

MEMORANDUM

TO: Supporters of the *Class of 1961 Legacy: The American Tradition in Performance Fund*

DATE: August 19, 2009

FROM: Jeff James, Howard Gilman Director

ENCLOSURE: 2009-2010 Hopkins Center for the Arts Season Brochure

I am pleased to thank you and the members of the Class of 1961 who supported the *Class of 1961 Legacy: The American Tradition in Performance Fund* this past year by making a gift or a pledge to be added to the fund. The continued generosity of the Class of 1961 members and others in supporting the arts at the Hop is truly impressive, and I am grateful for your ongoing investment in helping us to provide unique opportunities to explore the arts and the highest artistic performances in the American tradition. I know you have a lofty goal of \$1 million to reach by your 50th reunion in 2011, and the Hop supports you in that great effort. We hope that the current economic climate will not dampen your spirits in pursuing this outstanding reunion goal.

Last season, as you probably already know, the Legacy Fund supported the following four extraordinary visiting performing artists:

Rick Benjamin's Paragon Orchestra
Brentano String Quartet with Peter Serkin, piano and Richard Lalli, baritone
Sweet Honey in the Rock – SOLD-OUT
Blue Note Records 70th Anniversary Tour

For the new season 2009-2010, the Legacy Fund will help to support the following visiting artist ensemble:

Vanguard Jazz Orchestra January 28, 2010

You will find a description of this phenomenal big band in the enclosed new season brochure. You will note that this year the class's Legacy Fund is supporting one visiting performing artist. As you may have heard, Dartmouth's endowment was substantially affected last fall by the economic downturn, as most endowment-funded colleges and universities were. As a result, we have experienced a reduction in our endowment income targeted to support our programming, among other reductions. In addressing these new challenges, we have placed a priority on protecting our distinctive programs, and we hope this new season's brochure carries this message loud and clear.

The support from you becomes all the more meaningful during this difficult time, and I am very thankful for your dedication to the performing arts at Dartmouth, ensuring that all our students have access to brilliant artistry.

THE HOP THANKS...

The following major endowment funds* provided by generous donors to the Hopkins Center help make possible many of this season's performances. Numerous other endowments contributed by Dartmouth alumni, family and friends are critically important in funding the season, as ticket sales only cover approximately 40% of the cost of performances.

**CLASS OF 1961 LEGACY FUND:
AMERICAN TRADITIONS IN PERFORMANCE**
Vanguard Jazz Orchestra



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS
CHALLENGE FUND**

Supports virtually
all Visiting
Performing
Artists events

*Gifts and pledges of \$500,000 and above