




Music in mind

**MADE**  
by McGill

Hannah Darroch  
Doctoral candidate in Performance



A source of joy. A bridge between cultures  
and across borders. A shared language.  
A window into the past. A doorway to the future.  
**An art rooted in science. Music is all of these  
things, and so much more.**

For over a century, music has occupied a crucial place at McGill, making the Schulich School of Music a cornerstone in North America's cultural landscape.

Today, the School offers the highest calibre of teaching and world-class research which advance the creation and performance of music from a diversity of perspectives and disciplines.

As the world faces a future of unprecedented complexity and change, music offers an invaluable means to process our experiences and to understand the human condition, to restore and inspire us, and to enable us to investigate questions that will advance knowledge and connect people. In fact, we've never needed music more.

[ Cover Photo ]

Hannah Darroch

Doctoral candidate in Performance, flutist, educator, named one of the top 10 young women musicians in New Zealand.

Offering a unique intersection of music performance, creation, research and technology, the Schulich School of Music is positioned to shape the future of music.





**Technology** can enhance live performance and make music accessible to new audiences in new locations.



Advances in **scholarship and research tools**, including digitization, artificial intelligence, and big data, can open exciting new avenues for music.







**Creative links to disciplines** such as brain research, medicine and sports science can enrich how we learn, perform and understand music and its impact on our well-being.



# These are our strengths

The Schulich School of Music has a singular constellation of strengths. Our vision for the future is ambitious. Here's why we have the talent and track record to deliver:



## Unique breadth of expertise

The Schulich School combines renowned professional training with top-ranked music research and scholarship in science, technology and the humanities. Schulich students thrive on the dynamic cross-pollination that comes from an inspiring collision of ideas and disciplines.

## Unparalleled quality and a global reputation

The Schulich School of Music has been ranked the #1 Canadian school in the performing arts category by QS World University Rankings and is also a global leader in research.

Faculty members perform as soloists, and in chamber ensembles, orchestras and jazz groups recognized around the world. Our alumni are innovating the way music is performed, composed, recorded and researched. And Schulich students consistently distinguish themselves in the most prestigious local, national, and international competitions.

## Evolving facilities

The School's performing and research activities take place in a variety of specialized music facilities. These include:

- › The Music Multimedia Room, among the world's leading research facilities for the scientific study of music
- › Pollack Hall, McGill's primary public concert venue, and a Montreal cultural landmark
- › The Wirth Opera Studio, the home of one of the most innovative opera training programs in North America
- › The Digital Composition Studios, which put cutting-edge technologies into the hands of composers and performers

## A commitment to community

With over 600 events, including performances, masterclasses and lectures, we welcome more than 40,000 people to our halls each season.

## A place at the heart of a celebrated institution

Students can complement their education with studies in a range of fields, from bioengineering to philosophy to management and Indigenous studies. Our faculty members pursue collaborative research with both McGill colleagues and the extensive inter-institutional membership of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Music Media and Technology (CIRMMT).







# This is our vision

At the heart of the Schulich School of Music's ambitious goals is a bold and imaginative reconceptualization of music performance for tomorrow's musicians and audiences alike.



We aim to transform the study and practice of performance through applied interdisciplinary research and innovative collaborations with leading experts at McGill.

To enable this vision, we will need to develop new spaces and facilities at the School and recruit new research and teaching expertise, so that we can provide an exceptional environment in which to optimize students' learning and development and allow the supporting research to flourish.

**This transformative approach to music education will be achieved by three key priorities, which are tied to a flagship project for the School:**

## Recruiting and preparing world-quality artists and researchers

We will attract top students and provide them with 21st-century learning opportunities and facilities that prepare them to succeed as future-ready leaders. And we will expand our faculty expertise to support the development of leading performers through groundbreaking research.

## Building bridges to become a world centre for innovation in the arts

We will find new intersections among our strengths in performance, creation, scholarship and technology to advance the field in exciting and provocative directions while preserving the traditions on which our reputation is based.






## Deepening connections to local and global communities

We will enhance ties with Montreal's vibrant arts organizations and audiences, while building global connections that allow students to emerge as experienced, open thinkers and musicians.

Supporting these three priorities is a central, transformative project for the School: the reimagining of the historic Strathcona Music Building.

**This flagship project includes rebuilding the East Wing, enhancing Pollack Hall, establishing new facilities and labs, and incorporating existing and new faculty expertise into an unparalleled performance research and training environment.**



A portrait of a young man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a white collared shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a light gray gradient.

A passion for piano.  
Making art through  
performance.

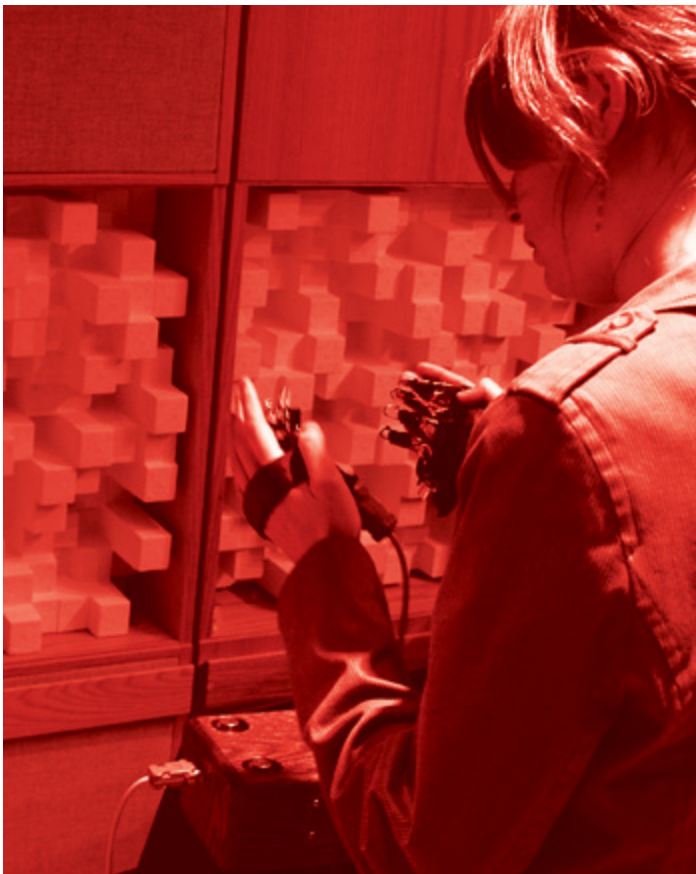
**Made by McGill.**

Spencer Klymyshyn

Recipient of the Lubka Kolessa Piano Award  
and Dorothy Morton Piano Scholarship.  
First place winner in the piano category at  
the 2019 National Music Festival showcasing  
Canada's best young musicians.



# Reimagining the future of music performance



Our goal is to create an unparalleled performance research and training environment.

This visionary project features three principal elements: **redesigning the East Wing of the Strathcona Music Building** to include new research and teaching facilities; **a renewal of Pollack Hall**; and bringing new expertise into this training environment to develop top-level performers, including a **Chair in Performance Psychology and a supporting team of professionals**.

Within the building's redeveloped spaces, the School will use an innovative multidisciplinary approach to music pedagogy and research, in collaboration with the Faculties of Science, Education and Medicine.

Working alongside experts at McGill in such fields as **medical simulation, sports psychology, biomechanics, neuroscience, and cognitive training**, the School will transform the study and practice of performance in the 21st century.

Through the generosity of our donors, the Schulich School has been able to build some of the finest music technology and research spaces in the world, housed in the Elizabeth Wirth Music Building. Now, as we look to McGill's third century, there is no better moment to offer our performers an equal calibre of training, rehearsal, teaching and performance environments through this ambitious project.

We are seeking the support of our donors to transform the way we study, teach and present music performance.



## Redesign the East Wing of the Strathcona Music Building

Redeveloping the East Wing of the building will bring together the disciplines of performance, health and science, providing students with acoustically enhanced practice rooms, ensemble rehearsal spaces, and teaching studios that serve as incubators for the study of performance.

These spaces, as well as specialized research labs, will be equipped with the tools to examine performance in real time: biofeedback systems, virtual reality tools, eye-trackers and surface EMG systems, hearing and voice screening kits, and video and audio recording equipment. We will also ensure a healthy aural environment for all musicians.

This reimagined wing will include active learning classrooms, as well as exercise spaces and yoga and meditation rooms. A green roof completes our vision and aligns with McGill's dedication to sustainability for its third century.





Voices of the next generation.

Trained by mentors like  
Dominique Labelle.

**Made by McGill.**

LMus'86

Soprano and recording artist. Assistant Professor,  
Voice Area Chair. Recipient of the Schulich  
School of Music Outstanding Teacher Award.










## Renew Pollack Hall: A world-class performance venue

We will upgrade this celebrated concert hall so that it stands as a jewel in the crown of McGill – and a destination for great performance in the city of Montreal.

The Hall welcomes thousands of community members each year, and its renewal will provide audiences and performers alike with a heightened concert experience.

The Hall needs refreshment of its acoustical treatment, a new grand piano, state-of-the-art sound recording and video equipment, enhanced accessibility, artists' facilities worthy of the performers who grace its stage, and aesthetic treatment to enhance the elegance of the hall's historic entrance.



A stage where every  
student can find their voice.

Made for artists like  
Charles Lowe.

**Made by McGill.**

Jazz Performance student. Vocalist, focusing  
on queer jazz history and composers.  
Minoring in Music Entrepreneurship.





## Support high-level performance


Performance is as much a mental exercise as it is a physical one. Thanks in part to advances in brain science, there is an expanding field of knowledge about what characteristics unite top performers, and how these qualities might be understood and cultivated.

**We will establish an endowed Chair in Performance Psychology** to recruit a world expert who will drive discovery, attracting other outstanding researchers and graduate students; **collaborating with sports psychologists, neuroscientists and kinesiologists;** and working with coaches to allow performers to benefit from the most advanced knowledge in the field.

The Chair will lead a team of wellness professionals to provide programs and support services to prevent student musician injury, support healthy hearing, and assist students in developing the psychological resilience needed for high-level performance.

We will nurture elite musical performers to succeed on the international stage, using physiology, psychology and brain science to inform the training we provide.

**With the help of our donors, the flagship Strathcona Building project will support the Schulich School's three key priorities: preparing students to grow into world-quality artists, building interdisciplinary bridges to become a centre for arts innovation, and deepening connections to local and global communities.**

A close-up portrait of an older man with long, wavy white hair and a full white beard. He is wearing a dark grey suit jacket, a dark blue shirt, and a red paisley tie. The background is dark, and the lighting is soft, highlighting his facial features. The entire image is set against a solid red background.

A Schulich School of Music  
for McGill's third century.

Made by generosity.

Made by donors like John Rea.

Made by McGill.

Award-winning composer. Professor of Composition  
and former Dean of Music. Established the John Rea  
Travel Award in Composition for students in 2016.



# Recruiting and preparing world-quality artists and researchers

The Schulich School of Music's mission and reputation rests on its capacity to train performers, composers, researchers and scholars whose names resound on stages around the world, and who have the skills and training to become global leaders in their fields.

To do this, we need to offer opportunities that open doors to a new generation of brilliant young students, attract and retain outstanding faculty members, and provide the resources and equipment befitting a leading music school.

**Donor support will help us to:**

## Create new scholarships and fellowships to attract top students

Because of the interactive nature of music, the quality of the education we can provide depends on the abilities of our students. In an increasingly competitive environment, we require a greater breadth of **flexible scholarships and fellowships** that will ensure that brilliant students from every walk of life choose McGill, and have the resources to get the most out of their experience.

## Expand our professoriate

Our students learn from some of the **finest active performers in the world**, including faculty who are members of Canada's top musical ensembles, such as the renowned Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM).

To nurture our ties to the wider music community even further, we aim to create a suite of named professorships that will be offered to leading members of the OSM and other professional ensembles – deepening the contributions these star performers and pedagogues make to our programs, and bringing students into contact with new teachers from the world of performance.

## Add scholarly and musical resources

Current needs include funds to add **new scores, volumes and digital resources** to our Marvin Duchow Music Library, and to renew the bank of instruments that enable students to explore repertoire and techniques in preparation for professional careers.

## Expand our range of internship and entrepreneurship programs

We need to ensure that Schulich students have access to real-world experiences aligned with their career goals, and that we offer **entrepreneurship training** that supports young future-ready musicians as they develop careers as artists, promoters, or founders of artistic enterprises.

# Building bridges to become a world centre for innovation in the arts



There are few places in the world where students can spend a morning performing with a symphony orchestra and an afternoon in a lab participating in a state-of-the-art motion capture project to determine how hand position affects sound production.

*And where else can a professor in early music history share ideas with a colleague working on how music functions at a structural level within the brain?*





**To cement Schulich as one of the world's most innovative musical hubs, we are seeking support to help us create research, teaching, learning and outreach initiatives within a newly renovated suite of laboratories and technology spaces.**

McGill is home to the finest research facilities in music, technology and recording found at any university in North America. At the centre of this unique cluster of sound stages and laboratories is the extraordinary Music Multimedia Room.

We want to give students, faculty members and collaborators optimal opportunities to engage with these spaces through creative teaching, learning and research initiatives that cross disciplinary boundaries and expand music education and performance.

**With your help, we will:**

- › Establish a **student training fund** to support the fluent and creative use of new technologies in these spaces
- › Initiate an **artist-in-residency fund** to encourage top performers to engage with these spaces
- › Create **post-doctoral fellowships** to attract emerging researchers and performers
- › Create a **strategic initiatives fund** to promote the visibility and use of these spaces, regionally and internationally

**A new music broadcasting initiative**

We want to ensure that Schulich students have the **music media skills** to build a career in the rapidly changing industry, while expanding our capacity to record and disseminate our performances around the world through webcasts and the next generation of broadcasting platforms.

**A new interdisciplinary innovation fund**

We will provide seed funding for **interdisciplinary projects** that bring together different areas within Schulich and that link with other areas at McGill. The outcome will be new avenues of inquiry, music technologies, tools and practices, and curricular innovations that ensure students benefit from the latest advances in their fields.

# Deepening connections to local and global communities



We are enhancing our ties and contributions to Montreal's arts organizations and audiences, and building on international partnerships that help students to grow as musicians with a broad world view.

To help further these local and global connections, we are seeking funding to:

## Expand travel opportunities for individual musicians and ensembles

There is nothing more valuable for a budding performer than to experience first-hand the cultural richness of one of the world's great musical destinations. At the same time, taking our ensembles on the road not only gives students important real-world touring experience, but promotes McGill and enhances the School's reputation in invaluable ways. Your support will:

- › allow our ensembles to perform in Montreal, across Canada and internationally
- › give students opportunities for exchanges, semesters abroad and participation in international competitions
- › help students pursue research opportunities at institutions around the world

## Build deeper partnerships with Montreal's artistic leaders and community organizations

The Schulich School already enjoys close ties with leading musical organizations in Montreal, but we aspire to do more, including:

- › bringing in Montreal performers and ensembles to conduct masterclasses, lectures and workshops
- › engaging with local Indigenous communities in meaningful ways
- › allowing our students to share their expertise in local schools
- › building partnerships with community organizations so that Montrealers from marginalized communities have access to music in ways they may not have had before



The Schulich School of Music:  
**Bringing music to life.**

**Made by McGill: THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR THIRD CENTURY.**



**McGill**



Schulich School of Music  
École de musique Schulich

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