LSA Scholarship Support

The College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA) is home to more than 19,000 undergraduates, pursuing studies in 70 different programs and departments. These students are a source of intellectual vitality and inspiration, and the University’s living legacy in the larger world. Scholarships make an LSA education accessible for many talented students who might otherwise not be able to afford a college experience. For an individual student, a scholarship can be a life-changing opportunity that opens the door to unparalleled experiences both on and off campus. The University of Michigan has a long standing commitment to an “uncommon education for the common man.” Our alumni are inspiring examples of the ways that scholarship support makes a major difference, not only for the student scholar, who may be the first in his or her family to attend college, but also for siblings, relatives, and entire communities.

Gifts for scholarship support provide the resources for the College to attract engaged, high-achieving students who will truly energize the campus with their insights and unique perspectives. These talented scholars enrich the intellectual climate as their enthusiasm for learning inspires our faculty.

Our largest-ever fundraising campaign is ambitious, visionary, purposeful — worthy of the name “Victors.” The $400 million goal is built upon the cornerstone of the liberal arts: the idea that a powerful, pragmatic education can transform hearts and minds, can solve problems in a changing world, can yield ideas and innovation across every discipline. That’s why we are focused on raising money so that the best and brightest minds can have access to the College through robust scholarship support, no matter their financial circumstances. So too are we committed to helping every student acquire not just knowledge in the classroom, but experiences outside the academy including innovative entrepreneurial efforts and internships. We strive to support our faculty on the frontlines of research, and steward our planet, our community, our campus. To do all this, and so much more, the College needs you — because the world needs Victors.
and motivates their student peers. As the citizens and professionals of tomorrow, these men and women will educate future generations, shape public policy, make new discoveries in every field, and continue the important work of building human society — making the real value of their scholarship support not just what they accomplish during their time at Michigan, but also what they contribute to their communities and the world over the course of their lifetimes. As each new LSA Victor grows and develops, he or she will help shape the character of our institution, which strengthens LSA’s contribution to the world.

LSA’s ability to attract and retain outstanding students is essential to our continuing success and leadership. However, each year the competition for students among America’s leading universities becomes more costly. For many undergraduates confronted with the prospect of daunting loans, financial aid has become the deciding factor in their choice of colleges. And LSA lags behind the private institutions that are our chief competitors. These challenges continue to be magnified by economic circumstances, as many parents still face underemployment, struggling businesses, and depressed home values. The number of students requiring aid and the amount of assistance needed remains high — and this level of need is expected to continue. As the costs of providing a world-class education rise and government support for education lags behind, financial aid support becomes ever more critical to keep pace.

Endowed Scholarship Opportunities

A college education is an expensive investment for many families. Access to the world-class faculty and resources in LSA and across the entire U-M campus can be ensured through increased funding for endowed scholarships. And by supporting this program, you will have made a gift the benefits of which will be felt for generations to come.

NAMED ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Through a named endowment, donors create a legacy scholarship fund that will support an LSA education for undergraduates in perpetuity. Endowments of $1 million or more can create a community of named scholars, while endowed gifts of $500,000 can fund the educational costs for multiple in-state students, or a combination of in-state and out-of-state students. An endowment gift of $250,000 will provide full scholarship support for one in-state student each year, while a $450,000 endowment will provide support for an out-of-state student.

Scholarships can be designated for need or merit alone. The minimum to endow a scholarship that will supply partial support is $25,000. All endowed scholarship donors have an opportunity to learn about their student recipients and how their gifts have made a difference for their scholars.

Endowed gifts starting at $50,000 are eligible to be matched $1 for every $2 committed through the Bicentennial Matching Programs for Student Support. With different guidelines for each, two programs are available with a combined total of $40 million available on a first-come first-served basis.

Endowed scholarship support at any amount may also be designated to the LSA Fund for Merit-based Student Support or the LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support. Income from this central endowment will be distributed each year to students across the College.
Expendable Scholarship Opportunities

Over the past decade, thousands of students have benefited from expendable gifts of all sizes that made it possible for them to stay in school in spite of difficult financial situations. Gifts provide tuition support, fund research fellowships, or help cover other educational costs.

NAMED EXPENDABLE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

An expendable gift of $40,000 over four years could cover the annual educational costs of one resident student, while an expendable scholarship of $85,000 over four years could support one out-of-state student. Gifts may be allocated to either the LSA Fund for Merit-based Student Support or the LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support.

LSA FUND FOR MERIT-BASED AND FOR NEED-BASED STUDENT SUPPORT

Gifts of any amount may be allocated to either the LSA Fund for Merit-based Student Support or the LSA Fund for Need-based Student Support. The College uses these funds to provide students with scholarship support on a year-to-year basis.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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