

New music building is opened in style

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420 staff members, supporters and friends of the University gathered at the brand new Bramall Music Building at the end of November for a once-in-a-lifetime performance to officially open the state-of-the-art music facility.

Internationally acclaimed soprano and alumna, Carolyn Sampson (BMus Music, 1995) accompanied by the University Music Society Philharmonic Orchestra took to the stage to kick-start the Bramall Festival of Music, a two-week calendar of concerts and events to officially open the new £16 million home of the University's world-renowned Department of Music.

The building was made possible as a result of the University's £160 million *Circles of Influence* fundraising campaign and was named the Bramall Music Building to reflect the University's enduring gratitude to the Liz and Terry Bramall Foundation.

'We are very proud to have our name on the Bramall Music Building which is a wonderful facility, completing the historic Aston Webb semicircle and bringing music to the heart of campus.

'We have always had a close affinity to Birmingham and have shared some very fond memories here. Music is an area that we feel passionately about and we hope these facilities will provide the department, and the people within it, with the tools they need to excel, in every way possible,' explains Terry Bramall (BSc Civil Engineering, 1964).

260 students, staff, alumni and friends gave more than £6 million in gifts ranging from £2 to millions to name more than 235 seats, rooms and pieces of equipment ensuring provision of state-of-the-art teaching, research, performance and rehearsal facilities.

'We are incredibly grateful to the many individuals and foundations whose investment, combined with University funding, has helped us to do something extraordinary. If anyone wonders what impact their personal giving can have at the University, I urge them to visit this stunning building. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this possible,' says Nick Blinco, Director of Development and Alumni Relations.

To see pictures from the launch event, please visit the [event gallery \(/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2012/Bramall-Music-Building-Launch-24th-November.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/alumni/events/reportsandgalleries2012/Bramall-Music-Building-Launch-24th-November.aspx)

To find out more about how you can support *Circles of Influence*, please visit: <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/circlesofinfluence>
(<https://owa.bham.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=fa5d95eb56594e9a92c63e620aae6a7d&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.birmingham.ac.uk/circlesofinfluence>)



Alumna and soprano Carolyn Sampson performing