

Dear Mr. Blouin:

Regarding Shanley Pavillion:

History of Northwestern's Shanley Pavilion, from
Amazingrace to StuCo theatre venue — Scene+Heard

Robert Mendel here, I'm a RTVF and Theater Alum who is starting on legacy planning for myself. I'm wondering what a major remodel of Shanley might cost and how would I go about proposing to help fund such an endeavor?

What would be the process to pursue an inquiry, please?

I've aggregated a lot of pictures and ephemera about my time producing student theater at NU from 1976-1980 and you can see them on the "NU Theater" Facebook

Page: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/
515300498868591/media/albums](https://www.facebook.com/groups/515300498868591/media/albums)

I used Shanley as a rehearsal hall for HAIr, The American Tribal Love Rock Musical in 1977 ([https://
www.facebook.com/media/set/?
set=a.1487668147821&type=3](https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1487668147821&type=3) so I'm sentimental about the building!

I've explored the facilities pages on the NU website which further expanded my thinking about this possible renovation to include an idea to make the whole building partially solar powered, like the Electric Lodge venue in Venice, CA, near where I live. (<https://>

www.artsearthpartnership.org/programs)

My nascent idea is to maybe launch a "matching grant" drive among my fellow student theater alums to raise the money to get the project designed, and then work with the university and alumni relations to further fundraise to get it built. I'd offer to "match" donations up to a set amount and hopefully launch this idea realistically.

Not to drop names, but some of my close friends were ridiculously successful in the entertainment business and we all did student theater together at NU back in the 70s. I'd hope to intrigue them to get seriously involved in this (can you spell N-A-M-I-N-G-R-I-G-H-T-S ? :-).)

I am cc-ing here Dean Adrian Randolph of the Weinberg College of Arts And Sciences, since historically, all of the seed funding for our student theater endeavors emanated from that Dean's office, back in the day. I've inquired with alumni relations about learning how to "earmark" donations to student theater in general, even if, and especially if, this ambitious idea is unrealistic.

Digression: Here is my commemorative signed football from the 1996 Rose Bowl:



The NU Marching Band Memorial Commemorative Football will someday be presented to the University for prominent display. This ball, from the 1996 Rose Bowl, bears the autographs of (in alphabetical order:) Gary Barnett, (coach of the 1995 Wildcats), Dan Farris (Marching Band Director), Pat Fitzgerald (former coach of the Wildcats), Pete Friedmann (<https://wheatonmunicipalband.org/pete-friedmann> 44 years NUMB Announcer, and current custodian of the ball), Otto Graham (NU Letterman in Football, Basketball, Baseball - class of 1944 <https://pab58.com/2014/01/19/otto-graham-best-pro-football-quarterback-ever/?fbclid=IwY2xjawMWCTBleHRuA2FlbQlzMABicmlkETEWZ>

VFHVTc0dWdrUkU2QldxAR7z9QrOLbJMKienKLyQuQkJc
MUUE0NsAahF-

d5C4B3KOI6pBFroUg2Q4NS3JQ_aem_0C0T6_A9VNPck
CaZzvUgxQ

John P. Paynter,

https://nusports.com/sports/2015/3/18/GEN_20140101253

Dr. Mallory Thompson

<https://www.music.northwestern.edu/news/2024/mallory-thompsons-final-bow>

This Ball was signed in 1996 by Barnett, Paynter and Graham. It was signed in 2000 at the Alamo Bowl by Thompson and Farris. (Those signatures since faded). It was signed again in 2009 by Farris over his now-faded signature, and also by Fitzgerald and Friedmann. It was signed again (over her now-faded signature) in 2010 by Thompson. Ball was originated by Robert Mendel (Sp 1980) - NUMB 1976 (Tenor).

Thanks for your time and consideration!
Go Cats!

Respectfully,

Robert Mendel

Robert Brooks Mendel I Second Unit Director or Assistant
Director, Location Management, Additional Crew

Robert Brooks Mendel I Second Unit
Director or Assistant Director, Locat...

Known for: Quantum Leap, Nowhere to
Run, Tron: Legacy