

Designated Funds

The Joseph A. Turri '45 Library and Learning Center Fund

The Barbara L. Sowers and Joseph A. Turri '45 Music, Drama, and Fine Arts Fund



A sense of gratitude to his alma mater, MMI Preparatory School, was the inspiration for Joseph A. Turri, an alumnus of the school in Freeland, Pa., to establish the first Joseph A. Turri '45 Endowment Fund in 2013. The fund benefits three important programs that are crucial to the success of any school: the library, the music department and the visual arts program. "MMI was good to me," Mr. Turri said. "Not only did my alma mater educate me very well, but it also provided me with a scholarship to attend the University of Pennsylvania, and from there I stepped into the world prepared for almost any challenge." He added, "There's a payback time in life, and my endowment fund for MMI is it."

Mr. Turri explained that The Luzerne Foundation came highly recommended. "My attorney and I researched the Foundation, and we liked the perpetuity aspect of establishing this fund." There is a need for a long-term view where charitable giving is concerned, Mr. Turri noted. "Thanks to The Luzerne Foundation, I can rest assured that my goals and wishes for MMI will live on long after I am gone." The Turri Endowment was used to construct a new library building for MMI and is committed to annual disbursements to enhance its function.



A second portion of the Endowment has been set aside to support the music and arts department. A recent distribution allowed the arts department to install and activate two kilns for the ceramics program. Additional major gifts are in the planning stage.

According to Tom Hood, Head of School at MMI Preparatory, "Mr. Turri '45 is a distinguished graduate of MMI. As an independent school educating students in grades 6-12, generous gifts such as Mr. Turri's allow us to continue our 130 year+ tradition of education excellence in the greater Wilkes-Barre/Hazleton area. We are grateful for his lifelong support and the support of The Luzerne Foundation."

