

Philanthropy pivotal to Christ Church Grammar School new Performing Arts centre

PERFORM is set to be the new cultural heart of Christ Church Grammar School, offering state-of-the-art facilities to expand the School's creative offerings.

The performing arts centre will see Drama, Music, Dance and Oration be brought under the one roof to work side-by-side, fostering multi-disciplinary collaboration.

Nestled between the School's heritage Knutsford Boarding House and the iconic mid-century architecture of the Chapel, the PERFORM building will include a 500-seat auditorium with a hydraulic orchestra pit and thrust stage at the core of the facility.

The stage can also be configured as a more intimate setting for Debating, guest presenters, TED talks, or functions.

The auditorium will incorporate a unique feature – a large window across the rear of the stage providing patrons and performers with a majestic view of the Swan River.

The performing arts centre will also feature a 'black box' theatre with retractable seating that can double as a dance or performance hall or teaching space.

Classrooms and music practice rooms will further enhance the building's teaching function and a recording studio will enable the School to broadcast performances and events as well as support the production and editing of digital music.

The comfortable and attractive concert hall will be lined with timber panel, which will create superb acoustic qualities for performances.

PERFORM's entry foyer flanks the length of the auditorium and extends up a grand stair to a function hall cantilevered over the edge of the steep escarpment, patrons will be stunned by the panoramic views through the treetops and across the expanse of the river. This will be a popular cocktail venue for post-performance gatherings, an intimate recital space, or a conference/workshop.

Capitalising on the beautiful views across Freshwater Bay is a clear design objective, respecting the form and character of the Chapel is essential, as is creating a facility with wide appeal.

Christ Church Grammar School Principal Alan Jones said PERFORM would be a home for everyone, regardless of how they express their creativity.

"Christ Church Grammar School has always had a rich culture of fostering creativity in the performing arts," he said.

"Combining disciplines and expansive teaching spaces, PERFORM will be where boys think differently and feel free to express their imagination.

"The School understands the value of the Arts and its power to educate people about almost anything, because it touches us emotionally."

The PERFORM project will cost \$40m – \$50m. We have launched a \$20M philanthropic capital campaign to raise money through the generosity of the Christ Church community.

If you would like to have a confidential conversation about making a gift to PERFORM, please contact Alan Jones or Halina Dorward, Director of Advancement at:

hdorward@ccgs.wa.edu.au or call 9442 1542.

For further information:

Joanne Wheeler

Director Communication & Engagement

Christ Church Grammar School

Phone 9442 1531

jwheeler@ccgs.wa.edu.au