

Spring 2023

Dear Girard College Community,

I'm Lucille, mother to Antoine, Class of 2024. After raising my daughter and sending her into the world, I was ready to enjoy the next phase of life. But as she became a mother, she struggled with addiction, and I was called to be a mother again to support her children. To ensure that Antoine, our youngest grandson, could stay with his family and avoid placement in foster care, my husband Wayman and I chose to adopt him.

As older parents, we wanted to ensure that Antoine would have the opportunity to interact with children his own age and grow intellectually and emotionally, something that was not possible in our west Philadelphia neighborhood. Antoine came to us unsure of what his future held, and asked for a chance to have a different kind of school experience. He had seen his older siblings benefit from unique opportunities in their lives, and wanted the same chance to find his purpose.

Choosing Girard College was easy for our family. I knew from our first visit that Girard would be a safe place for Antoine to live and learn. He would be protected from the violence of city streets and benefit from a nurturing community around him.

Since enrolling in 5th grade, Antoine has thrived. He's grown into an expressive and caring young man and has enjoyed learning, making friends, helping others, and playing sports. I know he will take the values gained at Girard back to his community as he grows into adulthood.

Girard College has given so much to our family, especially when you consider all they provide for a child's education – tuition, books, housing, uniforms, meals and more. I believe it is necessary to give back to the school so that our children have the best opportunity to excel.

Donations to Girard College help directly support student programs that go above and beyond the academic and residential offerings.

With your support, Girard can:

- Aid our Cavalier Athletes as they excel on the court and on the field. The Athletics Department needs a laundry center in the Armory to keep their new uniforms clean and teach students the importance of responsibility and self-discipline.



- Help our students pursue summer college and internship opportunities. Funds are needed to provide transportation to and from these programs.
- Assist in growing community service and social justice programs. The Student Council and National Honor Society often sponsor fundraisers to give back to the local community, and other clubs address issues like voting rights and climate change.

What does it mean to donate to Girard? As a donor myself, to me it means that I'm showing my son and his schoolmates that I want them to get the most out of their education. It means continuing the legacy of Stephen Girard and putting the "G" in giving and goodness.

Please donate today! Show our scholars that you believe a Girard education can change lives.

Thank you for investing in Antoine and all students like him who are looking for a path to success. Thank you for investing in their future.

Blessings,

Lucille

