

THE
WORLD is *her* stage



St Margaret's



EVERY  **GIRL**
St Margaret's Foundation **EVERY OPPORTUNITY**

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and Chair of Capital
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School Council*



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Lara Pickering
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Philanthropy
and Stakeholder
Engagement*



Brad King
Head of Performance

Music is such an incredibly powerful art form that has existed in every community across the globe since the dawn of time. Music allows us to feel deeply, connect with others in a collaborative way and experience something that is uniquely human. Within a school environment, music offers the opportunity for students to experience the joy of expressing themselves through performance in community with others. We can see the power that music has on our students and our broader community at events such as the Mayo Arts Festival and musicals where everyone is able to experience the magic of music-making. A dedicated performing arts space where students can both learn and perform will be so pivotal in providing amazing learning and performing opportunities while also nurturing our next generation of performing artists.



Rowena Bracken
Head of Faculty – Arts

Investing in arts education at St Margaret's is an investment in our students' futures. It fosters creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration—skills essential for success in any field. Our state-of-the-art facilities will provide a platform for students to explore their passions, from music and drama to visual arts and dance. By attracting world-class educators and offering unique opportunities like workshops with visiting performers, we will empower our students to reach their full potential. The benefits extend beyond the individual, enriching our entire community and inspiring future generations of artists and leaders.

Ignite Passion, Inspire Performance: Ways of Giving

You may choose to make your tax-deductible donation to the 'The world is her stage' Capital Campaign online or using the enclosed Donation Form. Some donors may wish to pledge an amount over two years.

If you would like to make your donation online, please visit <https://giving.stmargarets.qld.edu.au/> and select the Building Fund option in the dropdown menu.

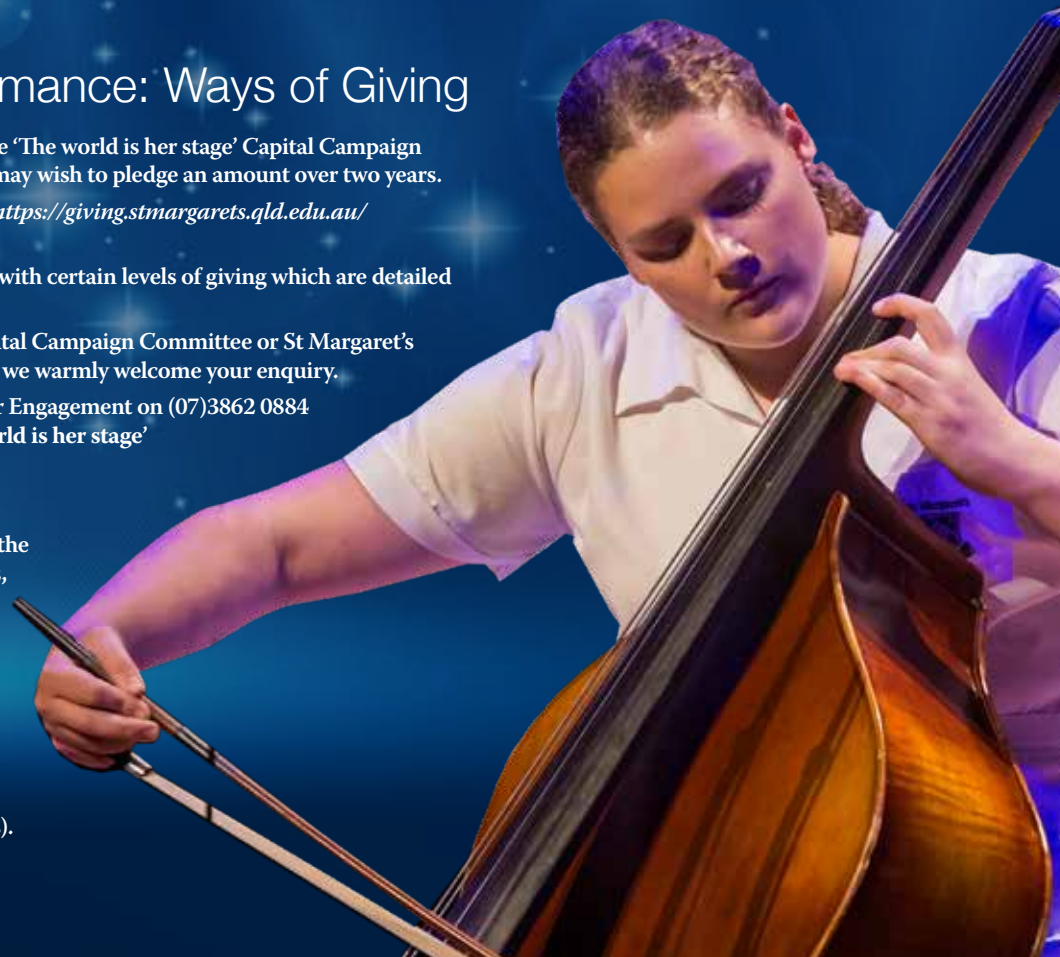
There are also several opportunities for recognition aligned with certain levels of giving which are detailed on the Donation Form enclosed in this brochure.

You may wish to discuss your gift with a member of the Capital Campaign Committee or St Margaret's Director of Philanthropy and Stakeholder Engagement, and we warmly welcome your enquiry.

Please contact the Director of Philanthropy and Stakeholder Engagement on (07)3862 0884 or email foundation@stmargarets.qld.edu.au for all 'The world is her stage' Capital Campaign enquiries.

Donor Recognition (unless anonymity is requested)

- All donors will be recognised in the subsequent issue of the St Margaret's *Flyer* magazine in the annual list of donors, following their donation.
- All donors will receive recognition on a webpage dedicated to the Capital Campaign for the duration of the campaign (Public Phase).
- A permanent Honour Board will be erected in the Arts Precinct, where the names of donors who give \$2,000 or more will be recorded.
- Naming Opportunities (discussed on an individual basis).





Xanthe Lowe-Brown ('18)
PhD Student; University of Melbourne

The St Margaret's music program ignited my passion for music and set me up for a successful music-related career. During my time at St Margaret's, I had the opportunity to have private guitar lessons from Year 6, participate in school musicals, choirs, multiple bands, classroom music, be inspired by past students, and participate in research projects.

For aspiring musicians, actors and creatives, being able to practice and perform in a state-of-the-art recital hall will set students up for success in studying their craft at university. It will equip them with real-world skills and provide them with the advantage of already knowing how to navigate such a space.

I encourage the St Margaret's community to invest in this development, as it will undoubtedly enrich students' learning for generations to come. The new Arts Precinct will enable St Margaret's bands and ensembles, for example the Rock Bands, to have their own dedicated rehearsal spaces with modern equipment and acoustics, which I believe will take their learning to a new level.



Maggie James ('97)

Music Therapy Clinical Leader, Queensland Children's Hospital, Brisbane

My journey to becoming a Paediatric Music Therapist at the Queensland Children's Hospital began with a strong foundation in music, developed during my high school years at St Margaret's. Studying Music at St Margaret's was more than just an academic pursuit—it was a transformative experience that nurtured my creativity, discipline, and confidence. Most importantly, it ignited my curiosity about how music influences human functioning. This curiosity became a lifelong passion, guiding my career toward using music to make a meaningful impact in others' lives.

After graduating from St Margaret's, I pursued a Bachelor of Music (Performance) and a Graduate Diploma in Music Therapy. These studies provided the theoretical and practical knowledge and transformed my love for music into a profession that changes lives.

Today, as the Clinical Lead of the Music Therapy Department at Queensland Children's Hospital, I lead a team of six music therapists. Together, we use music therapy to support children's neurological recovery, physical and cognitive rehabilitation, emotional regulation, and even to provide comfort during end-of-life journeys for children and their families.

The foundation built at St Margaret's has not only shaped my career but also reinforced my belief in the power of music to heal, connect, and transform. I am deeply grateful for the role my music education has played in equipping me to make a difference in the lives of children and their families during some of their most challenging moments.



1895



Eton High School founded

1930



Darnell Art and Music Rooms

1970



Toorak

2003



Arts Centre

2014



Godlee Arbour and Barley Sugar Garden

2023



The Canopy Café and Forest

1985



The Jackson Building

2012



Eunice Science and Resource Centre

2020



St Margaret's Sports Precinct

2024



Community House Student Wellbeing Centre

St Margaret's has been built on a tradition of giving

From its very beginnings, St Margaret's has thrived in great part due to the generosity of others – those who have valued the education of girls and entrusted St Margaret's with that mission.

The Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent purchased Eton High School in Nundah, which would later become known as St Margaret's. The SSA educated thousands of women across Queensland through sheer persistence, determination, and hard work. In the early days, the Sisters rattled tins of coins, asking for donations to continue their mission. In this era, the Sisters were an anomaly within religious schools, not drawing a wage, thus helping to sustain the school when many others closed due to financial strain. This tradition of philanthropy has continued to flourish, with a number of generous donations supporting the school's visual and performing arts program over time.

In the 1930s, Anglican philanthropist John Darnell left large sums of money for educational and charitable purposes. St Margaret's was a beneficiary of the Darnell Estate, building the Darnell Art and Music rooms.

In the 1950s, the school received £1,000 from the estate of Sir Edwin Tooth, Brisbane businessman and philanthropist, which was used to purchase an organ for the new Chapel.

In 1984, the Jackson Building (Music, Textiles and now The Loft, but previously classrooms and a Drama space) was opened. The building is named in memory of Lorna Jackson, who attended St Margaret's from 1942 – 1953. Lorna sadly passed away in her late twenties, and in recognition of her time at St Margaret's, her family left a generous donation to the school.

In 2013, Helene Jones left a gift in her Will, in honour of her sister, Nora Baird, a St Margaret's teacher, Queensland Conservatorium foundation member, church organist, examiner and supporter of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. Helene's gift

is one that supports passionate and budding young music professionals now and into the future. The Helene Jones Foundation Trust provides regular contributions to St Margaret's Foundation Scholarship Fund for music scholarships in memory of Nora Baird. The same year, The Barley Sugar Garden was created from the generosity of the Godlee Family.

In 2018, our generous community contributed \$1.35m in philanthropic donations to reimagine and invest in the health, physical education and sporting facilities for our students in supporting the creation of a world class sports precinct.

Just as the world continually evolves, so too must a school campus evolve to rise to the educational challenges that come with preparing students for a rapidly changing future. St Margaret's is committed to providing the broadest possible educational opportunities and to educating the whole child; the school's facilities must continually reflect this commitment across all spheres of our educational offerings from the academic, to sports, music and the visual and performing arts.

Times change and through the generosity of donors St Margaret's has been able to change with the times. Today, we are once again reimagining St Margaret's. We encourage you to be a part of this vision for the school, as those before you have built the St Margaret's not just of their day, but for the generations of students that followed.

I can't wait to have access to more practice rooms.

(Year 12 Student)





A clear vision

St Margaret's has developed a new Master Plan to ensure we retain our place among Queensland's leading schools and give every girl every opportunity for educational and personal growth. While the Master Plan will be implemented over many years, the first major commitment is to the Arts Precinct.

STAGE 1 Recital Hall, Black Box Theatre, Music Classrooms, Practice Rooms and Drama Classrooms



Akari Komoto ('21)

Composer and Lyricist; Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)

When I reflect on my time at St Margaret's, the music program is undoubtedly the first thing that comes to mind. The experiences I had within the various bands and orchestras were not only enjoyable but also deeply formative. The arts, and particularly music, can often feel like a solitary pursuit—many hours spent refining a craft in isolation. It's only when we perform in front of an audience that we can truly share the fruits of our hard work. The new facility will provide students with a space that not only enhances their learning but also allows them to showcase their talents in an inspiring and supportive environment. I can imagine how empowering it will be for students to feel a sense of accomplishment in such a dynamic setting, while also having the opportunity to share the joy of music with their peers, families, and the wider St Margaret's community.

*I'm excited to perform music in a space
that has been acoustically designed
specifically for our recitals.*

(Year 10 Student)

The world is her stage

In 2020, St Margaret's embarked upon a six year 'Every Girl, Every Opportunity' campaign, which encompassed numerous developments and refurbishment projects to continue to provide exceptional school facilities that benefit all students. Donations to this campaign have supported a new Senior Studies Centre, the addition of new classrooms on Circular Drive, the Canopy Cafe – a new cafeteria and adjoining greenspace, as well as the restoration of Community House to become a wellbeing centre.

While much work to redevelop and reinvigorate our campus was undertaken under the previous Masterplan, the time has come for us to look to the future to create and reimagine spaces that will better serve the education and wellbeing of our students. After significant community consultation and years of planning with architects, engineers and planners, the vision can be unveiled. St Margaret's will create a world class Arts Precinct.

The precinct will provide new spaces that will meet both the curricular and extra-curricular needs of the arts program with state-of-the-art performance spaces, specifically designed rehearsal rooms, and flexible teaching and learning environments. Our students can look forward to increased opportunities to gain exposure to the best talent in the performing arts, access new dedicated spaces for rehearsals and equipment storage, and undertake technical learning in digital animation, production and set design.

Bringing a dedicated space for the Arts to the heart of our campus will not only serve and enrich our existing curriculum but will also shape students personal, social, and cultural identities.

The arts have the capacity to be transformational in a young person's life; they can shape identity, foster a sense of belonging and undoubtedly have a positive impact on their overall wellbeing. A student who studies the arts is more likely to develop the trademark twenty-first century 'survival' skills of creativity, flexibility, and the ability to solve problems, equipping them to make sense of our ever-changing world. The arts bring vitality to a community, and the creation of spaces in which communities can gather to celebrate and share these experiences will only serve to enrich and enhance their impact.

Annette Box

Assistant Head of Primary School
– Wellbeing and Operations.

A donation to the Arts Precinct campaign is an investment in student potential, enhanced cognitive capacity and in the social and emotional wellbeing of our young women.





It will be amazing to have a dedicated band rehearsal space so we can spend more time playing music and less time setting up and packing down.

(Year 9 Student)

St Margaret's



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CRICOS Code: 00511K

A School of the Society of the Sacred Advent

The combination of the incredible performing arts culture that exists within St Margaret's and a new Arts Precinct will elevate the opportunities for girls to a whole new level. It will inspire students to push artistic and imaginative boundaries within production, practice and performance.

Annabelle Traves ('14), Concert violinist

