INTRODUCING THE NEW AVERY FISHER CENTER FOR MUSIC AND MEDIA

2 Stacks, study spaces, and the AFC compose a “music floor” in Bobst

3 New library director on the global university: “Best of both worlds.”

3 Faculty makes creative use of a unique new library facility
Bobst Library’s Avery Fisher Center for Music and Media (AFC), one of the largest academic music and media centers in the country, is also the newest. In January 2017, the doors opened to an entirely new facility on the library’s 7th floor, replacing the original, 2nd-floor AFC opened in 1987.

Completely redesigned with sophisticated new audiovisual technology, the AFC features media-ready study carrels and group study rooms with playback that supports the full spectrum of analog and digital formats. The AFC’s Feldstein Immersion Room provides one of the most dramatic listening experiences anywhere in the city.

The AFC is the centerpiece of a new “music library floor” with paged access to all media collections, reference assistance, circulation, study areas, and stacks. The library’s music collections include 54,000 books and periodicals, 50,000 scores, 115,000 sound recordings, and nearly 50,000 DVDs and videotapes.

“The AFC is the latest project in our phased renovation of Bobst Library,” says Dean of Libraries Carol A. Mandel, “and it exemplifies the commitment to enhanced teaching, learning, and research experience that lies at the heart of every design decision we make.” Curricula throughout NYU, including but by no means limited to its many programs in music, film, and television, draw on media as a research resource. Says Mandel, “Single users and groups now have facilities with high quality audio and video playback that open up whole new possibilities for research and discussion, creative assignments, and expanded coursework.”

Clockwise from top left: Composer Brane Živković “conducting” his Grim Game score in the immersion room (Sally Cummings); a media carrel (Elena Olivo); Technology Specialist Scott Greenberg in the Feldstein Immersion Room (Elena Olivo); Dean Mandel with early music scores on display in the AFC (Dan Creighton); a meeting in one of the Feldstein Media Collaborative Rooms (Sarah Mechling for Perkins Eastman).
Zach Coble, Head of Digital Scholarship Services (DSS)
Formerly: Digital Scholarship Specialist
Education: MPS, Interactive Telecommunications, NYU (expected 2018);
MLIS, University of Missouri; BA, History, Hendrix College, Conway, AR

DSS helps faculty and students use digital tools and methods to conduct research and present it online. An increasing number of faculty are coming to us for help with planning, analyzing, and publishing their digital research projects. Our Web Hosting service, with flexible web space and customizable hosting platforms, is always in high demand for exhibitions and other research presentations. On another front, DSS is collaborating with Data Services to pilot a new service to provide scholars with access to large scale, born digital collections ready for computational analysis.
Major Gift Honors a Tech Innovator

Lynda Feldstein (NYU ’65), pictured above (left) in the Avery Fisher Center with some of her extended family, made a major gift to the Libraries in memory of her late husband, George Feldstein (NYU ’64, ’68), who earned two degrees in engineering. George Feldstein, founder of Crestron Electronics, pioneered advances in AV control and automation technology—some of which is used in the AFC. “Our family has always had an appreciation for music, both playing and listening,” Lynda Feldstein says. “Technology and music have always been a part of our lives. I am thrilled that the AFC’s integration of the two will help foster excitement and creativity at NYU.” In gratitude, the Libraries named two key AFC facilities—the Immersion Room and the west Media Collaborative Rooms—in the Feldsteins’ honor.

Photo: Elena Olivo