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## A Sound Achievement

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# A Sound Achievement

When DePaul's School of Music opens the doors on its new, state-of-the-art home this fall, a long-time dream of the late **Murray Allen (MUS '51, MM '52)** and his late wife, Michele, will be fulfilled. The school will receive a seven-figure bequest from their estate to further music education at DePaul, where Allen helped found the school's sound recording technology program and taught core courses.

"A gift of this size enables us to grow the way the school has needed to grow for decades," says Dean Ron Caltabiano. "I'm thrilled that it came from someone who founded a program for us. The meaning is so deep."

During Allen's highly successful sound engineering career in Chicago and, later, in San Francisco, he maintained close ties with his alma mater. He served on the Dean's Advisory Board from 1990 until his passing and was a DePaul Trustee from 1989 to 1992. "Murray was very proud of his association with DePaul," said close friend Stephanie Campbell.

**Tom Miller (MM '96)**, director of DePaul's sound recording technology program, got his first sound engineering job in 1978 from Allen, who was president of Chicago's renowned Universal Recording. Eventually, Allen asked him to teach a course at DePaul, and then another. From those beginnings, Miller found his niche in higher education.

"I owe my career to Murray," Miller says. "He not only hired me, he mentored me. He had a real need to give back by educating the next generations of engineers."

Murray and Michele's nephew, Dr. Jeffrey A. Cohen, remembers how his aunt and uncle lived life to the fullest. "Michele was a jazz singer. I remember being out to dinner at an upscale restaurant in Chicago, and she gave a wonderful rendition of an Edith Piaf song to the surprised delight of fellow diners."

The school intends to honor the pair by naming the large recital hall and the recording technology suite in their honor. "There could not be a more fitting tribute to those two people," says Campbell, "because music was their life."

