

Arts Education Complex

CWU is requesting \$300,000 for the predesign of an Arts Education Complex.

Student demand for arts education programs has outgrown CWU's current facilities and is restricting access to degrees and opportunities. These programs include Art + Design, Theatre Arts, and Music. Randall Hall is deteriorating and needs significant renovation or replacement. The facility, which was built in 1969, is not ADA compliant and is the only facility for the entire Art + Design program—among the largest and fastest growing of CWU academic programs. The complex will provide additional space unique to the disciplines but also will become the primary facility for Art + Design and will feature a state-of-the-art gallery, supported by an alumnus bequest.

The need for an Arts Education Complex is great. Randall Hall is over 50 years ago and almost every aspect of the building is original. A major concern for an art facility is that it lacks modern environmental controls, including air conditioning that is so important in Ellensburg, where temperatures top 90 from spring through fall. Valuable

collections cannot be displayed in the gallery due to the lack of temperature and humidity controls, poor ventilation in hot weather months, and frequent flooding. The uninsulated concrete structure is energy inefficient and suffers from water penetrating the walls and foundation. The building is not in compliance with the Washington Clean Buildings Act and will need significant investment if not replaced.

Arts Education is in high demand.

The Art + Design major is one of the fastest growing majors at CWU, as it has more than doubled in enrollment since 2013. CWU is also the largest teacher preparation program in the state and produces many of the art and music teachers for K-12 schools. Basic Education Goals in RCW 28A.150.210 include those for the arts and OSPI has learning standards for visual arts, theatre, and music. Providing an updated facility for these important disciplines is crucial to CWU's mission as well as the state's education goals and standards.



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