

# The History of Carnegie Hall



Carnegie Hall is one of the most important and historic concert halls in the world.

A man named Andrew Carnegie made it possible to build this famous music hall. Since opening in 1891, thousands of classical musicians and composers have performed here, but Carnegie Hall's audiences have also heard swing, jazz, rock, pop, and hip-hop performances by musicians from all over the world!

In addition, Carnegie Hall wasn't just used for concerts. Many important meetings and public speeches took place here. Carnegie Hall hosted American women during their campaign for the right to vote, and many famous leaders and public figures—including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dr. Maya Angelou, and 13 US presidents—have made speeches here.

The main hall, named Isaac Stern Auditorium / Ronald O. Perelman Stage, has 2,804 seats.

During the 1950s, Carnegie Hall was almost demolished by people who wanted to build a skyscraper where Carnegie Hall stands. A famous violinist named Isaac Stern believed in saving Carnegie Hall and found lots of other people who believed in it, too. They worked together to raise enough money to save Carnegie Hall, and in 1964, it was turned into a national landmark. Isaac Stern and Carnegie Hall can teach us a great lesson about believing in a cause and working hard for it.