

A Heritage of Philanthropy

Cardiovascular Center named in honor of Samuel and Jean Frankel

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN Cardiovascular Center has been named in honor of the late Samuel and Jean Frankel, whose foundation provided early support for the center's innovative model of caring for people with cardiovascular disease. On March 21, the U-M Board of Regents approved the naming to recognize the Frankels' groundbreaking support of the center. Gifts from the Frankels to advance health care and culture at the U-M are among the most generous in school history, and their heritage of philanthropy has elevated scholarship and culture worldwide.

A \$25 million gift from the Samuel and Jean Frankel Foundation to the U-M Cardiovascular Center was announced anonymously when the center opened in

2007, and the naming marks the first time the donor has been named publicly. That gift offered immediate support for the Cardiovascular Center's clinical approach, a model never before attempted by a health care institution, which emphasizes cooperation among health care providers and puts patients and families first.

An additional \$25 million was pledged to recognize the center accomplishing specific goals agreed upon by the donor and leaders of the center. Pleased with the success in meeting those goals, the family has committed the latest gift.

"It is with enormous pride that we are affiliated with Samuel and Jean Frankel, whose belief allowed us to create a path for others to follow," says Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D., U-M executive vice

president for medical affairs and chief executive officer of the Health System.

"The gift guarantees that innovative approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of patients and families with cardiovascular disease will continue at Michigan and provide a national model," Pescovitz says.

Highlights of that model are patient- and family-centered care, and cooperation, excellence and results in all areas of the center's operations: clinical care, research and education.

The Samuel and Jean Frankel Cardiovascular Center's four physician directors and chief administrative officer call the gift an investment in the future of health care. "Medical professionals often work in the 'silo' of their own specialty, partly because of tradition and partly due to financial incentives that encourage an 'everyone-for-themselves' mentality. The directors of the Frankel Cardiovascular Center are striving to change that, and prove that there is a better way," according to the leaders.

In addition to providing world-class care for their own patients, CVC members are leading efforts to improve the quality of care for heart attack, heart failure, heart surgery, angioplasty, stroke, and peripheral arterial disease at numerous Michigan hospitals. Published results of those efforts will enable doctors and hospitals nationwide to learn from them.

The Frankel Cardiovascular Center brings together all of the U-M Health System's specialists in preventing, treat-



Stanley Frankel (center) with (from left) David Pinsky, Richard Prager, Chief Administrative Officer Linda Larin and Kim Eagle



Samuel and Jean Frankel

ing and studying heart disease, blood vessel disorders and stroke — from cardiac surgeons and intensive-care nurses to laboratory scientists, cardiologists and heart-imaging specialists. Named one of the nation’s top heart and vascular centers by many organizations, the 5-level facility includes operating rooms, clinics, inpatient beds, and indoor and outdoor healing gardens.

No matter where they are treated, patients are cared for by teams that include members of different medical and surgical specialties — all working together to determine the best course of diagnostic testing, medication, procedures, operations and preventive strategies for each patient. This repre-

sents a change of culture for medicine in that it emphasizes teamwork — between health care providers, patients and families.

The Frankels were generous donors to the Center for Jewish Studies in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. The center was renamed the Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies in recognition of their support.

Once students at LSA, Jean Frankel (B.A. 1936) and her husband, long-time Detroit-area real estate developer Samuel Frankel, provided funding in 2004 to create the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies, which was the largest gift to LSA at the time.

“Jean and Samuel Frankel have made a lasting impact on our university with their generosity. Their deep support of the CVC has had an equally profound effect on the lives of patients and their families, which makes their gift all the more transformative,” says University President Mary Sue Coleman, Ph.D.

In line with the donor’s vision, the Frankel Cardiovascular Center will continue to be led by a team. The four directors — cardiologist Kim Eagle, M.D.; cardiologist David Pinsky, M.D.; cardiac surgeon Richard Prager, M.D.; and vascular surgeon James Stanley, M.D. — will ensure the gift is used to further the CVC’s mission and vision.

Melvin Lester, M.D., special assistant to the U-M executive vice president for medical affairs, has served as an advisor to UMHS leadership and center directors on major gifts and program planning.

“The ultimate test of the wisdom of this venture is the Frankel Cardiovascular Center’s contribution to the improvement in the well-being of those who are threatened by the world’s leading cause of death: cardiovascular disease,” Lester says. “We are poised for this challenge and ready to make a difference.” —SHANTELL KIRKENDOLL and WHITLEY HILL

“The generous support

I’ve received from Dr. Mary Ann Cheng (M.D. 1988) and Mr. Wesley Pittman has made me realize that the very qualities admired in patient care — responsibility, compassion and trust — are also those that are reflected in building up the next generation of physicians to uphold the Michigan tradition of excellence.”

—Medical student Yeohan Song, recipient of the Cheng-Pitman Scholarship

To make a scholarship gift, contact B.J. Bess at 734-998-6044 or bjbess@umich.edu, or use the envelope provided within this issue of *Medicine at Michigan*.



Dancing a Marathon for Mott

THIS YEAR'S UNIVERSITY OF Michigan Dance Marathon was an extraordinary and record-breaking event in ways one might not expect.

As if it weren't enough that more than 1,000 U-M students stayed on their feet for 30 hours — from noon on Saturday, April 6, to 4 p.m. the next day — records were set for the most high-fives in 60 seconds and the largest number of people singing "I'm a Little Teapot" at the same time. The dancers also learned an intricate 15-minute line dance over the course of the event,

which was held in the U-M Track and Field Building.

In one dramatic moment, 7-year-old Emily Lickman, who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair to get around, decided to get up on stage and take her first steps: toward her Dance Marathon team members.

Finally, at the stroke of 4 p.m. on Sunday, there was surely another record broken as 1,000 maize-and-blue-clad backsides hit the floor in happy unison for some well-deserved downtime. When the dust settled, the

event had raised more than \$517,000 to support physical medicine and rehabilitation at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital — a new record for this hardworking student organization.

Dance Marathon at the U-M traces its roots back to 1997. Today, it is one of the largest student-run charitable organizations on the U-M campus, raising money for children's rehab medicine at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. Participating students work all year — organizing benefits, finding sponsors — to raise a minimum of \$300 each; most raise far more. To date, Dance Marathon has raised more than \$1.5 million for Mott.

In addition to helping programs such as the renowned Child Life

Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs and CEO of the U-M Health System Ora Hirsch Pescovitz (center) practices her moves with Dance Marathon students (from left) Monica Walls, Jasmine Injejikian, Stephanie Exton and Michael Czerwinski.



Program, the Dance Marathon funds special therapeutic programs designed to help kids with disabilities have fun while strengthening their bodies. Kids in Motion, for example, is a weekly dance and movement class led by a physical therapist and a dance teacher — with an emphasis on laughter. Therapeutic martial arts classes and a bowling club bring together children with a variety of disabilities for fun and exercise.

As to the dance itself, gone are the days of catatonic coeds dragging each other around, ignoring the rhythms of a nodding band. Today's Dance Marathon is a high-intensity, intricately choreographed event that keeps participants way too busy to even think about sitting down.

"The dancers essentially dance for 30 hours," says Jasmine Inejikian, this year's tireless marathon executive director and CEO. "They can't sit down — there aren't any chairs!"

Instead, the crowd — which includes students from virtually every course of study on the U-M campus — keeps moving, following the lead of choreographers onstage. There are massages and stretching machines, and plenty of donated food. Best of all, the kids Dance Marathon is so passionate about helping are the stars of the show, playing games, meeting U-M celebrities and just hanging out with "their" marathoners. After the kids go home on Saturday night, things move into high gear with a rave through the darkest hours. Virtually no one throws in the towel.

Says Inejikian, "On Sunday morning, when you're past the point of ex-

haustion, loopy, with your eyes glazed over, the patients and their families come back in." That inspiration, she says — remembering what it's all for — fires up the dancers for the last few exhilarating hours.

Associate Vice President of Medical Development and Chief Development Officer for the Health System Brian Lally observes: "They may not think of themselves that way, but every

one of these remarkable young students is a donor to the Health System, making a difference in children's medicine and children's lives. A million and a half dollars? That is a truly significant gift, and it's helping so many kids at Mott in so many ways. We are grateful to the Dance Marathon. It's a stellar organization." —WH

Watch a video about Dance Marathon at medatmich.org/DanceUM.

Professorships Recently Inaugurated

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, the only national foundation solely dedicated to improving the education of health professionals, established the **Josiah Macy Jr. Professorship in**



Josiah Macy Jr.

Health Professions Education in the Medical School in recognition of the U-M's dedication to excellence in medical educa-

tion. Joseph C. Kolars, M.D., who leads the Medical School's accomplishments in innovative medical education and global health partnerships as senior associate dean for education and global initiatives, was installed as the first Macy Professor on April 8.

The first pediatric orthopaedist at Michigan was honored April 10 with the inauguration of the **Robert N. Hensinger Collegiate Professorship**

in Orthopaedic Surgery. Established in part through gifts from alumni, col-



leagues, friends and current orthopaedic surgery faculty, the professorship recognizes Hensinger's contributions to medicine

at the University of Michigan as a professor of surgery, head of the Section of Orthopaedic Surgery, and chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. Hensinger currently is an emeritus professor and the William S. Smith Collegiate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery. Frances Farley, M.D., a professor of orthopaedic surgery and chief of pediatric orthopaedic surgery, as well as associate surgeon-in-chief at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital and Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital, is the first Hensinger Professor. —RK