



Downtown Collaboration Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who are the collaborators in the facilities?

A. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic will own the Business Center (Historic Chamber of Commerce) through the generosity of a benefactor. Chuck and Lisa Surack will own the Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center (PAC), as well as the large parking lot north of the PAC and the former Mizpah Shrine building. Saint Francis will retain ownership and management of the smaller parking lot northwest of the PAC.

Q. How will Saint Francis remain involved in downtown revitalization?

A. The University's commitment to downtown revitalization and development—especially in support of the arts—remains strong. The commitment comes from both its main campus at 2701 Spring Street and as a continued active participant downtown through its nationally recognized Music Technology and Dance programs. Moving forward, the Music Technology Program will remain in the Performing Arts Center. Saint Francis will also continue working with the Fort Wayne Ballet in operating its Dance program downtown. Saint Francis also awaits word on a Lilly Endowment College and Community Collaboration Initiative proposal. The proposal is called the San Damiano Initiative (SDI), a mission-based framework for university engagement in the community surrounding the main campus and the Main Street corridor.

Q. What will happen to previously scheduled events at the Goldstine Performing Arts Center?

A. All previously scheduled events will continue as planned through December 2024. Saint Francis will oversee and host those events.

Q. When will Chuck and Lisa Surack begin renovations/changes to the Performing Arts Center?

A. Renovations/changes will begin in early 2025.

Q. Why is the Fort Wayne Philharmonic relocating to downtown Fort Wayne?

A. The Philharmonic is excited about this new opportunity to move into the heart of downtown Fort Wayne. A downtown location offers several key advantages such as collaborative opportunities, enhanced exposure, and convenient access for the community. By working collaboratively with other arts organizations in downtown Fort Wayne, the orchestra can expand its reach, foster greater community engagement, and further establish itself as a cornerstone of the city's cultural landscape.

Q. Why is now the right time for the Fort Wayne Philharmonic to move into downtown Fort Wayne?

A. The Philharmonic has been afforded this opportunity through an anonymous donor who has made a historic capital gift of \$5.5 million. This gift is a true investment in the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and its goal of a permanent home downtown.

Q. When does the Fort Wayne Philharmonic plan to move into its downtown home?

A. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic does not have a specific move-in date, as a great deal of planning and some renovations will need to be completed beforehand. The Philharmonic looks forward to sharing its progress with the community, every step of the way.



Downtown Collaboration Frequently Asked Questions (Continued)

**Q. What is the financial impact of owning a downtown property for the Philharmonic?
What are the operating costs associated with this building?**

A. To date, the Philharmonic has successfully raised \$11.6 million, demonstrating strong community support and enthusiasm for its new home. Over the next few months, the Philharmonic will be actively working towards raising an additional \$8 million to further support its initiatives and ensure the long-term sustainability of the organization.

Q. Will the Philharmonic continue to utilize the Purdue University Fort Wayne Music Center as your main performance hall?

A. The Philharmonic continues to be deeply grateful for the support of Purdue University Fort Wayne and will continue to perform at this state-of-the-art performance hall.

Through strategic financial planning and continued engagement with our supporters, the Philharmonic is excited about the vision for the future. The Philharmonic is committed to transparency and accountability in its financial practices, and looks forward to sharing progress with the community, every step of the way.

Q. Are the Philharmonic musicians and staff on board with moving into the new building?

A. Yes! Everyone is excited to call the beautiful, historic building at 826 Ewing Street the organization's new home. The Philharmonic's President and CEO and Board of Directors met with the Orchestra Committee first to discuss this new venture, then with Staff and the Musicians.

Q. Will the Fort Wayne Philharmonic continue to perform at Purdue Fort Wayne Music Center and other concert halls?

A. Yes. The Fort Wayne Philharmonic is committed to using a variety of venues in Northeast Indiana including Purdue Fort Wayne Music Center and other venues that suit our specific needs. The Philharmonic maintains a good relationship with the local performing art theatres and does not see the new building space as competition, but rather a complement to the downtown arts community.



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