PREPARING ARTISTIC ENTREPRENEURS

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s Peck School of the Arts does much more than perfect artistic skills and develop talents. Our students learn how to use their art to effect positive change in their communities and the world beyond.

In the urban landscape of Milwaukee, Peck School students experience a sophisticated, culturally thriving metropolis. They have the opportunity to perform and work with nearly all of Milwaukee’s professional arts organizations; intern and work with museums, galleries, and creative agencies throughout the state; bolster the region’s film industry; and educate K-12 students in nearly every public and private school in Southeastern Wisconsin.

The Peck School produces innovative and entrepreneurial graduates who are imaginative, persistent, and confident. Peck alumni include artists, performers, film makers, designers, arts administrators, educators, engineers, business leaders, health care innovators, and social policy advocates.

Donor support is increasingly important in maintaining excellence in education and arts training provided at UWM. Read on to learn how you can be part of the exciting things happening at the Peck School.
SCHOLARSHIPS BENEFIT STUDENTS AND THE SCHOOL

Scholarship support is the top priority of this campaign. The Peck School competes with many other private and public arts schools around the nation that offer sizeable financial support to our region’s most artistically talented students. Scholarships help attract and retain highly talented students who have the potential to influence the arts world. Through this campaign, we aim to double the Peck School’s scholarship funds and raise our minimum scholarship level to 20 percent of tuition, which is the national average.

GOAL FOR STUDENT SUPPORT: $5 MILLION

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS
Make a contribution or a planned gift to fully endow a scholarship fund and name it after yourself, a loved one, a mentor, or an esteemed faculty member.

EXISTING SCHOLARSHIPS
Help a new generation of students achieve success as graduate students or arts professionals by giving to the same scholarship you once received.

CURRENT-USE SCHOLARSHIPS
Establish a fund to be used immediately to provide scholarship support for a term of three to five years.

TRAVEL AND STUDY ABROAD
Introduce cultural and social diversity by providing funds that allow Peck School students to learn, exhibit, and perform around the world.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT
Provide internships and professional mentoring opportunities that allow students to gain real-world insight into their chosen field.

HELPING EMERGING ARTISTS BLOSSOM

Randy Reddemann has saved every ticket stub from every performance and art exhibition he attended for the past 40 years. His love for all facets of the arts compelled him to earn an inter-arts bachelor’s degree at the Peck School in 1979.

Now a lean delivery manager at Shell Global Solutions in Houston, Texas, Reddemann contributed to the school’s annual fund for several years, but he wanted to do more. With a desire to leverage his contributions to make an even greater impact, he established a scholarship to be awarded within any of the five departments of the Peck School of the Arts.

Kathryn Henry, a vocal performance major, was the second recipient of the Randy Reddemann Emerging Artist Scholarship. “I might have dropped out if I hadn’t received scholarships,” she says. Instead, thanks to Reddemann’s scholarship and seven others she received throughout her undergraduate career, she stayed at UWM and discovered her passion for opera. In 2015, she performed on the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in New York after advancing to the final round of the annual Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions.

“I’m so glad I got the opportunity to perform at the Met. If it weren’t for scholarship support, I might have dropped out of school.”

KATHRYN HENRY ’16

“The Peck School gave me tools to achieve success, and now my scholarship is providing that to others.”

RANDY REDDEMANN ’79
Pictured with Kathryn Henry
ATTRACTING TOP FACULTY

Research at the Peck School of the Arts takes many forms. Our faculty is comprised of artist-teachers who practice and refine their craft professionally outside of the classroom. For our school to be effective, we must attract and retain nationally and internationally acclaimed faculty who are as equally committed to their field of art as they are to teaching, scholarship, and service.

Through this campaign, we aim to increase faculty support through professorships as well as fellowships for guest artists and graduate students. Ultimately, our goal is to have a named professorship in each of the five Peck School departments to ensure we maintain a faculty of esteemed artistic leaders.

FOSTERING CREATIVITY

“For the performing arts, research is not only about publishing books and papers; it’s about putting your art out there,” says Michelle Lopez-Rios, associate professor of voice and speech and head of acting at the Peck School. One of her most recent research projects was performing in the world premiere of “Luchadora,” a Latino play set in Milwaukee and Texas. The play was commissioned by First Stage, a nationally recognized theatre company, and written by her creative partner and husband, Alvaro Saar Rios, assistant professor of playwriting and analysis. The play was recently published by Dramatic Publishing.

Thanks to faculty support, Rios was able to develop “Luchadora” through readings and workshops in Texas and Wisconsin. The feedback he got from these divergent audiences helped shape the play. The couple professes, “We teach students to be entrepreneurs and make their own art and opportunities. Don’t wait to be hired—do it now!”

Lopez-Rios says support for faculty—whether in the form of funding travel expenses, visiting artists, or professorships—helps ignite imaginations and foster collaborations. “Any opportunity someone has to create their own work, they blossom!”

GOAL FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT: $2 MILLION

PROFESSORSHIPS

Endowed professorships provide perpetual income for faculty salaries and associated expenses such as research costs, activities, and conference support. A great honor to the faculty member, professorships allow the school to direct money that would have been spent on salaries toward other school needs.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships are awarded to promising faculty members or guest artists for a designated period of time, typically one to three years. Used for salary and associated expenses, these fellowships introduce students and the region to internationally known artists, performers, scholars, and teachers through exhibitions, workshops, screenings, master classes, and lectures.

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

MFA candidates gain valuable teaching and technical experience through graduate student fellowships. The ability to teach and gain professional experience as an instructor of record is desired by graduate students who are choosing between UWM and offers from other universities.

“As a costume production student, I learned how incredibly important research is in creating visually authentic characters.”

VIRGINIA LUEDKE ’89, ’92

“"We teach students to be entrepreneurs and make their own art and opportunities."”

ALVARO SAAR RIOS

MICHELLE LOPEZ-RIOS
PROVIDING COLLABORATIONS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND TALENT

Because art is meant to be experienced and enjoyed, the Peck School of the Arts has developed a robust, symbiotic relationship with the surrounding community. The school presents more than 350 public performances, exhibitions, and screenings each year. Our alumni have gone on to hold leadership roles in a wide range of arts organizations and businesses, such as Danceworks, EPIC Creative, Hal Leonard, In Tandem Theatre, Ko-Thi Dance Company, Milwaukee Film, Museum of Wisconsin Art, Present Music, Quad Graphics, Renaissance Theatreworks, Theatre Gigante, and Wild Space Dance Company, as well as many of Wisconsin’s public and private K-12 schools and universities.

With donor support, the Peck School can continue to be a supplier of talent for professional arts organizations, creative businesses, and schools in Southeastern Wisconsin and the nation.

GOAL FOR ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT: $1 MILLION

INTERNSHIPS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Provide students with real-world experience by supporting internships, professional mentoring, and artistic collaborations with Milwaukee’s professional arts organizations.

SPONSORSHIP OF PERFORMANCES AND EXHIBITIONS

Help us share the work of our students, faculty, and alumni by underwriting performances, screenings, and exhibits.

RENOVATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF VENUES

Maintain performance and exhibition spaces and allow for essential updates in the changing technology of the arts world.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Partner with the Peck School to fund a project or call attention to a topic for a designated period of time.

BUILDING A NETWORK OF SUPPORT FOR ART EDUCATORS

The Milwaukee area has many committed and talented art teachers who have increasing demands on their time and limited resources for professional development. But thanks to the Peck School’s ArtsECO program, Milwaukee area art educators have some much-needed support.

Started in 2014 with a grant from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, ArtsECO is backed by a community of nonprofit arts organizations and K-16 school partnerships. The program recruits and develops thoughtfully engaged education students and teachers and supports them as they grow into inspired mentors who leverage and share the rich assets of southeastern Wisconsin. In addition, the program helps prepare high school students for the rigors of college.

“The magic of ArtsECO is its multiple entry points,” explains Joelle Worm, director of ArtsECO. “We have skill-building and portfolio-development programs for high school students, scholarships and internships for art education students, social networking events, and in-depth coursework for teachers. This has become a one-stop shop for art education.”

Your investment in the future teachers of this state will not go to waste and will not be forgotten.

BRYCE COPPERSMITH ’15
HELP US SHAPE THE WORLD

The Peck School of the Arts is an amazing cultural resource for our students, our community, and beyond. With your help, we can strengthen our programs, reward our faculty, and most important, prepare future generations of artists to change the world through art and design, dance, film, music, and theatre.

– SCOTT EMMONS, DEAN

CAMPAIGN PRIORITIES

$5 MILLION

$2 MILLION

$1 MILLION

CABINET MEMBERS

JOHN K. SHANNON, JR., CHAIR
Founder and General Partner of Caledonia Properties, Former President/CEO of Quick Cable Corporation

SCOTT W. GORE ’79
Retired Director of UWM Union, Former Co-Executive Director of UWM Auxiliary Services

RANDY R. REDDEMANN ’79
Lean Delivery Manager for Shell Global Solutions, Former Process Excellence Advisor for Hess Corporation

VIRGILYN SCHAETZEL DRSICOLL ’54, ’74
Artist, Arts Education Consultant

MARLENE A. LAUWASSER ’69
Retired Vice President of Marketing at Cardinal Stritch University, Board Member and Past President of Milwaukee Jewish Federation

JIM RYGIEL ’77
Visual Effects Supervisor, Three-Time Academy Award Winner

Direct further inquiries to:
Daniel Petry, Development Director
UWM Peck School of the Arts
2400 East Kenwood Boulevard, Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 229-3902 • uwm.edu/psoa/support
My advisors helped propel my understanding of filmmaking into terrain previously unexplored and presumptively unattainable. In addition to this, their initiative in seeking out financial support for me was invaluable and appreciated.

– SKY HOPINKA
GRADUATE FILM STUDENT
Featured at 2016 Sundance Film Festival

My experience at the UW-Milwaukee film department taught me to be a film artist, but even more important, it taught me to think as an artist and to deeply engage with the world and my community. My education laid the groundwork for the entrepreneurial and artistic mentality I needed to navigate the complex early years of creating Milwaukee Film and the dynamic growth period we are undergoing right now as Milwaukee Film establishes itself nationally as a leading film-culture nonprofit.

– JONATHAN JACKSON ‘02
ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MILWAUKEE FILM