

The Campaign for Colburn
Newsletter Spring 2024

BUILDING

OUR FUTURE

SPRING 2024

President's Update

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
Henry Choi,
Co-chair
Diane Naegele,
Co-chair
Carol F. Henry
Harry B. Suh



Dear Friends,

I hope you had the opportunity to read Roger Vincent's recent article in the *Los Angeles Times* covering the Colburn School's building project. In it, he reaffirms the project's positive influence on the revitalization of Downtown Los Angeles and Bunker Hill and notes the support of key stakeholders such as Mayor Karen Bass. I was proud to sit down with Roger to share our progress thus far in hopes that others less familiar with Colburn become as excited about this addition to our bustling cultural corridor as we are.

Roger's article marked the long-awaited receipt of our grading permit, and we are now on the cusp of groundbreaking. With this newsletter, I invite you to be a part of our project team as we dive deep into the world of building construction. This edition covers what you can expect to see on our construction site in the months and years ahead and provides an insider's perspective on the assembling of the Gehry cloud ceiling, which is as much a complex puzzle as it is a work of art.

Additionally, I am pleased to report that, through your generosity, we have raised \$315M in support of our campaign goal of \$400M. With groundbreaking, we look forward to welcoming the community to celebrate our progress to date and to join us on our future journey.



Sel Kardan
President and Chief Executive Officer

**CAMPAIGN
PROGRESS
TO DATE**

**\$400M
GOAL**

**\$315M
GIFTS AND
PLEDGES**

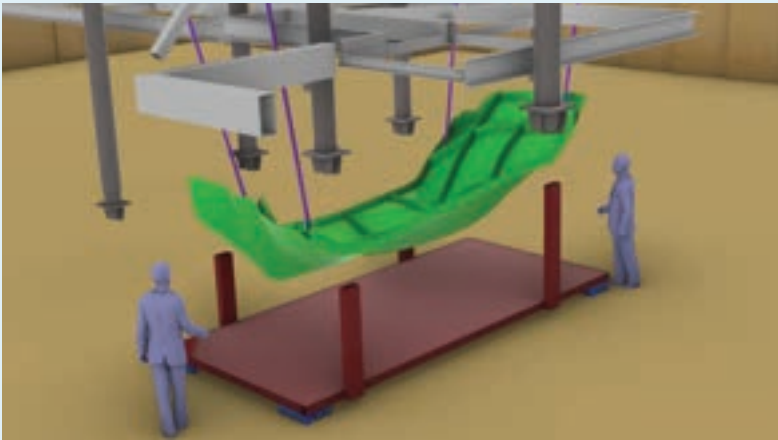
To learn more about being a part of the Colburn School's transformation, please contact Annie Wickert, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy and Director of Capital Campaign, at awickert@colburnschool.edu or call **310-569-0690**.

CREATIVE UPDATE

Fabricating the Gehry Clouds

One of the most recognizable components of Terri and Jerry Kohl Hall will be its Gehry-designed cloud sculpture, which will serve as the hall's acoustical ceiling and the hall's most iconic element. Floating this sculpture will be no easy feat: each "cloud" weighs approximately 1,200 pounds and measures 17 x 8 x 3 feet.

CIG Architecture, based in the Netherlands, created a process just for this unique purpose. The sculpture consists of 20 clouds, further broken down into 82 sections that are constructed of steel and will be transported from the Netherlands to Orange County to be assembled and installed by the firm CMF. There, each cloud goes through a process of design, welding, fitting, and surface treatment before being transported for final assembly in the hall.



DID YOU KNOW?

Contractor Selection: Industry-Leading Experience



The Colburn School was very selective in our painstaking process to secure the best general contractor for our beloved Colburn Center. Our choice of McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. was a combination of many impressive factors:

- They are known for their expansive building expertise in education, health, science & technology, aviation, renewable energy, as well as hospitality and entertainment.
- They were responsible for the construction of Soka Performing Arts Center, the Lodge at Torrey Pines, Chapman University Musco Center for the Arts, SFSU George and Judy Marcus Hall for the Creative Arts, and hundreds of other projects.
- The company has been in business for nearly 160 years with projects all over the country.
- They value safety as their number one priority and empower all their workers to look out for themselves and each other while on the job site—and that will translate to welcoming visitors to the site for hard hat tours!



SCAN TO SEE THE
COLBURN CENTER
PROJECT COME TO LIFE.

PROJECT UPDATE

Time to Put On Your Hard Hat

With our shoring and grading permits received, construction of the Colburn Center is officially underway! But, what do shoring and grading actually mean? As with many construction projects, so much goes into what you don't see.



To begin a significant construction project, **shoring** is the placement of temporary props and supports to maintain the soundness of a structure. **Grading** creates a level, flat base to ensure a strong foundation that is resistant to crumbling or sinking. For large structures like the Colburn Center, **caissons**, or drilled piers, are critical for the foundation and are created by inserting reinforcing steel into drilled shafts that are then filled with concrete. This type of foundation provides safety, longevity, and structural integrity.

Following the foundation work, **utility-related infrastructure** will be installed underground, including water mains, sewer lines, gas lines, electrical wires, just to name a few. Then, the **steel framing phase** will commence to establish the main load-bearing structure. Once the shell of the building has been erected, more aesthetic components of the project will come to life. The building will receive its iconic "Pink Kandi" coil coating **exterior skin**, and **interior elements** like Gehry's complex cloud structure inside Kohl Hall will also be assembled.

In the final phase of the project, the Colburn Center will undergo a **tuning period** to identify enhancement opportunities for both performance and energy efficiency along with necessary equipment testing prior to opening to the public. During this process, Gehry Partners and McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. will collaborate with our faculty, staff, and students to ensure the Colburn Center is primed and ready for many successful seasons to come!

"Our dedicated team of builders is enthusiastic about revitalizing communities through innovative structures, and we are particularly thrilled to be part of the transformative Frank Gehry project for the Colburn School. The intersection of culture, architecture, and construction is what makes projects like this memorable and impactful."

– Paul Erb
Executive Vice President,
McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.



Maeesha Merchant, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial & Operating Officer of the Colburn School, and Paul Erb of McCarthy, review the finer points of architectural plans during contract negotiations.

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

A Hall for All

With groundbreaking underway, we can't wait to realize this "vibrant, welcoming space" of which many Angelenos, like Terri and Jerry Kohl, have been dreaming. Since its inception, the Colburn Center project has been centered on community: nurturing and strengthening it through the power of the arts. One of the first to voice their support for this campaign, the Kohls made a transformational gift that names the 1,000-seat concert hall and also seeds an endowment fund to help underwrite access to the venue for LA-based performing arts organizations, artists, and ensembles. We are grateful to the Kohls for their leadership gift, which makes it possible for Colburn to ensure vibrant use of this space year-round.

"Our dream is to create a vibrant, welcoming space for the Los Angeles community—a hall for organizations of all sizes currently without a place to call home, where diverse ensembles and artists from across the city can share their performances with an audience that reflects the makeup of the population of Los Angeles. We feel deeply honored to be recognized for our part in realizing this wonderful project, which will do so much for the entire community of Los Angeles."

**—Terri and Jerry Kohl
Philanthropists**



A COLBURN CENTER WEBSITE

WWW.COLBURNCENTER.ORG

The Colburn Center's new virtual home is live! From updated renderings of the building to a future live feed of the construction site, this new website will keep all construction-related news and opportunities at your fingertips.

NAME YOUR SEAT!

Donors of all levels now can participate in our project through our Seat Naming Campaign. Seats in Terri and Jerry Kohl Hall, the Dance Studio Theater, Zipper Hall, and Thayer Hall are available to name for yourself, or dedicate to a luminary or loved one.

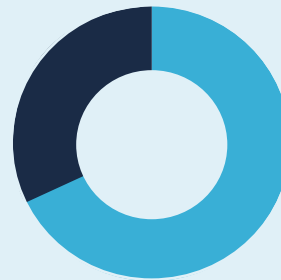


THE COLBURN EXPERIENCE

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. Robust scholarship support for students levels the playing field in arts education. The School's founding principle of "access to excellence" provides a performance-centered education with unparalleled faculty and facilities for all stages of development. This commitment is also evidenced by Colburn's rich history of providing audience access to excellent musical and dance performances, 85% of which are free and open to the 30,000+ audience members yearly.

For information about our upcoming events and performances, both free and ticketed, visit our season calendar:

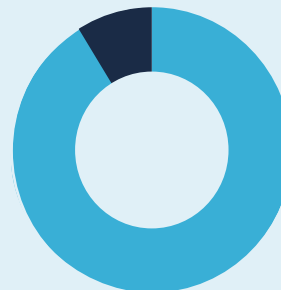
colburnschool.edu/calendar



ANNUAL ARTIST ACCESS

350
Performances by Colburn students & faculty

180
Performances by guest artists



ANNUAL AUDIENCE ACCESS

315
Free performances

35
Paid performances