Inspire Forever:

Supporting the St. John's Endowment

The Great Books endure for a reason.

They are timeless and universally relevant, touching hearts and minds in every age and every place. The questions they prompt can change the course of nations–and lives.

Passed down through the centuries, these classic texts are the legacy of generations past and a treasure we hand to the future.

Imagine a gift with that same potential–a gift destined to endure forever, to inspire forever.

That is the beauty of a gift to the St. John's endowment. Unlike more conventional gifts that are immediately spent, endowments are instruments of **perpetual giving**.

The original gift is preserved and invested, and a portion of the net asset value is distributed annually to meet needs ranging from scholarships, internships, and library collections to the care and well-being of students and tutors.

Through responsible investment, gifts to the St. John's College endowment can grow over time, providing an annual income stream with the potential to increase in perpetuity.

What could be a more fitting place for such a gift than a college that invites the past and the future into a living conversation with the students of today?

What exactly is the St. John's endowment?

The St. John's Endowment is a collection of nearly 500 individual endowed funds that have been established over the years by alumni and friends of St. John's College. Some of these funds are broad in scope and support multiple priorities. Others, such as individual scholarships, are highly specific in nature and are often named in ways that reflect the values and interests of the donor.

Together they provide a permanent source of financial support that benefits the Johnnies of today and the Johnnies to be.

How do endowments work?

When you support the St. John's endowment by establishing a new endowed fund or by contributing to an existing endowed fund, your gift is not spent but is instead invested for the long-term–much like a retirement account.

Each year, a percentage of the net asset value (typically between 4.5 and 5.5 percent) is distributed to support the fund's purpose. The remaining assets stay invested, thereby maintaining–or even growing–the fund's spending power over time.

For example, an endowed scholarship established with a $100,000 gift can expect to yield approximately $5,000 annually for scholarship support. As the fund's value grows, so too will the distributions and, therefore, the amount available for scholarships.

In this respect, an endowment is not just a gift, it is a gift for all time.

Why should I support the St. John's endowment?

By providing a steady, dependable, and, most importantly, enduring stream of revenue, the St. John's endowment forms the centerpiece of a new philanthropy-driven financial model that reduces the college's dependence on tuition revenue and eases the burden carried by students and their families.

The growth of the St. John's endowment remains the college's highest fiscal priority and the foremost objective of the *Freeing Minds* campaign.

Establishing a New Endowed Fund

We will be happy to guide you through the experience. In general, the process will involve the following steps:

>> **Embrace your passion.** You have the power to determine how your gift will support the college. Whatever your interest, there are students and tutors who will benefit.

>> **Name your fund.** By naming your endowment, you can permanently honor your family, a loved one, a tutor, a mentor, or even a cherished ideal.

>> **Document your intentions.** When you are ready to finalize your gift, we will document your intentions in a signed gift agreement. Once established, your endowed fund will be used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the agreement.

>> **Make your gift.** An endowed fund can be established immediately with a single gift of cash or stock, over time through a multi-year pledge commitment, or in the future with a planned gift. We will be happy to help you find the best options for you.

Once the minimum gift threshold has been met and your endowment is fully funded, it will be pooled with St. John's other endowed assets (for investment purposes only) and invested with the goal of generating a strong performance return.

>> **Watch the future unfold.** The fund will begin to yield awards in support of your priorities after the fund has been fully endowed and invested for one full investing cycle. Our development team, whose mission is to care for you and your gift, will provide you with regular updates on your fund's status, growth, and impact on the college.

>> **Magnify your legacy.** Your gift already has the potential to grow over time through the college's investment strategy, but you can also multiply those effects by making additional gifts to your endowment at any time.

Named endowed funds provide an enduring source of funding for the people, places, and programs you wish to nurture. Some of the priorities for St. John's include:

- Scholarships
- Student & Tutor Support
- Internships & Fellowships
- Southwest Scholars
- The Graduate Institute

Not ready to establish your own endowed fund?

Gifts of all sizes can be made to any of the existing funds within the St. John's endowment.

Of particular importance are the College Wide General Endowment, the Santa Fe General Endowment, and the Annapolis General Endowment. Year after year, these three funds provide unrestricted support for priority needs, some of which have no other source of funding.

No minimum gift size is required to give to an existing endowed fund.

St. John's offers special opportunities to name not only your endowed fund but also the program or initiative your gift supports.

SPECIAL NAMING OPPORTUNITIES	MINIMUM GIFT
Scholarships	$50,000
Annual Lecture	$250,000
Faculty Study Group	$750,000
Annual Lecture Series	$1,000,000
Tutorship	$1,250,000
Preceptorialship	$1,500,000

FREEING MINDS

A Campaign for St. John's College

Let's have a conversation! Reach out to us at freeingminds@sjc.edu

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