



BROOKLINE MUSIC SCHOOL

Bakalar Recital Hall Expansion Proposal



- Brookline Music School, Brookline's oldest and largest cultural organization, seeks permission to expand and renovate its recital hall.
- Currently, the school's recital hall, a double parlor in the building 25 Kennard Road, is 1,033 square feet, including the performance area, and seats 60 people.
- A renovated and expanded recital hall will be 1,431 square feet, with the additional 431 square feet doubling audience seating to 120.
- This renovated hall will have a flat floor, allowing for maximum flexibility of use, and the school's standard set-up will move the performance area to the center of the east wall, with audience seating no further than three rows away from the performers.



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Project Goals

- Increase frequency and elevate the quality of the students' performance experience.
- Double our audience capacity in a welcoming, flexible space that fosters community.
- Develop approximately 1,465 sq ft of flexible use space to comfortably host larger audiences and ensembles for concerts, recitals and rehearsals.
- Offer a designated performance space for the broader Brookline community to appreciate and enjoy music.



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Description



- Produce an acoustically appropriate performance space to elevate performances.
- This project increases seating from 60 to 120 and optimizes audience experience.
- The expansion, with upgraded furnishing and lighting, creates a 1,465 sq ft recital hall that accommodates a wide range of performances, including student recitals, jazz and rock bands, chamber ensembles, and musical theatre, and ensures a high-quality experience for performers and audiences alike.
- The total cost of the expansion is \$800,000 and the responsibility of Brookline Music School.



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Project Milestones & Timeline



PROJECT MILESTONES	TIMELINE	UPDATES
Feasibility Study & Fundraising Assessment	September – December 2025	• Feasibility study to evaluate donor interest and capacity completed in September 2025. • As of October 2025, BMS has secured three commitments of four lead gifts totaling \$325,000.
Town & Committee Approvals	September – December 2025	• At 9/9/25 Brookline Preservation Commission Meeting, commissioners supported the project and provided comments on the design.
Major Gift Phase	October – December 2025	• Secure additional major gifts for commitments totaling \$600,000.
Public Fundraising Launch	January 2026	• Secure \$200,000 in additional gifts.
Construction Phase	January – October 2026	• <u>January</u>: Finalize construction contracts; obtain permits • <u>June</u>: Construction begins (expected to take 4 months) • <u>October</u>: Project Complete



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Key Personnel & Organizational Support

- **Brookline Music School (BMS) and its Board of Trustees** are deeply invested in the Recital Hall Expansion Project and are allocating needed resources to ensure its success in building greater audience engagement.
- **David Tierney, Executive Director:** Director of the Rivers School Conservatory (26 years); Director of Cambridge Friends School (5 years), Executive Director of Brookline Music School (2 years)
- **Vicky Lau, Director of Finance & Administration:** Director at Brookline Music School for 21 years
- **Valerie Curd, Director of Development & Marketing:** Director at Brookline Music School (2 years), Operations and Enrollment at Brookline Music School (1.5 years)
- **Jan Hicinbothem, Development Consultant:** Development Director of Rivers School/Rivers School Conservatory (28 years); Associate Vice President of Fundraising for Boston University (10 years)





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4-11-2023

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HALEY WARD
ARCHITECTURE