

Girard College's Report
to Our Community

Spring 2020

A Legacy of Impact



INSIDE

A New Vision
for the High
School

Class of 1960
Continues
to Lead

2018-19
Donor Roll

From our Board

On behalf of the Board of Directors of City Trusts, we are happy to introduce the Girard College Impact Report.

THE PAST YEAR delivered on the promise of a new direction for the Girard community. In her second year as President, Dr. Heather Wathington successfully implemented a comprehensive strategic plan and established a seasoned leadership team that will guide the school's progress for the next five years and beyond. With the commitment of school staff and the support of our fellow members on the Board of Directors of City Trusts, Girard College continues to fulfill Stephen Girard's legacy by preparing today's students to make a positive impact in their families, careers, and communities.

This progress is not possible without you—the faithful alumni, generous donors, treasured friends and new partners that share in the vision of Stephen Girard. Your support enables our students to add value to the world.

Thank you for helping our students to honor Girard's legacy while building one of their own.



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From our President

It is my great pleasure to share with you the Girard College Impact Report, highlighting the programs and partners that drive our mission forward.



**Dr. Heather
D. Wathington**

PRESIDENT

IT'S TRULY AMAZING just how many different groups, organizations, and individuals care about the students of Girard College. Whether it's the teachers and staff who instruct students every day, the alumni who take time to interact with their Girardian brothers and sisters in meaningful ways, or the local nonprofits and companies who offer opportunities for experiential education, the support for our community is seemingly boundless. When so many stakeholders are pulling together in the same direction, our students are empowered to seek out a path that transforms their lives.

A key focus of our current strategic plan—Navigating The Future, Anchoring Our Impact—is to deepen connections with those who are familiar with Girard's history and tradition while also engaging new partners and sharing our community's unique story with the world. By developing

relationships with mission-aligned organizations, we amplify the impact that our students can have on the world.

In this report, you will see how these relationships strengthen the pillars of academic excellence and financial vitality. Our alumni from the Class of 1960 have made an unprecedented gift to supply new desks and refurbish classrooms that will support the innovative curriculum in the high school. The partners and staff of the Faegre Drinker law firm invested their time in our inaugural Beyond the Wall 5K and donated a collection of school supplies to our elementary students. The Ladies of Legacy Tea Society supported our graduating seniors in the Class of 2020 with college scholarships to use at the school of their choice. Each of these stories demonstrates a fundamental investment in our mission and our students.

The culture of philanthropy continues to grow at Girard College, and I am so grateful to all of our individual donors and partner organizations. With your generosity, as well as the hard work of those on the Board of Directors of City Trusts, the Office of Advancement, the Girard College Foundation, and the Girard College Alumni Association, our students will continue to have the opportunity to shape their future in far-reaching and powerful ways. Thank you.

Hail Girard,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Heather D. Wathington".

DR. HEATHER D. WATHINGTON
President, Girard College

Academic and Social Impact

A New Vision for the High School

The tools that today's students need to succeed are changing.

Success in the 21st century, whether in the classroom or in the workforce, is no longer reliant on how much knowledge a student possesses, but on how they solve problems.

Imagine you were asked to design a musical instrument. What concepts would you need to know? The mathematics of sound waves? The science of acoustics? This was one of the challenges presented to a group of 10th grade students in Girard College's High School Academy this year, who were piloting an innovative curriculum that will now be expanded throughout the high school under the direction of A.J. Ernst and John Young.

"We believe that learning should be grounded in purpose," said Ernst, who brings a wealth of teaching and administrative experience to his new role as Dean of High School. "When students take ownership of their learning, they're more engaged in the process and achieve better outcomes."

The musical instrument design challenge represents the type of project that allows students to indulge their curiosity and connect the dots in order to see the big picture. Subjects are no longer taught in

discrete units, but integrated in service of a specific objective. Teachers take on more of a mentorship role and provide feedback instead of answers.

This reimagined vision of what learning looks like is made possible through a robust partnership between Girard College and Opportunity Education, an organization focused on providing students with the skills and habits they need to become lifelong learners. Founded in 2005 by entrepreneur and philanthropist Joe Ricketts, Opportunity Education (OE) provides the innovative Quest Forward curriculum, which prioritizes active, self-guided learning while allowing for plenty of customization.

Each student charts their own "Quest" by completing units laid out in a learning platform that is accessed by school-provided technology. This format encourages students to advance at their own pace while constantly receiving teacher coaching and feedback. The result of this approach is a lifestyle of learning that translates beyond the confines of the classroom.

Through hands-on collaboration with Manuel Mattke, President and COO of OE, the teachers and administrators of Girard College High School give



High school students worked in groups on a musical instrument design challenge that combined concepts from math, science, art and public speaking.

feedback that aids in the evolution of the Quest Forward curriculum as it continues to grow throughout the world. Plus, the data analysis conducted by OE, along with a lot of team support, provides concrete metrics for how well Girard students are learning.

As students develop critical thinking and analysis skills, their lessons will extend beyond the realm of academic concepts. It is becoming increasingly apparent that the types of problems facing our world cannot be answered with a math equation or a verb conjugation. Persistent issues like homelessness, incarceration, addiction, and racism require creative problem-solving rooted in a philosophy of social justice.

“The world our students are inheriting is messy and complex,” says Young, who has worked with Ernst for more than a decade in supporting student achievement. “For them to make an impact for themselves and their communities, they need to be equipped with the tools to solve difficult problems.”

To that end, Girard College is committed to teaching students how to live lives of social impact. If learning is to go beyond the classroom, it must also translate to matters that shape the fabric of our daily lives.

Luckily, Girard has already established several key partnerships with organizations that promote education and public dialogue around these issues. In the first program of its kind, Eastern State Penitentiary partnered with Girard to develop a yearlong curriculum on Social Justice and Mass Incarceration. Students debated issues of race and redemption while leading public discussions and participating in conferences regarding avenues for reform.

Students also took advantage of a long-standing relationship with the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, finding inspiration when Girard hosted former United Nations Ambassador Samantha Power and practicing diplomacy during WAC statewide competitions.

In another partnership with Philly-based non-profit Global Citizen, Jayda D. '21 piloted the high school's new Impact Internships program, working to support the nation's largest day of service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which Girard has hosted for the past 11 years.

This conscious choice to foster a social impact curriculum has already transformed the way students view their responsibility

to educate themselves on our society's most pressing issues and speak up for what they believe is right.

One of the sophomore students in the Social Impact class captured the importance of engaging young people on these difficult topics: “This class treats us like we are powerful. Like we will have the opportunity to change something in the world. We are being trained to make a difference.”

Ernst affirms this sentiment: “In order to inspire the leaders of the future, we need to challenge them to ask the big questions now,” he says. “I am so proud of the courage of our students and look forward to the growth of our social impact program.”

A Girard College education has always meant preparing our students to succeed in school and in life. Today, this means integrating academic concepts in practical applications, providing context for the challenges that students will face, and instilling values that will allow them to shape the communities in which they live. In this way, the next generation of Girardians will be ready to have personal success, lead with purpose, and add value to the world.



“In order to inspire the leaders of the future, we need to challenge them to ask the big questions now. I am so proud of the courage of our students and look forward to the growth of our social impact program.”

—
**A.J. ERNST,
DEAN OF HIGH SCHOOL**

The high school curriculum prioritizes active, self-guided learning.

Student Impact

Class of 2020

Henroy Mitchell- Collins

VALEDICTORIAN



COLLEGE

University of Virginia

MAJOR

Biomedical Engineering

GIRARD COLLEGE AWARDS

Alumni Mathematics Prize, Wagner Prize, Richard C. Anderson Fund, Thomas B.K. Ringe Prize, Louis B. Wagner Fund

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Gates Millennium Scholarship: a highly selective, last-dollar scholarship for exceptional, Pell-eligible, minority, high school seniors provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

“My teachers at Girard College pushed me to be the best I can possibly be. They encouraged me to think critically, ask tough questions, and defend my ideas with passion. I take the lessons learned here into the next phase of my life.”

–

HENROY MITCHELL-COLLINS

“Girard introduced me to so many new experiences, but what will always stick with me is the sense of family and support. I feel so proud of how far my brother and sisters have come and know that we will succeed at whatever we tackle next.”

—
MBORNIE CONTEH



Mbornie Conteh

SALUTATORIAN

COLLEGE

Howard University

MAJOR

Media Journalism,
Film & Communications

GIRARD COLLEGE AWARDS

George A. Frey Award, John
Humphries Award, William
Gallagher Legacy Award

'20

Alumni Impact

Class of 1960 Continues to Lead

They say you don't fully know your home until you leave it, and for many Girard College alumni from the '50s and '60s, it wasn't until they went out in the world that they really grasped the impact of Stephen Girard's legacy.

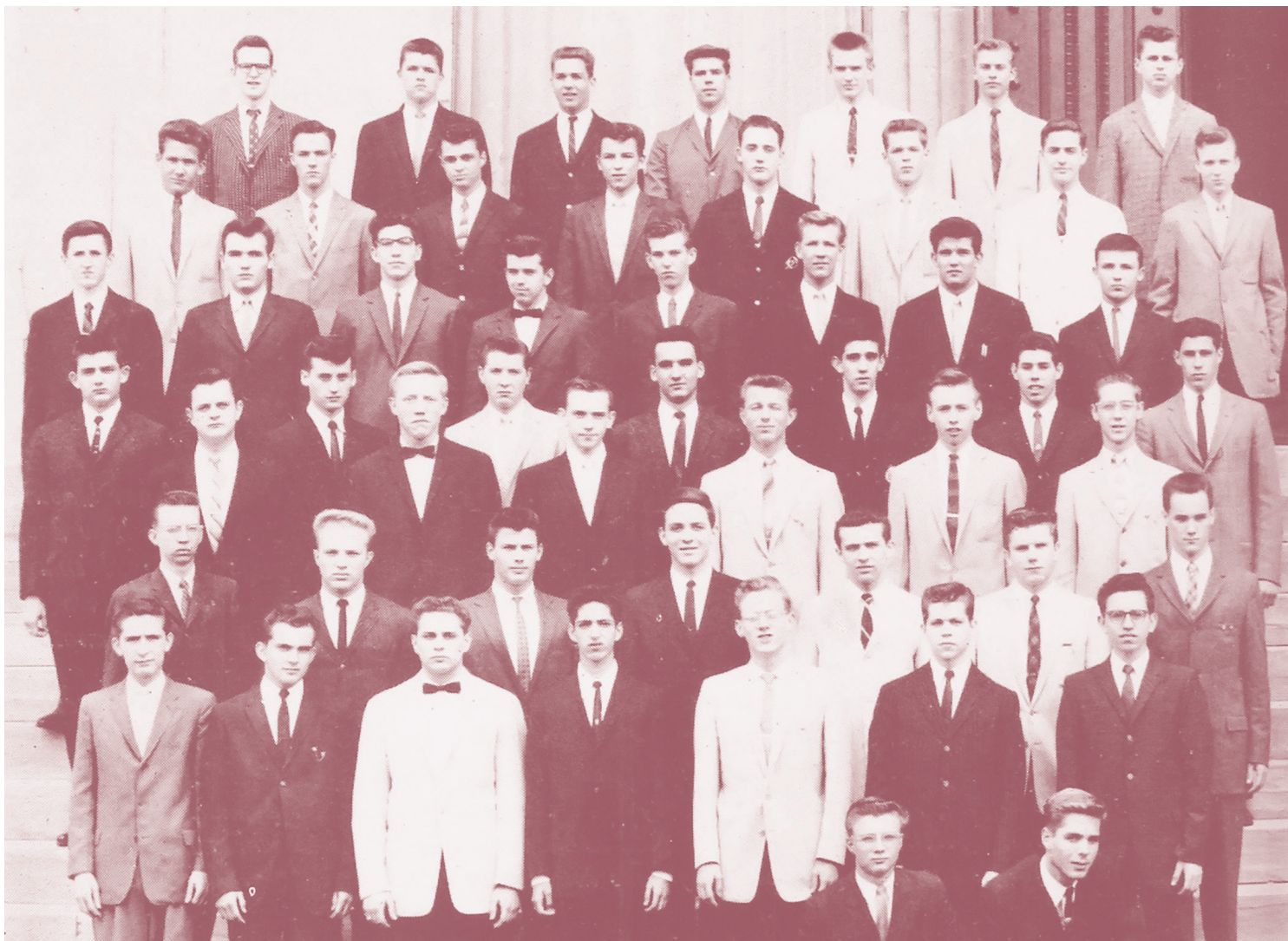
The values of hard work, responsibility, and discipline that made Girard so successful provided a roadmap for the school's graduates to make the most of their lives and the lives of others.

For the members of the Class of 1960, this map has continually led them back to the community that gave them so much. And while things may be a little different today than they were 60 years ago, the connection that this class feels for the school and each other is an enduring testament to Girard's historic mission.

When the time came to plan for their 60th Reunion, many in the class once again felt the pull to give back in honor of the man whose vision continues to shape the lives of students today. Building on their previous success with a 50th Reunion gift of more than \$200,000 and a leading effort at the record-breaking annual gala in 2012,



Five classrooms have been completely refurbished to support the high school curriculum.



The Class of 1960 (half of whom are pictured here) have consistently honored their educational experience and the legacy of Stephen Girard through their support of school programs.

the class worked together to choose a project that would guide today's students to succeed the same way they were guided.

After a group of alumni that included Pete Shoemaker '60 and Myron (Toby) Caplan '60 met with the Dean of High School, A.J. Ernst, who was about to embark on an innovative pilot program with 9th and 10th grade students (see page 2), the class was impressed with the ideas of student-driven learning, flexible classroom spaces, and community partnerships that the program presented. They would pledge a 60-60-60 gift (\$60,000 from the Class of 1960 in honor of their 60th Reunion) toward the complete refurbishment of five high school classrooms, including a full complement of Steelcase Node Chairs. The unprecedented class gift also includes support for the Founder's Keepers initiative.

By investing in the high school program, the members of the Class of 1960 are honoring their own educational experience while making it possible for current students to apply the education and values

they learn at Girard to build successful lives and become leaders in their communities.

"I would not be who I am without the legacy of Stephen Girard," said Shoemaker, "and I know a lot of my classmates feel the same way. Deep down, who we are as individuals came as a result of what he did through the founding of the school and the education we received."

"I feel the same way," said Caplan. "I feel like I can't give back enough. Girard set an example that hard work is the way to get ahead in life, and that's something that stuck with me throughout my career and to this day."

Whether someone was a Girard student in the 1960s, 1990s, or 2020s, the impact of the school's founder will be felt long after they leave the walls of the classroom. For the Class of 1960, they have charted their own path, but by always remembering where they started, they continue to make Girard home for the next generation of students.

"I feel like I can't give back enough. Girard set an example that hard work is the way to get ahead in life, and that's something that stuck with me throughout my career and to this day."

—
MYRON (TOBY) CAPLAN, '60

Corporate Impact

Making New Partners



Faegre Drinker Law Firm



Partners and staff at Faegre Drinker law firm donated a collection of school supplies to Girard College elementary students.

“When we see an opportunity to give back, we want to take it... [These] children are so brave, and I’m inspired to give as much as I can to provide for their future.”

—
**NICOLE WIXTED,
PARTNER AT FAEGRE DRINKER**

THE LAW FIRM of Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP made a lot of new friends this year. Not only did they get to know the students at Girard College, they also merged with Faegre Baker Daniels to form one of the nation’s 50 largest law firms. Now known as Faegre Drinker, the firm has already made a big impact through their support of the school.

Nicole Wixted, a Faegre Drinker partner, first learned of Girard College during the lead-up to the school’s inaugural Beyond the Wall 5K in October 2019. At the invitation of Girard’s VP of Operations, Jon Tucker, Wixted toured the campus and came to realize what many do the first time they visit—the unique history of the school and its founder is an incredible but often unsung Philadelphia story.

“I’ve been at the firm for 12 years now and Girard is literally in our backyard,” said Wixted. “But I didn’t know the history of the man or the school. I was blown away.”

Faegre Drinker came on board as a lead sponsor and Wixted brought a team to run the on-campus race to raise funds for student activities. She now is on the planning committee for this year’s event, which will be a virtual race held October 1-2.

Over the winter holidays, lawyers and staff of the firm’s Philadelphia Office collected school supplies, including markers and crayons, drawing books, games and more. Shortly after the new year, the donated supplies were happily received by students in the elementary school.

This type of philanthropy is central to the ethos of Faegre Drinker, according to Wixted.

“When we see an opportunity to give back, we want to take it,” she said. “The firm is very supportive of our professionals and the causes they are passionate about. For me, meeting the youngest students (1st graders) at Girard really resonated with me as a mom. The school is a great opportunity, of course, but it’s not easy to be away from home at that age. Those children are so brave, and I’m inspired to give as much as I can to provide for their future.”

The budding relationship with Faegre Drinker shows what can happen when the school’s leaders are passionate about sharing Girard’s story with the world. Through direct support of programs and the potential for experiential learning, our corporate partners add another dimension to the promise of a Girard education.

Community Impact

Supporting College Persistence



Ladies of Legacy

DR. DARLENE PEARCE has been a leader in the Philadelphia community for more than 25 years, and her non-profit organization, Ladies of Legacy Tea Society, has provided many transformative opportunities to those who have been impacted by poverty. Dr. Pearce believes in investing in her community, and when she learned of Girard College's commitment to excellence for their students, she chose to support the graduating seniors in the Class of 2020 with scholarships that can be applied to the college of their choice.

Dr. Pearce's journey with Girard College students started in 2019 at the Beyond the Wall 5K and Family Fun Walk. At this event, Dr. Pearce and members of the Ladies of Legacy Tea Society joined families, faculty, and staff in creating deeper neighborhood relationships. When asked about her impression of the school based on this experience, she said, "Girard College exemplifies a spirit of excellence, and I am honored to partner with you. The school's mission to provide opportunities for children and families who are economically disadvantaged is the same mission I have been committed to my whole life."

Stephen Girard's vision for the school resonated with Dr. Pearce, as she believes "it is important for individuals who are

pillars in their community to guide children and families in positive directions, while opening doors for them to further their education and career choices and become self-sufficient."

This support for postsecondary education is so critical for our students to be able to address potential gaps in financial aid and ensure they can persist in completing their college degrees. Scholarships like those provided by the Ladies of Legacy allow students to fulfill the promise of the educational journeys started at Girard.

"Our youth need dependable adults in the community who can guide them," says Dr. Pearce. "Young people need leaders who are willing to provide more opportunities. Community leaders can be that inspiration for every young person at Girard College and beyond. Our call is to push our youth forward into the future so that they will never give up on their dreams."

By honoring the dreams of Girard College students, Dr. Pearce and the Ladies of Legacy Tea Society embody their mantra: "What you honor, you grow from." Their impact on our community is how we grow together.



The Ladies of Legacy Tea Society supported members of the Class of 2020 in fulfilling their collegiate dreams.

Donor Impact

Honor Roll of Donors

Thank you to our donors. Your support allows the legacy of Stephen Girard to endure and thrive. Girard College is grateful to the following organizations and individuals who made contributions during the fiscal year: July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019.

Patriots: \$500,000+

Comcast Corporation

Founder's Circle: \$50,000–\$499,999

Abele Family Foundation, Inc.

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† Deceased

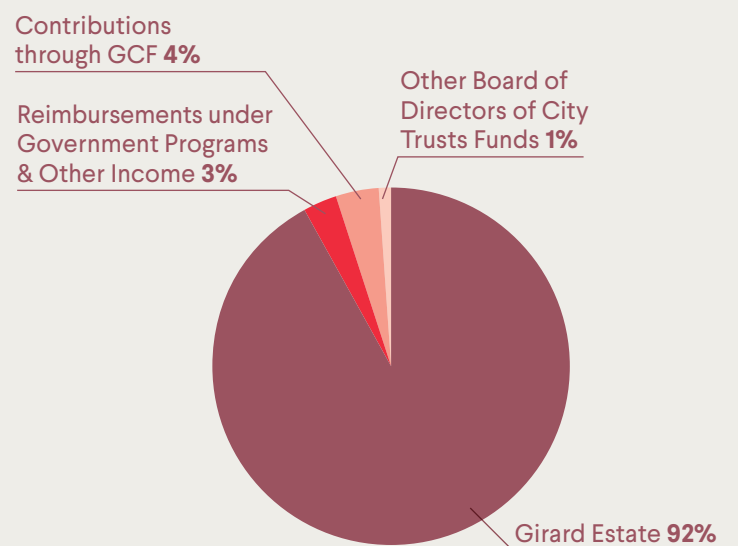
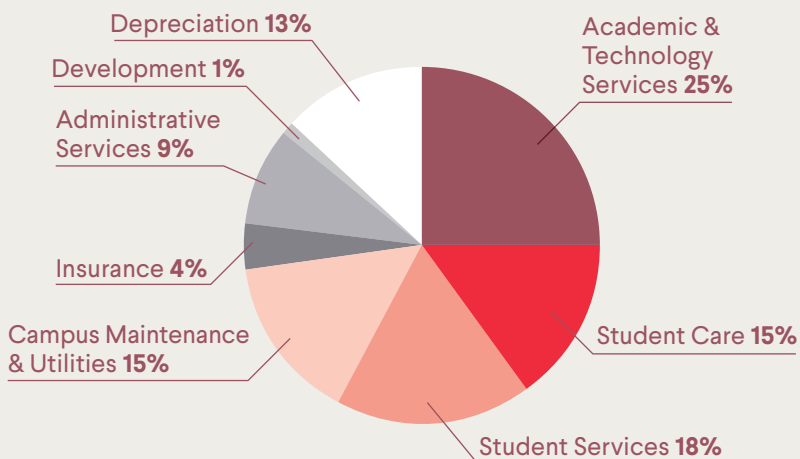
The Estate of Stephen Girard, Deceased

Statement of Net Assets | June 30, 2019

Assets	(in thousands)	Liabilities & Net Assets	(in thousands)
Cash	\$1,195	Accounts payable	\$3,641
Receivables, net	\$2,379	Accrued expenses	\$2,416
Prepaid & other assets	\$11,607	Line of credit	\$2,193
Investments	\$343,931	Interest rate swap liability	\$24,207
Assets held under indenture agreements	\$36,400	Advanced rents & other liabilities	\$77,618
Property, plant & equipment, net	\$115,092	Long-term debt	\$113,519
TOTAL ASSETS	\$510,604	Total liabilities	\$223,594
		Total Net Assets	\$287,010
		TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$510,604

Girard College | Year ended June 30, 2019

Summary of Expenses	(in thousands)	Sources of Available Income	(in thousands)
Academic & Technology Services	\$5,292	Girard Estate	\$19,638
Student Care	\$3,212	Reimbursements under Government Programs & other income	\$725
Student Services	\$3,773	Contributions through Girard College Foundation (GCF)	\$844
Campus Maintenance & Utilities	\$3,242	Other Board of Directors of City Trusts Funds	\$209
Insurance	\$781	GRAND TOTAL	\$21,416
Administrative Services	\$1,920		
Development	\$330		
Depreciation	\$2,866		
GRAND TOTAL	\$21,416		



The Legacy of Philanthropic Impact

GIRARD COLLEGE was built through an act of unprecedented philanthropy, and now, more than 170 years and tens of thousands of lives touched later, the impact of Stephen Girard's vision continues to reverberate. It is up to us to preserve Girard's legacy and carry the lasting effects of his gift into the future.

Financial Vitality is one of the four pillars of our Strategic Plan, and that means diversifying the estate's assets and developing new streams of revenue. We are lucky to have a strong endowment to support our goals of academic and residential excellence, but we can amplify

its impact by increasing our fundraising efforts, investing in our infrastructure, and attracting new partners to share in Girard's historic mission.

As you have seen throughout this report, we have great support from alumni, professionals, and nonprofit groups who believe in Girard's legacy and the potential for our students to create their own legacies. By making it possible for students to enjoy enhanced physical spaces, participate in enriching activities, and persist in their postsecondary education, these partners help write the next chapter in our unique story.

Our 5K Goes Virtual!

SAVE THE DATE

**October 1–2
2nd Annual Beyond
the Wall 5K and
Family Fun Walk**

girardcollege.edu/5k

—

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Matching gifts

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The Girard College Foundation
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Girard College Foundation
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Philadelphia, PA 19107

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in the memo line.

ESTATE PLANNING

Stephen Girard's legacy has made possible an extraordinary education for tens of thousands of young men and women. Your legacy can, too.

Consider making a planned gift to Girard College, just as our founder did.

Begin the conversation with us by calling Sylvia Bastani, Vice President of Advancement and Strategic Partnerships at 215-787-4442 or via email at sbastani@girardcollege.edu



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