Dedicated on September 12, 2003, William H. Gates Hall is home to the University of Washington School of Law. This 196,000 square foot building features six stories of naturally lit space, art collections, the largest law library in the Northwest and technologically advanced classrooms. Upon opening, the law school returned to the main UW campus for the first time since 1974.

Each year, the school welcomes approximately 170 new JD students for its upcoming class. Across all of the law school’s programs—JD, M.J., LLM and PhD—Gates Hall annually serves 700 students.

ABOUT WILLIAM H. GATES SR. ’50
William H. Gates Sr. is a 1950 graduate of the UW School of Law. He co-founded Shidler & King in 1964, which later became Preston Gates & Ellis LLP, and retired in 1998.

ROGER L. SHIDLER ATRIUM
The entrance opens into the Roger L. Shidler Atrium, named for a 1924 graduate who was a founding member of Shidler, McRoom, Gates & Lucas, known today as K&L Gates. Mr. Shidler’s portrait is located on the north wall near the stairs leading down to the library.

WILLIAM H. GATES SR. BY MARGARET HOLLAND SARGENT AND JOHN T. CONDON SOCIETY WALL
A large portrait of our building’s namesake, William H. Gates Sr., faces north. Adjacent to the portrait is the John T. Condon Society donor wall, named in honor of the law school’s first dean.

PERKINS COIE CONFERENCE ROOM (ROOM 115)
The Perkins Coie Conference Room is named after a Seattle law firm founded in 1912 with 19 offices across the United States and Asia. It is the oldest and largest law firm headquartered in the Pacific Northwest.

TCHICAGO FREEDOM MOVEMENT BY BERNARD J. KLEINA
This series of photographs provide a visual history of the Chicago Freedom Movement, led by Martin Luther King Jr., James Bevel and Al Raby. The movement included a large rally, marches and demands to the City of Chicago.

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY, SEPT. 12, 2003 (L-R) MELINDA GATES, BILL GATES, WILLIAM H. GATES SR. GOV. CARY LOBBIE

THE CHICAGO FREEDOM MOVEMENT

SENATOR WARREN G. MAGNUSON AND SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON TRIAL COTRROOM (ROOM 138)
As the largest classroom in William H. Gates Hall, this space honors Warren G. Magnuson ’29 and Henry M. Jackson ’35, both UW Law alumni, who each served more than 30 years in the US House of Representatives and the US Senate. When not used as a classroom, this room regularly hosts conferences and symposia.

Jack MacDonald ’40 made two generous contributions to the School of Law; the first toward the capital campaign for William H. Gates Hall, and the second through an endowment established in his will. Upon his death at 98 in 2013, the endowment now funds an endowed chair, student scholarships and a general discretionary fund.

JUSTICE CHARLES Z. SMITH BY ALFREDO M. ARREGÜIN
A portrait of Justice Smith—a former professor and associate dean at UW School of Law—adorns the walls of William H. Gates Hall, depicting a man whose life was distinguished by many firsts: the first person of color in the state to serve as a judge on the Seattle Municipal Court (1965-66), the first to serve on the King County Superior Court (1966-77) and the first to serve as a Justice on the Washington Supreme Court (1988-2002).

JACK R. MACDONALD CLASSROOM (ROOM 127)

MONUMENT FOR LAW SCHOOL BY DORIS CHASE
This sculpture, made of stained Douglas fir, honors the artist’s father, William Phelps Totten, class of 1916, and her brother, William McCormick Totten ’46. The work was made available to the law school partly as a gift of the artist and partly through a generous grant from the school’s Graduate Program in Taxation.

Funding for the building included $34.3 million from private donations. The building’s groundbreaking was on May 4, 2001. Former U.S. Speaker of the House Tom Foley, Governor Gary Locke and appointed future dean of the law school Dr. Joe Knight Jr. attended the ceremony.

Gates Hall has 55% more space than the school’s previous building, Condon Hall.

Located in the northwest corner of campus, the law school is adjacent to the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture as well as PACCAR Hall, home to the Foster School of Business.

Gates Hall is the third permanent home of the School of Law, the previous two both being named Condon Hall after the law school’s first dean. The school’s first temporary home in 1899 was at 4th & Union in downtown Seattle.

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The Jeffrey C. Rembe ’60 Appellate Courtroom honors Mr. Rembe’s extraordinary career in corporate tax law. Students hone their advocacy skills here, particularly in Moot Court competitions, and the Washington Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hold hearings in the classroom allowing students to observe real-life arguments.

The Jeffrey and Susan Brotman Galleria showcases a rotating display of art by local artists. Jeffrey Brotman ’67 included a large rally, marches and demands to the City of Chicago.

This series of photographs provide a visual history of the Chicago Freedom Movement, led by Martin Luther King Jr., James Bevel and Al Raby. The movement included a large rally, marches and demands to the City of Chicago.

The Jeffrey and Susan Brotman Galleria is the Supreme Court Cafe, a place for students, staff and faculty to gather and relax.

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MARIAN GALLAGHER BY MARIAN FLAHAVIN
Marian Gould Gallagher’s career spanned 37 years as the law library’s director. In 1981, upon her retirement, the law library was renamed in her honor. Notice how the buttons on her coat are the suits of playing cards, a reference to her fondness of poker.

PUTTING A LID ON WILD AMERICA AND THERE’S PICTURE PERFECT AND THEN THERE’S THE RED LEADER BY GAIL TREMBLAY
“I made my first film basket as a present for a colleague and have been developing the series ever since. I love the control over this material that has been a medium for stereotyping Indians. Both these baskets are made of thirty-five mm trailers for films.”

WISDOM BY JAUNE QUICK-TO-SEE SMITH
“In Indian country, a person is not considered wise just by going to college. We see elders, sometimes illiterate, as being extraordinarily wise because they combine their life experience with cultural study and teaching plus much practiced analytical skills. We also believe that intelligence involves the heart with the head.”

REAL INDIAN LAND CLAIMS BY G. PETER JEMISON
“Real Indian Land Claims relates to land claims and addresses threats from local people who hate Indians.”

HIGH TECH PEACE PIPE BY JAMES LUNA
Artist James Fedorov comments: “James Luna uses anything he can to get his point across, from comic books, basketball jerseys to cellular phones are all fuel for his mission. In Notes on My Art Work #674, Luna writes, ‘I am not a healer, but can be considered a clown.’”

TAKUJI YAMASHITA BY AKIO TAKAMORI
This statue depicts a member of the UW School of Law class of 1902, Mr. Takuji Yamashita. Mr. Yamashita passed the Washington bar exam, but was denied admission to the bar on the grounds that Japanese nationals were unable to become U.S. citizens and therefore ineligible for bar membership. Mr. Yamashita challenged the constitutionality that Japanese citizens could not become U.S. citizens to the U.S. Supreme Court—unfortunately, he lost. In 2001, UW School of Law, the Washington State Bar Association and the Asian Bar Association of Washington successfully petitioned the Washington Supreme Court for Mr. Yamashita’s posthumous admission to the Washington bar.

BLOOD SECRETS AND A MOTHER’S GIFT BY TANIS S’EILTIN
“My grandparents, Daisy and Jack Joseph, are the impetus for this work [Blood Secrets] and appear in the black and white photo that was taken in Juneau, Alaska.”

HUMAN RIGHTS IN MOTION BY JAMES LUNA
“I have had people come to my performances thinking that I am going to do a nice tom-tom dance — as I unload, they realize this isn’t what they came to hear, but they have every right to leave or to laugh. “The images in the eight photographs were generated from a performance piece also entitled Petroglyphs In Motion.

RESCUE BY JAUNE QUICK-TO-SEE SMITH
“The Lone Ranger is a stand-in for the patriarchal U.S. government while Tonto represents the Indian tribes who are treated like children. Since the 1960’s, Indian law has done a lot to rescue the tribes and encourage self-determination.”

REAL INDIAN LAND CLAIMS BY G. PETER JEMISON
“Real Indian Land Claims relates to land claims and addresses threats from local people who hate Indians.”

RESISTING DISTILLATION BY TANIS S’EILTIN
“This artwork represents the ability of indigenous people to retain our cultural heritage despite corporate and government standards of identification. This print contains a replica of a war helmet that was collected south of my great grandmother’s place of birth, Yakutat.”

Begin your tour at the circulation desk.

To learn about all of the library’s contemporary Native American art, ask a law librarian or visit lib.law.uw.edu/services/artwalk.html

SCHOOL OF LAW UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
WELCOME TO WILLIAM H. GATES HALL