

EMBARGOED FACT SHEET

**Embargoed until
1:00pm Monday 14 October 2019**

General information:

- Construction to commence 2019/2020
- Building to open in 2021
- Designed by Cox Architects, to be built by Construction Control, acoustics by Marshall Day Acoustics
- More than 100 music classes and 330 instrumental tuition classes held at the School each week
- More than 30 ensembles, orchestras, bands and choirs at the School
- \$20 million donation from Mr Terry Snow, CGS Alumnus and philanthropist

Building information

- 1,400 seat auditorium
- 4 music classrooms
- Up to 20 music tuition rooms
- 1 music staffroom
- Approximately 450m² library and independent learning space

Community use:

- Mid-sized professional acoustic performance venue for Canberra
- Schools visiting Canberra will be able to utilise the Centre for Music for performances
- External groups, choirs, and musical groups will be able to hire the venue

Supporting Information:

- Images and additional material - <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ixeu6r5syl3t5pc/AACUOM0reN2mINIQR3mkB2gEa?dl=0>
- Information on the 2017 Campus Development Plan - <https://cgsfoundation.org.au/about/2017masterplan/>
- Information on the 2018 Campus Development Campaign - https://issuu.com/canberragrammarschool/docs/campus_dev_campaign_brochure_april

Quotes:

Quotes attributable to Dr Justin Garrick, Head of Canberra Grammar School:

Supported by a truly extraordinary endowment of \$20 million by former Canberra Grammar School student, philanthropist and entrepreneur, Mr Terry Snow – perhaps the largest personal gift to a school in Australian history – this exciting new complex will transform the face and the future of our school.

Above the Breezeway, in the school's most spectacular scenic location, the upper floor will house a spacious modern conception of a library; a well-resourced centre for reading, research and guided independent learning with access to books, technology and staff expertise. With its stunning views, this will become one of the most appealing places to work in the school, both in and out of hours. It will also replace the existing Senior School Library, which can then be redeveloped as Primary School classrooms.

Mr Snow's exceptional gift will accelerate the school over more than a decade of development, benefiting thousands of current and future students, staff members and families.

It will place music at the forefront of the school's educational experience, and it will emphasise the centrality of learning, research and study in the most beautiful location on campus.

The Auditorium and Centre for Music will give not just the School, but the Canberra community, an outstanding learning facility, meeting space, conference venue, concert hall and community resource for music that will make the School more intrinsic than ever to the educational and cultural life of Australia's capital.

Quotes attributable to Mr Terry Snow, CGS Foundation Patron:

I think Canberra stands for excellence. Anything I'm associated with, I try and commit to doing as good a job as I possibly can, and I would like to see this school be the highwater mark for independent education in Australia.

I went to this school. I enjoyed my life at this school. Even so, there weren't the opportunities then that kids have today. Together with the school, we're giving them the tools to excel in those things they would not normally have the opportunity of doing.

This new design is amazing. The new building does not in any way impose on the original characters of the school. Yet, it is one of the most stunning pieces of architecture I have seen. The shape of the exterior is magnificent. The architects and the school are to be congratulated on coming up with such a solution for their growth, and the repositioning of school life with music and other living arts, as well as the functionality of having a new school hall incorporated into the centre of the school.

Music in many ways is the pinnacle of the arts because of the skill, commitment and dedication that's required to make it, and I admire everyone who can play music.

We've all got our different ideas about how we'd like Australia to surge ahead, some of it is through the arts and music, some through sporting challenges or think tanks, or in my case for the youth of Australia through education and the equine industry.

I see how much the students get from the school today and I think they are truly blessed to have such a committed community of teachers and staff to assist them in reaching their objectives, that the children themselves don't fully appreciate at this stage. They will look back on their education at Canberra Grammar School and know that they were very fortunate to have been there.

Undertaking this venture, I think it'll enhance the life of the school and culture of the School, and add vibrance to the education here. Not only for the participants of the orchestra and concerts, but to the whole school family, and I think that this will be a wonderful thing.

Canberra is a very unique city and is one of the only serious planned cities in the world. It is only fitting that we have a world-class school set here in Canberra for the young people growing up in the region.

The quadrangle is the most exciting part of this project. It just reveals part of the School that has never been seen before from that angle,, and it is the main address point of the school and the quadrangle is the life and heart of the school, where people come and meet, exchange ideas, students interact with each other, and this design caters for that, and makes it a wonderful piece of art.

This building will add depth to the whole school character, and the nature of this facility will enhance and significantly change the way the school has been over the years in the past.

Philanthropy at any scale gives you the opportunity to put good work to perpetuity, and that is what I enjoy, as well as giving. I have enough to live on, and my family have enough to live on. I think it is important then that we look around and support the things we can in perpetuity. Philanthropy is a wonderful opportunity for people to use their resources to make lasting, positive change.

Targeted philanthropy can be a very powerful thing, and I encourage everyone to do it. If they think about how they do it and go about it, it will get big dividends.

This building will change the school forever but not in its built form, but through its staff, students, and reputation in the community. But the heritage of the school is maintained, and that is important for past students, alumni and parents. To see the school with the quadrangle, bell tower dining room, all very significant buildings very evocative to old boys, but underneath, is a modern powerhouse for the future.

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Media Opportunities – Monday 14 October 2019, Canberra Grammar School

Media are invited to attend the following opportunities:

- In-person interviews with Dr Garrick and Mr Snow from 1:30pm to 2:30pm; interviews via phone by arrangement
- Photo opportunities with Dr Garrick, Mr Snow and students from 1:30pm to 2:30pm

Media Contact

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