



Humber Cultural Hub

Mobilizing the Power of Creativity





The Recital Hall

Creating a New Home for the Arts

Arts and culture are a pivotal part of every thriving society. They nurture the imagination, celebrate diversity, spark innovation, inspire us to take risks and explore unconventional solutions. They are also a fundamental part of economic growth, social cohesion and community wellbeing.

Humber College is Canada's largest polytechnic institute, and a renowned leader in arts education. We are home to a world-class film and media production program, Canada's first and most in-demand jazz program, the country's leading creative writing graduate certificate, Canada's largest selection of media arts programs, and North America's first comedy writing diploma program. These offerings continue to feed a pipeline of top talent across music, film and TV, comedy, writing and storytelling, web and UX design, photography, and countless more creative fields.

Despite our strengths and limitless potential, our current facilities can no longer support the kind of superior learning environment needed to nurture creative talent, ideas and content, nor accommodate the cutting-edge technologies and systems essential for the evolving digital era.

As today's students prepare for the jobs of the future, creativity is at the forefront. The world needs well-trained performers, artists and creators to drive the creative economy, innovate, problem-solve and bring joy. A centre of excellence in teaching and learning with dynamic facilities and curriculum – a place that responds to student needs and the evolving real-world conditions of knowledge production, industry innovation and technological change – is needed to be ready for an unlimited future.

Humber is responding to new ways of learning and the future world of work, and is building a world-class arts-and-culture facility for its students and local community at our Lakeshore campus known as the **Humber Cultural Hub (HCH).**

The HCH is the largest capital project undertaken in Humber's history, and it will be purpose-built for performance halls, labs, studios and collaborative spaces for music, film, TV, comedy, theatre, visual and other creative and performing arts, while also recognizing Indigenous culture and sustainability into the building design and programming. It will also be a focal point for southwestern Toronto, connecting Humber to the city's vibrant arts scene, and opening doors to the community through technology-rich teaching and performance spaces and professional-quality music, film, TV, multimedia equipment and training facilities.

As the new home for Humber's award-winning music, creative arts and multimedia programs, the HCH is the cornerstone of Humber's Unlimited Campaign, with a goal of raising \$10 million for state-of-the-art equipment and technology, and student support and programming. This support ensures we will have the resources to help students gain the skills and experience they need to achieve their unlimited potential.

Together, we can ignite discovery and innovation for the next generation of artistic, cultural and creative leaders.

Our Current Facilities

The Need

In spite of our reputation for world-class arts programming and education, Humber's existing facilities are falling short and standing in the way of our vision and future expansion.

The A Building at our Lakeshore campus has not seen meaningful renovation or update in almost 60 years. Built in 1959 as an Ontario teacher's college and designed as a mock primary school, the current facility is dated and ill-suited to the demands of an accessible, technology-driven, modern college environment needed for hands-on learning and performance.

The building's small auditorium currently limits our capacity to expand programming, offer public performances or support community engagement with the arts. The lack of space also prevents us from expanding our programs and enrolment to support Canada's music, performance, recording, TV, film and animation industries and meet the burgeoning need for skilled talent. Further, the building cannot accommodate the cutting-edge technologies and systems essential to today's creative industries.

Between Toronto's downtown and Mississauga's city centre, there is also a glaring lack of space and programming dedicated to arts and culture. From this geographic gap also comes a cultural gap, with vast parts of the community unable to access or benefit from these spaces and opportunities like others across the city.

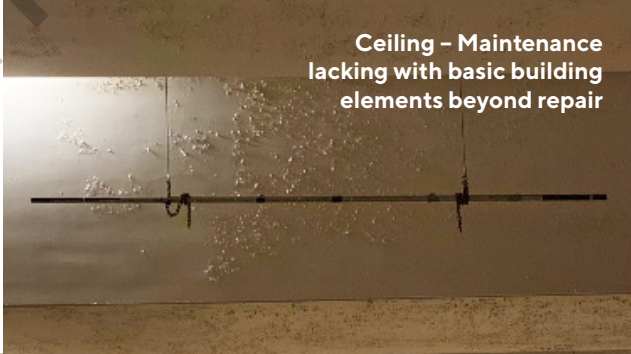
The new HCH will empower Humber to not only meet these needs, but exceed them as we chart a course towards a bright future for arts and culture across Canada.



Exterior - Energy inefficient and aging infrastructure



Hall - Ineffective space with low ceilings, narrow halls and artificial lighting



Ceiling - Maintenance lacking with basic building elements beyond repair



Building A - Built in 1959



About the Humber Cultural Hub

The Building

A catalyst for creativity, the HCH will provide a public gateway and flagship performance venue for Humber students and residents of the many diverse communities in southwestern Etobicoke and the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

The HCH will be a vital, community-building resource in a culturally underserved area of the GTA. It will offer accessible, high-quality spaces where students, artists, creative industries and community arts organizations can create, teach, perform and exhibit their creative work. All connected by a three-story-high atrium with stepped amphitheatre, entitled the Exchange, the HCH will also include common spaces for impromptu performances and public film projects.

The new space will offer a resource-rich environment that supports a full-spectrum of learning, creative and performance activities. Reconfigurable, technology-enhanced classrooms, labs, study and workspaces will be designed to meet both current and future teaching and learning needs.

Professional-quality music, film, TV training facilities with cutting-edge multi-media equipment and resources for creative content creation and production will be available for students, including studios for music, recording, multimedia production and interaction design; a specialized lab for usability testing; interactive studios for augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) production and prototyping; and an industry-leading screening room with the latest technology in immersive sound, sound mixing, colour correction and video editing.

Fast Facts

365,000 sq. ft.

Total Area

\$212 Million

Construction and Design
Funded by Humber

June 2025

Estimated Complete Date



Location: Humber's Lakeshore Campus, located at 3199 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Sustainability: LEED Platinum Certification, Net Zero Carbon targets and the Toronto Green Standard

Accessibility: Exceed Ontario accessibility standards, includes elements of the London and Ontario Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) and other Universal features

Building Partners

diamond schmitt (Architect)

EllisDon (Contractor)



What's Inside the HCH

Music



- Music labs
- Music practice rooms
- Keyboard labs
- Piano practice room
- Percussion teaching lab
- Percussion practice rooms
- Small ensemble practice rooms
- Recording studios and mixing/mastering suite
- A new home for the **Community Music School**, offering innovative new opportunities for youth aged 3 to 18 to experience, explore and expand their knowledge and skills in music

Film and Media



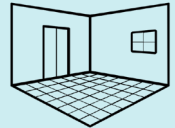
- **Three film suites** (including one equipped with a virtual set), which will be flexible spaces used for a variety of applications such as CGI, motion-capture, talk and live-audience shows, commercials and television
- **Post-production suites**, including: foley, audio and video editing and mixing suites, and a foley demonstration lab
- A **25-seat screening room** featuring Dolby Atmos surround system technology and high-quality sound mixing and colour correction
- Demonstration studios
- Radio live booth
- Mobile usability lab

Performance Venues



- A ground-breaking, **500-seat, multi-purpose theatre** for a variety of performances, including immersive, musical, theatrical and film screenings, and equipped with projection mapping technology, biometrics, recording capabilities, Dolby Atmos surround sound and video equipment for capture and live streaming
- A **140-seat recital hall** to serve as a teaching and learning space, performance hall, a site for Artist-in-Resident instruction and Master classes, and two recording studios. The space features removable seating to accommodate live recording and performance of large bands or orchestras
- Comedy cabaret

Additional Spaces



- **Centre for Creative Business Innovation (CCBI)**, bringing together interdisciplinary teams of students, faculty, industry and community partners to solve complex, real-world problems through creative collaboration, applied research and project-based learning
- **The Exchange**, serving as the main street of the HCH that connects all spaces along the east and west axis of the building, with a light-filled atrium and an open amphitheatre at its centre
- Student residence for 300 students
- Gymnasium
- Indigenous classroom
- Office for IGNITE, Humber's student union
- Outdoor gathering spaces for community-based activities and other marquee events



The Multidisciplinary Performance Hall

“Humber’s new Cultural Hub will be a facility geared to feed our soul and, more importantly, feed the souls of future generations. A facility that will bring together the art of music, performance, film, production and education all under one umbrella to foster collaboration and creativity in the arts for today and the future.”

- Steve Titus, B.A.SC P..Eng
Acoustician, Aercoustics

The Impact

Students

For the first time, Humber’s creative pipeline for new talent will be consolidated into a single state-of-the-art location, with programs carefully selected to maximize alignment and create opportunities for collaborative and creative synergies.

Outfitting our performance and production spaces with professional equipment will elevate the calibre and range of our programming and creative content development. Faculty, students and industry professionals will have the tools to push the envelope and space to collaborate in a range of contemporary formats, including cutting-edge holographic, virtual and augmented reality technologies. We will also be able to expand our course offerings, pushing the boundaries of media, arts and culture education.

The Arts

The HCH will be a public hub for dynamic, connected communities and provide vital resources to Canadian artists and local community arts organizations. The Exchange, public gathering spaces and amphitheatre will provide ideal venues for community-based activities, such as Culture Days, Doors Open Toronto and other marquee creative arts events.

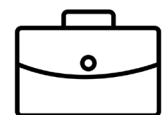
Industry

Toronto’s thriving media and film industry will connect with students and expert faculty through professional-grade multimedia and post-production facilities, 3D animation spaces, music labs, music recording studios and a usability lab, and via the CCBI. The ground-breaking CCBI, where creative experts will partner with business and the arts to improve Canada’s economic, creative and innovation performance, will also be located within the Cultural Hub.

The Community & Economy

The HCH will play a leading role in expanding creative capacity in the GTA. It will make a valuable social and economic contribution to nearby neighbourhoods, offering high-calibre cultural experiences that will revitalize the area and make it a more dynamic and appealing place. Audience interest and attendance will increase, boosting local spending and stimulating opportunities for economic growth and cultural tourism.

As our artistic endeavours grow, new businesses and creative industries will be enticed to the area, creating more jobs and opportunities for creative professionals, attracting cultural investment and fostering a vibrant local community.



2,123

jobs will be created through construction, design, labour, goods and services



The Exchange

A New Home for Creative Programs

The HCH will house the following programs from the Faculty of Media & Creative Arts (FMCA):

MUSIC

- Bachelor of Music degree
- Introduction to Commercial Jazz certificate
- Music Business graduate certificate
- Community Music School

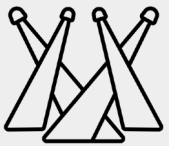
FILM AND TELEVISION

- Bachelor of Film and Media Production degree
- Film and Multiplatform Storytelling graduate certificate
- Film and Television Production diploma
- Post-production graduate certificate

MEDIA

- Bachelor of Digital Communications degree

Building Bigger Audiences



250

Additional presentations of mixed programming made possible through the HCH's new Multi-Disciplinary Performance Hall, including:

50

new events and performances initiated by Humber College

200

new performances, events and activities initiated by artists and organizations that we are currently unable to accommodate due to limitations of existing facilities



125K

Potential annual audience totals made possible by new space and programming

Our Partners

Humber College's academic programs are enhanced by partnerships with creative industries, alumni and community organizations. Notable partners include:





Unlimited

The Campaign for Humber

Humber has embarked on an ambitious \$50-million campaign, named **Unlimited**, so that Humber students can make an even greater impact on the world.

Unlimited reflects Humber's commitment to the future of our students. Through cornerstone projects such as the **Humber Cultural Hub**, this campaign will enable them to gain the skills and experience they need to achieve their full potential.

The Unlimited campaign will:

Ignite Discovery & Innovation

Enabling collaborative learning and unimaginable discovery through our Centres of Innovation, applied research and state-of-the-art, technology-rich facilities.

Accelerate Student Potential

Enhancing access to quality post-secondary education for students through scholarships, bursaries, emergency funds, and more.

Transform the Learning Experience

Supporting a vibrant community of learners and preparing them for the future through flexible learning, and a technology-rich, digital campus; supports for academic enhancements, well-being and mental health; and special initiatives that help underrepresented youth, and contribute to a healthier and more sustainable community.

Join Us and Help Build a Strong Future for the Creative and Performing Arts

We are educating and shaping the arts-makers, storytellers, performers and producers of the future and addressing the infrastructure gap that impacts creativity and innovation and makes it difficult for people to access cultural programming in the communities where they live. Through the HCH, Humber College will help students gain 21st-century skills that employers look for, provide access to cultural programming, stimulate business growth and develop an interconnected arts ecology that will deliver tangible benefits to students and communities.

The **Humber Cultural Hub will create an environment of achievement, one that will set the stage for a future filled with unlimited potential and success for Humber students, fostering the innovators, artists and creators of the future.**

Contact

For more information and resources about the Humber Cultural Hub, please visit humber.ca/culturalhub or contact:

Humber Advancement and Alumni

Phone: 416.673.0152

Toll-Free: 1.866.373.0152

Email: advancement@humber.ca