



## Loyola High School to Build New William H. Hannon Science Hall

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Loyola High School of Los Angeles, the oldest high school in Southern California, announced that the **William H. Hannon Foundation** has pledged \$4 million to help construct a new 38,000 square-foot science building on the campus of the mid-city Jesuit high school. William H. Hannon, who was an alumnus in the Class of 1933, founded the William H. Hannon Foundation in 1983 and was particularly devoted to his alma mater. During the four years since Mr. Hannon's death, the William H. Hannon Foundation has continued to support charities that were dear to Mr. Hannon.

In recognition of this historic gift, Loyola High will name the soon-to-be-built, state-of-the-art science facility the William H. Hannon Science Hall. Design of the three-story William H. Hannon Science Hall is currently underway and construction is expected to begin in August 2004. The William H. Hannon Science Hall will include eight science classrooms and laboratories, a computer center accommodating 50 students, two additional classrooms, and three faculty offices. . The architect for the Collegiate Gothic building is Killefer Flammang Architects of Santa Monica. The new William H. Hannon Science Hall will compliment the architectural style of the campus' original Tudor Gothic buildings that date from 1917 and 1926.

"My uncle and my entire family have a deep love for Loyola High School going back four generations," said Kathleen Hannon Aikenhead, president of the William H. Hannon Foundation. "This gift carries on our uncle's lifetime commitment to his high school and our appreciation for all that Loyola High School has meant to the Hannon family."

Rev. Robert T. Walsh, S.J., president of Loyola High, noted, “The gift of the William H. Hannon Foundation is significant for a number of reasons. This is the largest single gift given in the school’s history. Furthermore, it is even more significant because it will enable us to enhance and expand our science curriculum and provide an exemplary science program for our students. The generosity of the William H. Hannon Foundation is deeply appreciated, and it will benefit Cubs for generations to come.”

The Hannon family has long ties to Loyola High. William Hannon and his four brothers were all graduates of Loyola. Younger generations followed the family tradition of attending Loyola. Mr. Hannon’s nephew, James A. Hannon, graduated in 1980 and his grandnephew, Brian S. Aikenhead, graduated in 1997. James A. Hannon has followed his uncle’s philanthropic example and now serves as vice president and treasurer of the William H. Hannon Foundation.

The Hannon family’s tradition of supporting Loyola began in the early 1930’s. Mr. Hannon’s mother, the late Eugenie B. Hannon, founded Loyola’s Henry Welsh Guild and served as its first president in 1930. Today, the Guild is known as the Loyola High School Mothers’ Guild and is responsible for coordinating hospitality services for the school community. In addition, the Guild’s philanthropy annually supports faculty salaries.

During his career as a prominent Southern California real estate developer, William H. Hannon continuously gave back to his high school by funding the Eugenie B. Hannon Scholarships, in memory of his mother. The Eugenie B. Hannon Scholarships provide funding for four scholars annually, primarily for financial aid. Mr. Hannon also gave generously in the early 1980’s in order to renovate Loyola’s former gym into what is now the Eugenie B. Hannon Theater, home of Loyola’s renowned and accomplished Hannon Theater Company. Mr. Hannon also helped fund further renovation of Hannon Theater in the 1990’s by providing new seating and air conditioning.

Throughout the years, other family members have supported various programs at Loyola. In memory of her late husband, Mrs. Andrew L. Hannon (May Hannon)

established the Andrew L. Hannon '34 Mathematics Scholarship. This full-tuition scholarship is awarded annually to an outstanding mathematics student. In addition to their mother's continued support of the Andrew L. Hannon Scholarship, Kathleen Aikenhead and James Hannon also generously contribute to their father's scholarship fund.

The construction of the William H. Hannon Science Hall is the first step in a new multi-phased campus expansion. In order to launch this campus improvement effort, Loyola High has acquired 3.5 acres surrounding the school with the goal of unifying and beautifying the entire campus. The new William H. Hannon Science Hall will be situated on part of the recently acquired properties.

Located in the Pico Heights area of Los Angeles, Loyola is neighbors of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and St. Thomas Elementary School. Following a tragic fire caused by arson, Loyola provided a 17,000 square-foot building for three years rent-free to serve as the parish church. The same concern for the inner-city parish was recently demonstrated by the William H. Hannon Foundation in providing a \$10,000 donation to St. Thomas for social service outreach programs in the local community.

Loyola High's strategic plan and campus master plan are designed to ensure the school's long-term ability to provide a superior Catholic and Jesuit college preparatory education. Loyola currently offers 14 different science courses, available to students in all four years; seven of which are either Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) courses. When the new science facility is complete, the Loyola campus will then have 11 science classrooms and laboratories.

The school's student body of 1,200 young men represents a remarkable geographic diversity, drawing on 224 different zip codes from throughout and beyond Los Angeles County. The school is also ethnically diverse with more than 40 percent of the students of Asian, Latino, or African American descent. In order to enable students to achieve the goal of being "men for others", Loyola students must complete at least 150 hours of community service work before graduation.

For more information, please contact

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