

News Release



USC ANNOUNCES MAJOR CAPITAL GIFT TO THE USC MARSHALL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FROM JILL AND FRANK FERTITTA '84

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The University of Southern California announces a naming gift from Jill and Frank Fertitta BS '84 that will create a new undergraduate instructional building and establish an endowed faculty chair at the **USC Marshall School of Business**.

Jill and Frank Fertitta Hall will transform the educational environment at USC Marshall, facilitating more collaborative and technology-enabled learning experiences with state-of-the-art classrooms and expanded student areas. Standing in a prominent location on the southeast corner of the University Park Campus at the intersection of Figueroa Street and Exposition Drive, within view of the university's main entrance, the new building will increase USC Marshall's undergraduate student capacity by close to one-third.

"Thanks to the Fertittas' inspired generosity, USC's students will develop the skills they need to thrive in our globally interconnected world," said USC President **C. L. Max Nikias**. "As the nature of business continues to evolve, Fertitta Hall will ensure that our students receive a world-class education in a world-class facility."

"The generous and visionary support of Jill and Frank Fertitta will dramatically expand our facilities, as well as the teaching and learning opportunities at USC Marshall," said **James G. Ellis**, dean of the USC Marshall School of Business.

The gift from the Fertitta family will also establish the USC Jill and Frank Fertitta Endowed Chair in Business. In the past two years, USC Marshall has experienced its most significant recruiting period in the school's history, including the hiring of 48 faculty members as part of its Thought Leadership program. "This endowed chair supports our ongoing priority to recruit and retain influential academicians, leading policy-makers and real-world practitioners who are eager to share their insights, experiences and connections with our students," Ellis said.

The gift represents significant support for the Campaign for the University of Southern California, a multi-year effort to secure \$6 billion or more in private philanthropy to advance USC's academic priorities and expand the university's positive impact on the community and world.

Frank Fertitta, a 1984 graduate of USC Marshall, is the chairman and CEO of Las Vegas-based Fertitta Entertainment, a resort and casino development and management company, and of Station

Casinos, the largest provider of gaming and entertainment to residents of Southern Nevada. Under Frank's leadership, Station Casinos has grown from one property with approximately 1,200 employees to 17 properties with nearly 13,000 employees, and is the only gaming company ever to have been named by FORTUNE magazine as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For." Fertitta is also a founder and principal owner of Zuffa, LLC, which owns and operates the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC®). In 2001, Frank and his brother, Lorenzo, purchased the UFC® and transformed the organization into a highly successful global sports enterprise that is now the largest live pay-per-view content provider in the world, and is available on some form of television in more than 1 billion homes, in 48 countries and territories, and in 22 different languages.

"I am grateful to the university for the outstanding educational opportunities I received at USC Marshall, and to experience this once again as a Trojan parent," Fertitta said. "Jill and I are proud and very pleased to be able to give back to USC, and to future generations whose careers will be shaped at USC Marshall."

The Fertittas have provided philanthropic support to a broad range of organizations, many of which are committed to providing or enhancing education, including the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the Meadows School, the Clark County School District, the Las Vegas Chapter of the I Have a Dream Foundation and Bishop Gorman High School. The Fertittas' support also has included the Nevada Cancer Institute, Catholic Charities of Las Vegas, the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund and the Smith Center for the Performing Arts.

Their daughter, Kelley-Ann, is a 2012 graduate of the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

Construction on the new building is expected to begin in May 2014 with completion set for the fall 2016 semester.

About the USC Marshall School of Business

*Consistently ranked among the nation's premier business schools, the **USC Marshall School of Business** is internationally recognized for its emphasis on entrepreneurship and innovation, social responsibility, and path-breaking research. Located in the heart of Los Angeles, one of the world's leading business centers and the U.S. gateway to the Pacific Rim, Marshall offers its 5,500-plus undergraduate and graduate students a unique world view and impressive global experiential opportunities. With an alumni community spanning 90 countries, USC Marshall students join a worldwide network of thought leaders who are redefining the way business works.*

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