Scholarships and fellowships for the Future

The College of Arts & Sciences is the oldest and largest academic unit at the state’s flagship university. Born on the frontier, we now face new horizons: a rapidly evolving workforce, burgeoning human knowledge, fierce worldwide competition, and unprecedented global challenges. The college can help the next generation of students meet these tests. But they need your help. Investing in them yields socially significant and personally gratifying dividends.

A liberal-arts degree denotes an educated person and prepares each generation for citizenship and is the best foundation for professional and specialised degrees. For many, particularly first-generation college students, higher education opens doors to better lives.

Ready to Serve, but Challenges Loom

The college is uniquely qualified to serve these students. With four Nobel laureates, four National Medal of Science winners, seven MacArthur Fellows, state and nationally recognized Professors of the Year and Distinguished Teaching Scholars, plus scores of Fulbright Scholars and Guggenheim Fellows, the college is a significant reason that CU is called a “public ivy.” We are gratified, but not complacent.

While our reputation is sound, we do face challenges. Tuition will, in all likelihood, continue to rise, posing higher risk that some prospective students will be priced out of higher education. In the last 14 years, tuition and required fees for resident undergraduate students have risen by 170 percent.

It is thus increasingly critical to fund scholarships, which support undergraduate students. It is equally important to provide fellowships, which support students pursuing graduate research and study. Endowing an undergraduate scholarship or graduate fellowship helps to ensure educational access for all who have the skills but lack the means to go to college. Good students need this support. And they deeply appreciate it.

“It is my privilege to study history here at the University of Colorado. I am grateful to be the recipient of (fellowship) funding, and, as such, see my education here not just as an entrée to a new career, but also as a stewardship responsibility to those who have so generously provided me with this opportunity.”

– Ted Rogers, Graduate student in history
What You Can Accomplish

Supporting a scholarship or fellowship fills a real void and makes a lasting difference. The higher learning facilitated by scholarships and fellowships enriches the lives of people—people who follow in our steps to inherit a world they did not create but must wisely shepherd.

The benefits to scholarship recipients—and to society—are clear. The rewards to the givers are no less significant. Donors may wish to establish a legacy, to honor a notable professor, to memorialize a loved one, to support higher education, to give something back to an institution that was pivotal in their lives. All are wonderful motivations to give, all reason enough to invest in the future. And there are other rewards. Donors gain recognition and gratitude for their generosity. And they enjoy the satisfaction that stems from helping others.

You can improve the lives of deserving students and, at the same time, invest in the nation’s greatest resource: the minds of tomorrow’s citizens, scientists, scholars, and leaders.

Undergraduate endowed scholarships begin with a gift of $25,000 contributed over a period of up to five years.

Graduate student endowed fellowships begin with a gift of $100,000 contributed over a period of up to five years.

“I cannot help but think of how lucky I am. … I know that I am who I am today because of the opportunities that I have been granted with a university education and everything that comes with it, a list that goes on and on. A simple ‘thank you’ seems so little for everything given to me; I only hope to one day return the favor to another who needs someone to believe in them.”

— Shafiqa Mobarez, Susannah Chase Memorial Scholarship recipient, Afghan-American refugee

“I established and continue to strongly support the Joan L. Coffey Graduate History Fellowship to provide assistance to students who, like my late wife, Joan, whose memory the fellowship honors, elect to pursue their graduate studies at a non-traditional age. Such students often have special need for financial assistance because they may also be supporting a family and financing their own educational expenses. … I do not want to see them lose or abandon their dreams after having spent years in pursuit of those dreams. … Graduate education is a critical part of CU’s mission. I am delighted to be able to make a contribution in support of it.”

— Edward C. Coffey, Fellowship founder

To learn about the many ways you can make a gift:

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