HEINZ C. PRECHTER
EDUCATIONAL AND
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Wayne County Community College District

DOWNRIVER CAMPUS
The Downriver Campus has experienced an exponential growth in student enrollment over the recent years and we are certain that the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center is a necessary and valuable addition to the Downriver Campus, the entire District and the Downriver community. Heinz Prechter committed his energies to giving back to the community that helped him realize his dreams and it is fitting that his name be chosen to grace a building that will help countless District students and community members realize their own.

Dr. Curtis Ivery, Chancellor; WCCCD
Welcome to the Wayne County Community College District

HEINZ C. PRECHTER EDUCATIONAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
at the District’s Downriver Campus in Taylor, Michigan.

MISSION

WCCCD’s mission is to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve their goals through excellent and accessible services, culturally diverse experiences and globally competitive higher education and career advancement programs.

The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center (EPAC) serves the mission of WCCCD in many ways.

First, as an Educational Facility, its classrooms, stage facilities, exhibit space and world-class presenting season will allow the District to expand educational opportunities for students and the larger community in the District. The EPAC is the perfect learning environment for any type of academic instruction. Its fully equipped theatre makes it an excellent teaching facility for the performing arts.

The EPAC enriches and builds community through a diverse, world class presenting season, bringing to the Downriver Community and to the District performers from around Michigan, the United States and the World. Offerings will include marquee headliners, touring theatre pieces, children’s programming and variety acts.

The EPAC is also a place for members of the community to explore, expand and share their own artistic talents. The District looks forward to engaging and supporting the community by working with a variety of non-profit and community groups.

Dear Friend of the Arts,

It is my distinct pleasure to introduce you to the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center. Under the leadership of the Wayne County Community College District Board of Trustees and Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, Chancellor, the District has designed and built a world-class arts facility. In pursuit of the college’s mission, the EPAC presents diverse professional performances of dance, theatre, literature, music and the visual arts. Our education programs will seek to engage everyone from the youngest learners, discovering the magic of theatre for the first time to young artists and technicians beginning their careers to community members exploring the richness of the arts in a lifelong education.

The EPAC seeks to partner with those in the Downriver Community and District-wide to make the Center the “place to be” in the community. The District takes seriously its role as stewards of this outstanding facility honoring the memory of Heinz C. Prechter.

Looking forward to seeing you at the EPAC.

Steve Wildern
Theatre Operations Dean
One of the fastest growing WCCCD campuses serving 18 communities in the Downriver area.

Total enrollment grew by nearly 340 percent from Fall 2001 to Fall 2008, and continues to grow today.

Home to the world class Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education.

State of the art, 78,000 square foot Educational and Performing Arts Center, at a projected cost of approximately $16.5 million.

Downriver Campus built in 1978 on 98 acres of farmland in Taylor. Grounds included a 7-acre wooded preserve with nature walks for use by students, staff and residents of the surrounding community.

Campus designed to offer wooded views from nearly every room.

Conveniently located in Taylor, close to both 1-94 and 1-75 with ample parking.

Numerous Career Programs including Automotive, Computer Information Systems, Office Information Systems and Welding.

Popular Continuing Education programs such as the Hispanic Festival, MOSAIC Youth Theatre and Bridge to Asia.
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**ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

- **812 seat theatre**
- **570 fixed seats and 8 barrier-free seats on the main floor**
- **230 fixed seats and 4 barrier-free seats in the balcony**
- **Full set of draperies including main curtain, legs, borders, travelers and scrim**
- **35 lineset counterweight fly system**
- **State of the art theatrical lighting**
- **Fully equipped for sound reinforcement**
- **All stage-level loading**
- **Enclosable Studio/rehearsal space in the auxiliary lobby**
- **Exhibit space in the Gallery**
- **(4) Dividable seminar/class rooms accommodating up to 130 visitors each**
- **(3) additional 2nd floor classrooms**
- **Connected to the existing Downriver campus**
- **Ample, free parking**

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Heinz C. Prechter
1942 - 2001

- An immigrant from Germany, “The Duke of Downriver” Heinz C. Prechter was a regular on the dais with presidents and global business leaders, and also a passionate ambassador for the Downriver area, working to promote economic development and health for the region. Heinz and his wife, Waltraud, initiated and supported numerous projects and charitable efforts for the betterment of the Downriver community.

- An icon of the automotive industry for 35 years he grew American Sunroof Company from a one-room workshop in a garage to a global automotive powerhouse based in Southgate, Mich. and founded successful development and publishing ventures in metro Detroit.

Heinz cared deeply for the Downriver community and was one of its primary champions. We are honored that the District chose his name for a building that serves to educate and inspire the same community that he worked to build. It’s a tremendous legacy, and one that suits Heinz well.

Waltraud Prechter
Wayne County Community College District is proud to present this incredible educational and performing arts center. This Center belongs to the 32 cities and townships that form the District’s service area. It is particularly a tremendous asset to the Downriver region.

We invite community members to be actively involved with this Center. Your intense level of participation will help ensure that this facility responds to your needs and demands.

We look forward from hearing from you soon!

Alan Anderson, WCCCD Trustee
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www.wcccd.edu/about/PerformingArtsCenter.htm