



Gala at the Great Hall

MAKING EDUCATIONAL ACCESS POSSIBLE



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Welcome to the Gala at the Great Hall

Monmouth opened its doors 90 years ago, during the Great Depression, as a junior college to create academic opportunity for local students. Providing deserving students with access to higher education, regardless of their economic circumstances, has always been central to our mission. As Monmouth has evolved—first into a four-year college, and then into a nationally ranked university boasting doctoral programs, Division I athletics, and state-of-the-art facilities—our commitment to access has remained steadfast.

This fall, Monmouth welcomed its most academically prepared—and one of its most diverse classes in the University's history. Today, half of the members of the Class of 2026 are “FLI students”—that is, first-generation students and/or students from low-income households as measured by Pell Grant eligibility. Integrating excellence and access continues to be the driving force behind our mission, and our progress is reflected in reaching our highest-ever ranking in *U.S. News & World Report's* list of Best Colleges this year.

With your support, we will continue to provide access to deserving students while advancing efforts toward academic, athletic, and artistic excellence. Our debut season in the Coastal Athletic Association garnered multiple team and individual honors—including our first-ever CAA conference championship—while simultaneously showcasing Monmouth to key markets up and down the East Coast. At the same time, the Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music's first American Music Honors event brought recording icons to campus while reinforcing the Archives' mission to preserve and promote the enduring story of American music—with a bold new facility announced in October, and expected to open in 2026.

Throughout the year these and other efforts to integrate excellence and access gained further momentum, and I was pleased that the industry-leading *Inside Higher Ed* lauded our continued financial strength while enhancing our campus and increasing student aid while remaining debt-free.

Sadly, we lost one stalwart champion of our commitment to service and strength this year. For more than 25 years, former Board Chair Alfred J. Schiavetti Jr. '11HN was a loyal advocate, an esteemed trustee, and a steadfast supporter of Monmouth University. A passionate champion of liberal arts education, he served the University on two presidential search committees and his leadership was integral in advancing Monmouth to new levels of academic excellence and financial stability. Although we recognize him posthumously with the University's highest honor—the President's Medal—I take comfort in knowing that Barbara and his family appreciate the remarkable and enduring legacy of service, philanthropy, and leadership Al left at Monmouth.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to this evening's lead sponsors—Gourmet Dining, Torcon, the Schiavetti family, Brian Fitzgerald Arch + Design, the Kraushaar and Loshiamo families, and Stillwell-Hansen—for their support for our Gala at the Great Hall.

Thank you for your vote of confidence in the value of a Monmouth University education, and your direct support of the exceptional students we serve.

Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
President



The President's Medal Recipient



Alfred J. Schiavetti, Jr. '11HN

For more than 25 years, Alfred Schiavetti, Jr. was a steadfast advocate of Monmouth's mission, supporting the University as a distinguished trustee and loyal friend. A champion of liberal arts education, he served on two Presidential Search Committees and was integral in advancing financial stability and academic excellence at Monmouth.

Elected to the Board of Trustees in 1997, Schiavetti served as chair from 2007 to 2010, was elected Life Trustee in 2011, and Trustee Emeritus in 2016. He served as a member of the Kislak Real Estate Institute Advisory Board, and was awarded an honorary doctorate in Public Service in 2011.

Throughout his involvement, he and his wife, Barbara, were actively engaged in campus life as founding members of the Parents Council and longtime supporters of athletics. They also contributed significantly to annual funds, priority fundraising initiatives, and student scholarships, especially through the Barbara B. and Alfred J. Schiavetti, Jr. Distinguished Endowed Scholarship.

Schiavetti's deep commitment to Monmouth and its students has left an indelible legacy at our University and makes him exceptionally deserving of the President's Medal. We miss his wise counsel and remain grateful for his profound leadership.

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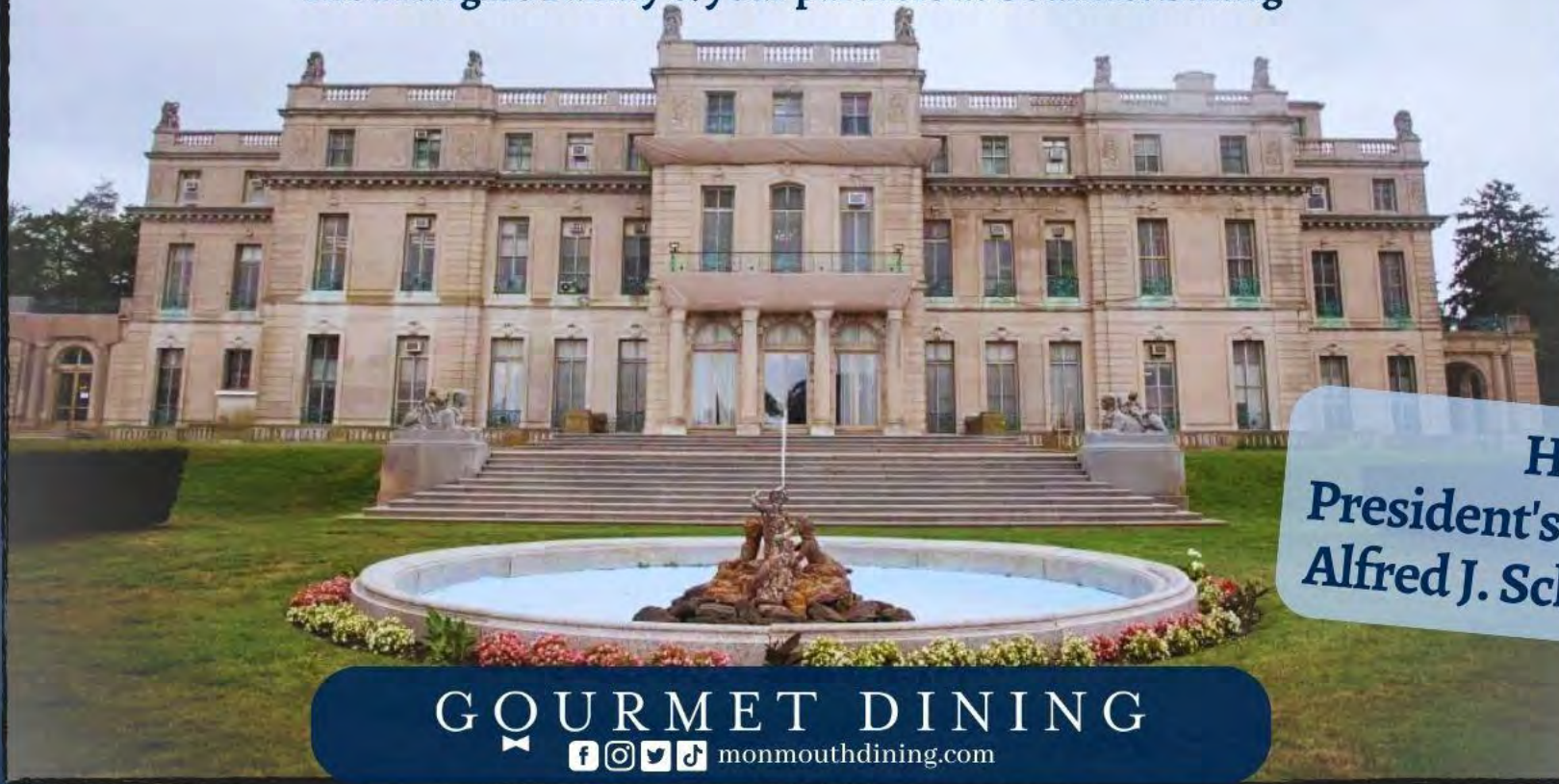
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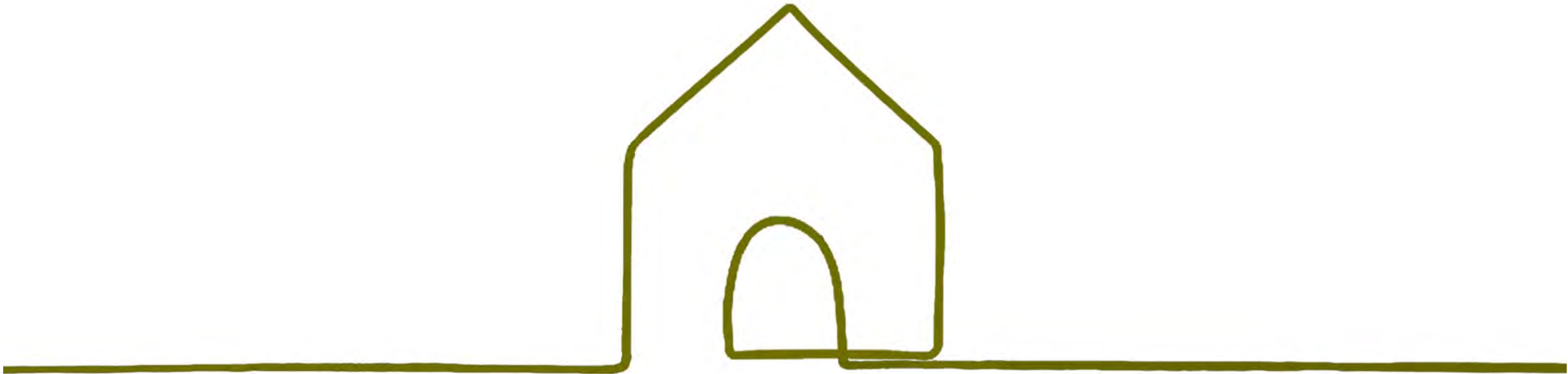


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ALFRED J. SCHIAVETTI, JR.

Al was a beloved member of the Hackensack Meridian family for more than 25 years,
serving as a trustee on the HMMH Board of Trustees and Chairman of the HMMH Ambulatory Care Board.



**Congratulations to Monmouth University for 90 years as an institution of higher learning
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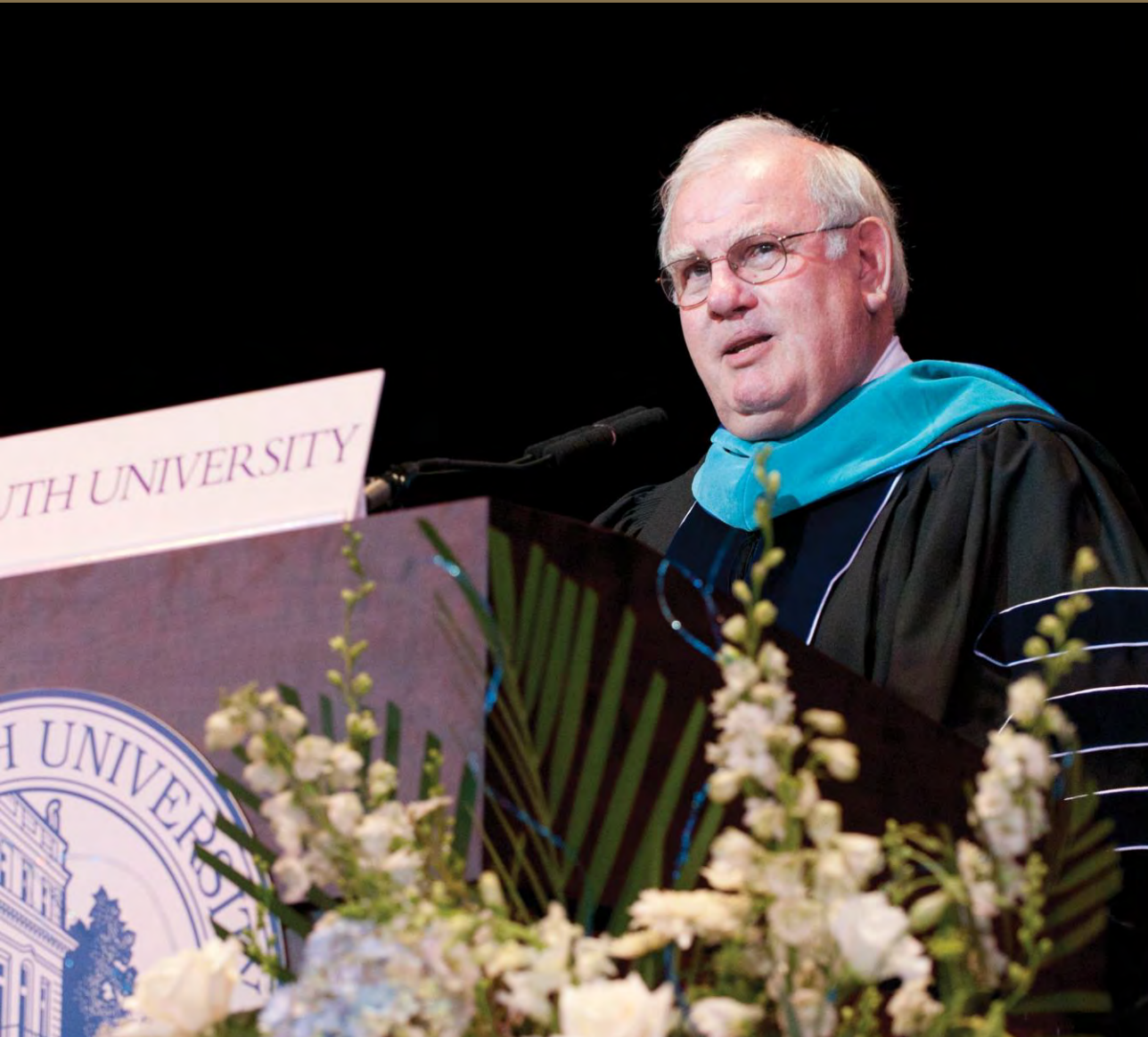
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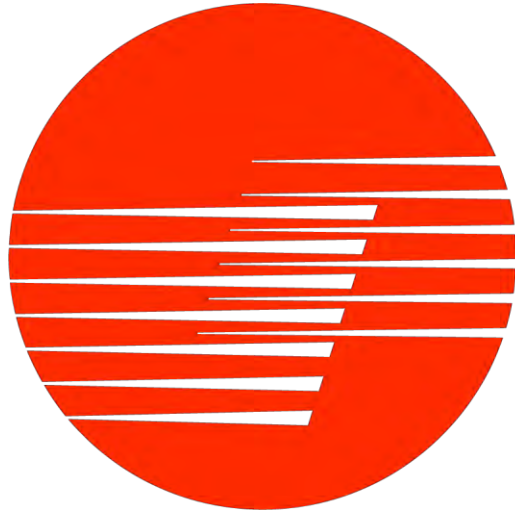
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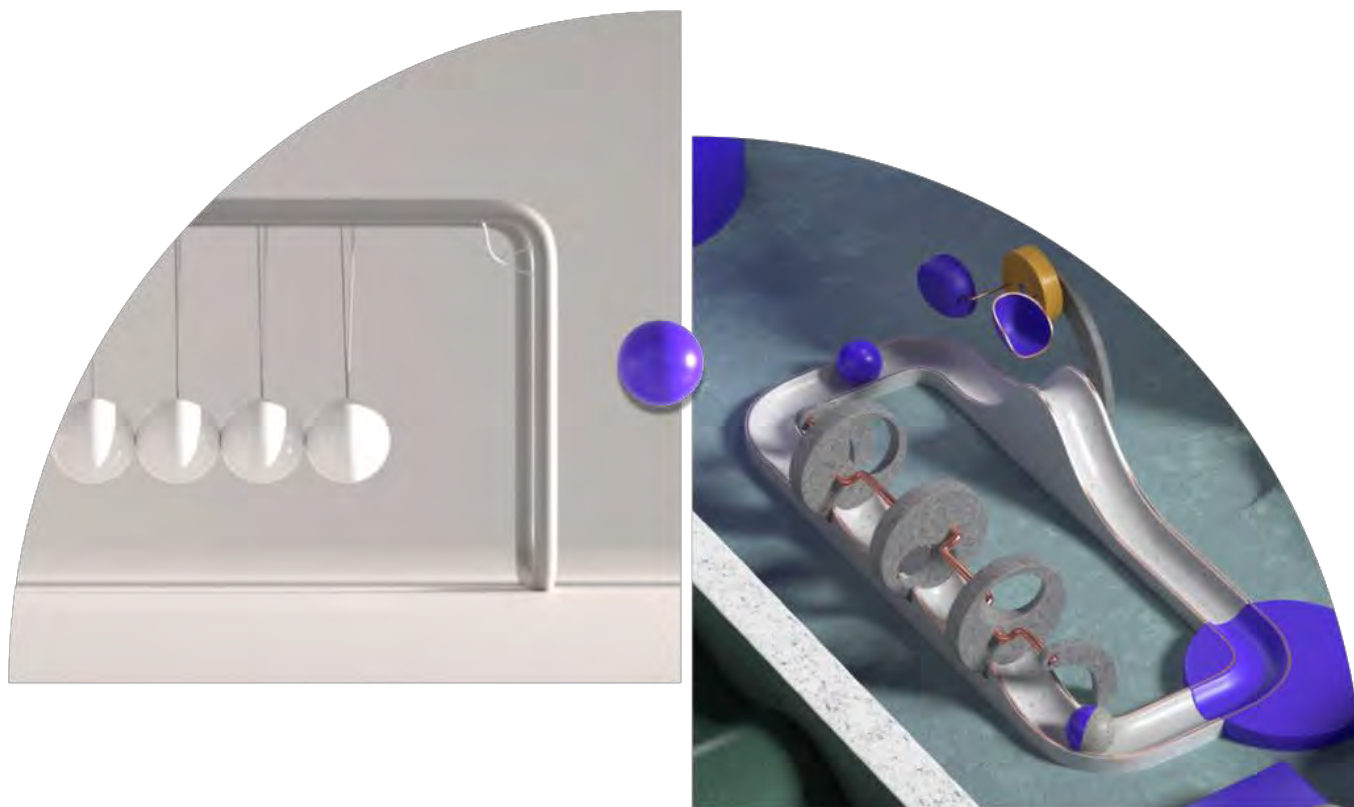


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The Eisenstadt Family

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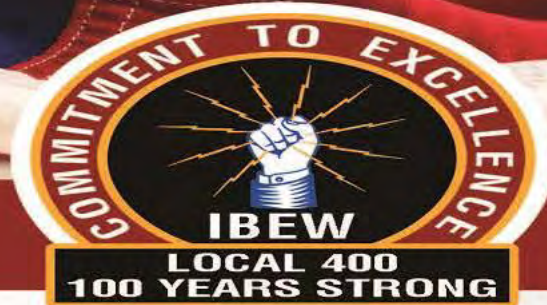


We are proud to posthumously recognize and congratulate a forever leader and friend—both at Monmouth and in our community—Al Schiavetti Jr. '11HN.

Leslie Hitchner and Family

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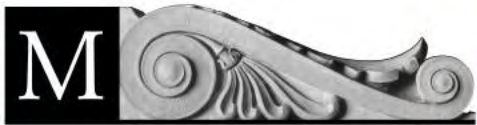
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AL SCHIAVETTI JR. '11HN

*A friend, mentor and leader
who will not be forgotten.*

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Raymond Michelli '00 06/27/1975 - 10/06/2011

Tom, Roseann, and the entire Michelli family salute our dear friend, Al Schiavetti Jr. '11HN, for his wonderful contributions to Monmouth and its students.

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To the Schiavetti Family,

Al was a giant in the banking industry and a pillar here. His guidance and significant leadership had a profoundly positive impact at Monmouth University.

We all miss Al, but your family can rest assured that his legacy will live on forever...

Linda and Michael A. Plodwick '82

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Thank you, Al, for everything.
You'll be a part of Miranda's Victim forever.

George & Vita Kolber

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On October 18, 2023, the Bruce Springsteen Archives and Center for American Music unveiled the next step in its evolution with the announcement of a visually stunning building on the campus of Monmouth University. An exciting new home for exhibits, archives, and educational programming, this facility will entertain and educate visitors from around the globe, celebrating New Jersey's native son—Bruce Springsteen—and his place within the dynamic history of American music.



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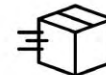
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*In Memory of a Dear Friend,
Alfred John Schiavetti, Jr.*



Respectfully,

Tavit and Sossie Najarian

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Gala at the Great Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024



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