The SDA Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund is at the core of the School’s success. It provides unrestricted philanthropic support for the School’s areas of greatest need and allows the School’s dean to take advantage of unique programming opportunities and experiment with new ideas and trends. It gives the School flexibility when responding to changes in the artistic landscape, ensuring that SDA is always offering the most relevant and contemporary skills as we forge the next generation of leading artists. It also helps the School attract top students and transformative faculty from around the world, providing the supportive environment necessary for this talent to flourish.

In the past, the Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund has supported a wide range of projects, including special one-time scholarships, facilities enhancements, larger-scale production opportunities, technology upgrades, and special faculty appointments.

With David Bridel as dean, the USC School of Dramatic Arts is ushering in a new era and embarking on an exceptionally rapid period of growth and expansion. Under Dean Bridel’s vision and leadership, the School has launched several new initiatives that offer a more contemporary approach to dramatic arts training and position the School as a leader in new media integration and on-camera technique.

For 2018–2019, the Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund will help support key areas of growth, such as:

- **New Media and New Technology training opportunities**, including the School’s annual New Media Summit and other added workshops and classes that introduce students to the newest platforms and technologies being utilized in the field;
- **Expanded Professional Development activities for students and alumni**, such as our Career Series, Spotlight@SDA or the Salon series, all geared towards exposing our students to industry leaders who will expand their skillset, network and understanding of the entertainment field;
- **Curriculum-enhancing programs such as LiveRead@SDA** which gives students an invaluable opportunity to participate in the workshop of an innovative contemporary new musical with industry professionals.
Select giving opportunities include:

**Dean’s Circle $250,000**

Launched in 2016, the Dean’s Circle recognizes donors who make a multi-year commitment of $250,000 or more to the USC School of Dramatic Arts. While the Circle honors leadership gifts to all areas of the School, the Dean’s Circle was specifically established to encourage support for Dean Bridel’s top priorities and most urgent needs. Dean’s Circle members are prominently listed in show programs and SDA facilities.

**Patron of Tribute $100,000**

With a Tribute level pledge to the Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund, you will help support several student events each year such as the LiveRead@SDA, a special workshop or a partnership event such as Spotlight@SDA. These unique events give students the opportunity to work with industry leaders, expanding their skills, knowledge and network. At the Tribute level donors will enjoy concierge services to help with ticketing for select USC-wide events and theatre productions across the country.

**Season Sponsors $50,000**

Multi-year pledges to the Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund give Dean Bridel the opportunity to truly build a base of support to achieve longer-term ambitions for the School, by providing a consistent stream of income upon which he can rely. As season sponsors, donors will receive VIP invitations year-round to a number of SDA events such as the Donor Leadership Dinner featuring a special artistic guest, as well as the opportunity to join USC’s premiere academic support group, the USC Associates.

*Parents who pledge $50,000+ are automatically part of USC’s Parent Leadership Circle and entitled to all courtesies offered.*

We invite parents, alumni and friends to consider making a gift to the Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund. Multi-year pledges of support will enable Dean Bridel to execute on his vision and goals, while also ensuring that SDA programs continue to provide students with the most dynamic and cutting-edge opportunities to excel in today’s complex and evolving artistic landscape.