

Thank you!





A Message from Our President

Every day at the University of Evansville, I am reminded that generosity is where the extraordinary begins. It begins when a student dares to dream, when a professor sparks curiosity, and when a community believes in what is possible. Because of you, that spirit of possibility continues to thrive. Together, we are building a university where ideas take flight and transformation happens — not by chance, but through purpose and partnership.

This year, your generosity has reached into every corner of our campus and well beyond it. Endowed scholarships from the Fitzgerald and Kahl families are turning aspirations into achievements. Grants from Toyota, Lilly Endowment Inc., and the Department of Justice are driving innovation, research, and service that extend UE's impact around the globe. And through gifts like the Walker Family Women's Basketball Endowment, our student-athletes are growing in competition, character, and leadership as living examples of what it means to be an Ace.

As we approach the goal for our **FORWARD** campaign, we celebrate more than a milestone. We celebrate a shared belief that education is one of the most powerful forces for good, and that the University of Evansville is where bold thinkers, compassionate leaders, and **#Changemakers** begin their journeys. Every gift you make propels this mission forward, ensuring that each student who comes here can think critically, act bravely, and serve responsibly in a world that needs their light.

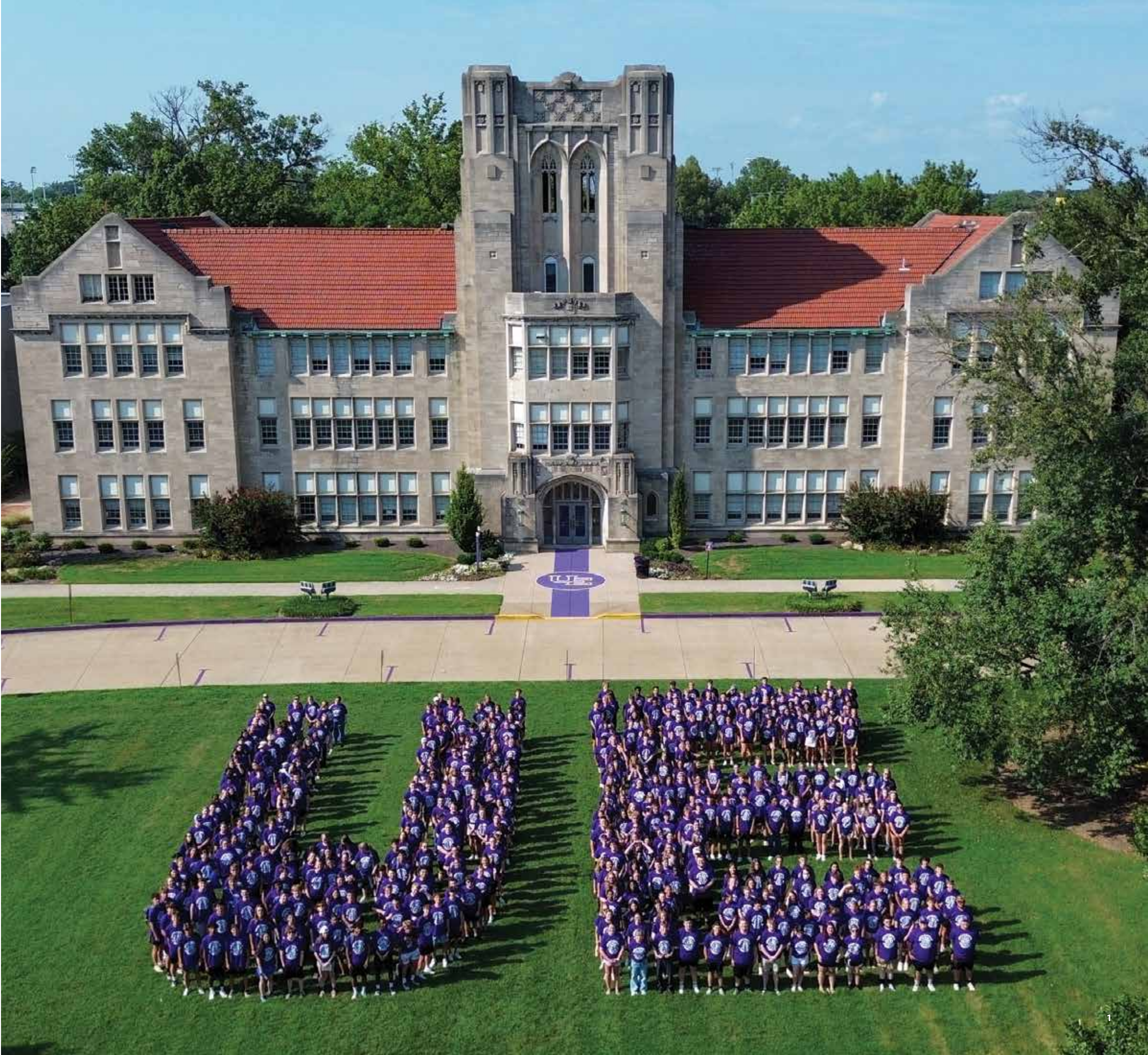
The stories that follow reflect the heart of this institution. They reveal students discovering their purpose, faculty advancing knowledge, and donors whose generosity fuels transformation. Your belief in our mission inspires us to reach higher, imagine more, and live our calling as Aces — with courage, conviction, and compassion.

Thank you for walking alongside us, for believing in what bravery builds, and for helping us create a future defined by innovation, inclusion, and lasting impact.

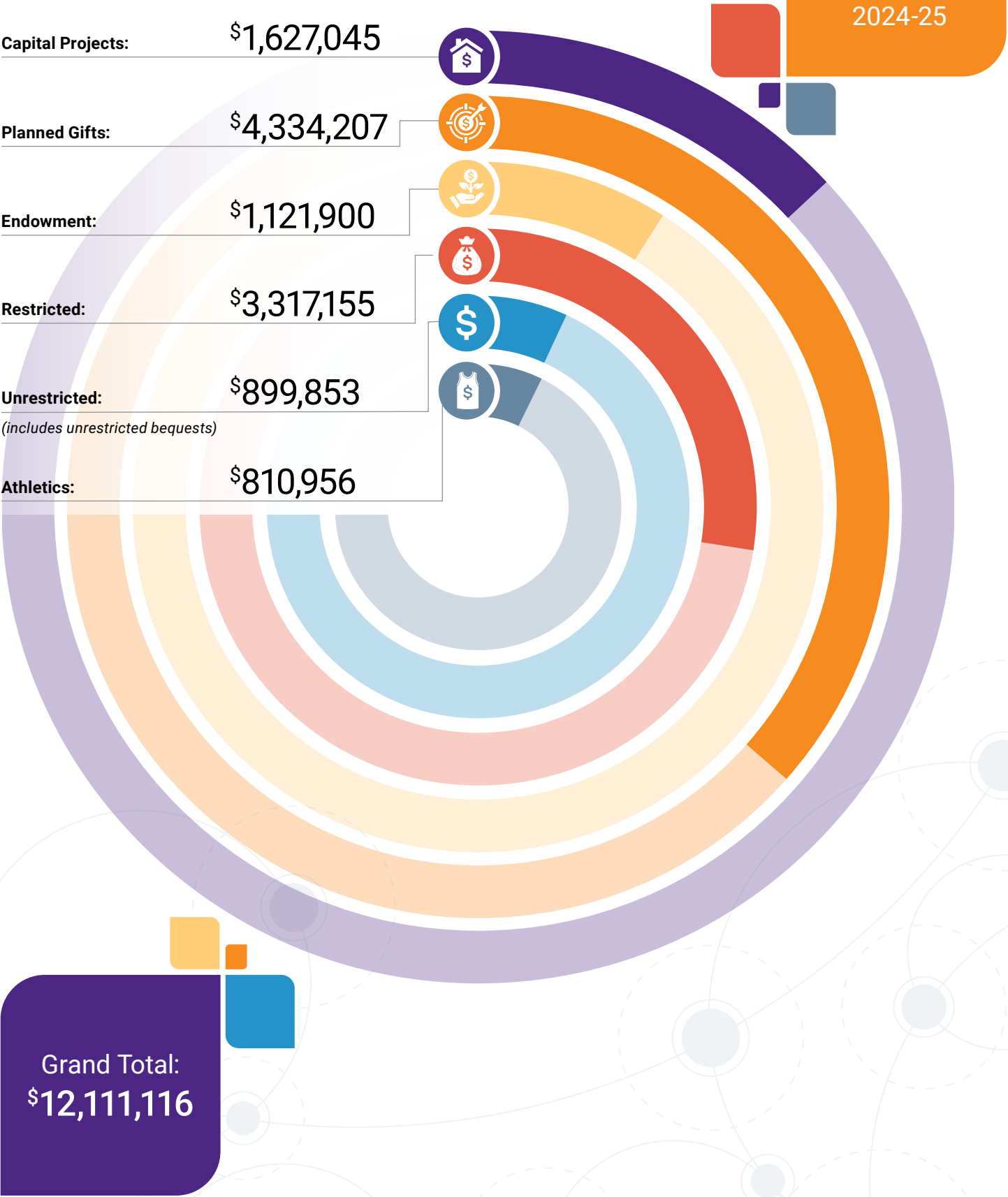
With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in white ink, likely of Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz, the President.

Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz
President



2024-25
Donor Contributions



Grand Total:
\$12,111,116

Honoring Faculty Excellence in Nursing

The University of Evansville (UE) College of Education and Health Sciences held an investiture ceremony on Friday, April 11, 2025, in Neu Chapel, honoring two distinguished Nursing faculty members with endowed positions.

Katie Thomas '00, RN, was named the Nancy McFadin Mueller Endowed Chair in Nursing, and Melissa Rea '93, RN, MSN, was named the White Family Endowed Professor in Nursing.

Nancy McFadin Mueller Endowed Chair in Nursing

The Nancy McFadin Mueller Endowed Chair in Nursing was established in 2018 through a generous gift from Edward J. Mueller, MD, in honor of his wife, Colonel (Ret.) Nancy McFadin Mueller, a 1970 alumna of the University of Evansville.

Nancy's legacy is marked by exceptional service, trailblazing leadership, and deep compassion. After beginning her studies at UE, she joined the Army Student Nurse Program, embarking on a distinguished military career that culminated in her retirement as a Colonel in the US Army Nurse Corps. Nancy became the first board-certified urology nurse in San Antonio, Texas, and served as President of the Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates. A dedicated educator and advocate, she was recognized as an Outstanding Graduate of Mount Vernon High School and left a lasting impact on her field and the lives she touched. Nancy passed away in 2023 after facing ALS with remarkable courage and resilience.

Katie Thomas, Clinical Assistant Professor, currently serves as the Nancy McFadin Mueller Endowed Chair of the Dunigan Family School of Nursing. With over a decade of clinical experience as a perinatal clinical nurse specialist, she has focused on high-risk obstetrics at Tri-State Perinatology. Thomas began her academic career in 2006 and returned to UE in 2018 as a full-time faculty

member. She is pursuing her Doctor of Nursing Practice with a focus on educational leadership and continues to lead with innovation, compassion, and a commitment to excellence.

White Family Endowed Professorship in Nursing

The White Family Endowed Professorship in Nursing was established to promote excellence in undergraduate Nursing education and recognize faculty who demonstrate exceptional teaching and mentorship.

Nursing alumna Linda E. White '76, M'83 has had a transformative impact on the healthcare landscape and the Evansville community.

She began her professional journey with a diploma from the Deaconess School of Nursing, followed by a BSN and MBA from UE. In 2002, she became the first female president of Deaconess Hospital and served as chair of the UE Board of Trustees. Her commitment to service is reflected in her involvement with organizations such as the Ark Crisis Nursery, Junior League, United Way of Southern Indiana, and Leadership Evansville. White has been honored with numerous accolades, including the Evansville Athena Award and the Delta Sigma Pi Business Leader of the Year Award.

Melissa Rea, Clinical Assistant Professor, brings over 12 years of experience in geriatric primary care and specializes in medical-surgical nursing and community health. A UE alumna herself, she has served the University since 2009. Rea is known for her work in interdisciplinary research and public health education, as well as her leadership as president of UE's Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing chapter. She has received the Daisy Faculty Award twice, voted on by UE Nursing students, recognizing her dedication to student success and excellence in the classroom.



Pictured: Katie Thomas (left) and Melissa Rea (right)

From the Hearts of Our Students



Dear Donor,

This year would not have been possible without your donation. I have now completed four semesters of clinical rotations, including long-term care, mental health, medical-surgical, pediatrics, orthopedics, oncology, and am currently studying global health. This semester I have taken the opportunity to attend Harlaxton abroad, and once again, that would not have been possible without financial support. I am always reminded of what a great decision it was to come to UE when I get to know the faculty like family and am guided each day through my learning. I was also encouraged to be the Vice President of our Student Nurses Association of Peers organization on campus last year, and I am so thankful for the leadership experience to help in my future endeavors.

I am proud to say that through hard work and the support of UE Nursing faculty, I have already been offered a job position to stay in Evansville and start working post-graduation on my dream unit. Through the Nursing program at UE, I have been set up for success and have been blessed with connections that will flourish my opportunities for the future. I have found my place here thanks to coming to UE, and my boyfriend and I would love to start our family here.

I am more than thankful for your donation to my education. I come from a middle-class family, raised to be an independent member of society and expected to help pay for the majority of my own tuition. Without your donation, I would not be able to receive the amazing education that UE has offered me without severe financial burdens. Your gift is appreciated more than you will ever know. Blessings from me to you!

Sincerely,
Ava H. Engemann
Nursing student



Dear Donor,

I am a Music Therapy major here at UE. I play bass clarinet and B-flat clarinet in the wind ensemble and clarinet ensemble.

I plan on being a full-time music therapist. So far, I think I want to work in hospice care. Whether I focus on children or adults I'm not sure, but I know UE will help me get there.

Thank you for your donation. My biggest stress when choosing UE was the financial burden it would cause. I just want you to know that your donation was an answer to many prayers. Your monetary donation alleviated the financial burden on my family and I. Thank you for being an answer to our prayers and helping to show me that God will provide.

Sincerely,
Ella Crowder
Music Therapy student



Dear Donor,

My name is Emily Munday, and I am a senior Education major. My passion is elementary education with a Special Education minor. I am beyond grateful for the support this scholarship has provided me financially. I do not have to struggle with working while finishing my degree.

I plan to stay local for about five years in the Warrick County School Corporation, where I hope to teach in a special education class. My 10 year plan is to travel the world and teach in other countries while learning about other cultures. I also hope to return to UE in the next year or two to earn my master's degree.

This scholarship has allowed me to focus on my internships in local schools. I am also president of Education Ambassadors, which I never would have had the time for if I had not received this scholarship. Words cannot express my gratitude.

Sincerely,
Emily Munday
Education student



Dear Donor,

My name is Antonio Cortes Roman, and I am a senior Theatre Performance major at the University of Evansville. I am also an international student from Mexico.

Being a scholarship recipient means I have the temporary privilege of financial security, and the opportunity to finish school with less debt. This means I get to keep pursuing my dreams, and if I end up achieving them, you can take some credit for that.

I am very grateful for those who have chosen to invest in not only this institution, but also in individuals like me. I carry your generosity with me every day. You may not know me personally, but you have had a significant impact on my life and my time at this University.

Thank you for helping students like me believe in our futures.

Sincerely,
Antonio Cortes Roman
Theatre Performance student



Honoring a Lifelong Partnership: Kahl Scholarship Fund Supports Business Students

For Miriam G. '45 and Melvin R. '48 Kahl, Evansville College was more than a place to earn a degree. It was where two lives intersected, where service met scholarship, and where a lifelong connection began that would span decades. Now, through a generous estate gift of \$57,000, their legacy is being carried forward through a new endowed scholarship at the University of Evansville.

A Love Story Rooted in Education

Melvin returned from service in the Pacific during World War II and enrolled at Evansville College to pursue a degree in Mechanical Engineering. It was there that he met Miriam Tirmenstein, a fellow student studying during the postwar years. Their courtship eventually led to marriage in 1951, and together, they built a life grounded in curiosity, commitment, and care for others.

Melvin spent his career as an engineer with General Electric in Louisville and remained active in community service. His life combined steady dedication with a spirit of adventure.

Miriam brought joy and energy to everything she pursued. A competitive contract bridge player, she earned the designation of "life master". She had a love for music, enjoyed both water and snow skiing, and could often be found cheering on her favorite football and basketball teams. These interests were reflections of her vibrant spirit and sharp mind.

A Scholarship with Purpose

Their gift has established the Miriam G. '45 and Melvin R. '48 Kahl Endowed Educational Scholarship Fund, which will support students studying in the Schroeder Family School of Business Administration.

This scholarship carries the Kahls' story forward. It reminds students that their opportunities are linked to the generosity of those who came before them, and that even without knowing their names, Miriam and Melvin believed in their potential.

A Legacy That Lives On

The University of Evansville community is grateful to the Kahl family for entrusting this legacy to future generations. Their gift is more than a transaction; it's a testament to the impact a single couple can make when education is a core value.

In honoring Miriam and Melvin, the scholarship ensures that their story will continue to inspire. It supports not only academic goals but also the spirit of determination and generosity that defined the Kahls' lives.

For every student who benefits from their support, it's a reminder: generosity creates opportunities, and education transforms lives.

Honoring a Legacy: New Endowed Scholarship Supports Nontraditional Students

The University of Evansville is honored to carry forward the life and legacy of Maureen T. Fitzgerald '63, whose transformative gift of \$339,000 has established a new endowed scholarship for nontraditional students.

A Lifelong Commitment to Service

Originally from Evansville and a graduate of Memorial High School, Fitzgerald studied Sociology and Psychology at Evansville College, now the University of Evansville. Her academic journey fostered a deep spirit of service, leading to a lifelong career in social services and criminal justice.

"Maureen Fitzgerald's unwavering commitment to aid those in need, particularly adult learners pursuing their academic dreams, is truly a testament to her remarkable character," said Abigail Werling, Vice President for University Advancement.

Impact That Endures

Fitzgerald passed away on December 30, 2023, but her generosity lives on through the Fitzgerald Endowed Scholarship. The fund will provide an annual \$10,000 scholarship to a deserving non-traditional student, helping remove financial barriers for adult learners returning to pursue a degree.

"Ms. Fitzgerald's exceptional generosity will continue to touch lives and build futures," Werling added. "Her gift, a reflection of her dedication to helping others, dramatically contributes to the University's efforts to ensure affordable, quality education for all deserving students."

A Mission Continued

This gift reflects the University of Evansville's mission to empower students to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world. Through the Fitzgerald Endowed Scholarship, that mission will reach students whose paths may be unconventional, but whose aspirations are equally powerful.

The University is deeply grateful for this lasting investment in the power of education and the future of our students.





The Walker Family Endowment: The Largest Planned Gift in UE Women's Basketball History

For generations, UE has been a place where student-athletes push boundaries and pursue excellence on and off the court. Thanks to the generosity of Steven L. Walker '84 and Julie Ann Walker, the Women's Basketball program will now have an enduring source of support through the Walker Family Women's Excellence in Basketball Endowment Fund, the largest planned gift in UE Women's Basketball history. With the designated gift as part of their estate plans, the Walkers have ensured that future generations of student-athletes will have the resources they need to thrive.

Steven's relationship with UE began long before he earned his MBA in 1984, and Julie Ann has a strong connection through family history. Over the years, the Walkers have built lasting relationships within the UE community and taken part in numerous events and activities.

"I just felt like I needed to give back," Steven shared. "I remember spending countless hours in the library and playing basketball at the Carson Center. UE was a community that shaped who I am today. I feel like it's my responsibility to support the next generation."

The Walkers' decision to invest in UE Women's Basketball is fueled by a belief that women's athletics deserve greater recognition and support for their dedication.

"When you go to these games, you see the effort," he noted. "These women don't give up. They could be down 15 points, and they're still playing like they can win. That says a lot."

They were particularly inspired by the leadership of Robyn Scherr, Head Coach for Women's Basketball. "I got a good feeling that she was in it not just to win games, but to help her players progress in life," Steven noted. "She's building confidence in them, and you can see it in how they play."

Scherr expressed her gratitude, stating, "I am incredibly thankful for the Walkers' generosity and their investment in the future of Evansville Women's Basketball. As a former student-athlete, I know the transformative power intercollegiate athletics can have in building leaders that will make a lifelong impact in their communities."

The Walkers hope their endowment will inspire others to consider planned giving and supporting UE Athletics. They encourage potential donors to meet the team, engage with the coaching staff, and witness firsthand the impact of their contributions.

"If you're thinking about giving, sit down with the team," Steven said. "Your gut will tell you if this is something you want to do, but once you meet the people involved, you'll feel even better about it."

For the Walkers, philanthropy is about giving back to the institutions and communities that shaped their lives. They believe in balancing personal legacy with a commitment to uplifting others. "We want to leave our kids something, but we also want to leave behind support for the things that mattered to us," Steven explained. "We were lucky enough to be where we are today because others helped us along the way. Now, it's our turn to pass it on."

UE was a community that shaped who I am today. I feel like it's my responsibility to support the next generation.

- Steven Walker

A Legacy of Support: Steve Harkness's Transformational Gift to UE

The University of Evansville is honored to announce a \$500,000 estate gift from Emeritus Trustee M. Stephen (Steve) Harkness '70, H'06. This transformational gift will provide enduring support for five endowed scholarships he previously established in memory and in honor of family and loved ones, ensuring that generations of students will continue to benefit from his vision and generosity.

A Lifelong Commitment to Students

These funds reflect his deep commitment to supporting students in their educational pursuits, especially those from Wood Memorial High School, which was known as Oakland City High School when he graduated in 1966. His philanthropy has long emphasized expanding opportunities for students from his hometown and region.

Harkness's lifetime giving totals nearly \$1.2 million, supporting scholarships, capital projects, and operational funding across the University. His generosity has been a cornerstone

of UE's ability to attract and support students with academic promise, leadership skills, and financial need.

"Steve Harkness's generosity has already made an immeasurable impact on UE," said Abigail L. Werling, Vice President for University Advancement. "This gift ensures that his dedication to student success will continue in perpetuity, creating significant opportunities for generations of Aces."

A Distinguished Career and Service to UE

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Finance from UE in 1970, Harkness went on to complete an MBA from Indiana University. He enjoyed a distinguished career in financial and operational leadership, retiring as President of Duke Energy Generation Services. Beyond his professional accomplishments, Harkness remained deeply connected to UE. He delivered the 2006 Commencement address, received an Honorary Doctor of Business Administration, and in 2011 received the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

His leadership extended to governance as well. After serving on the Board of Visitors, Harkness joined the Board of Trustees in 2006, chairing the board from 2014-2017. In 2024, he was named Emeritus Trustee in recognition of his years of service.

Giving Back, Looking Forward

Reflecting on his philanthropic legacy, Harkness shared, "I am proud to support the University of Evansville and its students. UE played a pivotal role in shaping my career and values, and I want to ensure that future students have the same opportunities for success."

Harkness's generosity not only honors his personal journey, but also creates opportunities for countless students to write their own success stories.

The University extends its deepest gratitude to Steve Harkness for his extraordinary generosity and commitment to students past, present, and future.



**I am proud to support the
University of Evansville
and its students.**

- Steve Harkness '70, H'06





Expanding Access, Building Futures UE Awarded \$500,000 to Grow Youth Programs

Across Evansville and the surrounding region, young students are getting their first taste of college life thanks to the University of Evansville’s Youth Programs. Now, thanks to a \$500,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., those experiences are about to grow even deeper and wider in reach.

The funding comes through Indiana Youth Programs on Campus (IYPC) Round II, a statewide initiative to help colleges and universities create meaningful learning opportunities for K–12 students. For UE, it marks a new chapter in a journey that began in 2023, when the University received \$500,000 in initial support to launch and expand programs that welcome youth to campus.

Real Experiences, Real Impact

In just two years, more than 1,200 students from elementary through high school have taken part in UE-hosted opportunities. These include:

- 630 summer camp participants
- 157 students attending school visits
- 427 engaged through community outreach, including the UE Explorers after-school program

Many of these students come from underserved neighborhoods and would be first-generation college students. By engaging them early, UE is helping plant the seeds for long-term success in both higher education and life.

“This grant from Lilly Endowment enables us to deepen our commitment to young people across Evansville,” said Apryl Weatherford, Director of Youth Programs. “We were especially excited to welcome new and returning students to campus for this summer’s camps, and the enthusiasm we saw has reinforced the importance of these opportunities.”

New Additions and Bold Ideas

With the latest round of funding, UE will launch a reimagined Jr. TASL Scholars Program. This year-round initiative merges two of UE’s most impactful youth efforts: the Springboard summer camp and the UE Explorers after-school program. The new model includes:

- A three-week summer experience
- Monthly academic-year sessions
- Academic support and leadership development
- Parent engagement and workshops

The Jr. TASL Program also creates a direct bridge to UE’s undergraduate TASL (Think. Act. Serve. Live.) scholarship program, ensuring long-term support for students ready to become changemakers.

“UE’s youth programming is rooted in our mission to think critically, act bravely, serve responsibly, and live meaningfully in a changing world,” said Rob Shelby, PhD, Vice President for

Talent and Community and Chief Inclusion and Equity Officer. “We’re not just preparing students for college, we’re building changemakers.”

Growing Opportunity with Every Step

The Jr. TASL Scholars Program is just one part of a larger vision. The grant will also help expand:

- STEM learning through the **IN MaC Design Studio**, created with support from the Toyota USA Foundation
- **Arts programs** that introduce creative expression and cultural exploration
- Hands-on education through the **We Grow Aces!** vertical container farm

Additional parent-child workshops and leadership nights will offer shared pathways to success, reinforcing the idea that college readiness is a family journey.

These efforts align closely with broader community initiatives, including the Evansville Promise Neighborhood and Toyota USA Foundation’s Driving Possibilities. Together, they position UE as a hub for educational opportunity, equity, and innovation in the region.

Project Safespace: Building a Campus Where Every Voice Is Heard

The University of Evansville is launching Project Safespace, a campus-wide initiative supported by a nearly \$400,000 grant from the US Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women. The goal: to prevent and address sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking, while fostering a safer and more inclusive campus for all students..

A Collaborative Commitment to Safety

Project Safespace will bring together campus and community partners to deliver training, awareness programs, and survivor-centered support. Through workshops, educational programs, and bystander intervention training, the project will promote safety, awareness, and respect across campus.

“We want to create a culture where students feel empowered to speak up and foster an environment that promotes safety for everyone,” said Keith Gehlhausen, Executive Director of Human Resources and Institutional Equity.

Student-Centered Implementation

Student perspectives will help shape Project Safespace through advisory input and peer-led efforts. Andr a Hughes, the Project Safespace Coordinator, will guide implementation in alignment with federal guidelines, drawing on input from students, faculty, and community experts.

Moving Forward Together

This initiative represents an important step in ensuring students feel supported in all aspects of their college experience. At its core, Project Safespace aims to foster a campus culture where every individual feels seen, heard, and safe to be themselves.

Safety, support, and community matter. Project Safespace is one way the University is working to build a better experience for everyone on campus.

Driving Change Together

The University of Evansville has been named the Coordinating Partner for Toyota’s Driving Possibilities initiative in Indiana, with support totaling more than \$2 million. This partnership reflects UE’s central role in expanding educational opportunity and inspiring the next generation of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) leaders.

Innovation at UE

As the only Ashoka Changemaker Campus in Indiana, and the only university in the world to also host a Promise Neighborhood, UE is uniquely positioned to bring people and ideas together. The University’s Center for Innovation & Change (CIC) and School of Education (SOE) will work hand-in-hand to deliver the initiative on campus and throughout the region.

The CIC will guide the overall project through Program Manager Susan Nyberg ’91, who will coordinate efforts, train educators in design thinking, and foster a culture of innovation. Meanwhile, the SOE has established the IN-MaC Design and Innovation Training Studio in partnership with Purdue University and STEM Education Works. This studio will become a hub for hands-on STEM learning, where teachers receive training in robotics, coding, and engineering while students gain direct experience with problem-solving and creative exploration.

Equitable Access to STEM

The studio will be led by Adison Young ’20, UE’s new STEM Coordinator. A former K–12 educator, Young is passionate about creating equitable access to STEM education and resources. Her leadership will ensure that students across the region have the tools, mentorship, and encouragement to explore future careers in STEM.

A Community Impact

Through Driving Possibilities, UE is connecting its campus programs with schools and partners across the region, aligning resources to create long-term change. From professional development for teachers to immersive experiences for students, the initiative strengthens the pipeline from early learning to higher education and careers.

“This opportunity marks a monumental step forward in our ongoing partnership with Toyota, one that has consistently demonstrated the transformative power of collaboration,” said Christopher M. Pietruszkiewicz, President of the University of Evansville. “This award is more than just an investment in our university; it’s an investment in the future of our region’s students and educators.”

By serving as Coordinating Partner, UE is ensuring that innovation, collaboration, and opportunity come together to shape a brighter future. This is what it means to drive possibilities.

Preserving Legacy

UE Awarded Grant to Share the Story of Moores Hill College

The University of Evansville has received an Action Grant Subaward Agreement from Indiana Humanities to launch an inspiring project titled *A Day in the Life at Moores Hill College*. This initiative will preserve and share the remarkable story of Moores Hill College, the institution that laid the foundation for what would eventually become UE.

From Small Town Dream to Lasting Legacy

The story of Moores Hill College began in 1854 when John C. Moore, a resident of Moores Hill, Indiana, dreamed of creating a college for his community. His vision became a reality on February 10, 1854, with the chartering of the Moores Hill Male and Female Collegiate Institute. At a time when only five coeducational colleges existed in the nation, Moores Hill was a trailblazer in opening its doors to both men and women. In 1887, it was renamed Moores Hill College.

In 1917, businessman George Clifford persuaded the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church to relocate the college to Evansville, the state’s largest city without an accredited college nearby. In just one week, the city’s residents raised \$500,000, and it reopened as Evansville College in 1919. Ultimately, it became the University of Evansville in 1967.

Connecting Past and Present

A Day in the Life at Moores Hill College will invite UE students, local organizations, and high school students to explore the University Libraries’ archival collections and bring to life stories of daily experiences at Moores Hill. Through UE’s ChangeLab program, these findings will be transformed into public-facing narratives that make the college’s history accessible to new audiences.

Collaboration is key to the project’s success. The Carnegie Historic Landmarks Preservation Society and South Dearborn County High School will play vital roles, working with UE to foster educational engagement and cultivate appreciation for Indiana’s cultural heritage.

“At UE, we bring history to life in a way that engages and educates the broader community,” said Kristen Strandberg, PhD, Director of University Libraries. “We are excited to share the stories of Moores Hill College with new audiences.”

A Mission That Endures

The project is funded by Indiana Humanities and supported with matching contributions from the Carnegie Historic Landmarks Preservation Society and the UE Center for Innovation & Change. By connecting the past with the present, *A Day in the Life at Moores Hill College* ensures that the pioneering spirit of the institution’s founders will continue to inspire generations to come.



Cultivating Creativity

Efroymson Family Fund Invests in Visual Arts at UE

Art has the power to connect, challenge, and inspire. At UE, students are discovering what that means in real time. Thanks to a \$33,000 grant from the Efroymson Family Fund, the Department of Art is expanding opportunities for hands-on learning, community engagement, and creative exploration during the 2025-26 academic year.

This funding will strengthen several key initiatives while creating meaningful learning experiences that extend beyond traditional coursework.

Supporting Students and Elevating the Arts

A grant of \$23,000 will support four core initiatives in the department:

- Efroymson Emerging Contemporary Artist Lecture Series
- Bridge year fellowship
- Marketing internship
- Permanent collections internship

Together, these programs offer student access to professional mentorship and gallery experience while increasing public access to contemporary art.

Now in its 14th year, the Efroymson Emerging Contemporary Artist Lecture Series brings practicing artists from around the country to Evansville for multi-day residencies. Students engage directly with these visiting artists through workshops, exhibitions, and open dialogue.

The Bridge Year Fellowship, supported with \$10,000 from the grant, provides recent graduates with dedicated studio space, mentoring opportunities, and teaching experience.

Internships in marketing and permanent collections offer hands-on learning in gallery promotion, event planning, and artwork preservation, giving students valuable exposure to the administrative side of the arts.

“These positions empower students to apply classroom learning to real-world settings while supporting the visibility and vibrancy of our programs,” said Todd A. Matteson, Chair and Associate Professor of Art.

Investing in Urban and Street Art

A second grant of \$10,000 from the Efroymson Family Fund will support the acquisition and exhibition of urban and street art, helping the University build an exciting new area within its permanent collections. Recent acquisitions include pieces by Shepard Fairey, Dot Dot Dot, and Joachim, generously donated from the collections of Dan Mason and John Nordgauer.

This new funding will support additional acquisitions, conservation efforts, and related programming to ensure that this dynamic genre remains accessible and preserved for years to come.

“All contributions from the Efroymson Family Fund are fully allocated to these initiatives, ensuring every dollar makes a direct and lasting impact,” said Sylvia DeVault ’85, Senior Director of Major Gifts.

Looking Ahead

As the Department of Art builds momentum, partnerships like this one help ensure that creativity remains central to the student experience. Through immersive programs, mentorship, and a growing collection that reflects diverse voices, UE continues to offer a rich and responsive arts education.

— THE CAMPAIGN *for* —
THE UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE

FORWARD ➤



Make Your Impact!