1 million. Leaders ultimately hope to raise a total of $17 million.

In recent years, governments and organizations worldwide have launched their own large-scale projects to map the structure of the brain and better understand individual functions. The need for such intense focus is apparent: the World Health Organization estimates that 1 billion people worldwide suffer from neurological disorders and brain injuries. In addition, a 2016 analysis found that more than 50 million Americans experienced some sort of brain disease or disorder in the previous 12 months, with a total economic impact comparable to nearly 9 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product.

Wynshaw-Boris trained at Case Western Reserve, then held faculty positions at the University of California, San Diego and University of California, San Francisco. In 2013, the chance to lead the genetics department and engage in interdisciplinary projects like this one drew him back to Cleveland.

One of his most critical roles within the CBHI is leading the search for a new chair of the medical school’s neurosciences department, who also will direct the initiative’s overall strategy.

Among the priorities Wynshaw-Boris would like to see for the collaboration are closer linkages among scientists who conduct more fundamental research, individuals whose work concentrates on individual brain diseases, and, finally, those who care for patients with such conditions. The goal identifying better treatment options, or even effective preventive measures.

"I'd like to see that happen," he says, "and I think that it is possible."
Imagine finding a way to tell cells how to repair the damage that multiple sclerosis (MS) wreaks on the body. Think of all the people we could help: the 2 million around the world who suffer from the disease—and their family and friends. The National Institutes of Health estimates 100 million people in the U.S. suffer some form of brain disorder in their lifetimes. We also know that despite its modest size the brain is enormously complex, with more than 100 trillion connections. No single lab or institution is going to unravel all of its mysteries on its own. We absolutely have to collaborate.

And, with the Cleveland Brain Health Initiative, we are. Hosted at Case Western Reserve University’s School of Medicine, this project includes Cleveland Clinic, the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, MetroHealth Medical Center and University Hospitals. Each institution has distinct strengths, and exceptionally talented individuals. Bring them all together, and the possibility of meaningful progress grows exponentially. How do I know? That example at the beginning of this post, about the impossibility, we’re now closer than we ever could have imagined. Two years ago, we published results of an internationally heralded study that identified capabilities to repair damaged brain cells and reverse paralysis in animal models of MS. With our clinical colleagues we are now advancing that work into clinical testing in patients right here in Cleveland. Nearly two dozen people were involved in the original project, spread across four medical school departments, two other universities and one company. To succeed, we needed the knowledge and skills of every single one of them.

In that effort, we came together through informal networks. Forging and maintaining such relationships will always be essential. But with the Cleveland Brain Health Initiative, we also will have a formal structure to encourage interactions, institutional-level commitments to cooperate, and—thanks to places like the Cleveland Foundation and Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation—new resources to bring to our efforts.

The initiative took a huge step forward with the support of these two major philanthropic organizations. Count me in among the many deeply grateful to everyone involved.

Paul Tesar (CWR ’03) is the Dr. Donald and Ruth Weber Goodman Professor of Innovative Therapeutics and an Associate Professor in the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. This essay is an updated version of a post that Professor Tesar wrote earlier this year for the Cleveland Foundation’s blog.
Five years after the pilot phase of Sears think[box] began in a small basement space of the Case School of Engineering, the full concept for a seven-story hub takes another step closer this summer. Earlier this year, the university board of trustees approved Phase III of the project, additional renovations to complete the Richey Mixon Building’s sixth and seventh floors.

Trustee Larry Sears and his wife, Sally Zlotnick Sears, have played pivotal roles in the project, not only in nurturing the idea but also committing $10 million to construction. In recognition of this support, the university’s innovation hub became the Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears think[box] in 2015.

Larry (CIT ’69) founded Hexagram Inc. in 1972, a company that became known for its unique technology that allowed utility companies to read meters remotely. Sally (FSM ’72, LYS ’74) earned her undergraduate degree from the Flora Stone Mather College and a master’s degree from the School of Information and Library Science.

Forward Thinking (FT) sat down with Larry Sears to learn more about his perspective on the origins and future of this advanced makerspace. What follows is an edited transcript of the conversation.

Sears: What happened was, we received a donation from Barry Romich to jump-start an introduction to advanced manufacturing, at Case, [but] ... there wasn’t any suitable space that could be devoted to it. ... So the dean at the time asked me to sit in on this little committee to try to move it along. ... At that point, I realized that when you consider the whole infrastructure of not only manufacturing, but invention and commercialization, it could be much, much bigger.

That’s when I just started walking around thinking, ‘Well where could we put this thing?’ As an undergraduate, I knew about Lincoln Storage. ... [Editor’s note: Lincoln Storage at the time housed chairs, desks and other furniture and equipment not being used, but available if needed for the future.]

So I walked over there and it was obviously underused, and [President] Barbara [R. Snyder] very, very graciously and quickly said ‘Great… it’s yours.’

FT: During that process, did you have moments where you doubted that it would work and it would be what it was supposed to be?

Sears: You wouldn’t be human if you didn’t. I guess my biggest [doubt] would be, ‘We will build it and no one will come.’ I guess that was the biggest fear.

FT: How important was the [$5 million] gift from Mal Mixon and J.D. Richey [in 2011, to name the think[box] building] for the momentum of think[box]?

Sears: Every gift is important, but that was a large and very timely gift that permitted construction to start.

[Editor’s note: In the winter of 2012 the engineering school opened a “pilot” version of think[box] in the basement of the Glennan Building; at under 5,000 square feet, the space was less than one-tenth of what think[box] will be when completed, yet in three years attracted 100,000 visits and spun out 20 startups, which in turn drew $2.5 million in funding and competitive awards.]

FT: What do you think it was about the pilot space that made it so appealing?

Sears: I’d given this quote before, but ‘Engineers, young people in their barns or garages, tend to make things, and so they come to college and we take away their tools. ... So one of the drivers for this was to basically give them back their tools.’

“Engineers, young people in their barns or garages, tend to make things, and so they come to college and we take away their tools. ... So one of the drivers for this was to basically give them back their tools.”

———LARRY SEARS

Larry (CIT ’69) and Sally Zlotnick Sears (FSM ’72, LYS ’74) at the Thinkapalooza celebration in 2015
Barry Romich (CIT ’67) traces the beginnings of his international business career to a student workshop in the basement of Bingham Hall. Not only did the space introduce him to tools he’d never seen on his childhood farm, but it also enabled contacts that led to the part-time job where he met Ed Prentke (CIT ’26)—an engineer with whom he founded Prentke Romich Co. (PRC) while still a student.

More than four decades later, Romich decided to give back to his alma mater by supporting the idea of a modern-day tinkering space. In 2010, he committed $1 million to help launch the concept now known as think[box]. Four years later he added an equal amount to his pledge.

“This project and think[box] remind me of the student shop when I was at Case,” he said. “Having the right tools can make all the difference.”

Investing in the next generation of makers

Barry Romich (CIT ’67) on the Prentke Romich prototyping floor
In part because of the importance of that experience, Romich also was eager to engage with those doing the planning for the new space. After all, he brings both his initial perspective as a student, and current one as an employer seeking applicants who not only are qualified, but creative and skilled as well. “It’s a thrill for me to be part of the whole process,” says Romich. “I’ve not only had the opportunity to contribute financially, but I’ve been able to be involved in the planning that has made this space a reality.”

In recognition of his contributions, the university named the third level of Sears think[box] the Prentke Romich Floor in honor of Romich and in memory of Prentke, his late business partner. “I’ve seen the power that access to these resources can give to people when they are working to accomplish something,” says Romich. “I’ve been blessed, and this is one way I can convey that blessing unto others.”

While the official project focused on research, Prentke and Romich soon began working together after hours to develop practical tools patients could use right away. One early project involved an invention to limit how quickly powered wheelchairs accelerated to spare patients the initial sharp jerk when transitioning from a stop to forward movement. Another involved trying to turn an old teletype machine into a tool to allow a stroke patient to be able to communicate.

Given this history, it is probably little surprise that the Prentke Romich floor focuses on prototyping—that is, developing early models of a product to test their operations and appeal. The think[box] space features high-end 3-D printers, laser cutters and other advanced fabrication equipment. “I see the power that access to these resources can give to students when they are working to accomplish something,” says Romich. “I’ve been blessed, and this is one way I can convey that blessing unto others.”

Sears think[box] by the numbers:

- $5.7+ million raised by startups
- 64% of student users said think[box] was a significant factor in choosing CWRU
- Over 5,000 visits per month
- 50,000 square feet: Largest open-access university innovation center in the world

Obtained from the university's marketing and communications office.

Parihu
Xyla Foxlin, Founder and CEO

Parihu’s internet-connected stuffed animals allow a user to embrace an animal in one location and have a another vibrate in response somewhere else—or, more simply, to “send” a hug to a loved one anywhere in the world.

During FGC Plasma Solutions’ early days, Felipe Gómez del Campo (CWR ‘16) exchanged part ownership of his company for needed funds. “The Z-Fund gave Gómez del Campo more than money; he also found a mentor and role model in Zubizarreta.”

FGC Plasma Solutions, LLC
Felipe Gómez del Campo, Founder and CEO

Since starting the company as an undergraduate, Gómez del Campo has been named to Forbes’ 2016 “30 under 30” list, invited to the White House, and selected to participate in a two-year immersive federal entrepreneurship program.

“[T]his fund is a great way to get students to that first proof-of-concept point.”

—FELIPE GÓMEZ DEL CAMPO (CWR ’16)

Z-Fund helps inventors bring ideas to life

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Images from the university’s marketing and communications office.

Parihu
Z-Fund recipients Xyla Foxlin (left) and Felipe Gómez del Campo (CWR ’16)

Obtained from the university's marketing and communications office.

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Obtained from the university’s marketing and communications office.
Think of the Internet of Things as an ecosystem, with education and research as two of the nutrients needed for it to thrive.

Thanks to support from the Cleveland Foundation, Case Western Reserve and Cleveland State universities are teaming to provide both to Northeast Ohio’s nascent effort.

In simplest terms, the Internet of Things (IoT) involves every device that can connect to the internet, as well as to one another. The IoT includes phones, security systems, wearable devices, automobiles and more.

The collaboration between Case Western Reserve and Cleveland State University (CSU), however, will focus on some of the larger aspects of this ecosystem, specifically related to energy, business and manufacturing, health care and infrastructure. Known as the industrial IoT (IIoT), it involves activities like using sensors to assess efficiency and timing for replacing parts, or gathering data regarding how a new part works to determine whether changes are needed in its design or use.

The potential of these approaches is enormous, and extends from factories to office spaces and even hospitals.

And, says Ken Loparo, chair of the electrical engineering and computer science department, “if you’re applying industrial IoT to manufacturing and health care, there is no better place than Cleveland and University Circle.”

These kinds of large-scale efforts touch not only the technology of measuring devices, but the rest of a plant as well. They require computing and analysis of extraordinary amounts of information—as well as extensive protective measures to ensure none of the information or functions can be compromised from the outside.

The origins of this new collaboration date to 2013, when Case Western Reserve President Barbara R. Snyder chaired the Business Higher Education Forum (BHEF), a nonprofit organization including industry and higher education leaders that is dedicated to identifying and developing workforce needs and providing students opportunities to learn these skills. As part of those efforts, BHEF identified significant needs in data science; the following year, Snyder announced that the Case School of Engineering would develop an undergraduate minor and major in data science; Bob Herbold (GRS ’66, ’68), former chief operating officer for Microsoft, committed $2.6 million to endow a professorship in data science.

The first students participating in the new major enrolled this past fall, while last spring the engineering school also launched a broader initiative, the Institute for Smart, Secure and Connected Systems (ISSACS). At that time, Herbold also announced an additional $1.5 million commitment to support scholarships for graduate students working in the institute’s priority areas.

As part of these efforts, the university is developing new course offerings that cover a range of IoT topics, from the devices themselves to the security of the systems on which they operate.

In early May, Case Western Reserve and CSU will unveil a regional academic plan to establish Cleveland as a hub for IoT with collaboration among academic institutions, industry, government and other entities on education, research, tech transfer, interoperability, deployment and systems issues.

“For pulling together the region’s resources and capabilities will create an IoT ecosystem that could set Cleveland apart nationally and internationally,” says Loparo, also the Nord Professor of Engineering. “We’re here and we’re ready, and now is the time.”
When Dana Prince began teaching at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences this past fall, she encountered classrooms unlike any she had experienced on other campuses.

They featured state-of-the-art technology, whiteboard walls, and chairs and desks that rolled easily, allowing students to form and flow between small groups. The classroom’s physical environment encourages behaviors that enrich learning experiences. In short, the entire space nurtures the precise skills Prince believes her students need most.

“Being in a classroom space that is dynamic and grounded in looking at and learning from one another, and creating that dialogue, is critical for social workers,” says Prince, an assistant professor with a master’s in public health and a doctorate in social welfare. “We have to be able to develop relationships with one another to be able to do this work.”

Such reviews are exactly what school leaders hoped for when fundraising began for the $9.4 million renovation completed in 2016—during the Mandel School’s centennial. The Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation provided the renovation project’s lead gift of $4.95 million in 2013, part of an $8 million award that also endowed the dean’s position.

“The goal of our building renovation was to create open, welcoming spaces where people could collaborate and learn together,” said Grover C. “Cleve” Gilmore, the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Dean in Applied Social Sciences at the school. “Our classrooms were transformed to enhance student performance and engagement—an essential tool to educate leaders in people-to-people professions.”

In addition to being able to modify classroom configurations easily, Mandel School faculty can leverage the technology and whiteboard walls to engage students with course materials and one another in new ways. A special paint in the new classrooms transforms entire walls into whiteboards, creating a space for collaboration that also allows professors to explain complex models or theories more easily.

“It brings in the different kinds of learning—kinesthetics because there is movement, and visual because students can physically draw or write on a shared space where we’re all marrying knowledge together,” Prince says.

In addition to the classroom space, the building now features a central research space known as the Albert and Beverly Higley Research Commons. A $1 million commitment from the Higley Fund of the Cleveland Foundation made the new space possible, and marks the first time in the school’s history that all of its research centers are housed within Mandel School buildings.

A generous $750,000 gift from Holley Fowler Martens (MSSA ’07) and her husband, Rob, created an active learning classroom and a new suite that contains student support service offices. As part of their gift, they created a matching grant to encourage others to give.

The school’s Lillian and Milford Harris Library has also undergone a renovation and relocated to the first floor after a $500,000 gift from Seth and Lilli Harris. The library was named in 1989 through a gift from Seth’s mother, Lillian (MSSA ’33), and her husband, Milford.

Students now have an open and welcoming gathering space with the creation of the Noble Commons. The multistory atrium was realized through a $500,000 commitment by the Donald and Alice Noble Foundation from David and Gayle Noble (MSSA ’88).
Morton L. Mandel Award Recognizes Exceptional Chemistry Faculty Members

Morton L. Mandel (CWR ’13) titled his book It’s All About Who because he believes so strongly in the importance of individuals to an organization’s success. So when Mandel wanted to recognize the university’s chemistry department—where he earned his degree—honoring outstanding faculty appealed as an ideal approach. Chair Mary Barkley agreed.

“Faculty who are excellent mentors, teachers, or researchers or do outstanding service are part of what makes a department an excellent department,” said Barkley, also M. Roger Clapp University Professor of Arts and Sciences and chair of the Department of Chemistry. “Awards like this encourage faculty and show them that they are valued.”

With a $100,000 commitment, the Morton and Barbara Mandel Family Foundation endowed the Morton L. Mandel Award. This year’s honoree is Professor and Associate Department Chair John D. Protasiewicz, a widely recognized researcher in organic and inorganic chemistry, as well as the founder of a mentoring program for junior chemistry faculty.

Dubbed the Green Team, the group of junior and recently tenured faculty assist each other in refining grant proposals to enhance their funding success rates. This approach not only assists the students intensive 10-week experiences learning about scientific inquiry. Some of the program’s graduates have pursued studies in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields, including ones who applied for doctoral programs on campus.

“I’m proud that I was selected not only for my scholarship,” Tolbert said, “but for some of the service that I do.”

With his late brothers Jack and Joseph, Morton Mandel transformed a small auto parts business into a billion-dollar enterprise, while maintaining a decadeslong commitment to philanthropy. Early in their careers they established the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation, which has played transnational roles in education and leadership both in the U.S. and in Israel. The foundation has made many generous awards to Case Western Reserve, including, most recently, the lead commitment for the Mandel School’s recent $94 million renovation.

Protasiewicz said, “I’m honored and grateful for this award, because it rewards individuals beyond scientific achievements, which you don’t often see.”

Last year, Associate Professor Blanton S. Tolbert was the Morton L. Mandel award recipient. Tolbert researches molecular aspects of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)—and as a member of the Green Team, maintains a powerful commitment to mentoring faculty and students. Tolbert also leads the Case Western Reserve site of a federal program that provides about 10 undergraduate students intensive 10-week experiences learning about scientific inquiry. Some of the program’s graduates have pursued studies in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields, including ones who applied for doctoral programs on campus.

Henry Louis Gates was alone when he stood before more than 900 people in the Maltz Performing Arts Center this March—but his appearance was a triumph of collaboration. The renowned Harvard historian, critic and filmmaker appeared as part of the F. Joseph Callahan Distinguished Lecture program, the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities’ Cleveland Humanities Festival and the Think Forum speaker series. And, for good measure, Gates that night also announced the 2017 class of Anisfield-Wolf Book Award winners, a program that the Cleveland Foundation manages. The Cleveland Foundation was a community partner for Gates’ lecture.

The event demonstrated what President Barbara R. Snyder often terms “the power of partnership.” In 2010, the Callahan Foundation endowed Case Western Reserve’s annual distinguished lecture in the name of legendary local businessman and philanthropist F. Joseph Callahan. Past Callahan speakers have included Princeton religion scholar Elaine Pagels and MIT professor Sherry Turkle; the former appeared as part of a joint effort with Baker-Nord, and the latter as part of the speaker series now known as Think Forum. Gates’ address—followed by a question-and-answer session that Baker-Nord Director Peter Knox moderated—was his first speech after the commitment that named the center and dramatically improved its physical space.

This year, the Cleveland Humanities Festival focused on immigration. In his lecture on ancestry, Gates reminded the audience of Frederick Douglass’ historic commencement address at Western Reserve College in 1854.

“It’s an honor to be back here,” Gates said, citing the importance of the opportunity afforded Douglass. “This place has a mystical power for me.”

In addition to the Callahan lecture each spring, the university also has a major endowed address each fall, the Elaine G. Hadden Distinguished Visiting Author Fund to support presentations by the author of the book featured each year as the university’s common reading. The winter’s major campuswide address is the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation keynote which, as of yet has not secured a philanthropic sponsor. This year’s speaker was Margot Lee Shetterly, author of the bestselling nonfiction work Hidden Figures. The book was made into an Oscar-nominated movie last year. In his remarks at the Maltz Center, Gates also shared that Shetterly’s book was among the 2017 winners of Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards, administered through the Cleveland Foundation.

Speaker Series Show Power of Partnership

Top: Associate Professor Blanton Tolbert; Bottom: Professor and Associate Department Chair John D. Protasiewicz (left) and Morton L. Mandel (CWR ’13)
After more than two decades of planning and fundraising, Case Western Reserve graduates finally have a full-fledged campus complex to call their own.

The February dedication of the Foster-Castele Great Hall completed the Frank N. and Jocelyne K. Linsalata Alumni Center and provided a dedicated large event space to complement the cozy rooms and offices of the adjacent Georgian-style home that represented the project’s first phase.

To commemorate the opening, the Case Western Reserve University Alumni Association Board will place a time capsule containing small memorabilia and a history of how the space came to be inside a wall in the hall. This timeline is a glimpse into that history.

"It’s amazing that in 12 years we’ve gone from an idea to a well-regarded alumni association with a dedicated center on campus."

—JEFFREY T. VERESPEJ (CWR ’07, MGT ’11), PRESIDENT, CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
Popular Music Studies

Eyes Expansion with New Commitment

Whether it’s rock ’n’ roll or hip-hop, popular music has long provided rich insights into the culture and context of the times—and, sometimes, influenced them as well.

From political to social movements, fashion to language, popular music can both reflect and affect experiences of individuals, groups and even entire global regions. With the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame little more than a 10-minute drive from Case Western Reserve’s campus, the university’s Center for Popular Music Studies is ideally positioned to lead studies at the university.

The Library and Archives is the most comprehensive repository of popular music materials and history. “It makes Cleveland a nexus for anyone doing research in any area of popular music.”

And the center is seizing its new opportunities. Last year it hosted a symposium connecting 18 promising popular music researchers with five established scholars and a member of the media for discussions and workshops to help launch their careers.

This year the center sponsored the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, including the Rock Hall’s Library and Archives,” said Professor Daniel Goldmark, the center’s director and head of popular music studies at the university.

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This year the center sponsored a conference with the U.S. branch of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, and the Rock Hall, which hosted the opening symposium. And this fall, the center plans to host a conference on popular songs in film scheduled for October 2017.

Richman is CEO of Richloom Fabrics Group, a fabric converter and mill based in New York. He is an avid supporter of humanities education, and passionate about popular music.

In addition to this most recent gift, the Richmans and the Richman Family Foundation have previously generously supported students through an endowed scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences, where he serves on the college’s visiting committee.

“Great Neck and Elissa have given generously to the university and we are deeply appreciative of their latest gift establishing the Richman Fund for Popular Music Studies,” said Cyrus C. Taylor, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Albert A. Michelson Professor in Physics at Case Western Reserve.

This gift will enhance our partnership with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, and enrich the study and understanding of popular music on campus and beyond,”

For Dyllani Thomas, co-president of Case Western Reserve’s African Students Association, diversity is like being invited to the party, inclusion is being asked to dance.

So when the university announced that it would name its newest residence hall in honor of late alumna and U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones (FSM ’71, LAW ’74), Thomas felt he and Case Western Reserve were moving in step.

“It thought it sent a message,” said Thomas, a resident assistant in the building, “and also showed that as students, our opinions matter and that our voices carry some weight.”

The original recommendation to dedicate the building to Tubbs Jones came from students; campus administrators embraced it within a few months.

“It is exciting to reflect on how we transformed our vision into a permanent part of Case Western Reserve’s history,” said Malakai Hayford, president of the African American Students Law Association.

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Campus Honors Late Alumna, Congresswoman with Building in Her Name

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"As an African-American in the United States right now, it can feel like people are numb to my experience or my struggle,” he said, “so to have someone who looks like me, have a building named after her—that definitely means a lot.”

Left: Stephanie Tubbs Jones (FSM ’71, LAW ’74), right: The newly dedicated Stephanie Tubbs Jones Hall. Inset: Student Malakai Hayford at the 2016 dedication ceremony.
Leave your mark on campus with a custom paver stone on the grounds of the expanded Frank N. and Jocelyne K. Linsalata Alumni Center. Each 8-inch paver is a lasting way to celebrate your Case Western Reserve University connection or honor relatives and friends, especially those who have paved the way at CWRU.

For more information and to purchase your tax-deductible paver stone:
Call us at 216.368.1980 or visit giving.case.edu/alumnipaver

A Homecoming
25 Years in the Making

Before last fall’s Homecoming, Catherine Lindenberg (NUR ’66) hadn’t been back to campus since the early 1990s—decades before Uptown, the Tinkham Veale University Center, or even the Village at 115.

And yet, as much as the physical campus had changed, Lindenberg felt much of the fundamental spirit of the campus remained.

“I was struck by the differences, but more so, the continuity,” she said. “The university is on the same wave of change, trying to always make things better and smarter, and do things that are important to the world.”

Lindenberg, who lives in Costa Rica, was celebrating her 50th reunion, joining more than 250 other alumni in the Grand Classes who received diplomas at least a half century earlier. Not only did overall registration for these graduates top 2015’s, but so did overall Homecoming totals: more than 3,800 signed up to attend—an increase of 89 percent over the previous year. In addition, donations during registration surpassed the previous year’s total by 55 percent.

Leaders of the Alumni Association of Case Western Reserve cited several potential reasons for the growth, among them a simplified summer mailing, new online registration system, and an increasing sense of optimism regarding the university’s progress.

“Case Western Reserve has experienced a lot of good news in recent years,” explained Bradford Crews, senior executive director for alumni affairs. “And the transition to having all of the schools celebrate Homecoming on the same weekend has added enormous energy to the event. Attendees are telling other classmates they have to come back, and alumni appear to be listening.”

For Lindenberg, the chance to see classmates she came to think of as sisters was irresistible in itself. Learning she would receive the President’s Award for Distinguished Service from the Frances Payne Bolton Alumni Association only added to her excitement.

Throughout her career in academia, nursing and public health, Lindenberg worked in 14 countries and participated in educational, service delivery and evaluation/research projects throughout Central and Latin America. In 2004 she returned there to launch TeenSmart International, a not-for-profit organization that provides free, public use online health information to empower young people to take positive action for their own well-being.

As honored as Lindenberg felt about the recognition, she found great company among her classmates and friends—all of whom have pledged to return to Cleveland to mark their 55th reunion.

“If you think of success as an effective and satisfying life—not about money or power—then my classmates have lived highly successful lives.”

Thank You
Frank and Jocelyne Linsalata
The Alumni Association
2016
Be part of Extending Our Impact

Learn more at case.edu/forwardthinking