

THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF THE  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL OF PHILADELPHIA

# LEADING THE WAY



Transforming Central's Campus for the Next Generation



For nearly 200 years, Central High School has prepared generations of Philadelphia students to learn, lead, and serve. Now, it is our turn to prepare Central for the next generation.

# 200 Years of Excellence. A Future Worth Building.

Since 1836, Central High School has provided generations of Philadelphia students with access to an extraordinary public education.

For countless alumni, Central has been more than a high school. It has opened doors to higher education, professional achievement, leadership, lifelong relationships, and economic opportunity. Nearly two centuries later, that promise continues.

Today's Central students come from neighborhoods across Philadelphia to attend one of the nation's most rigorous public high schools. They graduate, earn millions of dollars in scholarships and awards, continue their education, and carry Central's tradition of excellence into colleges, careers, and communities across the country.

Central's educational model continues to deliver extraordinary results.



## CENTRAL BY THE NUMBERS

~2,450

Students from  
over 45  
Philadelphia  
zip codes

99%

Graduation rate

\$25.9M+

Scholarships, prizes  
& awards earned by  
a recent graduating  
class

1836

Nearly 200 years  
of public  
academic  
excellence

1 OF 1

Only U.S. high  
school authorized to  
confer academic  
degrees

3×

National Blue  
Ribbon School

89%

of AP exams  
earned a score of  
3 or higher  
2024–25

50+

AP & IB courses  
offered

1,700+

Students taking  
AP & IB exams

Central's students continue to achieve at an extraordinary level. The challenge before us is ensuring that the spaces in which they learn, collaborate, create, and prepare for their futures can support that same level of excellence.

Central's historic academic building opened in 1939. The way students learn has changed dramatically since then. Technology has changed. Academic programs have changed. The expectations placed upon our students have changed.

**Their potential has never been greater. Their environment must keep pace.**

# THE ACADEMIC & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER A Vision Takes Shape



**Every year, roughly 800 Central students, a quarter of the student population,** participate in music, theater, dance, or visual arts coursework and activities, yet these programs operate in outdated, overcrowded spaces never designed for the breadth of Central's programming today.

A transformational lead commitment gift created the opportunity to think bigger. Phase II will create a new Academic & Performing Arts Center connected directly to Central's historic academic building—a flexible, purpose-built environment for instruction, collaboration, rehearsal, performance, gathering, and community.



Not only a place to attend a performance, but a place where students will learn, practice, gather, collaborate, create, present, and discover the potential that lies within.

## WHAT THE NEW CENTER WILL MAKE POSSIBLE

### 01 Flexible Performance + Assembly Hall

Theater, music, dance, assemblies, lectures, presentations, and community events.

### 02 Purpose-Built Learning + Rehearsal

Ensemble and practice spaces, music classrooms, technology-supported learning, and support facilities.

### 03 Lobby, Gallery + Commons

Study, collaboration, exhibits, activities, school community, and cross-disciplinary connection.

### 04 A Bridge Between Eras

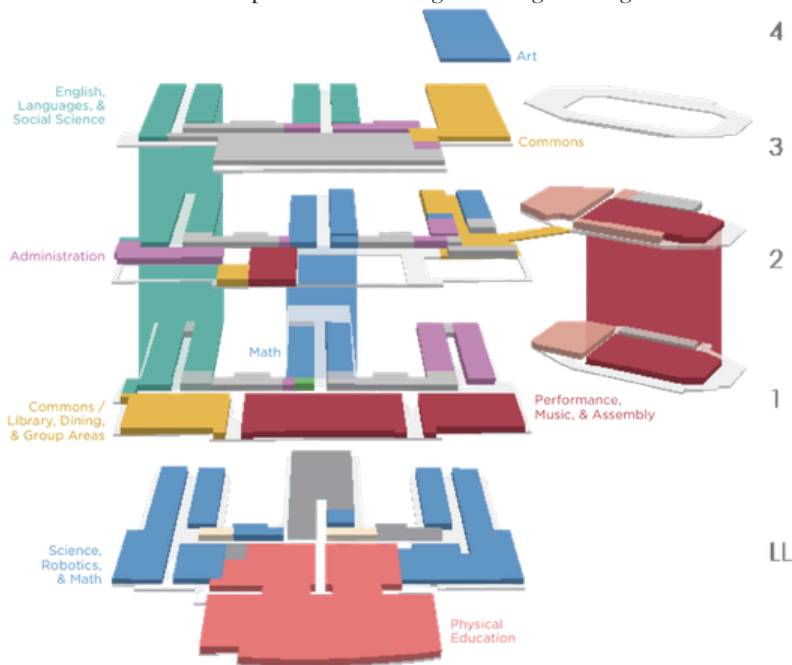
Physically connected to Central's existing academic building—historic campus and future, joined.

A building designed to meet Central's needs today—and expand what is possible for its students tomorrow.

# Phase II Unlocks the Future of Central's Campus

## Designed for Better Academic Flow

The master plan organizes areas of the academic building around subjects and disciplines, creating more intentional connections between classrooms, programs, technology, and shared learning spaces. Phase II creates the space needed to begin making this larger transformation possible.



## CREATING SPACE CREATES POSSIBILITY

- STEM & INNOVATION
- ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
- HISTORIC RENEWAL
- DIGITAL MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY
- STUDENT LIFE & COLLABORATION
- DISCIPLINED CONTIGUOUS LEARNING SPACES

## THE PATH FORWARD

### PHASE I — COMPLETE

Preparing the Campus

### PHASE II — OUR PRIORITY TODAY

Building the Academic & Performing Arts Center

### PHASE III — THE FUTURE IT UNLOCKS

Modernization of the historic building, with an expanded STEM Center, Technology Lab, athletic field upgrades

We cannot fully transform the space we have until we create the space we need.

Completing Phase II is the critical next step in the larger transformation of Central High School.

# The Time Is Now

## 1836

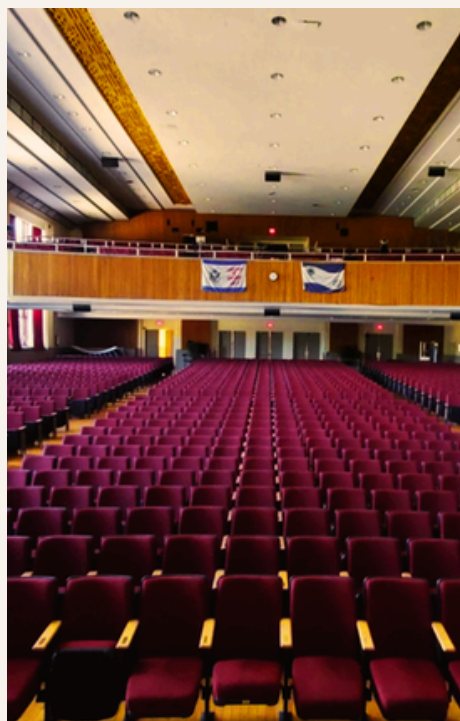
### *Laud it to the Sky*

For nearly two centuries, Central has opened doors for generations of Philadelphia students and built an extraordinary tradition of public academic excellence.

## 2036

### **A Bicentennial on the Horizon**

Central's 200th anniversary is approaching. This milestone is an opportunity to look beyond today's needs and consider the campus that will carry Central into its third century.



## **THE NEXT 200 YEARS**

### **Our Opportunity to Lead**

Phase II is the catalyst for that future. Completing the Academic & Performing Arts Center creates the space needed to unlock modernization of the historic academic building and build momentum for continued investment and transformation across Central's campus.

Central's students already compete among the very best. Their learning environment should reflect that same level of excellence.

**The goal is not simply to prepare Central  
for 2036. It is to prepare Central  
for what comes after it.**

# The Momentum Is Real The Opportunity Is Now

Phase II has already inspired transformational private and public investment. With the vision established and significant support secured, this is the moment for philanthropic leadership to help carry the project toward completion.

## CAMPAIGN MOMENTUM

**\$60M**

Phase II  
Goal

**60%**

of Our Goal is  
Secured

**THE FINAL  
STRETCH**

Help Close  
the Gap

This momentum includes a transformational \$15 million lead commitment, \$15 million in state investment, and significant additional support from alumni and the Central community.

## LEADERSHIP GIFTS WILL CLOSE THE GAP

**\$5,000,000**

**\$2,500,000**

**\$1,000,000**

**\$500,000**

**\$250,000**

**\$100,000**

**\$50,000**

Every gift moves Central closer to completing Phase II—  
and closer to the campus its students deserve.

*Multi-year commitments of up to five years are welcomed.*

**Help Lead the Way**

# LEADING THE WAY

## My Commitment to Central's Future

I/We are proud to support Phase II of the Leading the Way Campaign with a total commitment of:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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### DONOR INFORMATION

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### GIFT SCHEDULE

☐ One-Time Gift ☐ Multi-Year Gift

Year 1: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 2: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 3: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 4: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Year 5: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### HOW I/WE PLAN TO GIVE

☐ Check

☐ ACH / Electronic Transfer

☐ Appreciated Securities / Stock

Please contact me with stock transfer instructions.

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

To make an immediate gift to the campaign,  
please visit: [www.centralhighalumni.com/LTW](http://www.centralhighalumni.com/LTW)

### RECOGNITION

Please recognize my/our gift as: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I/We prefer to remain anonymous.

### SIGNATURE

Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Donor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For other vehicles of giving, please contact Amelia Kuhn at [amelia@centralhighalumni.com](mailto:amelia@centralhighalumni.com)

## THANK YOU FOR LEADING THE WAY.

