



News Release

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Fred L. Emerson Foundation Awards College \$500,000 Grant for Ball Hall Renovation

KEUKA PARK, N.Y.—The Fred L. Emerson Foundation Inc. of Auburn, N.Y., has awarded a \$500,000 grant to Keuka College for *The Campaign to Save Ball Hall*.

This is the latest and one of the largest gifts for the \$10 million fund-raising effort that kicked off in July. The campaign total now stands at \$7.01 million.

“We are delighted that the Emerson Foundation, a longtime friend and supporter of Keuka College, has elected to support the Ball Hall renovation with this generous grant,” said College President Joseph G. Burke. “We view this grant as another affirmation of the work we do for our students.”

The grant continues a tradition of support for “student-based initiatives,” according to the president.

In 1999, the College received a \$600,000 challenge grant from the Foundation for the renovation of the Lucretia Davis Jephson Science Center.

“That project has played a key role in helping us recruit and retain students and so will the Ball Hall renovation,” said Burke.

The Emerson Foundation was founded in 1932 by the late Fred L. Emerson, president of Dunn & McCarthy Inc., a manufacturer of women’s shoes in Auburn. The Foundation’s primary interests are private higher education and other programs in upstate New York.

Ball Hall is the College’s original building and carries the name of Rev. Dr. George Harvey Ball, founder and first president of the College.

Several major elements of the building will be repaired. The roof will be replaced, masonry will be restored, new windows will be installed, the foundation walls will be weatherproofed and repaired, and the trim on the bell tower and along the roofline will be repaired.

Space and function concerns will also be addressed.

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“We will bring various administrative functions, including college advancement, admissions, financial aid, business office, bursar’s office, and personnel—which are currently spread across three non-adjacent buildings—into Ball Hall,” said Burke. “The top three floors will still be used as residence hall space, although there will be much-needed upgrades and improvements.”

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