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# Hive Expansion Underway This Summer

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## Hive Expansion Underway This Summer

BY NATALIA KIRYCHUK '19

The Hive has always been an integral part of student life at Cedarville University, but after 17 years, the student body has outgrown the snack shop and the entire space is in need of a makeover. The University is asking alumni and friends to come together in a \$500,000 renovation and expansion campaign to update The Hive into a new, energetic hangout for students.

Construction will take place summer 2017, with an August 15 grand opening set for live broadcast on the Cedarville University Facebook page.

The Hive was created in 2000 as an alternate eating space to the campus dining hall. The design, then classic, is now in need of an upgrade. Lighting is dim and the floors worn and dated. Traffic flow has always been an issue, as lines

of customers hinder students from getting drinks, finding a seat, or even getting to the door.

The new space will fix these issues by expanding the eatery into the next-door game room and storage closet. The space will become one unified area with updated flooring, seating, lighting, and a new stage area with an accompanying sound room.

“We want this to be a place of vibrant community,” said Chad Jackson '05, Cedarville’s Creative Director and lead designer on the renovation project. “The community is there; we’re just working to create the space.”

Having twice the capacity with a bright and inviting décor, the expanded Hive will be a welcome space for Yellow Jackets to relax, eat, study, and build eternally significant relationships.

“Our goal is to alleviate pressure during times of high volume and expand our student interest during times of low volume,” said Jackson. “This will be a space where students can come and feel comfortable.”

The new design for The Hive will feature a hexagon motif





integrated into each design aspect, along with a large yellow jacket displayed on the wall. There will be new and varied seating, including booths, community tables, and bar stools. The Hive entrance will also be moved to better accommodate lines of customers.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for alumni, parents, students, and friends of Cedarville University to invest in the lives of students,” said Rick Melson, Vice President for Advancement. “The project provides a greatly expanded and renovated space for the campus community to gather, not only for meals, but for ongoing conversation, study, and discipleship.”

Commitment to the project is high. The class of 2017 devoted its Senior Class Gift to help fund The Hive expansion, including a mosaic tile to be displayed on the floor leading up to the counter.

“We decided to contribute to The Hive expansion because the hallmark of our four years at Cedarville has been the amazing community,” said Senior Class President Jonathan Lyons '17, a music education major. “This mosaic will represent the class of 2017’s commitment to seeing those who come after us enjoy the Cedarville experience to the fullest.”

“I am very excited about the upcoming renovation to The Hive,” said Donna Fifer, Manager of the Hive. “I believe current and prospective students as well as alumni will be impressed when it is revealed in the fall.”

Alana Haslow, the interior designer for Cedarville’s Health Sciences Center, contributed ideas to the project, along with students from the International Center for Creativity (ICC), where Cedarville’s third- and fourth-year industrial and

innovative design students take classes.

“Students need to experience actual project parameters in order to be effective on the job someday, and these types of collaborative projects are so valuable for that type of experiential learning,” said Jim Stevenson, President of ICC. “It was a fun and very valuable experience.”

“The ideas ICC gave us were a good launching off point to show how the space could be used,” said Jackson.

Kayla McConnell '17 was the project lead for the team of ICC students.

“Our goal was to transform this space from a quick pass-by on campus tours into the grand finale,” said McConnell. “While The Hive will always be the setting of some of my favorite memories from Cedarville, I am excited to see it transition into its next chapter of life.”

Now, your gift can help provide a community-enhancing gathering space for a whole new generation of Yellow Jackets. To learn more about the renovation and view a 3D video rendering, visit [cedarville.edu/hiverenovation](http://cedarville.edu/hiverenovation). You can give to The Hive renovation and expansion campaign by visiting [cedarville.edu/hiverenovationgift](http://cedarville.edu/hiverenovationgift).



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