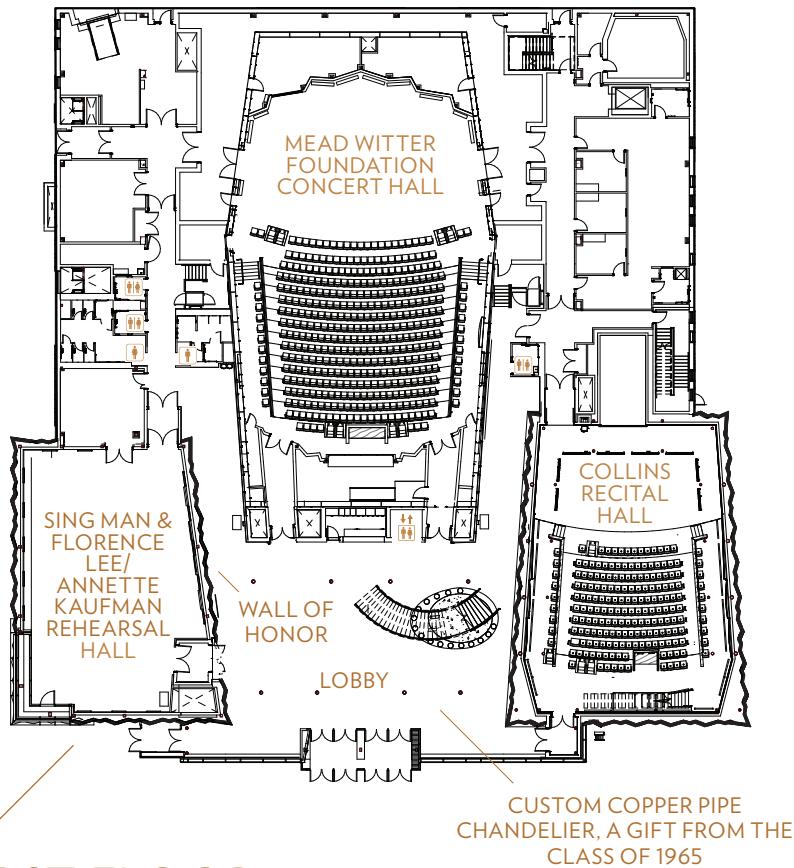


DISCOVER THE HAMEL MUSIC CENTER: A SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Situated on a compact site next to a busy — and noisy — intersection, the Hamel Music Center is a thrilling achievement of visual and acoustic design. Sound engineers, acousticians, plumbing and mechanical experts, and other professionals worked alongside the architects and builders to design a structure to eliminate outside noise and ensure that each performance hall is acoustically isolated from the others. Learn more about what you will encounter as you explore this space



FIRST FLOOR

EXTERIOR

The accordion-like exterior envelops 16-inch thick double walls that shield each hall from outside noise. The unique architectural pre-cast panels were constructed by family-owned International Concrete Products, located in Germantown, Wisconsin. The building's roof is made of 50,000 pounds of poured concrete to further reduce outside noise.

COLORS

A signature element of architect Malcolm Holzman, the Hamel Music Center's bold color scheme takes its inspiration from Wisconsin's natural landscape. The rich plums, coppers, and golds reflect the life-cycle of the maple, Wisconsin's state tree. Copper leafing in the concert hall was applied by Conrad Schmitt Studios of New Berlin, WI. The blues of the back-of-house spaces — such as offices, bathrooms, and dressing rooms — are a nod to Madison's beloved lakes.

LOBBY

Visible from University Avenue, the Hamel Music Center's two-story, glassed-in lobby connects all spaces in the building and welcomes passersby. The Lau & Bea Christensen Upper Lobby, accessible by an elevator and a curving central staircase, provides access to balcony seating in both the concert and recital halls. The terrazzo flooring of the central staircase was crafted by Johnson Terrazzo Company of Holmen, Wisconsin. Both the main and upper lobbies are intended to promote regular interaction between undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. They also serve as elegant gathering spaces for pre- and post-concert receptions. Crowning the space is a custom copper pipe chandelier, a gift from the Class of 1965, crafted by third-generation family business Manning Lighting of Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

WALL OF HONOR

Flanking the rehearsal hall on the lobby's main floor, the Wall of Honor is comprised of a series of back-lit, clear acrylic panels. This wall recognizes the building's major donors. It was crafted by La Crosse Sign Company.

SING MAN & FLORENCE LEE/ANNETTE KAUFMAN REHEARSAL HALL

The Lee/Kaufman Rehearsal Hall provides an attractive space that is large enough to accommodate the acoustic and physical demands of the Mead Witter School of Music's many large ensembles. The room's irregular shape and fabric-wrapped panels prevent the presence of standing sound waves. The distinctive west-facing corner window (actually double windows, with space between them to absorb sound vibration) allows passersby a view into the hall's activities and opens the building to the neighboring Chazen Museum of Art. This multiuse space will also host pre- and post-concert educational talks, events, and receptions.

DRESSING ROOMS

Two large dressing rooms, including the Daniel Gregg Myers Green Room, offer performers a comfortable space to congregate and warm up before performances. Friends and family can also gather in these spaces following performances.

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS

Plumbing and other mechanical systems are routed through corridors and back-of-house spaces to keep any noise or vibration from transferring to the structures surrounding the three music halls. Pipes are wrapped with additional insulation to absorb sound. To eliminate air noise while maintaining comfortable circulation in the Mead Witter Foundation Concert Hall, air is diffused from underneath the seats on the main floor and from the back of balcony seating instead of through large vents.

MEAD WITTER FOUNDATION CONCERT HALL

Seating up to 660 people, the main concert hall features an expansive stage with the capacity to house large ensembles of any kind — including the Varsity Band and UW–Madison Symphony Orchestra. The choir loft has three curved benches that accommodate up to 100 performers or may be used as audience seating. The circular panels along the walls are a series of acoustical coffers that absorb and reflect sound back into the concert hall. In addition, two 50,000 cubic-foot floating concrete reverberation chambers can be seen 30 feet up on each side of the concert hall stage. Both the concert hall and rehearsal hall are equipped with motorized, retractable curtains to adjust the level of "live" sound in the space. In the seating area, a lift is available on each side of the auditorium to enable patrons with limited mobility to access the front of the house. Personalized copper plaques on the backs of seats honor UW graduates, professors, and loved ones of Hamel Music Center supporters. Visit hmc.music.wisc.edu to learn more about naming a seat.

Gender-neutral and accessible bathrooms are available on both the main and upper floors.

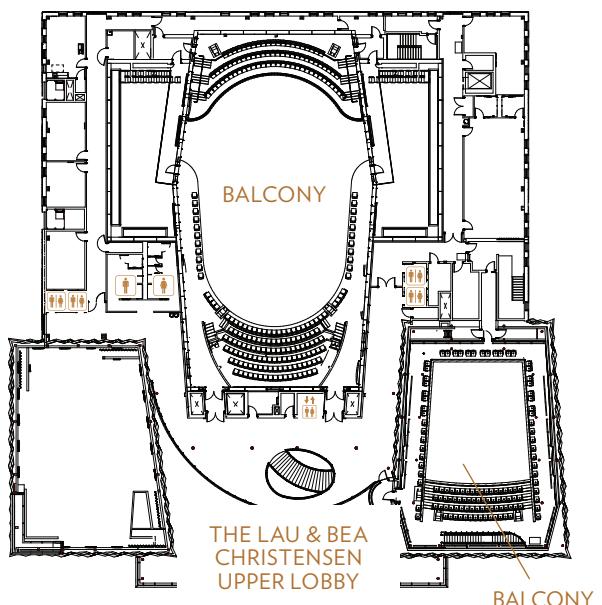
COLLINS RECITAL HALL

This two-story hall seats 299 people. In addition to hosting smaller-scale concerts, it is a performance space for Mead Witter School of Music undergraduates to perform capstone projects and graduate students to perform final doctoral recitals. Like the concert hall, the recital hall offers additional audience seating above the stage. Warm wooden elements include planks sourced from Menominee tribal lands, wooden petals on the lighting "tiaras" suspended from the ceiling, and framed glulam beams (laminated timber of exceptional strength) that support the cement ceiling. The hall's colorful and dynamic wallpaper was designed by Tandem Press founder and printmaker William Weege, professor emeritus of UW–Madison's Department of Art.

RECORDING STUDIO

As a learning lab for music students, the Hamel Music Center provides invaluable production experience. This includes access to a recording studio equipped with monitors, mixing boards, and cameras that allow for interaction with performing artists in the concert and recital halls.

SECOND FLOOR



MEAD WITTER SCHOOL OF MUSIC
HAMEL MUSIC CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Hamel Music Center
740 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53706

About the Mead Witter School of Music & the Hamel Music Center:

- **Mission:** The Mead Witter School of Music is committed to providing an education that values musical and academic rigor, nurtures innovation, collaboration and creativity, and balances preparation for professional musical careers with personal fulfillment. Curricular offerings instill an active understanding of music as both cultural expression and social practice and cultivate a life-long active engagement with music.
- **Academics:** The faculty and staff of the Mead Witter School of Music are comprised of more than 35 distinguished educators, performing musicians, and active scholars. It offers several degree programs at the undergraduate level, including both a bachelor of arts and science and a bachelor of music with tracks in music curriculum, education, and performance. Approximately 300 music majors are enrolled each year. Students from many other disciplines take music courses. Total annual enrollment count of all courses in the School of Music is approximately 3900. At the graduate level, the School offers several masters and doctoral programs serving more than 100 students each year.
- **Performers and performances:** Many students—both majors and non-majors—participate in the School of Music's productions as staff and musicians in ensembles. The School of Music's many student and faculty ensembles include the Varsity Band, Concert Band, University Opera, UW-Madison Symphony Orchestra, Wisconsin Brass Quintet, Wind Ensemble, Pro Arte Quartet, Wingra Wind Quintet, Concert Choir, Choral Union, University Chorus, Jazz Faculty Ensemble, University Jazz Orchestra, and many more. Every year, the School's faculty and student ensembles perform more than 300 recitals and concerts both on- and off-campus, contributing to the cultural life of the university and the wider Madison community. In addition to producing performances, recitals, and colloquia, the Mead Witter School of Music welcomes guest artists and scholars for master classes.
- **Home to UW-Madison's greatest musical moments:** The Hamel Music Center will serve as the primary performance venue for the School of Music. Performances took place in Mills Hall and Morphy Hall (in the George L. Mosse Humanities building) and in Music Hall (the historic clock tower building at the foot of Bascom Hill), a proscenium theater and the home of University Opera. Music instruction will continue to take place in Music Hall and the Mosse Humanities Building, the School's administrative home.
- **Weege Installation:** In recognition of the Hamel Music Center's opening, the Chazen Museum of Art has organized a special installation of six works by William Weege (whose original painting inspired the wallpaper in the Collins Recital Hall) from the museum's permanent collection. Beginning Friday, Sept. 20, 2019, the works will be on display in Gallery 17 on the third floor, and they will remain on view through the end of the year. Contact: Kirstin Pires, Editor, Chazen Museum of Art, kpires@chazen.wisc.edu, 608-890-4469.
- **Name a seat:** More than 200 seats in the Mead Witter Foundation Concert Hall have been dedicated to alumni, professors, and music lovers with a contribution to the Hamel Music Center Fund: hmc.music.wisc.edu

MEAD WITTER SCHOOL OF MUSIC
HAMEL MUSIC CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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OPENING
WEEKEND
CELEBRATION
OCT. 25-27, 2019
www.music.wisc.edu

#UWHMC

MEAD WITTER SCHOOL OF MUSIC

A Day for Acousticians at the Hamel Music Center

You are here: Home / A Day for Acousticians at the Hamel Music Center



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON



SCHOOL OF MUSIC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO HELP TUNE NEW PERFORMANCE HALL

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19 AND FRIDAY, SEPT. 20, AT THE HAMEL MUSIC CENTER, 740 UNIVERSITY AVENUE.

If you're looking for the most interesting place to study or just spend some quiet time on Thursday and Friday, September 19 and 20, 2019 the Mead Witter School of Music's got you, and a few hundred of your friends, covered.

The Hamel Music Center, located on University Avenue next to the Chazen Museum of Art, is ready for its final tuning. And for that to happen, the School of Music needs you to quietly take a seat in the audience of the performance halls while professional acousticians (<http://talaske.com/>) measure and evaluate the sound of various instruments and ensembles.

You may bring a book, a laptop, a tablet (silent mode only, please!) and enjoy the ambiance as School of Music musicians play excerpts—perhaps many times over—and sound engineers manipulate motorized curtains, banners, and other surroundings to ensure a clean, crisp soundscape in each of the building's two performance halls.

In addition to hearing snippets of music from UW-Madison's many ensembles, you'll be among the first to get a sneak peek at campus's state-of-the-art performance center.

(The building's opening weekend celebrations are scheduled for October 25-27, 2019: <https://news.wisc.edu/mead-witter-school-of-musics-hamel-music-center-opening-this-fall/>)

SCHEDULE

The commissioning of each hall will last most of a day, as acousticians will adjust various settings for different ensembles. Visitors will be asked to remain in their seats while commissioning for a particular setting is in process. Breaks are scheduled for people to come and go. Start-stop times are approximate.

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time you wish to attend.

Thursday, September 19 – CONCERT HALL (seats up to 662)

9am-11am	2 hours	Percussion Ensemble, Wind Quintet, Brass Quintet
11am-1pm	2 hours	String Quartet, Solo piano, Wind Ensemble
1:30-3pm	1.5 hours	Vocal solo, Jazz Orchestra, Choir
3:15-5:00pm	2.5 hours	University Symphony and University Symphony plus Choir (NEED FULL HOUSE)

Friday, September 20 – RECITAL HALL (seats up to 299)

9:15am-10:15am	1 hour	Percussion Ensemble, Wind Quintet
10:15-11:45am	1.5 hours	String Quartet, Brass Quintet, Vocal Solo
12pm-12:30pm	30 minutes	Wind Ensemble
1:15-2:00pm	45 minutes	Solo Piano, Small choral group
2:00-2:30pm	30 minutes	Jazz orchestra

QUESTIONS? Contact: Masarah Van Eyck, masarah@strongsuitmadison.com, 608-335-6277



Mead Witter School of Music's Hamel Music Center opening this fall

August 12, 2019 | For news media



The first music performance in the under-construction Hamel Music Center came in April, when several UW ensembles entertained about 50 construction workers. Lunch was served from Ian's pizza. **PHOTO BY BRIAN HELLER**

Note to media: A following release will announce the opportunity for "first-look" media tours in September.

On a Friday afternoon in April, four UW-Madison students performed Ravel for an audience in neon t-shirts and hard hats lunching on take-out pizza. The 50 or so construction workers from JP Cullen and Strang Architects were the first to experience music in the Hamel Music Center, the Mead Witter School of Music (<https://www.music.wisc.edu/faculty/eric-siereveld/>)'s new performance venue.

Soon, with opening celebrations (<https://www.music.wisc.edu/event/hamel-music-center-opening-weekend/all/>) planned for the weekend of October 25-27, 2019, many more audiences will experience the center's state-of-the-art acoustics and inspired setting.

Tucked into the corner of Lake Street and University Avenue, the Hamel Music Center features cutting-edge acoustic technology designed to prepare students to perform at the highest of professional standards. As a "learning lab," it also provides students with a recording studio and access to lighting technology to gain valuable production experience.

For the first time in the School's history, its large ensembles — including the Varsity Band, Concert Band, and Symphony Orchestra — will have their own practice and performance space large enough to safely



The Solana String Quartet that performed consists of Anna Luebke, Maynie Bradley, Rachel Riese and Hannah Kasun. **PHOTO BY BRIAN HELLER**

accommodate
their outsized
sound.

As one of Wisconsin's premier music performance venues, the Hamel Music Center has also been designed to better connect communities in Wisconsin and beyond with the Mead Witter School of Music's compelling performances — whether it's in person or online through digital streaming technology.

"We like to say we're 'the Wisconsin Idea at its most audible,'" says Susan C. Cook (<https://www.music.wisc.edu/faculty/susan-c-cook/>), the Mead Witter School of Music's Pamela O. Hamel/Board of Advisors Director.

State-of-the-art acoustics

Neighboring the Chazen Museum of Art, the Hamel Music Center welcomes visitors into the bustling East Campus Mall area just outside its windows. Delivering an exceptional musical experience *inside* those windows, however, required innovative design solutions and acoustical treatments to achieve sound isolation from one of campus's busiest—and noisiest—intersections.

With expertise from acoustician (and Badger dad) Richard Talaske, architect Malcolm Holzman of the New York-based firm Holzman Moss Bottino Architecture (<https://www.holzmanmossbottino.com/>) in partnership with Madison's Strang, Inc (<https://strang-inc.com/>). designed everything from the pre-cast concrete exterior walls to back-of-the-house HVAC systems with this goal in mind. The result is a calm, clear, adjustable soundscape in each of the building's three performance halls.

Those spaces (<https://hmc.music.wisc.edu/about/>) include the 660-seat Mead Witter Foundation Concert Hall, the 300-seat Collins Recital Hall, and the Sing Man & Florence Lee/Annette Kaufman Rehearsal Hall. The two-story glassed-in lobby, including the Lau & Bea Christensen Upper Lobby, will provide a welcoming gesture to passersby, accommodate pre-and post-concert receptions and promote regular interaction among students and faculty. (Music instruction will continue to take place in the Mosse Humanities Building, the School's administrative home, and in historic Music Hall.)

Built by—and for—Wisconsin

The Hamel Music Center at 740 University Avenue in Madison is the first academic building on campus to be built entirely with private funds. "We have been overwhelmed with the support and generosity of our donors (<https://hmc.music.wisc.edu/media/major-donors/>) —from around the corner and around the world," Cook says.

Yet while no state dollars went into the project, Cook is quick to point out the dozens of Wisconsin businesses (<https://hmc.music.wisc.edu/media/wisconsin-built/>) that contributed to the meticulous craftsmanship and uncompromising acoustic demands of the facility. "It goes to show, when you invest in UW-Madison, you invest in the State of Wisconsin."

Opening celebrations will take place the weekend of October 25-27, 2019. Events include a ribbon cutting, welcoming remarks from Chancellor Blank, open house receptions, and three days of performances showcasing the Mead Witter School of Music's undergraduate and graduate students, current and retired faculty, and alumni (<http://uwsomaa.org/>). As a gift to the community, admission to the opening weekend's public concerts will be free but tickets will be required. Ticket availability and program details will be announced in September: <https://www.music.wisc.edu/event/hamel-music-center-opening-weekend/all/> (<https://www.music.wisc.edu/event/hamel-music-center-opening-weekend/all/>)
