

Bootz endowment makes grand impact on new Performance Center

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Through funds from the Genevieve B. Bootz Music Program Endowment, the University of Southern Indiana has purchased a Steinway grand piano to be used during theatrical and musical productions in the new Performance Center on campus. The piano also will be used in curriculum for students pursuing a minor in music. Various music ensembles at the University, including the Women's Choir and Chamber Choir, will benefit from the piano. "We look forward to seeing the piano used in future recitals," said Elliot Wasserman, chair of USI Performing Arts. "We believe it will greatly enhance the cultural offerings of the theatre to see concerts presented in the space both by our talented faculty and by guest artists."

The custom-made grand piano was made in New York City and stored in Nashville, Tennessee, until the Performance Center was ready for its delivery this spring.

Genevieve Bootz was a generous friend of the University. When she realized the University didn't have a music department, she knew immediately she wanted to help. Her legacy of community service and philanthropy, both to USI and the local community, go back decades. She was a recipient of a Leadership Evansville Award, and was named a USI Phenomenal Woman in 2012.