



WPU PHOTOS BY ROY GROETHING

Music program students perform in William Paterson University's Shea Center Recital Hall (Shea 101), which recently has undergone a major upgrade.



William Paterson University Studio Manager Alfred Clarke (left), Adjunct Instructor Adele Merlino, and Professors Matthew Crick and Loretta McLaughlin-Vignier "man" the controls in one of the new High-Definition Television Studio Control Rooms.

## William Paterson Performance Venues Receive Major Upgrades

Several of William Paterson University's main performance spaces in Shea Center have received major upgrades, providing a greatly enhanced environment for the music department. Also, newly redesigned television studios were launched in Hobart Hall with high-definition, state-of-the-art capabilities.

"We care deeply about our music pro-

gram," said President Kathleen Waldron during a reception to mark the completion of the projects. "Our music department has lived with old facilities for a very long time. We are proud to celebrate our investment in these programs, which have national and international reputations, and as well as the investment in excellence made by our faculty and students."

Two large rooms in Shea have been

completely transformed, providing modern and aesthetically pleasing venues for faculty, student and guest performances. Shea 101, which serves as a recital hall and instructional space, has been totally redesigned, with new acoustics, a new stage, fixed seating, lighting, control booth and interior finishes. Shea 103, a rehearsal space for large ensembles, has been renovated with new acoustical

treatments, audiovisual capabilities and interior finishes.

Shea Auditorium has received a significant interior renovation, including new seats, paint, flooring, and retrofitted lighting that is also energy efficient. The seating replaced 40-year-old chairs, many of which were beyond repair. In addition, six new soundproof practice rooms have been created in Gaedes Hall on campus.

The \$2.5 million upgrade to the University's new two-studio TV complex includes seven High-Definition television studio cameras, as well as two state-of-the-art, high-definition control rooms. The complex provides access to equipment and technology aligned with the current television industry standard. Students are now able to film, in the studio or in the field, and edit entirely in HD format.

### CAMPUS CLASSICS

## Historic Homes Are Living Lessons In Preservation

BY ANTOINETTE RAINONE  
HIGHER EDUCATION

An intimate chamber concert takes place in Hobart Manor at William Paterson University.

A history major learns about the conservation of material objects in Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University.

A music student performs a work in progress at the grand piano in The Castle at Felician College.

These are examples of how history comes alive on a daily basis - in very real and creative ways - on three New Jersey college campuses.

Hobart Manor, Liberty Hall Museum and The Castle are three historic buildings that have been preserved for the benefit of students and faculty. William Paterson University, Kean University and Felician College have played vital roles - not only in the restoration of these buildings - but in educating the general public on the importance of preserving the past for present and future generations.

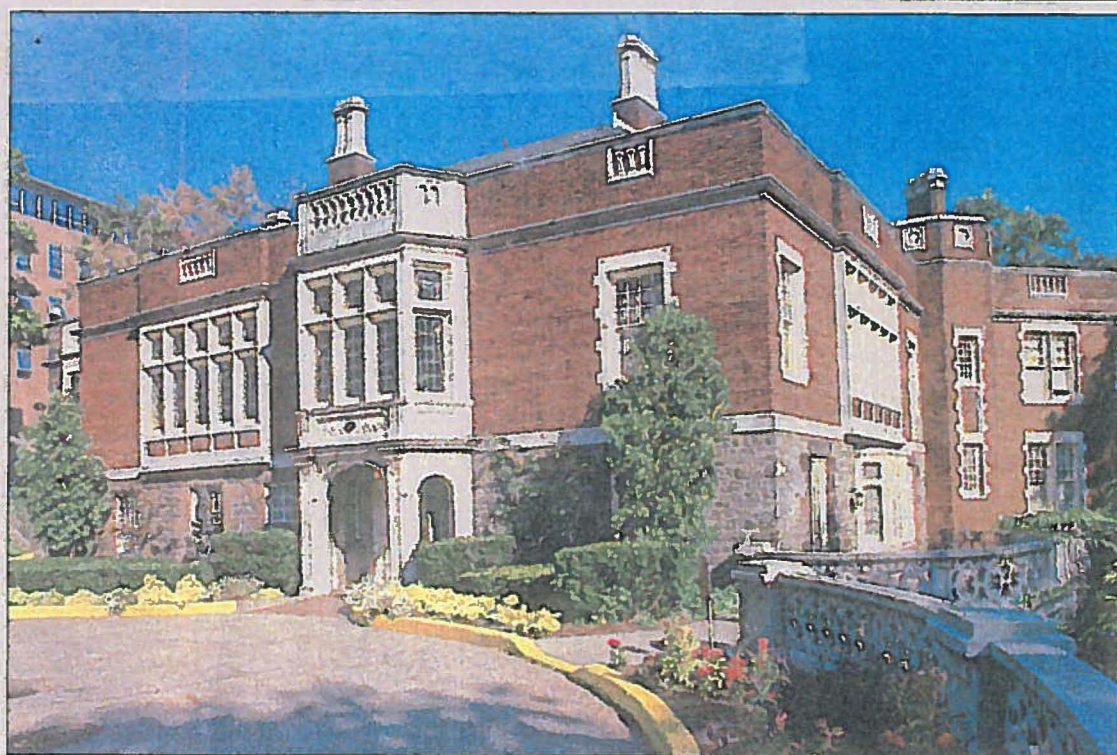
### HOBART MANOR

Did you know William Paterson University is located on a site called Ailsa Farms - property owned by the family of Garret Hobart, the 24th vice president of the United States serving under William McKinley? Its 40-room mansion at the southeastern end of the estate served as the setting for numerous holiday parties and social events, a place where dignitaries and prominent business people of the time gathered.

Today, the Tudor-style mansion, Hobart Manor, is the centerpiece of the University's 320-acre campus in Wayne. The building with its public reception rooms returned to their turn-of-the-century elegance through a fundraising campaign spearheaded by the Alumni Association, once again serves as a focal point for campus, alumni and community events.

Students who had graduated from William Paterson University were the driving force behind the restoration of Hobart Manor.

"The initial Hobart Manor Restoration



WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Hobart Manor, the 19th-century Tudor-style mansion, is the centerpiece of the William Paterson University Campus. Originally the home of Garret Hobart, the 24th vice president of the United States, the restored Manor is listed on the New Jersey and National Registers for Historic Places.

Campaign was spearheaded by the Alumni Association, from 1986 through 1990," said Mary Beth Zeman, director of Public Relations at William Paterson University. "Contributions were solicited from alumni and from the external community to raise funds to refurbish the building's public rooms, including the original dining room, drawing room, library, billiards room and central foyers with period reproductions."

A committee was coordinated by the late Mary Ellen Kramer, director of community affairs and wife of former Paterson Mayor Pat Kramer, and Michael Driscoll, (1974), director of alumni.

In the mid-2000s, a second campaign was launched to continue to raise funds for ongoing needs. The Hobart Manor Revitalization Committee, again comprised by university alumni, was formed, and continues to solicit funds.

Since 1989, 352 alumni and 120 faculty, staff and friends have contributed funds to the project. The initial campaign raised \$303,514. Since 2004, an additional \$298,980 has been raised, including a

\$25,000 bequest intention. The overall total is \$602,495.

The fact that the association was able to raise enough funds speaks volumes about the group's comprehension of the importance of historic preservation.

**"Auditions for incoming music students are often held in the drawing room, which features an antique piano."**

MARY BETH ZEMAN, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AT WILLIAM PATERSON

"Many of our alumni have a deep connection with Hobart Manor," said Zeman. "When the university, which was originally founded as the Paterson Normal School, moved to our current location in 1951, Hobart Manor was the original campus building, and contained the first library, administrative offices and classroom buildings. In 1976, during William Paterson's celebration of the Bicentennial, the building was listed on the New Jersey and National Registers for Historic Places. There was, and continues to be, a strong desire to not only maintain the building, but to preserve the building's history, both as originally owned by the Hobart family, as

well as its history as part of the university."

For instance, University Performing Arts schedules its "Musical Salon Series" in the Manor twice a semester to take advantage of the setting "for more intimate chamber music concerts."

"Auditions for incoming music students are often held in the drawing room, which features an antique piano," said Zeman, along with other events including piano and guitar workshops. "Music students also present their recitals in the building. Film and television students use the manor as a backdrop to their stories or set them in one of our many rooms as they are unique to anything else on campus. The university's football team holds its recruiting meetings in the living room, dining room, and Kennedy Room (billiards room)."

Finally, Zeman said the building is a favorite topic and location for student projects. "Currently, we have a journalism major writing about the current renovations to the manor for a class."



PHOTO COURTESY OF WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

The drawing room at Hobart Manor is often used to entertain guests and hold discussions as was the case when veteran newsman Dan Rather addressed Communication students at William Paterson University.