The Arts Quarter

- Phase one:
  - New $55.5 million, 75,000-square-foot music building with 450-seat concert hall,
  - 125-seat recital hall
  - Studios
  - Classrooms
  - Choral and instrument rehearsal space

- Phase two:
  - Renovated Phi Beta Kappa Hall and its main stage theatre, with new foyer, box office and dance and rehearsal space

- Phase three:
  - Renovated Andrews Hall, home of art and art history
  - A new studio arts building

- The Muscarelle Museum of Art will expand with private funding.

- When finished, the Arts Quarter will ensure William & Mary remains groundbreaking in liberal arts education and a vital contributor to the artistic and economic vitality of the region.

The Arts at William & Mary

The arts have been elemental to W&M since 1779, when Rev. Robert Andrews was hired as professor of “Sculpture, Painting, Gardening, Music, Architecture, Poetry, Oratory and Criticism,” making it the first American university to include “fine arts” in its curriculum.

Today, arts thrive at William & Mary. More than 25 percent of students participate in music through courses, private lessons or ensembles. Indeed, there are roughly 30 student-organized music groups on campus.

Most recently, University priority and state support has been to improve the quality of its science facilities. With the latest Integrated Science Center building under construction, the priority can shift to improving the quality of Arts facilities on campus.

Phase One – Music Building:

The first phase of a new “Arts Quarter” on campus is a $55.5 million, 75,000-square-foot music building and performance space featuring a 450-seat concert hall, recital hall, classrooms, studios and sound-proofed rehearsal space.

The current music facility is the 1926 era Ewell Hall, a 35,000 GSF reconfigured general classroom building inadequate in type, size, configuration, and functionality. The facility is so acoustically challenged that adjacent practice rooms, choral and instrumental rehearsal halls, and recital hall must be schedule on a rotating basis to avoid sound transfer.

The new facility will provide teaching, practice and student performance space that incorporates state of the art acoustics, sound isolation, and building system control including box-in-box construction where necessary.

For more information, contact
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Impact of the Arts at W&M

“What I learned at W&M has sustained me through my adult life and kept me curious about many things other than my own profession.”
Glenn Close ’74 in 2013 receiving the Cheek Award.

“…love what you do. Get good at it.”
Jon Stewart ‘84, Commencement 2004

More than 20,000 patrons, many from Greater Williamsburg, annually attend cultural events on campus, including theatrical, dance, choral and symphonic performances.

• In one year alone (2011), Phi Beta Kappa welcomed almost 19,000 visitors to its main stage theatre.

• W&M is home to popular series, such as the Virginia Shakespeare Festival, the Ewell Concert Series and Patrick Hayes Writers Series, as well as local events, like “Dancing With the Williamsburg Stars.”

• William & Mary also hosts groundbreaking contemporary musicians, such as Grammy Award winner *eighth blackbird*, through its artist-in-residence program.

• The Muscarelle Museum of Art set record attendance and gained the attention of the art world in 2013 with its exhibition of 25 original drawings in *Michelangelo: Sacred & Profane, Masterpiece Drawings from the Casa Buonarroti*. In all, the Muscarelle welcomed 51,000 people to the show. The exhibition was then shown at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston by agreement, making Muscarelle one of only two venues in the world to feature the works.

• The Muscarelle broke records again this year in *Leonardo da Vinci and the Idea of Beauty*. Though the exhibition ran three weeks shorter than the Michelangelo show, roughly 62,000 patrons enjoyed the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see 30 original da Vinci drawings in the intimate museum. After the exhibition closed here, it too was shown only in Boston.

• William & Mary is launching its first-ever photography program, announced last fall with *Breaking Ground: Contemporary Photography* at the College of William & Mary, an exhibition that featured more than 100 photographers.

A FEW W&M ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED IN THE ARTS

Actor Glenn Close ’74, theatre and anthropology; “Fatal Attraction,” "101 Dalmations"

Designer Perry Ellis ’61, business administration

Tony, Golden Globe and Emmy Award winning actress Linda Lavin ’59, theatre; “Alice,” a TV sitcom

Screenwriter, producer and director Bill Lawrence ’90, English; creator of “Scrubs.”

Tony Award winning costume designer William Ivey Long ’69, history

Peabody and Emmy Award winning satirist Jon Stewart ’84, psychology; “The Daily Show.”