



The Art of Giving

Couple makes generous donation to arts center

Findlay residents Thomas and Kathleen Donnell have announced a \$750,000 gift to support the Wolfe Center for the Arts.

Their gift will provide for the main theatre within the planned arts center on campus. In addition to the theatre, the new facility will contain classrooms as well as production and studio spaces to link students and faculty in the School of Art, the Department of Theatre and Film and the College of Musical Arts.

The arts center project, which is part of Building Dreams: The Centennial Campaign for BGSU, was initiated when the state of Ohio awarded BGSU \$8.7 million in capital funding to build a state-of-the-art arts complex. The University is raising the additional funds to complete the facility.

“Tom and Kate Donnell are valued members of the Bowling Green State University family,” says President Sidney Ribeau. “For many years they have supported the University; their gift to the Wolfe Center for the Arts is another indication of their commitment to the arts and to northwest Ohio.”

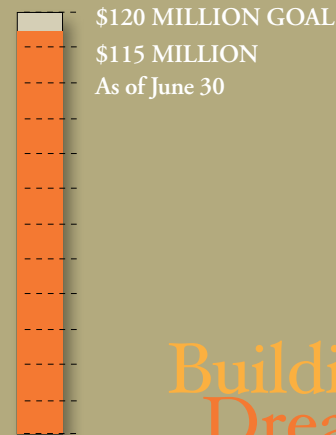
Their relationship with BGSU started when Donnell pursued an MBA from the University in the early 1970s. For more than 30 years the Donnells have maintained ties with BGSU through their interests in education, the arts, athletics and international experiences. He is a past director for the BGSU Foundation Board and played a key role as a member of the campaign task force that helped determine the need for the current BGSU campaign. They are members of the BGSU Presidents Club and supporters of various initiatives, including the Arts Campaign and the renovation of the Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

“We are pleased to be a part of this project,” says Thomas Donnell. “We enjoy the arts and have a passion for supporting the arts and Bowling Green State University.

“Additionally, our friends Fritz and Mary Wolfe’s involvement in the arts center lent a lot of credence to the project for us,” he adds.

Donnell, who is chairman emeritus of Fifth Third Bank, Northwestern Ohio, began his career with Fifth Third Bank (formerly First National Bank of Findlay) in 1974. He rose through the ranks, serving in various capacities throughout his career. In 1989, he was named chair and CEO of the Fifth Third Bank of Northwestern Ohio, and he was elected to the board of Fifth Third Bank of Toledo. He retired in December 2003.

The Wolfe Center for the Arts will serve as home to BGSU’s nationally recognized Department of Theatre and Film. Additionally, the building will support teaching and creation of collaborative art in the areas of digital art and animation, musical theatre and opera, and performance art and electronic composition. The arts center will embody a sense of energy and creativity for all arts and emphasize the importance of embracing the arts in student development.



Building Dreams

THE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN FOR BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

Make your gift today at <http://giving.bgsu.edu>

Campaign update

With just under a year and a half left of the Building Dreams Campaign, the goal is in sight for the \$120 million fund-raising campaign. Three of the campaign’s major initiatives have been met and surpassed—the Sebo Athletic Center, with more than \$7 million, more than \$38 million for scholarships and \$42 million for “Sustaining the University” projects.



PRESIDENTS CLUB EXPANDS

The newest members of the Presidents Club, comprising the University’s major donors, include:

- The David J. Joseph Company—Rep. Keith Grass '78
- Michael '92 & Alena Carroll
- Steve '81, '94 & Rhonda '81 Melchi
- Eric & Akiko Jones
- Diane Tymiak '79
- Geoff Walbroehl '97
- Andrew & Megan '03, '06 Newlove