

DEAN'S STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FUND



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 leadership to take advantage of special programming opportunities and experiment with new ideas and trends. These funds have helped support SDA's growth and expansion, giving us the fuel to offer a more contemporary approach to dramatic arts training and positioning the School as a leader in new media integration and on-camera technique. It gives the School flexibility when responding to changes in the academic, artistic and societal 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 one-time scholarships, facilities enhancements, unique production opportunities, technology upgrades and special faculty appointments.

This year, as the School addresses the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic, the Dean's Strategic Initiatives Fund will help provide support for essential priorities such as:

- **Expand, upgrade and implement necessary technology opportunities** to support virtual learning and programming that will ensure SDA's online training remains vigorous and impactful;
- **Enhance and expand online professional development activities for students and alumni**, such as our Career, Spotlight@SDA and Salon series, all geared towards exposing our students to industry leaders and guest artists from around the world who will expand their skillset, network and understanding of the entertainment field;
- **Further engage and support online cross collaboration partnerships** with other USC schools and local community organizations;
- **Support the goals of our Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan** — such as special trainings, scholarships, events, recruitment efforts and our new EDI Center.



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 the School to execute on our 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.

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 the School'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 Spotlight@SDA or Salon@SDA. These unique events give student 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 the School's senior leadership 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 the School 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.*