

# PROJECT BRIEF



**Project Name: Fine Arts Collaborative Expansion & Mechanical Engineering Labs**

**Grant Program: Private & Independent Colleges**

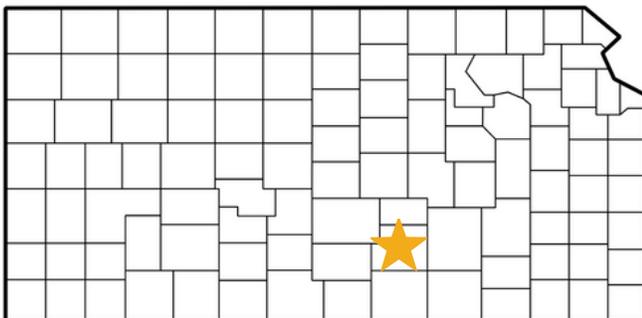
**Date: July 2022 - June 2025**

## Project Summary

Friends University has invested in two capital projects to support in-demand programs, positioning the school for growth. As many institutions eliminate fine arts programming, Friends has had continued demand for its programs in art, dance, music, theatre and art education. Investment in the Riney Fine Arts Center will further elevate the student experience by providing collaborative spaces which will inspire and expand opportunities. The Mechanical Engineering program has been successful since its 2019 inception producing in-demand graduates for industry. Further investment into this program with a new engineering facility with two labs and state of the art equipment will ensure Friends' continued ability to provide skilled workforce for various industrial applications.

## Location

Friends University, Wichita KS



## Goals and Objectives

**Goal:** Inspire and expand career opportunities for artists, teachers, conductors, choir directors, and worship leaders who will make a vibrant mark on our community.

**Objective:** Modify existing fine arts facility to encourage collaboration, encourage discovery of new techniques, artistic expressions and debut inspiring performances.

**Goal:** Expand the Mechanical Engineering program and increase the number of graduates to meet industry demand in Wichita area.

**Objective:** Erect new 6,500 square foot facility with two labs with fixed benches for microscopes, testers, wind tunnels and flumes.

## Budget Overview

### Funding **\$8.48M**

- Department of Commerce Grant \$ 1,014,361
- Grantee Match \$ 3,043,084
- Other \$ 4,421,213

### Investment **\$8.48M**

- Engineering & Design \$ 519,013
- Construction \$ 6,623,669
- Equipment \$ 1,335,796

## Grantee Information

Friends University is a private nondenominational Christian university founded in 1898. Offering over 50 degree programs, Friends awards undergraduate and graduate degrees from a Christian liberal arts base. The main campus is in Wichita with additional facilities in Kansas City and Topeka.

## Sustainability

Many improvements will be one-time costs, though maintenance will be an ongoing expense. Revenue from increased enrollment will support those costs.

## Outcomes

The new engineering labs meet the American Board of Engineering & Technology accreditation standards, providing a dynamic, hands-on learning experience to meet the needs of the 21st century workforce. The Riney Fine Arts Center now has an updated auditorium, black box theatre, and recital hall/sacred chapel all with technological enhancements. An updated grand entrance welcomes the university and community attendees to lectures, recitals, performances and exhibits

## Target Population

The target population for this project is the main campus student body, as well as industry and disciplines that embrace graduates trained in these facilities. The improvements will enrich the Wichita area as well through Friends' community partnerships. For example, Lion's Band Camp, Opera Kansas, and the Wichita Symphony Orchestra utilize Riney Fine Arts facilities for programs.

## Activities and Timeline

- Q2 2023 - Construction of engineering facility begins
- Q3 2023 - Construction begins at Riney Fine Arts Building
- Q4 2023 - Celebration of William Penn Science Building labs project completion
- Q2 2024 - Completion of Riney Fine Arts Building and Sebitts Fine Arts Addition

## Contact Information

For additional information, please contact

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