

## Music! Music! Music!

At the first July 4th celebration in 1825, town founder John Allen's father played the fiddle for singing and dancing. Two years later, Lucy Ann Clark's piano—the first west of Detroit—arrived by oxcart. When she played, Potowatomi Indians were said to dance to the strange melodies. German immigrants, local singing groups, bands, parlor organs, and churches kept the town alive with music.

When the Union School opened on State Street in 1856, music instruction was available with singing,

piano, harp, guitar, and violin—primarily for girls. Male student bands, orchestras, and banjo groups sprang up whenever music enthusiasts got together. Instrumental music was made part of instruction in all public schools in the 1920s.

Music lovers from town and gown began a lasting tradition by creating the Choral Union in 1879 to sing Handel's Messiah. Conductor Calvin Cady also privately started the School of Music and the University Orchestra. All three groups were united in 1881 as the University Musical Society.



PROFESSOR ALBERT STANLEY (CIRCLED IN PHOTO)
CONDUCTS A CHORAL AND ORCHESTRA REHEARSAL IN
UNIVERSITY HALL IN THE 1890S. A PORTRAIT OF HENRY
SIMMONS FRIEZE, A FOUNDER OF THE CHORAL UNION,
IS ON THE REAR WALL. THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC THRIVED
UNDER THE ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP OF PROFESSOR
STANLEY, DIRECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL
SOCIETY FROM 1888 TO 1921. A PERMANENT HOME FOR
THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC WAS BUILT ON MAYNARD STREET
IN 1893. ALTHOUGH IT BECAME A PART OF UM IN 1929,
UMS RETAINED CONTROL UNTIL 1940 WHEN THEY
MOVED THEIR OFFICES INTO THE RECENTLY BUILT
BURTON TOWER. THE UM SCHOOL OF MUSIC MOVED TO
A NEW BUILDING ON NORTH CAMPUS IN 1964.



THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, ON MAYNARD NEXT TO THE NICKELS ARCADE, WAS REMODELED IN 1916.