

The Campaign for Colburn  
Newsletter Spring 2023

# BUILD ING

**OUR FUTURE**

**SPRING 2023**

# President's Update

**CAMPAIGN  
COMMITTEE**

Henry Choi,  
*Co-chair*  
Diane Naegele,  
*Co-chair*  
Carol F. Henry  
Harry B. Suh  
Bob Kelly

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you our very first Building Our Future campaign newsletter. While this publication is new, it has been a long time coming: we have been working on this project in one way or another since 2017, when we purchased the land. Fast forward to today, and we are now beginning to see the fruits of our collective efforts.

After numerous design rounds, we have now completed the second round of construction documents and have submitted applications to the city. While we await their reply, we have selected a general contractor, McCarthy Building Companies, whose history of delivering both quality and safety in all that they do ensures that we are in good hands. Established in 1864, McCarthy's long list of accolades ranges from Chapman University Musco Center for the Arts to UC Davis's Mondavi Center. We look forward to working with them as the project's momentum builds.

We are proud to share a variety of other updates in this newsletter, the first in an ongoing series meant to keep you, our philanthropic community, abreast of exciting tactical and creative developments. With your support, we have now raised \$281M to make this project—everything you see in these next few pages, and so much more—a reality. From ensuring the power supply to the site, to refining the iconic pink paneling for the building, to inspiring additional philanthropic gifts, we are tremendously busy bringing this project to its next major benchmark: groundbreaking. We look forward to sharing that announcement any day now.

In the meantime, thank you for your enthusiasm and support.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sel Kardan'.

**Sel Kardan**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

To learn more about being a part of the Colburn School's transformation, please contact Annie Wickert, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy and Director of Capital Campaign, at [awickert@colburnschool.edu](mailto:awickert@colburnschool.edu) or call **310-569-0690**.

For information about *Building Our Future*, visit [colburnschool.edu/future](https://colburnschool.edu/future)

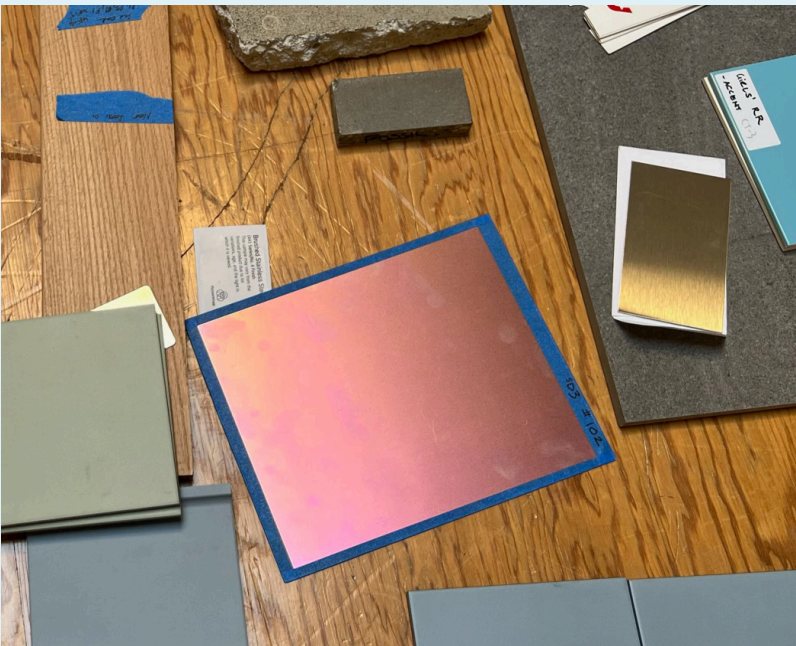
## CREATIVE UPDATE

# Pink Kandi

In this stage of the creative process, Gehry Partners is refining the materials for every aspect of the project, the most iconic of which will be the luminescent pink paneling on Terri and Jerry Kohl Hall.

A beautiful and functional building material, the unique pink paint coating on the metal cladding for the Colburn building is named "Pink Kandi." It is a fluoropolymer resin-based finish with aluminum flake developed in collaboration between Gehry Partners and the Sherwin Williams coil coating division. The custom color "Pink Kandi" was inspired from Kandy paint, a high gloss vibrant color process used on automobiles.

Fluoropolymer resins, known for their weatherability, UV and graffiti resistance, have superior gloss levels which accentuate the sparkle of the aluminum flake. The coil coating process applies the pink coating in a directional finish so that the shimmer dances consistently across the entire façade. After the pink coating is applied to the metal coil, in a specialized coil paint facility, it is shipped to the panel manufacturer to produce high-performing building cladding panels with a foamed insulated core.



## DID YOU KNOW?



**With our current 428,000 square foot campus, including Thayer Hall and Zipper Hall, the Colburn School:**

- Is home to 2,000 music and dance students across the Community School of Performing Arts, Trudi Zipper Dance Institute, Conservatory of Music, and Music Academy.
- Hosts 300 free or affordably-priced performances for a live audience of over 30,000 and 17,000 online.

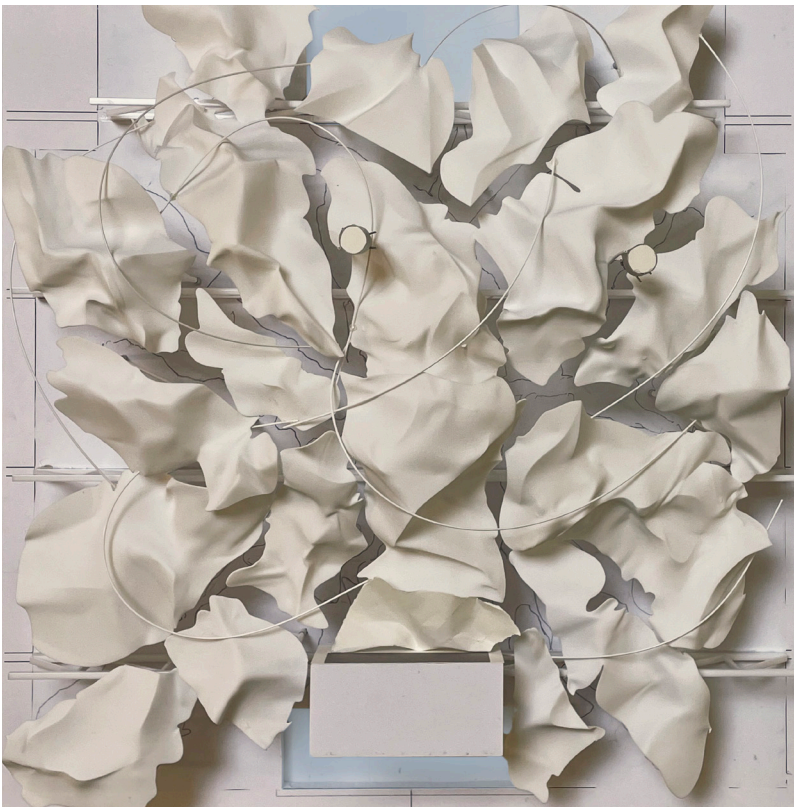
**With the 100,000 square foot addition of the new campus, the School will add:**

- A unique 1,000-seat concert hall for orchestral, chamber, dance, opera, and musical theater performances, as well as amplified performances, which will serve dozens of organizations and limitless audiences around the world.
- A dance center with four professionally-sized studios, a 100-seat convertible dance studio theater, a wellness therapy room, and a seminar room to support a growing pre-professional and professional dance community in Southern California.

## PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

# The Architect's Vision

The Colburn Center is a personal aspiration for Frank Gehry, who has devoted a significant portion of his career to projects in the arts. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, Gehry wanted to “get down to the basics of what a concert hall should be in serving the needs of music, society, and the city.” This has become a recurring theme in his late career, as evidenced by his work on the Judith and Thomas L. Beckmen YOLA Center in Inglewood, as well as the cultural center he has designed for the Los Angeles River in South Gate.



**“The Colburn School is an incredibly important asset to the cultural district of Downtown Los Angeles. Their new hall is a major blessing for the music world of this city, and I am honored to be a part of it. I hope that we have helped create a setting to nurture and grow the next generations of talent.”**

—Frank Gehry,  
Founder and Architect, Gehry Partners, LLP





## CURRENT CAMPUS + FUTURE GROWTH

Organizations from around Los Angeles, and visiting artists from around the world will be equally welcome and equally at home in Terri and Jerry Kohl Hall. From choir to orchestra to dance performances, with livestream and professional recording capabilities, this project will support artists, students, and audiences in ways that are currently unmet throughout Los Angeles.

75 + 10

Campus rental partners +  
Colburn Center Strategic  
Partner organizations



300 + 500

Performances on campus  
each year + Colburn Center  
potential performances



2,000 + 100

Colburn student enrollment +  
Dance department enrollment  
growth in the Colburn Center.



170,000 +  
Unlimited

Annual live and digital audiences  
+ Colburn Center potential



# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: CONVERSATION WITH FRANK GEHRY AND SEL KARDAN

Scan the code or view our YouTube channel (@ColburnSchoolLosAngeles) to revisit Frank Gehry and Colburn President and CEO Sel Kardan in conversation about this important new building that will contribute to the artistic vibrancy of Downtown Los Angeles. Learn about the experimental architect's wish list for the new campus (including the orchestra pit and the cloud sculpture ceiling), and get an insider's glimpse of how the magic is coming together.



## THE COLBURN EXPERIENCE

Located in the cultural corridor of downtown Los Angeles, the Colburn School provides the highest quality music and dance education to 2,000 students in a typical year. The School's founding principle of "access to excellence" provides a performance-centered education with unparalleled faculty and facilities for all stages of development. Robust scholarship support for students levels the playing field in arts education.

For information on our programs, student and faculty accomplishments, and most recent happenings, visit our year in review:

[colburnschool.edu/the-colburn-effect](http://colburnschool.edu/the-colburn-effect)

**A Message from the President**

**UNITS OF THE COLBURN SCHOOL**

**COMMUNITY IMPACT**

**ACCESS TO EXCELLENCE**

**CENTER FOR INNOVATION AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

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**20**



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