

Summer/Fall 2022

forwardthinking

Case Western Reserve University

Milton and Tamar



Expanding the power
of research through
partnership

Matching gift
amplifies the
impact of
professorships

11 years in the making

CWRU completes renovations for the
Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center



Scholarships make it possible.

As we begin a new academic year and welcome students back to Case Western Reserve University, we are excited to see how they **think beyond the possible** in labs, lecture halls and all across our campus.

But to achieve their goals, students often need additional support.

Gifts to CWRU scholarships from alumni and friends allow Case Western Reserve University to attract the best and brightest students—regardless of financial circumstances—and provide them with an unparalleled educational experience.

Empower today's Spartans and support scholarships in the areas that are most meaningful to you.

Give today at case.edu/give.



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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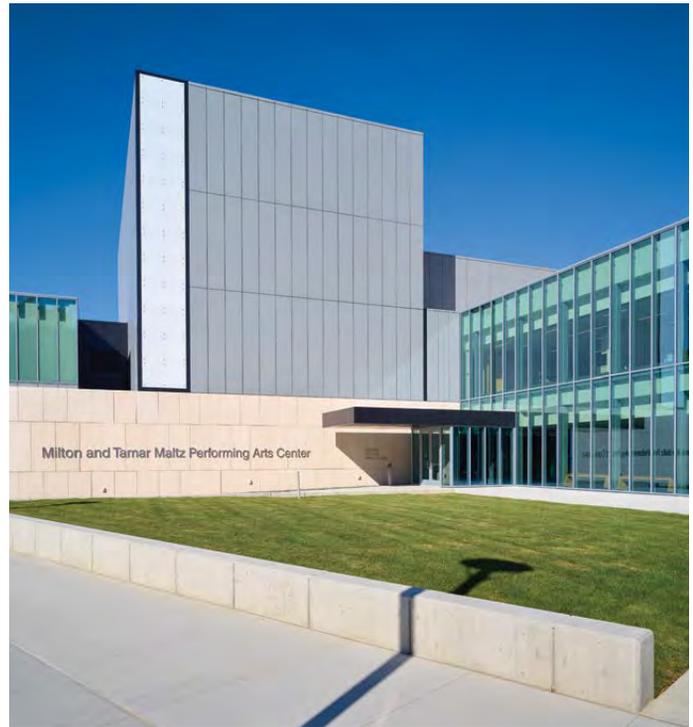


Photo by Roger Mastroianni



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WRITE TO US

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To Our Alumni and Friends:

As you will see in the pages that follow, your generosity to Case Western Reserve continues to awe.

Even in the face of a once-in-a-century pandemic and transitions in campus leadership, your support never wavered—in fact, you also pitched in to give students emergency funds when COVID-19 closed the campus.

And then last fall, donors to two earlier initiatives added substantially to their original gifts.

In the first instance, an anonymous alumnus added \$10 million to a 2018 commitment of \$20 million in matching funds for professorships at the schools of medicine and engineering. (You can read more about one of those scholars on page 8.)

Meanwhile, graduate Kevin Kranzusch (CWR '90) committed a second \$5 million to the engineering school's computer and data sciences department, which he helped establish with his initial 2019 gift.

His additional support establishes a fund for interdisciplinary initiatives, graduate student fellowships, and half of the cost of two new endowed professorships. (The anonymous donor's second pledge provides funds to match Kranzusch's support.)

Part of Kranzusch's original

gift created an endowed professorship for Vipin Chaudhary, the new department's inaugural chair.

Chaudhary was part of a multi-university team that last year received \$20 million in federal support for a national effort to bring the benefits of AI to more Americans.

Four months later, Chaudhary claimed another success, this time securing federal and state funds for a nearly \$1 million Artificial Intelligence SuperComputer

(AISC), which offers processing power 10 times greater than any other system on campus.

As part of his efforts, Chaudhary surveyed more than 250 university researchers—including undergraduates—regarding their computing needs. Now that the AISC is installed on campus, those individuals will be among the first to access it. (See article on page 16.)

These are just two of many examples of how your support transforms lives on and beyond our campus. I hope you find these stories as meaningful as I did—and that you realize just how grateful we are for every gift you make.

Fred DiSanto
Chair, Board of Trustees
Case Western Reserve University



Total Philanthropy*

\$174.8 million

\$171.8 million

2022

2021

**Includes a sum of new pledges, bequest expectancies and outright gifts*

Philanthropy from our alumni and friends

\$113.7 million

\$78.3 million

Philanthropy to support student scholarships

\$45.7 million

\$50.3 million

Philanthropy to support our faculty and their research

\$49.7 million

\$34.2 million



UNIVERSITY



Filling in the gaps

Molina Healthcare aims to address access and representation issues in Ohio’s dental care—by first supporting CWRU students



Minority representation in healthcare is deeply personal to Gabrielle Dean, a first-year dental student who grew up in a biracial family living in a predominantly white area of Mississippi.

After finishing her first year of college, Dean sought direct experience in her future field of dentistry. She had an opportunity to shadow a Black dentist and recounted how meaningful it was to see herself in a medical provider for the first time.

“People of color need to see more healthcare professionals that look like them,” said Dean. “It helps establish trust in a vulnerable situation.”



That is exactly why MolinaCares Accord, a charitable arm of Molina Healthcare Inc., awarded \$1.2 million to Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine: to increase diversity in the field of dental medicine, reduce disparities in care and alleviate students’ financial burdens through scholarship support.

“We hope that the scholarship fund will help train and educate a new generation of dentists,” said Carolyn Ingram, executive director of the MolinaCares Accord, “and enable them to practice in underserved communities where their skills can help address gaps in health equity and outcomes.”



Dean is in the first cohort of scholarship recipients, which consists of four students (one from each dental school class) who were selected based on their commitment to diversity and passion for working with underserved populations—particularly in Ohio.

Due to high patient-to-provider ratios and the population’s lack of insurance coverage, Ohio has faced a dental care shortage for well over a decade. Low-income communities bear the weight of the consequences, leaving more than

3 million uninsured Ohioans vulnerable to other health risks.

Second-year dental student and Molina scholarship recipient Wynette Bender struggled with insurance coverage growing up, and wants to support others facing those issues. “I’ve been there,” said Bender. “I want to help overlooked communities start the journey of recovery.”

Poor oral health can lead to a number of serious conditions, including cardiovascular disease, pneumonia and pregnancy complications. Patients experiencing even minor infections are often forced to seek treatment in the emergency room and end up facing astronomical hospital bills.

It’s a concern familiar to Otis Bevel, who recalled the financial strain his family felt in accessing healthcare growing up. Now in his third year in the dental program, Bevel hopes to use his career to make healthcare more affordable for others and aspires to be a role model for Black youth in his community.

“Yes, this scholarship will free up money to help me care for my family,” said Bevel, who has three young children at home. “But on top of that, it releases a mental burden, which will help me really focus on my studies.”

It provides similar relief to Alisha Thompson, who was able to retire from her side job of waiting tables, thanks to the Molina scholarship. “Now I can focus my time and energy on doing the community service activities that I love,” she said.

Thompson—who also earned her Master of Public Health degree at CWRU—hopes to one day lead a private practice that gives her the freedom to run a dental nonprofit serving underrepresented communities.

“Whether it’s through pop-up clinics or a mobile van,” said Thompson, “I just want to get to the places where people need help the most.”

*From top to bottom:
Gabrielle Dean,
Wynette Bender,
Otis Bevel and
Alisha Thompson*



CWRU students Eleana Cintron (front left), Sebastien Cayo (front middle) and Trinidi Foster (back middle) meet with Underwriters Laboratories leaders Judy Jeevarajan (front right), Chris Cramer (back left) and Steve Kerber (back right).

Pointing high-potential students to new opportunities

Businesses support diversity in STEM, scholarships and urban equity research

As a student in a Cleveland public high school, Taneisha Deans never imagined she would earn a doctorate.

That is, until the early 2000s, when she joined Case Western Reserve's Envoy program, which brings high-potential students from Cleveland and East Cleveland high schools to campus for three years of intensive research, mentorship and coursework in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

The experience set Deans on a path to earn a bachelor's degree in polymer science and engineering and a PhD in macromolecular science and engineering—both from CWRU. Today, she is a lab manager for Royal DSM, which sells polymer resins for automotive, electrical, medical and packaging, among other things.

"Throughout my time in the Envoy program, I was always encouraged to go beyond what was normally expected of students in my district," said Deans. "The lessons I learned as both a mentor and mentee gave me the leadership skills I need to lead a team at a world-renowned company."

Case Western Reserve has long partnered with businesses to provide students with new opportunities. KeyCorp, Lubrizol Corp. and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) are three such companies that have a history of supporting the university, and have made significant contributions in recent years to help CWRU students entering STEM fields.

"These corporations share a vision with Case Western Reserve University to build stronger communities through scholarship, research and equal opportunity," said Anne Borchert, associate vice president of corporate relations and strategic projects.



Taneisha Deans

Last fall KeyCorp's charitable arm, KeyBank Foundation, granted \$750,000 to establish the KeyBank Partnership for Equity through Education and Community Impact at Case Western Reserve to address issues of diversity, the digital workforce and equitable neighborhoods.

In addition to the Envoy program, the KeyBank Foundation's gift supports CWRU's National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities as well as scholarships for undergraduate students studying business, applied mathematics and statistics, computer science or data science.

With a \$1.2 million grant to support programs across campus from diversity scholarships to ethics, Underwriters Laboratories also sponsors the university's Envoy program.

For UL, this support builds on more than 10 years of partnership with Case Western Reserve that focuses on community engagement as well as energy, fire and materials research for public safety. The same goes for Lubrizol Corp., whose \$2.2 million gift in 2019 was just the latest commitment in a long history of research and educational collaborations with the university.

Lubrizol awarded the grant to encourage women and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields through scholarships, internship opportunities and joint research. Today, close to 50 students have benefited from Lubrizol's generosity in the two years since the program's inception.

"These investments benefit not only our faculty and students, but they ripple across our campus, bringing value to our entire community," said Provost and Executive Vice President Ben Vinson III.

Multiplier Effect

Expansion of anonymous challenge gift to provide new named professorships

As a fixture in the hospital room, Russell Gordon (CWR '21) bears silent witness to what may be some of the most critical moments in people's lives. Gordon, a medical scribe, records the exchanges between doctors, patients and their families—keeping a detailed record of each consultation, without becoming part of the conversation.

In this role at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, just north of Chicago, Gordon finds his assignment in the emergency room challenging but eye opening.

Key to his success, Gordon said: Case Western Reserve Professor Erin Gentry Lamb.

Lamb, who joined the medical school faculty two years ago, became the inaugural Carl F. Asseff, MD, MBA, JD, Designated Professor in Medical Humanities in 2021. Nationally recognized for her scholarship in the field, Lamb teaches and mentors future physicians and others considering the field, but also engages students from all levels and disciplines. She encourages them to reflect on their perspectives involving social justice and medicine, tolerance of ambiguity, and capacity for empathy.

"To be blunt," Gordon said, "Professor Lamb's courses helped me to care more. We continually addressed the idea that patients are not biochemical machines that have broken down in some way. And, I learned to absorb the emotional rollercoaster you have to ride in this line of work."

Lamb's professorship is named for Carl Asseff, a medical doctor who also holds degrees in law and business. It was his multidisciplinary background that served as the inspiration for this faculty position.

"This investment in doctor-patient relationships leads to better care for patients and greater enjoyment for physicians," Lamb noted. "Dr. Asseff's establishment of this professorship enables students to immerse themselves in the medical humanities and apply these tools and values throughout their education—and beyond."

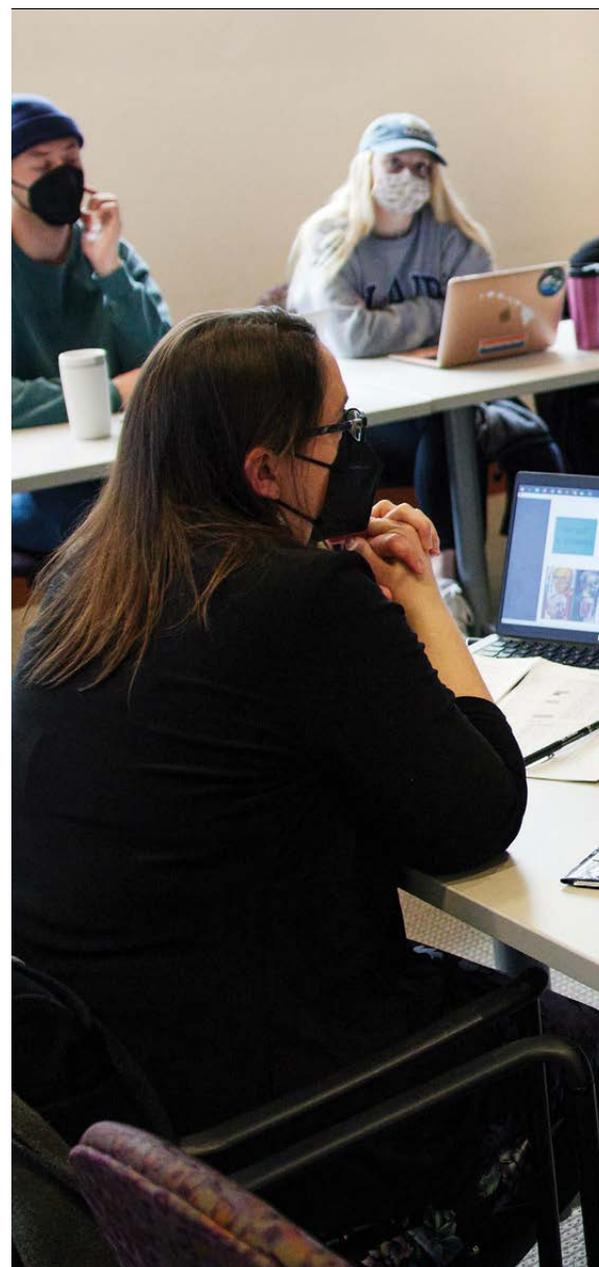
Increased Commitment

Nearly four years after making a \$10 million dollar challenge gift to endow professorships at Case Western Reserve University—including the one in Asseff's name—an anonymous donor, recognizing the success of the program, added an additional \$10 million to the original \$20 million commitment.

The gift, announced last fall by President Eric W. Kaler, will help endow five additional professorships at the School of Medicine, and professorships or fellowships at Case School of Engineering.

"Ultimately, our students benefit from gifts like this," President Kaler said at the time, "and they're the reason why we're here, after all."

Endowed professorships are among the highest honors faculty can receive, and also provide resources to support research and other academic



endeavors. By committing to half of the amount required (\$1 million), donors accepting the challenge would have the opportunity to name the professorship the gift helped create.

"Faculty expertise and cutting-edge research are among the hallmarks of the world's most renowned research universities," said the anonymous donor, an alumnus of both schools. "Case Western Reserve embodies both. Through this challenge, I hope to inspire



"Dr. Asseff's establishment of this professorship enables students to immerse themselves in the medical humanities and apply these tools and values throughout their education—and beyond!"

*—Professor Erin Gentry Lamb
(pictured bottom left, teaching a course)*

others to advance the opportunities for teaching and research in the specialties most important to them."

Other professorships funded through the initial challenge included a \$2 million allocation from Kevin Kranzusch (CWR '90) to establish two in Case School of Engineering's Department of Computer and Data Sciences (see p. 16), as well as support focused on areas from geriatric care to brain tumor research.

"Nothing is more valuable to the School of Medicine than to honor our accomplished and aspiring faculty with an endowed professorship," said Stan Gerson, dean and senior vice president for medical affairs.

"Having a donor support a match for five professorships more than doubles our appreciation for our cherished faculty and gives them the visibility and recognition they well deserve."

A CURTAIN CALL

BY CAREY SKINNER MOSS

The Maltz Center's latest transformation includes a Grand Atrium with a café, the Walter and Jean Kalberer Black Box Theatre, and the Roe Green Theatre.

Milton and T

11 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Roe Green Theatre

Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center

Case Western Reserve University completes renovations for Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at the Temple–Tifereth Israel

As Bob McCullough (CWR '96; MGT '03) began his studies at Case Western Reserve three decades ago, the undergraduate theater program lived in a 95-year-old structure built for a YMCA.

When he returned as Director of Undergraduate Admission in 2009, students still performed in the same cramped basement.

Fortunately, McCullough could speak as an alum when recruiting potential theater majors.

“I’d spend 99% of the time talking about the amazing people: faculty, staff, students and community members who make the program special,” he said. “And I’d kind of hope they’d not notice the omission of facilities.”

Now he gets to start those conversations talking about the space—specifically, more than 65,000 square feet of theaters, rehearsal areas, and costume and scene shops. Opened last fall, Phase II completes the Milton and Tamar Maltz Performing Arts Center at The Temple–Tifereth Israel, creating extraordinary opportunities for students interested in the performing arts.

“We’ve already started bragging about this to future students,” said McCullough, who is now assistant vice president for enrollment and dean of Undergraduate Admission. “Whether they’re involved in performing or technical work directly, or just want to go see their friends on stage, they will be wowed each time they enter this space.”

“Our dream is that ... artists and audience members alike will be transformed by their experiences here.”

—President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder

“Hope and possibility”

The scene was far less impressive when then-President Barbara R. Snyder and members of her leadership team toured the historic synagogue in the fall of 2007. Richard Block, then the senior rabbi of The Temple-Tifereth Israel, approached President Snyder with an intriguing idea to repurpose the space, which had only been used for High Holy Days and major events since the congregation established a new home in Cleveland’s eastern suburbs more than three decades earlier.

Seating was cramped—with a few chairs broken—and some windows desperately needed repair. Even so, the soaring domed space exuded potential. Plus, it could welcome audiences as large as 1,200—nearly double the size of any other campus venue.

In 2010, after extensive discussions with broadcast pioneer Milton Maltz and negotiations with Temple leadership, the university, synagogue and the Maltz family announced their new plan.

“We envision legions of young people honing their craft in rehearsal rooms within this complex, and then showcasing their talents in its theater,” Snyder said at the time. “Our dream is that these performances will carry their own sense of hope and possibility, and that artists and audience members alike will be transformed by their experiences here.”



Let the show begin

That bold vision became a reality one evening in November 2021: The lights dimmed in the center’s new Roe Green Theatre and, within moments, the audience was transported to springtime in Derbyshire, England, 1809.

The Case Western Reserve production of *Arcadia*—an award-winning dramedy by Tom Stoppard—christened the proscenium-style theater named for benefactor Roe Green, who gave \$10 million to Phase II of the project.

“The space is exquisite, just an absolute gem,” remarked Green, who attended *Arcadia*’s opening night performance. “I really care about the students—that’s why I go to as many shows as I can. They work so hard and it’s important to me that they feel encouraged and supported in pursuing their passion. It was very special to share that experience with them.”

A third-year double major in math and theater, Mariah Hamburg, who portrayed *Arcadia*’s girl genius Thomasina Coverly, feels fortunate to conduct both research and rehearsals in top-tier facilities on campus.

Left: Roe Green speaks in the theater that bears her name during the Phase II dedication.

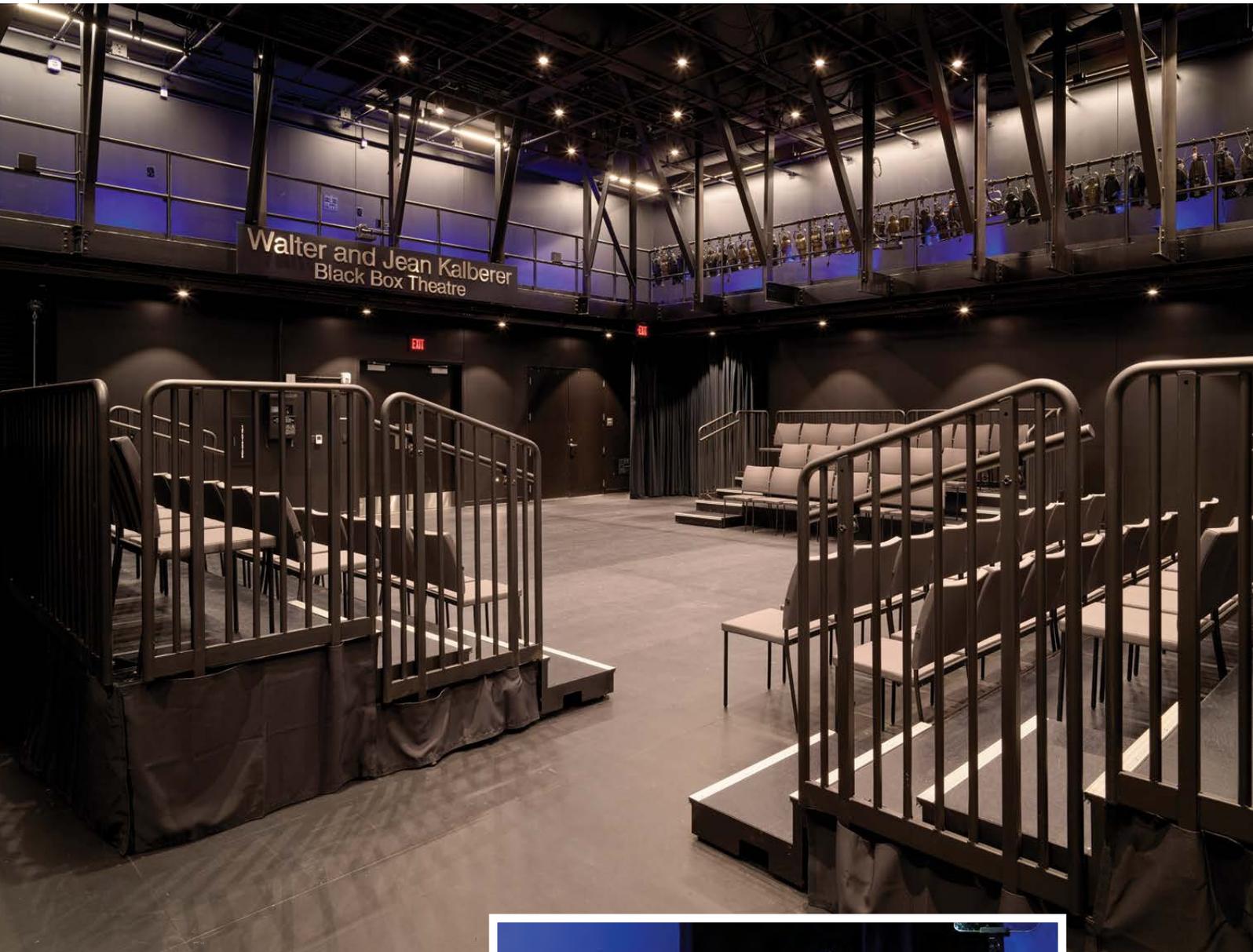
This page: Students took the stage last fall in Arcadia—the opening theater performance in the new space.



“Not only am I receiving an outstanding STEM education,” said Hamburg, “the opportunity to rehearse and perform in this breathtaking new facility better prepares me for whatever comes next in my theater career.”

Hamburg is precisely the type of student Jerrold Scott, chair and producing director for the Department of Theater, and the Katharine Bakeless Nason Professor of Theater and Drama, hopes the university will continue to attract because of the Maltz Center.

“The Maltz Performing Arts Center is a physical testament to the fact that, at Case Western Reserve, the arts and humanities are equal partners with our STEM strengths,” Scott said.



Above: The Walter and Jean Kalberer Black Box Theatre features 100 moveable seats, providing the opportunity to configure innovative stage setups and interact with a more intimately sized audience.

Right: Philanthropist Milton Maltz and President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder took the stage during the grand opening event, when he announced an additional \$5 million gift to name the foyer in her honor.



Behind the scenes

In the fall of 2015, a redesigned Silver Hall reopened with a performance through the region-wide multimedia project *Violins of Hope*. Phase I renovations included accessibility upgrades, an acoustic canopy and an adjustable stage, along with a small recital hall, added sound and light control rooms, and double the number of original bathrooms.

Today, the building's iconic golden dome stands proudly over the modern glass walls of the new wing that debuted in the fall with the completion of Phase II. A private event in October marked the occasion, and provided the perfect backdrop to honor one of the key people who set the wheels in motion more than a decade before.

That evening, Milton Maltz announced an additional \$5 million gift to name the Barbara R. Snyder Grand Atrium—bringing the Maltz family and foundation support of the project to \$35 million.

"The Maltz Performing Arts Center would not exist without Barbara's leadership, so it is only fitting that the community be reminded of her impact when they walk through the doors," Milton Maltz said. "Tamar and I are honored to have been part of this project from the beginning, and to share this extraordinary facility with Cleveland."

Phase II also revealed the Krause Family Foundation Green Room and the Walter and Jean Kalberer

Black Box Theatre, which offers 100 moveable seats.

"Everyone needs art," said Jean C. Kalberer (FSM '55, LAW '81) who, together with her husband, Walter E. Kalberer (ADL '55), supported the renovations. "Music and theater comfort us during the difficult times like we're facing now, they cross over political divides, and they are critical to helping people, especially young people, figure out how they relate to the world around them."

Students experienced the Kalberer Black Box Theatre this past spring when they returned to the Maltz Center for the theater department's production of *The Skin of Our Teeth*.

"The possibilities that the Maltz Performing Arts Center provides to our department and institution are truly remarkable," said Scott.

"We're looking at productions and events that we couldn't have dreamed of hosting at Eldred Hall, and collaborations with other departments across campus that will enrich the student experience."

Admissions leader McCullough looks forward to seeing some of those productions—as well as the new students drawn to the university because of the exceptional new space. Still, the young actor in him had to be honest: "I must admit, I'm a little jealous!"

"The possibilities that the Maltz Performing Arts Center provides to our department and institution are truly remarkable."

—Theater professor and chair Jerrold Scott

SUPER



With an additional \$5 million gift from alumnus Kevin Kranzusch, the 2-year-old computer and data sciences department finds potential in partnership

This summer, Case Western Reserve researchers gained access to data-processing power more than 10 times greater than they've ever experienced on campus.

Encompassing a full rack of refrigerator-sized computers in the university's data center, the nearly \$1 million Artificial Intelligence SuperComputer gives "researchers the power to explore further and faster than ever before, and will prove catalytic in advancing breakthroughs in disciplines across the university," said Venkataramanan "Ragu" Balakrishnan, the Charles H. Phipps Dean of the Case School of Engineering.

Its arrival—supported through funding from the university, the National Science Foundation and the Ohio Department of Education Action Fund—is among the latest initiatives of Vipin Chaudhary, PhD, who arrived at Case School of Engineering in fall 2020 to become the inaugural chair of the school's Department of Computer and Data Sciences. And it's one of many examples of the quickly growing impact of the nascent department.

POWER

Computer science had long been a prominent area of study at Case Western Reserve within the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. But in 2019, skyrocketing student interest and accelerating expansion of artificial intelligence inspired alumnus **Kevin Kranzusch (CWR '90)** to commit \$5 million to establish an independent computer and data science department.

Computer and data sciences has since become the university's largest area of undergraduate study, and research funding in the field nearly quadrupled in a single year.

Given this impressive progress—and the increasing potential for cross-campus collaboration—Kranzusch doubled his commitment to the department last fall.

*Kevin Kranzusch,
(CWR '90)*



“The thing that attracted me to Case Western Reserve was the collaboration that happens across the university,” recalled Kranzusch, vice president at NVIDIA, a multinational technology company renowned for inventing the GPU (Graphics Processing Unit). “And when you talk about the things we wanted to introduce to the computer sciences department—things like AI and machine learning and big data—those elements are perfectly lined up for cross pollination.”

*Vipin Chaudhary, PhD
(Photo by Matt Shiffler.)*



Harold Connamacher, the Robert J. Herbold Professor of Transformative Teaching, has made significant impact in the young department, recently earning the university's Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. (Photo by Angelo Merendino.)

Part of Kranzusch's gift supports the Computer and Data Science Initiative Fund, a resource designed to improve university-wide collaboration through visiting professorships, speaker series and expanded student extracurricular opportunities, including hands-on travel experiences.

It also will create two new endowed professorships, in addition to the one Chaudhary holds as the Kevin J. Kranzusch Professor. Increasing the number of faculty, Chaudhary noted, is among the most critical aspects of keeping up with growing class sizes. So, too, is having the space for the students to learn and study, which is why part of Kranzusch's gift supports renovating portions of the department's home in the Olin building.

To attract more high-potential graduate students, the gift establishes a Kranzusch Fellows program to provide financial support and cutting-edge research opportunities.

“You're only as good as your students,” Chaudhary explained of the immense need for recruiting talented master's and PhD students. “And great undergraduate schools require a great graduate population.”

But at the core of Kranzusch's commitments is that desire to expand interdisciplinary partnerships.

"Whether it be the medical school or the sociology department or any of the other engineering programs," Kranzusch explained, "everyone is going to be influenced by this stuff."

Indeed, Chaudhary has already seen significant interest—from the more than 250 researchers from across Case Western Reserve who engaged in his effort to bring the AI supercomputer to the university, to a 13-institution, \$20 million National Science Foundation grant to democratize artificial intelligence that he's co-leading. Through such projects, the department's faculty, staff and students are proving the power of partnership—and the importance of growth.

"Kevin talks a lot about finding the catalyst," Chaudhary said. "And I truly believe he has been the catalyst for us."



Fanny Ye, the Theodore L. and Dana J. Schroeder Associate Professor, focuses on data mining, machine learning, cybersecurity and health intelligence—recently gaining attention for an online COVID-19 risk-assessment tool. (Photo by Annie O'Neill.)

The data behind computer and data sciences

30%

undergraduate enrollment growth in computer and data sciences since 2016

\$10M

in gifts from alumnus Kevin Kranzusch since 2019 to support a new standalone department

489

computer and data science majors in spring 2022

150+

master's and PhD students in spring 2022

A gift for the future—and income for today

George Baum (CIT '54) uses Charitable Gift Annuities to make his mark

 It was 1939 and George Baum's father had just received a letter from the Hungarian government telling him to report to a labor camp. So the family fled.

"It was a close call," Baum said.

Just 7 when the family arrived in Cleveland, Baum started public school without knowing a word of English. His family struggled financially, and he felt his future options were limited to the part-time work he did growing up—shoe-shining, factory work and truck driving.

But one day, representatives of the Case Institute of Technology brought a science fair to his high school.

"It brought me closer to the world of science and I was inspired," he recalled. "Case Institute of Technology was my ladder, my escape hatch off the streets of Cleveland."

After more than 40 years conducting research for



the U.S. Air Force, Cooper Technicon and Corning Inc. in the fields of organic chemistry and immunology, Baum wanted to provide that same opportunity to others. As he began the gradual process of retiring in 1997, he established his first charitable gift annuity with Case Western Reserve University.

A charitable gift annuity (CGA) is a contract with the university where a donor's gift of cash or securities is invested, and the return from the investment provides fixed quarterly or monthly payments to the donor for life. When the donor dies, Case Western Reserve retains the remainder of the assets.

For Baum, CGAs will allow him to help students in the future who otherwise might not be able to attend CWRU—while also providing income now for a fulfilling retirement, reading, biking and cross-country skiing with his wife of 41 years, Kaye.

When Baum dies, all of his annuities—currently 15 in total—will come together to establish the Elaine and Leslie Baum Endowment Fund, named for Baum's parents. The scholarship will support undergraduate students from the City of Cleveland pursuing degrees in math and select sciences.

"My parents gave up everything to come to America," said Baum. "I want my legacy, my parents' legacy, to be one of helping others. This is all in their honor."

“From Molecules to the Bedside”

Donor support is shaping the field of nursing

After earning her doctorate at Case Western Reserve, Donna L. (Muszynski) Algase, PhD (GRS '88, nursing), went on to a distinguished career as a researcher of gerontological nursing and dementia.

But she never forgot the financial challenges involved in completing her studies—and the support she received to overcome them.

“Some [awards and scholarships] were a couple thousand dollars, others were a few hundred,” she continued. “But they all made a difference for a family with two kids—and both parents—trying to get educated.”

Now retired, Algase is encouraging the next generation of nurse scientists to continue her work by creating a dissertation award for nursing PhD candidates at CWRU studying eldercare.

“Most times we think about nurses caring for people at the bedside, but there’s also a group of nurse scientists generating new knowledge that we all benefit from,” said Ronald Hickman Jr., PhD, RN (CWR '00; NUR '02, '06, '13; GRS '08, nursing), the school’s associate dean of research and the Ruth M. Anderson Professor. “Donna Algase is interested in understanding the molecular basis—so this award is truly funding work from molecules to the bedside.”

Algase was inspired by the opportunities and mentoring she received at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. Even after joining the faculty at the University of Michigan, she maintained a close connection to her alma mater.

“It felt like I never really left, in a fashion—that there was a part of me still there,” she said. “So when I had the good fortune to make this kind of donation, Case Western Reserve was certainly high on my list.”

Seventy percent of the school’s graduate-level students receive scholarship or fellowship assistance. Donor support is especially important now as the nation faces increasing nursing faculty shortages.

“The more support we can make available to attract students of all backgrounds to [the PhD] route,” Algase continued, “the better off we are. ... If they have a scientific mind, if they have an interest in caring, we need them.”



“Most times we think about nurses caring for people at the bedside, but there’s also a group of nurse scientists generating new knowledge that we all benefit from.”

— Ronald Hickman Jr.



Sharing opportunity

A commitment to equality moves alumni couple to commit \$2 million to scholarships



The nation's increased focus on social justice hasn't just captured the attention of Ellen (WRC '75) and Matt (WRC '75)

Feldman, it's driven them to act.

By focusing their retirement on advancing equity, the couple hopes to leave a mark in both their Chicago-area community and at their alma mater. Through a \$2 million estate gift to Case Western Reserve—and a challenge gift established under President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder—the couple created a scholarship for undergraduates in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Feldman Family Endowed Scholarship Fund will initially support a full tuition, four-year scholarship with a preference for underrepresented students, and the potential to someday support multiple students.

"We want students who otherwise wouldn't be able to access a quality education at Case Western Reserve to obtain one and have a full and successful life," Matt said. "It's not more complicated than this."

Joy K. Ward, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said she is humbled by the couple's support—as philanthropists and as advisors (Ellen and Matt both served on the college's visiting committee, and Ellen is still a member).

"We know that to be excellent, we must be diverse," Ward said. "By providing opportunities

to future and current students, Ellen and Matt are helping us increase the college's diversity and achieve our mission."

For the Feldmans, the gift is an extension of the work they've done in their careers, and more recently in retirement, to advance underserved communities, especially near their home in Illinois.

Before retiring in 2020, Matt led the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago for more than a decade. During his tenure, he worked to reshape the culture of the wholesale bank—diversifying its board and recruiting top talent that reflected the communities the bank was intended to serve, particularly Black and Latinx populations. The experience opened his eyes to inequities not often seen or addressed by C-suite leaders.

"When I retired," he said, "I decided I was going to devote a meaningful piece of my retirement to elevating racial equity."

Matt also serves as treasurer of the Evanston Community Foundation, working with local leaders to address long-standing civic issues—from housing to reparations. In 2019, Evanston became the first municipality in the country to pass a city council resolution on reparations. The foundation, through the Evanston Reparations Community Fund, secures resources and provides grants to directly benefit Evanston's Black community. Matt sees it as an important step and is lending his financial expertise to the ongoing efforts in this area.

Ellen echoes her husband's desire to extend their service beyond their careers.

A former executive in several industries, including higher education, she serves as a board member of The People's Music School in Chicago, the oldest tuition-free music school in the nation, which serves students and families across a diverse spectrum of racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. Ellen has also been active in tutoring students at the elementary school level and is helping lead important initiatives in the couple's synagogue—including one aiding those seeking asylum in the United States.

She said they entered this phase of their lives determined to make change.

"We didn't retire to knit and eat bonbons," Ellen said. "Our goal is to make more of a difference."



A legacy for Love

After nearly 40 years in private dental practice, Jack Love, DDS (WRC '54, DEN '58), never considered translating his experience to teaching. But when offered the opportunity to join the faculty of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine full time, he was eager to try it for a year. Perhaps if he liked it, Love thought, he might stay for five.

That year did, in fact, turn into five, which turned into 20—time spent educating and mentoring hundreds of future dentists until he retired in 2020 at age 88.

“For me, dentistry has opened so many doors,” said Love, who specialized in prosthodontics. “Among the most impactful experiences [of my career] has been the opportunity to spend these last 20 years working with dedicated young people and the stimulating faculty at CWRU.”

So immense was Love’s impact that, at his virtual retirement party last summer, Associate Professor Roma Jasinevicius, DDS (DEN '74, '76), and Dan Degeysys, DDS (ADL '69, DEN '73), announced a collaboration with the faculty to establish a fund in his honor to benefit students—a fund toward which Love has also contributed \$100,000.

The Jack Love, DDS, Fund for Prosthodontic Excellence aims to inspire and support talented fourth-year students to present at prosthodontic meetings—representation that Love hopes will solidify the expertise of the restorative dentistry faculty who trained them and enhance the school’s reputation. Looking forward, Love hopes the fund may grow to also bring in well-known and respected prosthodontists to share their knowledge, just as Love did for decades.

Marking a milestone

More than 50 years after earning his degree, a graduate's estate gift supports future students

Five decades later, Howard Freedman (LAW '70) still remembers his feeling at the start of every lecture in his Legal Methods class. Professor Ovid Lewis would approach the blackboard, and Freedman and his classmates readied for a marathon of notetaking. Calling the blackboards “worthy of the Cleveland Museum of Art,” he says Lewis served as an inspiration.



“Lewis would talk very fast and simultaneously scribble, also very fast, on the blackboard,” Freedman recalls. “He’d place words and symbols in a diagram that grew over the course of the hour to more than cover the blackboard. If I could understand 10% of the presentation, I considered it a good day. Fortunately, he was always available to help fill in the other 90%.”

Reflecting on his years as a student, Freedman vividly recalled Lewis and the other professors who pushed and challenged him—including Lewis Katz, Ronald Coffey and Arnold Reitze. Reitze, for example, “had a hilarious and dark sense of humor, and inspired me to show up for his 8 a.m. federal taxation class, which was a real hardship for me in those days.”

Today, Freedman sees the same energy, enthusiasm and

passion present in the faculty—including Co-Deans Jessica Berg (GRS '09, public health) and Michael Scharf. It was this continued commitment to both students and the law itself that served as the catalyst for an estate gift he recently made to the school.

The gift, part of a trust with a current value of \$1.5 million, was one of several significant contributions from members of the school's 1970 class—including a \$10 million gift from Coleman “Coley” Burke (LAW '70) that established the Coleman P. Burke Center for Environmental Law. Through the gift, the center will continue offering students customized experiential educational opportunities, orga-



nize impactful conferences featuring leading voices and recruit talented students through the Coleman Burke Environmental Law scholarships.

So for Freedman, giving back to Case Western Reserve makes sense because “you’re familiar with it, you benefited from it, you have positive feelings about it, and you feel like it should be preserved and it should grow,” he said. “This is how you can accomplish that.”

Freedman’s family also has deep roots on campus. His parents, Samuel Freedman (ADL ’37) and Marian Kirschner (FSM ’37), met and fell in love while attending school as undergraduates. And Samuel’s entrepreneurial success in what the younger Freedman called “the high technology business of 1939”—microfilm—led them to establish the Freedman Center for Digital Scholarship in the Kelvin Smith Library.

Today, Freedman and his wife, Rita Montlack, have made gifts and commitments to Case Western Reserve in support of the Freedman Center, the Social Justice Institute and his Class Reunion Gift fund, which he co-chaired last fall.

“I’ve had amazing adventures in my practice and wonderful friendships that have grown out of it,” he said. “I consider myself very lucky.”

A catalyst’s playpen

How one community member has found her passion in supporting new initiatives



It all began in 2008 when Meredith and Oliver Seikel met Dexter.

A series of Oliver’s alumni connections from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology led the couple to Dexter, a robotic car being built and programmed at Case Western Reserve University.

The couple excitedly followed the car’s journey through development and training. Though they are not alumni themselves, the experience inspired the Seikels, and they soon began to fund more projects at the university.

After Oliver died in 2018, Meredith continued to honor their shared legacy; she considers herself a seed fund donor and enjoys encouraging new interdisciplinary projects at the university, particularly at the intersection of technology, human impact and ethics.

Over the past several years, she has supported CWRU Emerging Scholars; the Inamori International Center for Ethics and Excellence; applications of artificial intelligence at the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences; CWRU Interactive Commons; and art.lab.cle, a transdisci-

plinary approach to understanding art using 21st-century technology—all in support of the university’s Think Big strategic plan.

“It all goes back to the opportunities I got when I was younger,” said Seikel who, 60 years ago, received a grant and paid internship that allowed her to

pursue graduate studies at Yale University in urban planning, law and architecture as one of a handful of women enrolled at the time. “If I can help other students and faculty to help themselves, and support an incredible university in my own neighborhood to excel, that’s what I want to do.”

One recent gift has brought the Mandel School together with Case School of Engineering to offer a graduate certificate in Data Science for Social

Impact, an initiative to help students understand implications data science can have for society. In the new program, students learn and develop data science techniques to inform social work and social policy, as well as leadership skills to inform the ethical use of social algorithms and the analysis of social data.

“I don’t just give, I get involved,” said Seikel.

“It’s fun being around young people, hearing what they have to say. Case Western Reserve is the best playpen a sweet little old lady like me could have.”

— Meredith Seikel

Practicing Global Leadership

Support of international nursing to improve patient care

 In a nursing career that has taken her from Switzerland to Africa and several locations in between, Marie Grubisha Wilkie (NUR '54) observed one constant.

“Being able to exchange information and learn cultural differences,” she explained, “is good for patient outcomes everywhere.”

To that end, Wilkie has long been a generous supporter of international students at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, including gifts that helped students establish or improve nursing programs in their home communities.

“Students in many of these countries learn and practice nursing differently from what we

might be accustomed to in the United States,” Wilkie said, noting that their interactions with U.S. students here benefits everyone involved.



Wikie’s own international experiences began after a summer trip to Europe with nursing school classmates. The vacation led her to accept a position at the American Hospital in Paris, as well as other posts in Europe. When she joined the World Health Organization, her assignments took her to Asia—including a stint in Afghanistan—and to the African nation now known as Zimbabwe. During

her travels, she saw providers and parents show great courage in challenging well-intentioned traditional customs that at times endangered patients’ health. In one instance, Wilkie recalled, the reaction against a physician’s life-saving guidance proved so provocative that within minutes the rural clinic was surrounded by armed and angry members of the community.

“We helped him escape through a back door,” Wilkie said.

Now Wilkie is contributing yet more to her profession. Through estate commitments to her nursing alma mater, select international students will receive scholarships to attend the Frances Payne Bolton school. In addition, she is



providing resources to the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy.

The academy, which opened its new space in May in the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion at the Health Education Campus of Case Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic, aims to prepare nurse leaders to be actively involved in the design, planning, management and delivery of care and in the development and implementation of health policy at all levels.

As the academy space opens—complete with the Marie G. Wilkie Library, thanks to a prior gift—Joyce Fitzpatrick, a Distinguished University Professor, the Elizabeth Brooks Ford Professor and the inaugural director of the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy, is grateful.

“Marie is a tireless advocate for the profession of nursing,” she said. “Her generous support for the Marian K. Shaughnessy Nurse Leadership Academy will ensure that we advance our global mission to make the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing ‘The Leadership Destination’ for nurses and nursing.”

“More than worth it”

First-year CWRU parents get involved from the start

Charlie Apy had his pick of universities as he prepared to graduate high school in 2021, but the North Carolina native had two non-negotiable conditions: His campus had to be somewhere he could experience a true northern winter, and also be able to study music while exploring STEM fields.

Case Western Reserve was the answer. While majoring in applied mathematics, Charlie also studies percussion through the university’s partnership with the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Parents Ed and Kathy Apy were initially nervous about Charlie’s move to Northeast Ohio, but their fears quickly dissipated.

“Charlie knew he would find his people there,” Kathy said, “and he did.”

“He found them within two weeks,” Ed added with a laugh. “Now it’s hard to get him to come home!”

The couple has always taken an active interest in their son’s

education. After participating in an academic booster club during Charlie’s high school years, the CWRU Parents Leadership Council appealed to them.

Parents involved in the council work closely with the Division of Student Affairs to enhance the student experience while supporting the university philanthropically.

“I really appreciate having the insight of what is going on behind the scenes,” said Kathy. “As parents, the council provides a wonderful opportunity to hear directly from university leadership—that makes it more than worth it.”

The Apys give to Case Western Reserve because they value the education their son is receiving.

“We love where President [Eric W.] Kaler is leading the university and the vision he has for its future,” continued Kathy. “And Charlie has so many resources available. We’ve encouraged him to visit the Career Center and he’s already talking about plans for graduate school.”



Honoring a legacy of leadership

CWRU community surpasses goals for Dean Gilmore Scholarship Fund

 When Grover “Cleve” Gilmore accepted an appointment as interim dean of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, he committed to one year in the role.

Those 12 months turned into nearly 20 years leading Case Western Reserve’s top-ranked social work school, a tenure that saw the school raise funds for 43 new endowed scholarships; launch an undergraduate social work minor; and create the university’s first short-term study abroad program and online degree offering.

To honor Gilmore’s dedicated leadership—and recognize his longstanding commitment to making a Mandel School education more affordable for all students—the school established the Dean Gilmore Scholarship Fund.

Alumni and friends were quick to contribute to the fund, which provides full tuition for one social work student per year, in perpetuity. They surpassed the original campaign goal of \$1 million, ultimately giving more than \$2 million to the fund. It’s just the beginning for the Mandel School, which aims to raise \$15 million to expand average scholarship assistance from 36% to 75% of tuition.

For Gayle Noble (SAS ’88), a gift to

the Dean Gilmore Scholarship Fund was a chance to honor her friend while expressing gratitude toward the school that launched her career.

“SASS, as we called it in those days, was enormously helpful in charting my path to behavioral health,” said Noble, who is now retired, but remains active in her work with the Donald and Alice Noble Foundation, through which she and her husband David contributed to the campaign.

“I feel hugely fortunate for the education I received and the field work that catapulted me into the professional work I did for decades,” she continued. “And I’m happy knowing I can help students with tuition so they can spend more time enjoying their career in social work and less time worrying about debt.”

Faculty and staff also were eager to pay tribute to the longtime dean, including Sharon E. Milligan, PhD, associate dean of academic affairs at the Mandel School. Milligan joined the CWRU faculty as an associate professor in 1982 and collaborated closely with Gilmore over the years. In the fall of 2021, she served as interim dean before Gilmore’s eventual successor, Dexter Voisin, started this year.



“As both a colleague and friend, Cleve always leads with kindness and respect,” Milligan remarked. “He cares deeply about students, faculty and staff—and it really shows. It’s a remarkable legacy, and one I’m proud to have witnessed and been a part of.”

— Sharon E. Milligan, PhD



Finding joy in giving

One alumna's journey to supporting student scholarships



It all started with a sore throat.

Joan Spriggs was finishing her pre-nursing studies at Minnesota's Concordia College when an annoying tickle sent her to a nearby clinic.

There she was treated by Ruth Holland (NUR '47), a recent graduate of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, who raved about the program.

Spriggs had never heard of Case Western Reserve University, but Holland's enthusiasm convinced her to enroll.

"My family thought it was too far away," said Spriggs, "but when you get older and look back, you see why it all happened—you can see the road you took and all the opportunities it presented."

One evening while studying, Spriggs was invited to a party on the spur of the moment. When she stepped off the elevator, she saw her future husband, Tim Jenkins (ADL '55), for the first time. Seven months later, she became Joan Jenkins (NUR '56).

Aside from a brief stay in Kentucky, while Tim served in the Army, the couple remained in Cleveland. When their five kids were older, Joan's idea of wellness broadened; she became a Reiki master—a skill she still practices today—and pivoted her career focus to mental health counseling for parents and families.

Tim enjoyed a long career in finance and insurance. Then in the early 2010s, he was diagnosed with Lewy

body dementia, a little-known disease that affects chemicals in the brain, resulting in issues with thinking, movement, behavior and mood. Joan and Tim were married nearly 65 years before Tim's death from the disease in 2019 at the age of 86.

"That played a big part in where I decided to donate," said Joan. The couple had been loyal donors to Case Western Reserve's annual fund since 1975, but in 2021, Joan came forward with a \$102,000 gift to establish the Joan Spriggs Jenkins and Tim H. Jenkins Family Fund.

The endowed fund will support scholarships for Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing graduate students specializing in acute gerontological care, much like what Tim received, or in the family systems mental health field to which Joan dedicated her career.

"The education I received at Case Western Reserve was so in-depth, it really became part of who I was—and am—as a person," remarked Joan. "I feel if I could somehow make it easier for others to achieve their goals and live their dreams [through a CWRU education], it would make a better world for the rest of us."

Joan chose to inscribe "The joy of living is in the giving" on her shared tombstone with Tim.

"I really do believe that," she said. "When we give, that is where we find our joy."

Home. Again.

This fall, reconnect with Case Western Reserve—
and each other—as we recognize the achievements of our
alumni and once again celebrate the university's time-honored
traditions during Homecoming and Reunion Weekend.

Please plan to join us for events
on campus and online,
October 6–9.

Stay tuned to **case.edu/homecoming** for more information.

*Individuals attending Case Western Reserve events are expected to be fully vaccinated, including booster if eligible.
Masks are not required at this time, but we respect the choices of those who elect to wear them.
University leaders continue to monitor pandemic developments and will adjust health protocols as circumstances warrant.*





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