

3-1-2018

You Make the Difference: Advancement Philanthropy Report (FY17)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://via.library.depaul.edu/depaul-magazine>

Recommended Citation

(2018) "You Make the Difference: Advancement Philanthropy Report (FY17)," *DePaul Magazine*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 412021 , Article 8.
Available at: <https://via.library.depaul.edu/depaul-magazine/vol1/iss412021/8>

This DePaul News is brought to you for free and open access by the Alumni Publications at Via Sapientiae. It has been accepted for inclusion in DePaul Magazine by an authorized editor of Via Sapientiae. For more information, please contact wsulliv6@depaul.edu, c.mcclure@depaul.edu.



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Advancement Philanthropy Report (FY17)
July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017

DePaul's growth into the **largest Catholic university** in America has been driven by a dedicated, talented faculty; state-of-the-art learning facilities; experiential and innovative educational **opportunities**; and, perhaps above all, an engaged, enthusiastic community. More than **19,600 generous donors** gave a total of **\$52,666,457** to help DePaul provide a **world-class education** for all students, regardless of their means or background.

A Legacy of Gratitude

Jim Ryan (MBA '87), chair of DePaul's Board of Trustees and a member of the board since 2007, is full of gratitude to the university. "Both of my parents attended DePaul. That's where they met. I like to tell people I'm eternally grateful for DePaul because if it were not for [the university], I probably wouldn't be around," Ryan says.

Ryan credits his parents' strong work ethic and values as driving forces in his life and his successful 37-year career at W.W. Grainger, an industrial supply company based in Lake Forest, Ill., where he served as president and CEO as well as board chairman. "Both of my parents grew up in Chicago. They were both first-generation college students, which is very much a big part of the profile of students at DePaul," says Ryan. "My parents, like a lot of students at DePaul, worked to put themselves through school."

It was his family's belief in DePaul's mission that inspired Ryan and his wife, Michelle, to establish the James T. and Michelle A. Ryan Family Scholarship in 2017. The scholarship funds tuition and expenses for graduates of the Chicago Jesuit Academy, a middle school in Chicago's Austin neighborhood where Michelle is a volunteer teacher and board member. "Education will help the trajectory of these kids' lives," says Ryan. "This is a great opportunity to [make] a very positive impact."

The Ryans feel blessed in many ways and don't take their good fortune for granted. "I feel like it's a responsibility for us to give back to organizations like DePaul that have such a worthwhile and honorable mission," Ryan says. "DePaul transforms people's lives, not only by providing a high-quality education, but also by providing access to that education to people who might otherwise not have access to it."



\$9,045,658
total amount
raised for scholarships

53
new
scholarship funds

19
endowed
scholarship
funds

34
expendable
scholarship
funds

“Coming from the Fiji Islands, I feel extremely blessed to be able to attend such a prestigious university. We may be strangers, but I will be forever grateful to all of you who make my journey through DePaul possible.”

—Victor Ma, business student
recipient of the Gerald & Jennifer Beeson “Success Through Scholarship”
Endowment in Accountancy

Endowment Encourages Rising Academic Stars

“Young faculty deserve an academic home where they can pursue their research interests as well as teach.”

-Barry Epstein (BUS '67)

To foster such a home at DePaul, **Barry Epstein (BUS '67)**, a nationally recognized forensic accountant, has committed \$600,000 to establish the Dr. Barry Jay Epstein Endowed Faculty Development Fund. This fund supports rising stars as they advance in their profession through research, publications and presentations at academic conferences.

A former educator himself, Epstein recognizes that there is always a shortage of funds for activities outside of the classroom. “It is very important to the entire academic process,” he says, including the additional input faculty can bring to students from these experiences.

In all, nearly \$3.64 million in faculty support was raised during the 2016-17 fiscal year. Faculty themselves generously gave nearly \$1 million to support students, facilities and other areas of need.



Gift of Art Enhances DPAM's Educational Capacity



Candida Alvarez, “Son So & So,” acrylic and graphite, 2001.
Photo courtesy of the DePaul Art Museum.

DePaul's cultural and artistic impact in Chicago grew significantly thanks to one donor's generosity. Collector Chuck Thurow made a gift of 114 works by 59 Chicago artists to the DePaul Art Museum (DPAM) in August 2017. The paintings, photography, sculpture, drawings and other works from the past three decades fill an important niche in the museum's Chicago-oriented collection.

Thurow collected the artworks during his 12-year tenure as director of the Hyde Park Art Center on Chicago's South Side.

He gave the pieces to DePaul because he wanted them to be actively studied and exhibited. Some pieces are already being shown in exhibits at DPAM, around Chicago and as far away as the Prada Foundation in Milan, Italy.

“I couldn't be more pleased with how my gift to DePaul is being used,” says Thurow. “By exhibiting Chicago artists and having an intellectual discussion around them, places like DePaul are absolutely essential in making the city's artistic community thrive.”

A Collective Spirit of Giving



Annual giving is a collective effort of the entire DePaul community. In fiscal year 2017, DePaul was pleased to welcome 4,525 first-time donors. Alumni contributed more than \$37.5 million, staff and faculty gave nearly \$900,000, parents of current DePaul students gave more than \$253,000 and students themselves gave \$23,890.

Every gift makes a real impact, no matter its size. The 14,107 donors who gave \$999 or less raised a total of \$1.4 million; 8,819 of those donors gave to scholarships.

TRUEBLUE SOCIETY

The True Blue Society recognizes individuals who make a gift to DePaul for at least three years in row, but many donors give year after year. Three donors have given for 42 consecutive years, and others aren't far behind. This unwavering support allows DePaul to help students reach their full potential.

5,595
total

True Blue Society members

997
new

True Blue Society members

nearly

\$34
million raised

Support in a Time of Need



A house fire. The loss of a family member. A natural disaster. When DePaul students experience an unexpected crisis, they may suffer financial hardships that can interrupt their education. DePaul's Student Emergency Assistance Fund (SEAF) exists to help students in distress cover the cost of rent, living expenses, transportation, medical needs and school expenses.

The SEAF came through for one undergraduate student from Florida whose family home was devastated by Hurricane Irma last summer. The cost of repairing the damage meant that her family was unable to help pay her expenses for the fall quarter. Thanks to generous donors, the SEAF was able to cover the cost of her textbooks and part of her tuition, allowing her to remain enrolled at DePaul.

"The SEAF grants assist students in financially difficult situations so that they are able to make a plan moving forward," says Ashley Knight, dean of students. Even small gifts have a meaningful impact. During the 2016-17 academic school year, 515 donors gave nearly \$69,000, enabling 29 undergraduate and graduate students in need to continue their education.

ComEd Scholarships Spark STEM, Business Careers



Longtime DePaul partner ComEd is brightening futures by providing scholarships to students in high school and college as they pursue careers in business or science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).

ComEd scholarships are available to help students at DePaul College Prep, a Catholic high school on Chicago's North Side, advance their STEM or business education in high school all the way through completion of their bachelor's degree at DePaul. ComEd employees volunteer their time to mentor these students and keep them on track. In addition, these students can gain valuable work experience through internship opportunities that help ensure success after graduation.

"The program combines being a good neighbor with growing the next generation of leaders for ComEd and its parent company, Exelon," says Paula Conrad, ComEd's senior manager of corporate relations. "The ultimate success is that we gain some really engaged, community-minded, passionate employees. This is a different and really meaningful way for us to strengthen our long relationship with DePaul and DePaul College Prep."

"It's such a thoughtful and creative program initiated by ComEd. I see the future for kids who are interested in STEM and business as very bright," says **Mary Dempsey (JD '82)**, a DePaul Trustee and president of DePaul College Prep. "We're delighted that we can help direct those students from DePaul Prep to DePaul University and into great careers."

Meaningful Collaborations

Support from corporate and philanthropic organizations is vital to DePaul's research, programming and institutional initiatives.

567

corporate supporters

110

foundation supporters

196

other organizational contributors

Alumna's Gift Gives Basketball a Boost



Although **Heather Carmody (BUS '93, JD '99)** didn't play basketball at DePaul, she is a big fan of the program. For Carmody, it's not just about winning games. She says head women's basketball coach **Doug Bruno (LAS '73, MA '88)** "instills positive values in his players," including a strong emphasis on academics. As the first in her immediate family to graduate from college, Carmody appreciates this education-focused approach.

"The confidence, networking skills and real-life experience I gained at DePaul have shaped my life," says Carmody, a partner at Barnes & Thornburg LLP. "It makes me feel good to be able to give back."

Most recently, Carmody made a generous gift to the Wintrust Arena at McCormick Square, the new home court of DePaul Blue Demon basketball. A city dweller herself, she's thrilled that the arena is easily accessible from campus. "I'm excited that we're bringing the stadium closer to the students," Carmody says. "I think it's so important for students to have a connection to their own program."

Top-notch facilities give students a sense of pride while simultaneously enhancing the university's national exposure. "A better building allows us to recruit better players, which in turn builds better programs," Carmody asserts. "It's a snowball effect."

"I love that I can be part of this," she adds. "The enthusiasm of the student-athletes and coaches is contagious. I'm happy to contribute in any way I can."

A Gift That Lasts



The Cortelyou Heritage Society honors individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to DePaul by making an estate or planned gift to the university. Individuals who support DePaul through a planned gift ensure their legacy for future generations of students while fulfilling their financial and estate-planning goals. Gifts support scholarships, facilities, programs, faculty and other needed resources.

14

new
Cortelyou Heritage Society
members

\$32,863,613

total planned
gifts raised

132

planned
gifts