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Singing a New Tune: Harrisburg Academy's Music Suite Construction is Complete!

WORMLEYSBURG, PA – Summer of 2016 brought the tune of heavy equipment on the easternmost side of Harrisburg Academy's campus, but nothing but sweet music will be heard there from now on. Last week, the Academy officially opened the freshly painted doors of its new music suite, funded through Bold Ambition: The Campaign for Harrisburg Academy.

The music suite is a 3,200-square-foot area that includes two rooms for class instruction, four individual practice rooms, storage for instruments, and a lobby area for parents to wait for children participating in after-school music lessons. This capital expansion project, the second of the comprehensive campaign's Performing Arts phase (Phase II), caps off three summers and three big projects now complete (Cleveland Brothers Science Wing lab renovation and creation in 2014 and McCormick Auditorium Commons renovation in 2015).



"What a wonderful way to begin the school year!" said music teacher, Beth Darowish, whose HATS-through-12th-grade classes and ensembles will now be conducted in one of the two new classroom spaces. "I am so excited to teach in this bright, open room, with my fellow music instructors across the hallway versus across the building. The students and faculty, alike, will benefit from the new music suite."

"Music education is a vital element in the experience of almost all Harrisburg Academy students — our new and spacious music suite will further enhance that experience," said Jim Newman, head of school. "The music suite will enable our students to practice as members of a vocal or instrumental ensemble or individually during and after regular school hours. Other students will find quiet space in the music suite to compose their own original work. Our new music suite will be at the heart of the joy that music education creates."

The Academy community will celebrate its new music suite and the ongoing success of the Bold Ambition campaign in many ways over the next few weeks, including: a special Distinguished Alumni Concert and pre-concert reception for attendees of the Academy's 2016 Alumni Weekend on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016; an official, public ribbon-cutting celebration on Wednesday, Oct. 5; and a special John Harris Circle leadership donor event this fall.

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About the campaign:

The Bold Ambition campaign traces its roots back to December of 2013. The campaign's focus is threefold: raise \$5.5 million for facilities renovation and new construction; raise \$1.5 million for increasing the Academy's endowment; and raise \$1.5 million for the Academy Fund, the Academy's annual giving program. For a comprehensive look at the Bold Ambition campaign and how to get involved, visit www.BoldAmbition.org.

About the Academy:

Established in 1784, Harrisburg Academy is the 17th oldest non-public school in the nation and Harrisburg's only independent school. Our coed, diverse school community inspires students from age three through 12th grade by providing an academically challenging and globally minded liberal arts education focused on dynamic classroom experiences, strong student outcomes, and a commitment to character development. The Academy proudly stands as the first school in the greater Harrisburg area to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and merit scholarship.

For more information about Harrisburg Academy please visit our website or contact Kristina A. Pae at 717-763-7811 or via email at pae.k@harrisburgacademy.org.

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