

## Big Things Come in Small Packages

Barbara Abert Tooman MDS'58 left a large legacy for the arts, and University School of Milwaukee has recognized her generous bequest with the naming of the Abert Tooman Center for the Arts in the Upper School.

# "You scarce could think so small a thing could leave a loss so large."



This profound quote complements Barbara (Abert)
Tooman's MDS'58 photo in the Milwaukee Downer Seminary yearbook, the 1958 Crest. The caption goes on to add; "Barbie, Bish, [had] much pep in a little package ... our musically talented

Glee Club prez ... excels at piano and in voice ... leader of the famed Quartet plus One ..." It goes on to note "Bish ... is always willing to lend a hand ..."

Starting at a young age Barbara had many passions, including an interest in art and a devotion to animals. But her exceptional love of music was a common thread that weaved throughout her life, and was sparked in part through her Milwaukee Downer Seminary education. "I have many fond memories of my fine arts experiences at Downer," she said in an interview from 2013. "We sang at the talent show all through high school and had a ball. Many years later, I did the arranging for another group of alumnae; we sang at two Alumnae Follies and at private parties. It all started in high school and I loved every minute of it."

Barbara passed away on Jan. 23, 2017, and thanks to her incredible generosity, her love of music and the arts endures at University School. Through her estate, Tooman contributed \$2.67 million to

the school's Our Common Bond campaign—the largest campaign gift to date. Tooman's generosity is posthumously being recognized with the naming of the Abert Tooman Center for the Arts, which includes the Virginia Henes Young Theatre, the Hammes Family Lobby, the Werner Family Art Gallery, the Sardas-Trevorrow Band Room, and the Stratton Family Orchestra Room.

Barbara took great pride in supporting USM and the arts consistently through the USM Fund annual giving program, and as recently as August 2016 with an initial gift to the Our Common Bond campaign's capital project for the arts. "Barbara had been frequently and with great loyalty supporting the school for more than 50 years," said Chief Advancement Officer Patrick Tevlin. "She was—without hesitation—interested in visiting with our advancement team. In fact, she had done so on two occasions during the early stage of the campaign and gave a modest gift for the fine arts program capital project. To now know that she had included USM in her estate planning, and to the extent that she did, is simply awe inspiring!" Tevlin added.

Barbara had many long-standing family ties to Milwaukee and to University School's predecessor schools. Her mother, Barbara Abert, graduated from Milwaukee Downer Seminary (MDS) in 1931, and her late sister, Judith Meissner, was a 1956 graduate of MDS. Barbara's brother, Grant Abert, is a 1963 graduate of Milwaukee Country Day School. After graduating in 1958, Barbara attended Bradford Junior College in Bradford, Massachusetts and Garland Junior College in Boston, where she studied design. She went on to study classical music at the New England Conservatory of Music, and then studied jazz with Tommy Sheridan in Milwaukee.

### Big Things Come in Small Packages (continued)



A mock-up of signage over the doors to the Hammes Family Theatre Lobby from the front circle shows one of several options being considered to recognize the generous gift to the Our Common Bond campaign from the estate of Barbara (Abert) Tooman MDS'58.



An accomplished musician, Tooman played both classical and jazz piano, led several amateur vocal groups over the years, and composed in both

classical and contemporary styles, and supported numerous performing arts organizations throughout Wisconsin. And now, thanks to the generosity she shared throughout her life and through her estate plans, her legacy and commitment to the arts will continue at her alma mater in perpetuity through the USM Endowment Fund.

One of the last statements on Barbara's yearbook caption summarizes her character and quite possibly her future philanthropic nature the best... "with Bish's gumption and friendliness, she's sure to go far!"

Thank you, Barbara; we will make sure that your generosity goes far with our talented USM art students today and in the future.

Together we have raised a total of \$26,962,656 toward our \$27,000,000 campaign goal.

Thank you to all of our investors who have made your best gifts to the campaign.

We welcome new gifts in the next 12 months to help us achieve our goal.

Gifts of any amount are welcome and valued, and we look forward to recognizing you!







\$5,726,344

Goal: \$6 Million (Over 5 Years)



\$15,558,416

Goal: \$15 Million

### Florsheims Help to Strengthen and Expand USM Community



The Florsheim family (from left: Forrest '12, Grace '15, Lane '09, and Tom '76) posed for a photo taken by Tom's wife, Jennifer, at Grace's Skidmore College graduation ceremony in May.

As a result of the new bequest intention by Tom and his wife Jennifer, they join several other new members of the Heritage Society, which recognizes those who have advised the school of their thoughtful and most meaningful remembrances of USM by making a planned gift.

While it's been some time since Tom Florsheim '76 walked the halls of University School of Milwaukee as a student, his connection to the school has strengthened throughout the years—first as an alumnus, and then as a parent, along with his wife, Jennifer. Their three children—Lane '09, Forrest '12, and Grace '15—were all lifers. Through their active participation and generous financial support of the school, the Florsheims have helped to strengthen and expand the USM community.

Tom served in many volunteer roles for USM, including class agent, reunion volunteer, senior gift co-chair, member of the Board of Trustees from 2004 to 2013, president of the Board of Trustees from 2007 to 2010, and member of the Endowment Board and strategic planning committee. Jennifer has also volunteered tirelessly throughout the years as a parent and member of the Parents' Association. "The school needs a lot of volunteers," Jennifer said. "It's hard to quantify, but volunteering at the school and becoming part of the community is a key component of the experience here."

In 2014 Tom and Jennifer, along with two other USM families, established the Milwaukee College Prep Scholarship in the Upper School. This four-year, full-tuition scholarship recognizes the achievement of a USM student who has graduated from Milwaukee College Prep. Most recently they supported the Our Common Bond campaign with a planned gift, helping to further grow the school's endowment in ongoing support of the scholarship program. "The health of University School, and the school's ability to move forward, is very dependent on financial support from parents, alumni, and other friends," said Tom.

Tom, who also received the Alumni Service Award in 2014, is grateful for his USM education and is driven to help other students realize the same benefits. "When I transferred to USM, my whole attitude toward academics changed," he said. "It was as if the light was suddenly turned on. I developed a love for learning that happens when you are exposed to faculty who are passionate about what they are teaching."

### University School of Milwaukee Welcomes Newest Heritage Society Members

University School of Milwaukee is proud to welcome these newest members to the Heritage Society. Their new gifts total more than \$1.5 million in deferred commitments in support of the school's endowment. The gifts are included in the endowment portion of the Our Common Bond campaign, increasing this amount beyond the 95% mark of the campaign's \$6 million endowment goal.

"We are pleased to welcome these friends of USM into the Heritage Society, which recognizes and celebrates those who have informed us of their thoughtful and impactful bequest intentions by leaving a legacy in their wills for the school," said Chief Advancement Officer Patrick Tevlin.

Jen and Mike '86 Darrow

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Q. Eschweiler MUS'50

**Karen and Steve Guy** 

George L. Mayer MCDS'62

**Wendy and Andrew Petzold** 

**Shelly and Dick Seesel** 

Mr. Robert L. Teweles MUS'52 and Ms. Karen Dandurand

Karin and Teddy Werner

#### New Student Thank-You Videos Now Available to View

University School of Milwaukee has been so fortunate to receive support from so many in our community for the new and enhanced spaces throughout campus that were priorities of the Our Common Bond campaign. These spaces have truly enhanced the entire USM experience for students, faculty and staff, and visitors.

Lee Community Room

Lee Community Room and Darrow Family Welcome Center www.USMOurCommonBond.org/lee-darrow



Jack Olson '67 Commons and Palermo Servery www.USMOurCommonBond.org/olson-palermo



Virginia Henes Young Theatre expansion www.USMOurCommonBond.org/VHYtheatre

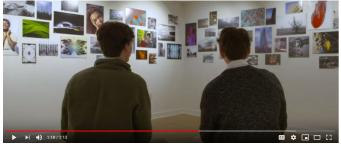
We invite you to enjoy these brief videos of our students as they thank our many donors who helped make these spaces—and the programming they allow for—possible. All videos are also available to view by visiting www.USMOurCommonBond.org and clicking on the News section and then the Videos filter.



Lubar Center for Innovation and Exploration www.USMOurCommonBond.org/lubarcenter



Stratton Family Orchestra Room and Sardas-Trevorrow Band Room www.USMOurCommonBond.org/stratton-sardas-trevorrow



Werner Family Art Gallery
www.USMOurCommonBond.org/wernerfamilyartgallery

## **Our Common Bond Update**

As we begin the final year of the Our Common Bond campaign, we invite you to help your school achieve the \$27 million goal in support of USM Fund, endowment, and capital projects.

Please join the community of donors who are supporting the students, faculty, and programming while contributing to the success of the campaign with your 2019–20 USM Fund gift today!



Visit www.USMOurCommonBond.org to learn more about the comprehensive capital campaign priorities, including capital projects, endowment, and the USM Fund, and the stories of the members of the USM community supporting its progress thus far.



Dick MCDS'53 and Pam Kramlich

#### **Kramlichs Make \$1 Million Gift**

Alumnus Dick Kramlich MCDS'53 connected with his alma mater several years ago when he was invited to serve as part of an innovation think tank formed by the school in order to meet one of the goals of its strategic plan. Kramlich, a venture capitalist trailblazer, also served as the speaker at USM's 2016 Commencement Exercises. He excelled as both a student and an athlete at Milwaukee Country Day School, serving as class president his last three years while lettering in basketball, football, and tennis, earning secondteam all-conference honors in football. (continues)

# **Our Common Bond: Current List of Campaign Investors**

We sincerely thank all those who have made generous gifts in support of Our Common Bond and our school!

Anonymous Donors

The Abele Family

Barb '81 and Tim Aik

Cameron and Julie Kasten Art '91

Janie and Cliff Asmuth '68 & '66

Kathie and Tony Asmuth MCDS'60

Astor Street Foundation

Gregg and Susie Bach

Donna and Don Baumgartner MCDS'59

Lori and Kurt Bechthold

Jane and Jim Bell MUS'58

Jim and Nancy Bolton

Bevin '95 and John Bonnell

Melanie and Steven Booth

Borca Family

Brennan Family

Mary '81 and Jeff Brown

Miss Mary Jane Bumby MDS'48

Robert L. Burch III MUS'52

Don and Patti Camp

Derk W. Cullinan '92

Stuart and Susan Cushman

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Jackie and Omar Darr

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Kathleen and Randy Dean

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Stephane and Samantha Dermond

Tahra '81 and Mark Dodson

Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable Trusts

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Feitler Family Fund

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Jennifer and Tom Florsheim '76

Claudia Fritz and Alisha Campbell

Molly '80 and David '81 Fritz

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Stephanie and Aaron Gardner '96 & '96

Anne Hamilton and Fred Geilfuss '71

Pam and Steve Geimer '78 & '78

Lisa and Ronald Gibb

Julie and Brian Gilpin

C. Andrew Gordon '98

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Frieda and William Hunt Memorial Trust

Housiaux and Jacobs Families

Emily and Doug Ihrke

The Jochmann Family

Shawn and Lance Johnson '79

Bob and Trish Juranitch

Susie and Fred Kasten MDS'60 & MUS'57

Wendy and Craig Kasten

Michael and Jennifer Keough

Christina and David Keuler

Dr. and Mrs. Raman Khanna

Estate of William J. Kieckhefer MCDS'36

Peter S. Kies

Dr. Joseph and Mrs. Janet Kim

Jill and Navjot Kohli

Kopmeier Family Fund

Pam and Dick Kramlich MCDS'53

Jane and Tom Lacy

Megan and Tim Lantz

Corrine and Max Lee

Jennifer and Bruce K. Lee '81

Brenda and Matt Levatich

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Neuman and Avis Leverett

Mike '96 and Brie Lindemann

Dr. and Mrs. Joshua Lieberman

Joan Lubar '77 and John Crouch

Madeleine and David Lubar

Jodi and Scott Lurie

Kevin and Rosie Lyons

Visit www.USMOurCommonBond.org for a current list of investors, and additional stories, photos, and videos.

After graduation, Dick attended Northwestern University and the Harvard Business School. He is the co-founder of New Enterprise Associates Inc. (NEA), a venture capital firm in Silicon Valley, and also serves as the chairman of NEA Management Company. Dick was elected to the Global Silicon Valley Hall of Fame in 2015, and currently resides in San Francisco with his wife, Pam, where he enjoys collecting art, hiking, traveling, swimming, playing tennis, and spending time with his four children and six grandchildren.

Although the Kramlichs were unable to attend last year's Our Common Bond ICE Ball gala in person, they made a memorable mark on the evening during the

event's paddle raise fundraiser, when Dick, via remote video, announced that he and Pam would commit \$1 million to the Our Common Bond campaign via a "virtual paddle raise."

In recognition of the Kramlichs' incredible gift to the campaign, the school has created the Kramlich Innovation Distinction for students who meet the program's criteria. All University School seniors who set themselves apart through their academic and extracurricular work in the areas of innovative and entrepreneurial learning and complete the required coursework will receive this designation on their final University School transcripts.

Justin '96 and Natalie '97 Maciolek

The Maclay Family
The Marcus Family
Tamora and Bruce Martin

Drs. Peter Mason and Azita Hamedani

Mary Jane and Frank Martinez

George A. Mayer MCDS'62
Katie and Skip '88 McGregor
Katie and Charles Mellowes '87
Linda and John Mellowes MUS'56

R. Jan Pirozzolo-Mellowes and John W. Mellowes '91

John W. and Brigid G. Miller Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Minahan

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Susanna and Justin Mortara
Nell and Tom Mussoline
Linda and Jock Mutschler
Vanessa and Andrew Nerbun
Nick '99 and Heather Nielsen
Meg and Hack Noyes '66

Jim O'Reilly '78

John U. Olson and Elin Blakstad '95 & '95

Alexander A. Palermo '86
Parents' Association
Adam and Laura Peck
Shannon and Eric Peters
Stephanie and Ryan Petersen
Wendy and Andrew Petzold
Candy and Bruce Pindyck

Mike and Deb Pokel
Mr. and Mrs. John Potter
Sylvia and Jonas Prising
H. Richard Quadracci '82
Ms. Alice E. Read '72
Connie and Reik '86 Read

Lisa and Thomas Read '75

Mary and Ross Read '69 Jennifer and Bret Reese

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Ann Reinke

Buddy and Catherine Robinson Marina and John Rosenberg '79 Michael and Cathryn Roth Jessica '88 and Chad Roulette David and Liza U. Sadoff '99

Isabela Sardas-Trevorrow and Family

Rosalie and Tim Schaefer

Janell Schmidt
Jen and Todd Schoon
Joan and Kevin Schultz
Carl Schwarz MCDS'53
Shelly and Dick Seesel
Bob and Bonnie Seidel

Kristen '77 and Chuck Severson

Gigi '79 and Mark Short

Bill and Julie Sellars

Pamela and Jeffrey Shovers '76 Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Skor Greg and Nancy Smith Susan and Michael Smith Mary H. Sprague

Carolyn and John Stephens Stephens Family Foundation

Ryan W. Stewart '09 Maria and Andrew Stone

Anne and Fred Stratton MCDS'57

Barb and Harry Stratton '67

Patricia Stratton Schroeder MDS'59 Rick Stratton '92 and Keri Sarajian

The Stratton Foundation

Kurt and Marie Suesse '97

Tonit Calaway and David Swanson Estate of Merrill E. Taft Jr. MCDS'49

Estate of Diane and Kast Tallmadge MCDS'59

Teerlink Family

Patrick and Brooke Tevlin

Mr. Robert L. Teweles MUS '52 and Ma. Karan L. Dandurand

Ms. Karen J. Dandurand

Estate of Barbara Abert Tooman MDS'58

Angela Topetzes '78

Cathie and Sean Torinus

Erskine "Buddy" Tucker '79 and

Marie E. Michel-Tucker

Edie Turnbull

Alex and Lily Uihlein '98 Charles Uihlein '02 David V. Uihlein Foundation

Bavia V. Official Carlaction

Estate of Henry "Chip" H. Uihlein Jr. MCDS'63

J. Christopher Uihlein '65 Julie and David Uihlein '68 & '67 Lynde B. Uihlein MUS'63 Philip J. Uihlein '68

Richard A. Uihlein '72

Estate of Gail W. VanderLaan MDS'58

Drs. Brahm and Monica Vasudev

Ellen and Bob Venable

Laurie and Byron Vielehr

Wendy and Greg Watchmaker

Susan Graham Wernecke and
William A. Wernecke Jr.

The Werner Family

Werner Family Foundation

Catherine M. and Michael C. Williams '79 & '70

The Williamson Family

Victoria and Rick Wintersberger Ziegler Family Foundation

Steven and Sarah O. Zimmerman '92