From Alumni House to Alumni Center

It’s TIME  BE A PART OF THE TRANSFORMATION
Now is the time.

Since the Alumni House opened in 1980, its beauty, functionality and usage have exceeded all expectations. As the nerve center for the University of Utah’s 246,000 alumni, this iconic building hosts hundreds of alumni, campus and community events every year. During the past three decades, the U has grown in size, prominence and importance, yet the Alumni House has remained largely unchanged.

To continue serving as the headquarters for all alumni activities, as well as a central gathering place at our remarkable University, a major renovation is required to highlight our accomplishments, showcase our traditions and welcome back all alumni and friends.

We invite you to be part of this exciting transformation.

Michele Mattsson
Chair, Alumni Center Transformation Committee

The U Alumni Association sponsors a variety of events and programs. Shown clockwise in the upper four photos, from top left, are the Emeritus Reunion, The MUSS student athletics fan club, game watch parties and football tailgates. The bottom photo shows Fred Esplin, center, U vice president for institutional advancement, with former Alumni Association board presidents, from left, Don Gale, Randy Dryer, Michele Mattsson, Jeff Hilton, Spence Kinard and John Ashton, now executive director of the Alumni Association.
RICH IN TRADITION

The University of Utah Alumni Association was founded in 1886 by a small group of alumni committed to strengthening ties with the University and one another. They helped organize the early regional alumni clubs, started the alumni directory and magazine, sponsored class reunions and established an alumni giving program. The Alumni Association has become an integral part of the U campus, and a bridge to local, national and international communities. The Association also provides opportunities for alumni and students to participate in community service, raise scholarship funds, advocate to the Utah Legislature and join alumni around the globe in chapter and networking activities.

RISING TO THE CHALLENGE

The existing 16,720-square-foot Alumni House provides a setting for award ceremonies, retreats, conferences, campus orientations, community service projects, wedding receptions and parties. On average, 500 events are held in the building every year, while other requests are turned away due to lack of space and amenities. As a new member of the Pac-12, the University is experiencing unprecedented growth and international attention. The Alumni House, situated in the heart of the campus, has the potential to be a spectacular gathering place for a variety of alumni, campus and community activities.

A conceptual rendering above shows a spacious, two-story atrium with comfortable seating and a cozy fireplace that invite you to sit and stay a while. The furniture can be moved or reconfigured to accommodate events and receptions. The current lobby is shown in the photo below.
Bigger

A worthy endeavor.

“My mother and father, Grace and Obert Tanner, took a personal interest in helping to create an elegant dining room where alumni, guests and friends of the University could gather to celebrate special occasions. I look forward to continuing the legacy they began in 1977 by serving as honorary chair for the Alumni Center Transformation Campaign. Please join me in supporting this endeavor to expand and renovate the Alumni House to benefit many generations to come.”

—Carolyn Tanner Irish
Chair, O.C. Tanner Company Board of Directors

Grace A. Tanner (shown in the painting) selected the fine china and silverware used for special occasions in the Tanner Dining Room. A conceptual rendering, left, shows the Tanner Ballroom and Conference Center.
BUILDING OUR FUTURE

The expanded Alumni Center will be two-thirds larger, adding almost 12,000 square feet of space. New features will include:

- a large, beautifully landscaped front courtyard
- an open, airy two-story atrium
- an elegant ballroom with capacity to seat 340 for dining, almost three times the current number
- a full-service kitchen
- a remodeled reception room on the main level featuring indoor and outdoor entertainment space
- more administrative space to accommodate a growing professional and student workforce
- an executive boardroom and smaller meeting rooms

"The Alumni House is the intersection of Utah students and alumni. As students, it has been wonderful being able to connect with graduates and share our different experiences and memories at the U. These relationships have truly enhanced our college experience. The transformation will provide a true home for alumni to come back to. We should always be able to call Utah home."

—Neela and Neena Pack  
Student Alumni Board members
A REVITALIZED GATHERING PLACE

The building’s new design maximizes internal and external spaces. Groups will move seamlessly between the front courtyard, atrium and south patio. Well-designed landscaping, native foliage and pergolas will allow almost year-round use of the outdoor areas.

ILLUMINATING THE SPACE

One of the major objectives of the Alumni Center Transformation is to brighten the existing space and maximize natural light by using:

- skylights
- lighted coves
- contemporary light fixtures and accent lighting
- modern furnishings, textures and art
- expansive glass windows providing views of the campus and surrounding mountains
A place to call home.

“To me, the Alumni House represents the heart and soul of the University of Utah Alumni Association, as well as a ‘home’ for our 246,000 alumni worldwide. It is not only a place where alumni events occur; it is also the place where all alumni communication originates. Transforming the House into an Alumni Center is an undertaking I hope alumni, board members, faculty and students will participate in and enjoy for years to come!”

—John Ashton
Executive Director, U Alumni Association
“Many of my favorite campus events in the past 32 years have taken place in the Alumni House. We have celebrated victories here, honored our most distinguished alumni and recognized career accomplishments. It has served as our living room, conference center and reception hall. But now it’s time to envision the Alumni Center of the future, one that will generate excitement and allow us to fulfill the hospitality needs of the University as a Pac-12 contender.”

—David W. Pershing
President, University of Utah
A STRONGER, MORE Viable Presence

The contemporary design of the new Alumni Center will provide a perfect venue for scholarship banquets, reunions, conferences, meetings, weddings and many other social and business functions. The building will also serve as a visitors center that will feature the U’s colorful history and memorabilia. Other benefits will include:

- LEED-certified renovation (minimum of LEED-silver certification)
- highly efficient heating, cooling and lighting
- state-of-the-art technology
- office space for special campus visitors and guests
- comfortable, inviting seating areas, inside and outside
- new and improved rental options

Renderings depict a dedicated board room, shown above, and an attractive remodel of the Burbidge Room, shown below, often used for large meetings and gatherings.
A great resource.

“With this transformation, the Alumni Center has the potential to be a greater resource and attraction to students, faculty and visitors. Students will begin to recognize what goes on within its walls, ask questions about how they can be a part of it, and feel a sense of welcoming arms encouraging them to make the Alumni Association part of their lives forever.”

—Danielle McConkie
President, Student Alumni Board
Your charitable contribution will make a significant difference in the Alumni Center Transformation. Ultimately, the renovation benefits alumni, students, faculty and the community by adding the space and amenities that will enable the Alumni Association to serve the growing needs of the University for decades to come.

For more information or to make a contribution, please visit www.alumni.utah.edu/transformation or call 801-585-9021.
For more information about the Alumni Center Transformation Campaign, please visit www.alumni.utah.edu/transformation or call 801-585-9021.