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NEW MACPHAIL CENTER FOR MUSIC—AUSTIN BUILDING IS A COLLABORATION THAT HITS THE PERFECT NOTE

The space, shared with Austin Public Schools and supported by the Hormel Foundation, is a haven for Austin community music students

AUSTIN, MN—October 15, 2020—MacPhail Center for Music, in partnership with Austin Public Schools and with support from The Hormel Foundation, announce the completion and opening of the new state-of-the-art music education center in Austin, Minnesota. The building signifies the deepening of community and partnership that has occurred since the partnership with MacPhail Center for Music, Austin Public Schools and the Austin community began in 2015.

The annex includes both individual and shared spaces for MacPhail community music students and Austin Public School students. Spaces include six teaching studios, eight practice rooms, a percussion studio, Sing, Play, Learn! with MacPhail® studio, suites for band and choir and an orchestra space. A Music Therapy Studio provides a new resource for the Austin community. A Midi Lab allows for the use of electric music keyboards to play and create. A beautiful recital hall and the Learning Stairs—a feature at the building's center modeled after MacPhail's Minneapolis location connecting the MacPhail

and Austin Public School spaces—offer a community place to share music and learning with one another.

Construction began in January 2019 under the direction of ATS&R Planners / Architects / Engineers. An open house to celebrate the grand opening will be held on Monday, October 19 with performances starting at 5 p.m. and official ceremonies at 5:30 at 205 4th Street NW, Suite B in Austin.

"The ways that the lives of students and the Austin community have been impacted by music education since MacPhail—Austin began in 2015 are too numerous to count, and we hear more amazing stories every day," said Cheryl Berglund, Austin Site Director, MacPhail Center for Music. "We are so excited to have a beautiful new space that honors the strength of our collaboration with Austin Public Schools and the Hormel Foundation, one that will allow us to build these relationships, reach more students in this diverse community and make music for many years to come."

"It is really rewarding seeing all the fruits of our planning and collaboration in a finished project," said David Krenz, Superintendent, Austin Public Schools. "It is unbelievable how the vision of the Hormel Foundation, MacPhail Center for Music, The Austin School District and the Austin Community can transform a 1940's utilitarian facility into a modern educational instrument for student learning."

"This project is a marvelous example of what happens when communities come together," said Bonnie Rietz, Vice Chair, The Hormel Foundation. "The caliber of music and music learning that comes from the students of MacPhail Center for Music and Austin Public Schools is amazing, and we're so pleased to have a space that matches that level of artistry and achievement."

About Austin Public Schools

Austin Public Schools is a public school district in southeastern Minnesota that serves around 4800 students and employs just over 800 staff and faculty. APS provides a rich educational experience for students with strong community partnerships.

About The Hormel Foundation

A separate entity from Hormel Foods Corp., The Hormel Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1941 by Hormel Foods Corporation founder George A. Hormel and his son, Jay C. Hormel. Contributions from The Hormel Foundation directly benefit the Austin, MN area. The Hormel Foundation was reorganized in 1980 as a supporting organization under I.R.C. Section 509(a)(3). As a supporting organization, it is organized and operated for the benefit of those charitable or educational organizations represented on its board. The Hormel Foundation ranks fourth in annual giving among Minnesota's largest community/public foundations and public charity grant makers, with those in the lead located in the Twin Cities, according to the Minnesota Council on Foundations. The Hormel Foundation's contributions are a direct result from the dividend increases of Hormel Foods' common stock – the Foundation's main asset. The Hormel Foundation supports the community through organizations that provide food, shelter and clothing, advance quality healthcare, education and research and enhance the quality of life.

About MacPhail Center for Music

MacPhail Center for Music is the largest community music school in the nation, highly respected for innovation and program diversity. Founded in 1907 as a school to teach violin, MacPhail has evolved and grown, now teaching over 16,000 student musicians of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in the Twin Cities and across Minnesota. A faculty of 210 teaching artists delivers lessons for a variety of instruments, vocal training, composition and theory. MacPhail is a Minnesota 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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