Dear Presidents’ Club Members,

We begin Colgate’s third century in a position of strength, thanks to your generosity and commitment. The leadership contributions of Presidents’ Club members have allowed Colgate to enter a period of sustained boldness in our Bicentennial year.

At this extraordinary moment in time, the University has embraced a set of initiatives articulated in its Third-Century Plan that will ensure the institution’s future is even stronger than its present state. With your help, we will attract and support outstanding students, faculty, and staff; strengthen the academic enterprise; heighten the student experience; and enhance the campus environment.

Colgate’s Presidents’ Club contributes 90% of the total annual support the University receives in a given year. Your gifts have enabled the institution to launch important initiatives this year, such as the No-Loan Initiative, which eliminates federal loans from financial aid packages for students with family incomes less than $125,000 starting this coming fall. Colgate was also able to increase pre-tenure faculty support, which will help us attract the very best faculty, who are both innovative teachers and researchers. This would not have been possible without your support.

While these examples are major, they represent only a few of the ways the Presidents’ Club has impacted the Colgate experience. Your contributions have allowed the institution to achieve its current level of distinction — and will fuel Colgate’s ascent as we expand the University’s reach and reputation.

It is with true gratitude that I share the following report.

Sincerely,

Brian W. Casey
President
In fiscal year 2019, 4,158 Presidents’ Club members contributed more than $39.5 million in support of the University and its students. Your contributions strengthened every aspect of the Colgate experience and will help the University to ascend as we begin its third century.

$39.5 MILLION RAISED
During Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019)

Shaping Colgate’s Third Century

At the Bicentennial all-class reunion, alumni gathered in Memorial Chapel as President Casey outlined Colgate’s Third-Century Plan, which sets forth long-term goals and aspirations in four fundamental areas of the University. It also identifies first initiatives designed to move the University toward obtaining longer-term objectives.

Presidents’ Club members will play a key role in shaping the third century. Your leadership support will enable the University to achieve these ambitious goals.

Here are some details that Presidents’ Club members should know about the four sections of Colgate’s Third-Century Plan. For more information, visit colgate.edu/thirdcenturyplan.

SECTION I
Attracting and Supporting Outstanding Students and Faculty

A university is, at its core, the product of the people it attracts and a union of individuals in service of learning. Talented students, a leading faculty, and professional staff are all required for Colgate to be among the finest colleges and universities in the nation. Colgate, therefore, must take those new steps necessary to ensure that it attracts students, faculty, and staff of remarkable promise and achievement.

First Initiatives:
≥ Initiate a Phased Approach to No-Loan Policy
≥ Extended Pre-tenure Leave Initiative
≥ Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Planning

SECTION II
Strengthening the University’s Academic Enterprise

A fundamental foundation upon which Colgate’s stronger future rests will be the extent to which the University seeks to continuously strengthen the academic life of the University and nurture a culture in which intellectual rigor marks all of its endeavors. Simply put, to attract students of the greatest potential, faculty of the highest regard, and staff who are leaders in their fields, Colgate must be an institution committed to the highest levels of academic excellence.

First Initiatives:
≥ The Middle Campus Initiative
≥ The Robert H. N. Ho Mind, Brain, and Behavior Initiative — Renovation of Olin Hall

SECTION III
Enriching the Student Experience

Colgate must overtly and explicitly seek to create a deep, clear, and compelling campus culture — nurtured and expressed through its residential programs, its athletic program and other student activities, its ceremonies and traditions, and through the overall experience of the campus. As a primary driver in this effort, Colgate must develop long-term programs to enhance the quality of student housing and the overall quality of student life.

First Initiatives:
≥ Complete Implementation of Residential Commons System
≥ Broad Street Neighborhood Renewal
≥ Renovation of University-owned Apartments and Townhouses
≥ Increased Athletics Scholarships
≥ Athletics Facilities
≥ Student Preparation Through Enhanced Career Services

SECTION IV
Improving the Campus and the Environment

Colgate must carefully steward one of its most precious assets: its campus. The University can take pride in the distinctive beauty of a campus that has shaped the lives of generations of students, faculty, and staff. Enhancing the beauty of the campus, improving its infrastructure, and preserving its natural and built environments for future generations must remain high University priorities.

First Initiatives:
≥ Comprehensive Plan for Improving Campus
≥ Hamilton Initiative Part 2
≥ Hamilton Village Housing

In fiscal year 2019, 4,158 Presidents’ Club members contributed more than $39.5 million in support of the University and its students. Your contributions strengthened every aspect of the Colgate experience and will help the University to ascend as we begin its third century.
Colgate Fund Impact: 13 Things the Colgate Fund Helped to Accomplish in 2019

The Colgate Fund is a popular gift designation for Presidents’ Club members — yet another fact that attests to this group’s leadership, both in the Colgate community and nationally. As unrestricted giving is in decline since the economic downturn, gifts to the Colgate Fund set an all-time record in fiscal year 2019, totaling $8.1 million, a 35 percent increase since 2015.

1. Increased Financial Aid
In a continued effort to provide competitive financial support and lessen student debt, Colgate will eliminate federal loans from financial aid offers for all current and incoming students with a total family income below $125,000, starting in the fall of 2020.

2. Support for Faculty
To build upon the University’s tradition of excellence in faculty and recruit top scholars and teachers, Colgate announced a series of enhancements to faculty hiring packages — such as increased research leave at successful passage of third-year review and more generous start-up packages that will provide greater support, such as travel, equipment, library resources, and other supplies.

3. Off-Campus Study
For four straight years, Colgate has been named the number one baccalaureate institution for mid-career student enrollment in the U.S. In Fall 2018, when Colgate announced that off-campus study groups in the last school year.

4. Carbon Neutrality
During its Bicentennial year, Colgate fulfilled its commitment to achieving carbon neutrality. The University is now the first institution of higher education in New York State to reduce its net carbon emissions to zero.

5. New Major: Film and Media Studies
In Fall 2018, when Colgate announced that film and media studies would be offered as a major, six students redrafted their senior year to complete the requirements. In May, they graduated, having completed courses like Global Cinema, Narrative Screenwriting, History and Theory of Photography, and American Popular Culture.

6. Student Research Opportunities
In 2019, 181 students participated in summer student research on and off campus with a diverse group of faculty members. For instance, Assistant Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences Lauren Philiarov worked with two student researchers to study how environmental factors and bedtime routines impact the sleep quality and patterns of young children.

7. Research
Colgate Fund dollars help to expand human knowledge by funding important research. One example: a newly published study authored by 10-Colgate students and led by Associate Professor of Biology Engla Hagen revealed how a specific protein inhibits cancer growth at the cellular level — a discovery that could one day lead to new cancer treatments.

8. Art at Colgate
Campus galleries hosted a variety of exhibitions this year, including one created in honor of the University’s Bicentennial. The Hill Envisioned: What Might Have Been — What Might Yet Be, an exploration of the development of Colgate’s distinctive campus throughout the last 200 years.

9. Additional Athletic Scholarships
During this fiscal year, several new athletic scholarships were added, bringing the number of teams at the NCAA Division I maximum to six. This additional support will allow Colgate to attract and recruit the most talented scholar-athletes — and to become even more competitive.

10. Community Service
Following annual tradition, the Max A. Shacknai Center for Outreach, Volunteerism, and Education (COVE) organized a 9/11 Afternoon of Service. More than 70 student volunteers worked with eight nonprofits in Hamilton and neighboring towns to help local farms, promote environmental conservation, maintain trails, and preserve the Chenango Canal — among other community service activities.

11. ALANA Cultural Center
In April 2019, the African, Latina, Asian American, and Native American (ALANA) Cultural Center celebrated its 30-year anniversary. ALANA hosted tile-creation sessions, a rededication ceremony, and a panel discussion — all while reaffirming the center’s ongoing mission to serve as an educational space for students of color as well as the larger Colgate community.

12. Student Health Services
Gifts to the Colgate Fund helped to enable positive changes to Colgate’s Student Health Services, including staff separation agreements with Upstate Medical University. These agreements are increasing clinical care availability on campus while also helping to attract and retain sports-medicine support for Division I athletes, student club teams, and intramurals.

13. Beautifying the Campus
Colgate is regularly named in national media as one of America’s most beautiful college campuses. The Colgate Fund helps the building and grounds team to maintain campus, keeping the University’s built and natural environs beautiful for new generations of students as well as alumni who return to the hill for reunions.
Redefining Himself: A Conversation with Kevin Porter ’21

Through rigorous academics, a supportive community, and a year-round opportunity, Colgate helps top-performing students from all backgrounds to become more confident and self-aware. Below is a conversation with Kevin Porter ’21 of Baltimore, Md., about his experiences so far.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR LIFE BEFORE COLGATE.

It came from a single-parent household. My dad passed away, and I was raised by my mother, Linda Taylor. She worked and I am an only child. She didn’t go to college, so ever since I was little, she would tell me, “You’re going to college.” I came from a single-parent household. My dad’s not around, and I was raised by my mother, Linda Taylor. She works and I am an only child. She didn’t go to college, so ever since I was little, she would tell me, “You’re going to college.”

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE COLGATE?

Colgate came to my high school and, after a long conversation with an admissions advisor, I was very interested. The University paid for me to travel to visit campus, and I instantly felt like home. I attended some classes and met friendly people. I felt like I could walk right off to class that day.

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH YOUR DECISION TO COME TO COLGATE?

I am so glad I chose Colgate. The educational experience itself exceeded my expectations, but also my time here has taught me so much about myself. I have grown immensely.

WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU?

I’m hardworking, ambitious, and always thankful. Most of all, Colgate has shown me that I am capable of overcoming challenges that I thought I was not capable of overcoming. I am resilient, not just from the failures of my imagination, but from the way that I visualize students who mentor and support me did not have that advantage at another school.

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR YOU?

I am interested in commercial real estate and excited about the possibilities. But I am also very focused on giving back. It is a main driver for me.

ARE YOU BOTH MUST BE HAPPY YOU ACHIEVED THE GOAL AFTER ALL THAT HARD WORK?

We are! My mother is reveling in it. She tells everyone I go to Colgate. She’s even prouder than I am. We are! My mother is reveling in it. She tells everyone I go to Colgate. She’s even prouder than I am. We are! My mother is reveling in it. She tells everyone I go to Colgate. She’s even prouder than I am. We are! My mother is reveling in it. She tells everyone I go to Colgate. She’s even prouder than I am.

CAN YOU SPEAK MORE ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL GROWTH AT COLGATE?

In high school, I had all those things that defined me. I came to Colgate, there were immediately called into question. Academically, I was the top dog in my high school, so it was a reality check when I realized that at college, I was with a bunch of other kids who were just as smart as I am. I also thought of myself as an athlete. In high school, I played lacrosse, soccer, and basketball. I tried out for the Colgate lacrosse team as a freshman, but didn’t make it. So I was the student manager for a year. I didn’t make the team freshman year — but didn’t. My self-image as a top student and athlete was shaken.

HOW DID YOU HANDLE THIS EXPERIENCE?

I was forced to rethink who I was and to build my foundation. I realized it was not those labels that define me, but my character. I took advantage of campus resources like the counseling center, and I interacted with alumni mentors. Also, my Office of Undergraduate Studies experience was incredibly helpful. To have a team I could go to with wonderful people, someone to talk to for advice, and other students with shared experiences and backgrounds — that was huge. I don’t think I would have had that advantage at another school.

All of these things helped me to work through the realization that I am not defined by what I do, but by the kind of person I am.

YOU BOTH MUST BE HAPPY YOU ACHIEVED THE GOAL AFTER ALL THAT HARD WORK.

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WHERE ARE YOU HAPPY WITH YOUR DECISION TO COME TO COLGATE?

I am so glad I chose Colgate. The educational experience itself exceeded my expectations, but also my time here has taught me so much about myself: I have grown immensely.
Critical Faculties:

Presidents’ Club members contributions help support excellence in faculty teaching and research — cornerstone of the Colgate experience.

Nearly all Colgate alumni can point to at least one faculty member who made a profound difference during their four years on the hill. By providing support for Colgate faculty, Presidents’ Club members help to ensure even more of these impactful faculty-student relationships take root.

Colgate’s Third-Century Plan includes strengthening the University’s already renowned faculty. One of the key goals is to attract, retain, and support outstanding teacher-scholars. As the plan explains:

Few resources are more central to the greatness of a university than an excellent faculty — active, leading nationally and internationally prominent scholars who are committed to sharing the knowledge they create not only with peers in their academic communities but with talented students eager to learn.

With the support of alumni, parents, and friends, the University was able to increase support for pre-tenure faculty in 2019 immediately. In September Colgate announced a series of enhancements to hiring packages, developed by Provost and Dean of the Faculty Tracey E. Hucks ’87, MA’90, four division directors, three associate deans, and the vice president for athletics.

In the year following successful passage of third-year review, faculty will now receive two semesters of leave at full pay. Formerly, full pay was available for only one semester, and those wishing to take a year of leave received just 50 percent of their salary. Meanwhile, start-up packages have been enhanced for new faculty hires, providing more resources for items and activities that are crucial for a successful launch of a scholarly career at Colgate, such as research travel, lab equipment, library resources, and other supplies.

WHY FACULTY SUPPORT MATTERS FOR STUDENTS

These changes will help new faculty to better meet the rigorous demands on pre-tenure faculty by granting them the time and resources they need to immerse themselves in leading research — and their students will benefit from these opportunities, too.

In 2019, 181 students participated in summer research with Colgate faculty. One of these was Kaila Dao ’21, who worked with Professor Lauren Philbrook in her Child Sleep Lab. Their research focused on cognitive development and how children’s bedtime routines and sleep impact their learning throughout the day.

“As a psychological sciences and educational studies double major, this was a perfect fit for my interests, and the experience opened my eyes to a future in research that I had never before considered,” explained Dao. “My work with Professor Philbrook helped me realize I might want to pursue a career in research, and I am currently exploring PhD programs.”

Students on the hill gain valuable skills and insight through participation in faculty research projects. While opportunities like these are abundant at Colgate, they are uncommon at many other liberal arts institutions.

FIRST INITIATIVES TO ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND SUPPORT OUTSTANDING FACULTY

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But research opportunities aren’t the only ways students will benefit from efforts to attract, retain, and support exceptional faculty. As students complete their coursework, they also learn from leaders in their fields who have the resources they need to be able to devote themselves to excellence in teaching as well.

A great example of this is Peter Balakian, Donald M. and Constance H. Bayer Professor in humanities and professor of English, who was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Jerome Balmuth Award for Teaching. Balakian is the author of seven books of poems, including the 2016 Pulitzer Prize winner for poetry, Ozone Journal. His mammal, Black Dog of Fate, received several awards and was named a best book of the year for the New York Times, LA Times, and Publisher’s Weekly.

Within the Colgate community, Balakian received one of the most prestigious honors a faculty member can earn. The Balmuth Award recognizes a faculty member whose teaching is distinctly successful and transformative.

“Peter’s endless curiosity, his willingness to turn unexpected encounters into an opportunity for learning and teaching, his ability to engage with the world imaginatively, intellectually, and politically, set a high bar for those who would follow in his footsteps,” write one of Balakian’s former students.

Resources to support faculty in their research and teaching, to recruit top scholars, and to provide life-changing educational opportunities are made possible by leadership donors within the Colgate community. As the University implements The Third-Century Plan, Presidents’ Club-level support will continue to make a profound impact on the Colgate experience — for faculty and students.
Ask Colgate alumni for their most enduring collegiate memory, and chances are Torchlight will be one of the first they mention. Torchlight processions, in which hundreds of students traverse the hill, flames of knowledge held aloft, illuminate both the beginning and the end of every student’s Colgate career. These two ceremonies mark the only times, aside from commencement, that a Colgate class convenes as one.

Karen Long Cascio, former senior associate dean of admission, recalls sharing the significance of Torchlight with prospective students and their families: “It was always one of my favorite stories to share about people in this place, together, because it’s a bookend: the first time you’re together as a class, and then you won’t be together again as a whole until four years later. Every class has maybe some moments during their four years that test their unity, but then you’re together again, united, and connected to all the generations before, through this really dramatic, beautiful tradition.”

Karen’s husband, Paul Cascio ’83, P’17,’19,’21, participated in Torchlight as a student and has witnessed his children Ben ’17 and Matthew ’19 take part, with daughter Ellie ’21 participating in her first procession in 2017. When the Class of 2019 processed down the hill to mark the end of their undergraduate years, they proudly lifted a flaming torch made of sculpted brass that would be theirs to keep, thanks to a gift from the Cascios. Their donation provided Colgate’s 684 newest alumni with the torches they would carry, both tangibly and symbolically, with them into the next phase of their lives.

As both an alumnus and Colgate parent, Paul knows well that the University’s traditions and its academics make Colgate special. “I think tradition is important,” Paul says. “I’m a big proponent of the liberal arts education and everything that it has to offer. The skill set of learning how to think critically is differentiating, and I think Colgate does an exceptional job of preparing people for the real world in that context. It was a great experience for me.”

The founder of 3S Advisors Consulting Firm and a former general partner at Brantley Partners, Paul has been a member of the Presidents’ Club for over 20 years. He serves on the Parents’ Steering Committee and was recently elected to the Alumni Council.

The Cascios appreciate how life-changing the Colgate experience can be, and linking Colgate students to the imagery, history, and mission of the school matters to them. When it comes to Torchlight, Paul says, “through its redesign, the torch in Colgate’s seal became real. The torch connects students to Colgate, and letting graduates take it with them — you couldn’t script it any better. As much as having the opportunity to fund Torchlight means to us, what it means to the students is so much more important.”
"I give to the Presidents’ Club to make certain the university that helped shape my character and gave credence to my dreams will always have the financial aid resources to create an inclusive and diverse community."

— CYNTHIA PERRY ’74, P’19

“Colgate has been, and continues to be, committed to the success of our children, and we are happy to support the current and future goals and objectives of the University.”

— MECHELLE AND DAVE MORAN P’19, P’21, P’23, PARENTS’ STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Colgate Athletics Impact:
A YEAR OF EXCELLENCE

It was an outstanding year for Colgate sports, thanks to the tenacity of our student-athletes, the dedication of coaches and staff, and the generosity of Presidents’ Club-level supporters. Because of your leadership contributions, Raider fans enjoyed exciting seasons in fiscal year 2019 and student-athletes benefited from increased scholarship support and a world-class Colgate experience — both on the field and in the classroom.

Colgate student-athletes maintained their national status as a top-20 program with a 97% graduation success rate, placing the University alongside such Division I contemporaries as Duke, Penn, and Vanderbilt.

Every coach and student-athlete continues to work tirelessly toward daily improvement and building a culture of excellence, as detailed in the inaugural 2018–19 Colgate Athletics Annual Report.

Team Highlights – Fiscal Year 2019

≥ The football team went 10-2, won the Patriot League, and finished seventh and eighth in the major national polls. The Raiders knocked off James Madison 23-20 on a game-ending field goal in the first home playoff contest since 2003.

≥ The men’s soccer team continued its streak of dominance by becoming the first team in league history to win three consecutive Patriot League championships. The Raiders advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year.

≥ The men’s basketball team had its best season in school history, setting records in total wins (24) and league victories (13) on the way to its first Patriot League regular-season and tournament titles in over two decades. The No. 13 seed Raiders took Tennessee to the wire in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

≥ The women’s hockey team won 20+ games for the fourth year in a row, finishing the year ranked #10 nationally.

≥ The women’s lacrosse team advanced to the Patriot League semifinals for the first time since 2015.

≥ The men’s rowing team had one of its best seasons in program history, winning the Dad Vail Regatta and finishing 18th at the IRA National Championships.

Fundraising Results

≥ 2nd highest athletics fundraising total on record at Colgate for varsity sports and the Colgate Athletics Council

≥ $2.42 million — total raised from varsity athletic support groups in fiscal year 2019

≥ 5% increase in spendable athletics funds over fiscal year 2018

The Colgate Athletics Council

The Colgate Athletics Council helps support the needs of all varsity student-athletes as they compete for conference championships and endeavor to qualify for NCAA postseason play. Leadership supporters like Presidents’ Club members show our student-athletes and coaching staff that they believe in them and in Colgate’s vision to be an inclusive community of competitive excellence. Together, we celebrate our history, build on our strengths, and reach for new challenges and possibilities.

The Colgate Athletics Council helps support the needs of all varsity student-athletes as they compete for conference championships and endeavor to qualify for NCAA postseason play. Leadership supporters like Presidents’ Club members show our student-athletes and coaching staff that they believe in them and in Colgate’s vision to be an inclusive community of competitive excellence. Together, we celebrate our history, build on our strengths, and reach for new challenges and possibilities.

Photo to left: Colgate University women’s ice hockey team takes on Mercyhurst during homecoming 2019.

Photo by Justin Wolford
Students walk on the academic quad between classes.

My name is Emma Veber, and I am this year’s chair of the Presidents’ Club Student Committee. We are a student-run and -led leadership board that operates similarly to the Presidents’ Club Membership Council, providing philanthropic leadership to the campus in the hopes of promoting a sense of altruistic support toward our University.

During the last few years, we have seen a steady growth trend in the involvement of the undergraduate population. We hope this is representative of a future with a large and active Presidents’ Club ready to support our University through its third century.

Our work on campus is largely centered on educating students about the presence and importance of the Presidents’ Club. Like you, we demonstrate leadership by example; I make my gift to Colgate because my love of alma mater has inspired me to uphold our proud tradition of philanthropy. I hope you, too, find joy in giving back to the place that has given us all so much. Thank you.

— EMMA VEBER ’20

The experiences alone that Colgate has offered me through the extensive and passionate alumni network and caring faculty is beyond the price of tuition. These incredible opportunities pushed me to become a member of the Presidents’ Club, because I realized that Colgate can only operate this way for future generations if there are people who give back and recognize what Colgate has given them.”

— CHASE LASKI ’22

Upon joining the Colgate community as a first-year, I immediately recognized the invaluable support and contagious passion for the institution that our alumni consistently demonstrate. Feeling inspired, I became a member of the Presidents’ Club, not only to give back to the Colgate community, but also to be a leader in helping to make Colgate all that it is now and will become in the future.”

— BROOKE SWEENEY ’19

Colgate has become my home. It has given me lifelong friends, new perspectives on the world, and memories I will treasure forever. The experience I have had would not be possible without the generous support of the alumni community. I joined the Presidents’ Club because I thought it was time to give back to this community that I love.”

— NIKHIL RAJAVASIREDDY ’21

I make my gift to Colgate because my love of alma mater has inspired me to uphold our proud tradition of philanthropy.

Annual giving student callers.
The Mission of the Presidents’ Club

The Presidents’ Club mission is to provide philanthropic leadership and vital support for the Colgate education and experience of today and tomorrow.

### PRESIDENTS’ CLUB GIVING LEVELS

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### GIVING LEVELS FOR RECENT ALUMNI

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### INSTALLMENT GIVING

Spread your Presidents’ Club gift across the year

Did you know you have the option to spread your annual gift over multiple payments before June 30 by establishing an installment gift? Payments are processed through a credit card deduction on a schedule that you choose. Installment gifts need to be reestablished every year. You can initiate your installment gift at colgate.edu/makeagift.

“I support Colgate at the Presidents’ Club level to honor and recognize the incredible generosity of previous Colgate alumni whose gifts funded the financial aid package that made my Colgate experience possible — and to pay it forward to make Colgate more accessible to the next generation of student leaders.”

— PAUL CARBERRY ’94, EXECUTIVE CHAIR FOR THE COLGATE FUND

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“Photo by Mark DiOrio”

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“Without a doubt, I would not be where I am today without Colgate. I am grateful not only for the academic and leadership learning my Colgate experience provided, but also for the many alumni who supported me early in my career. I am happy to give back to Colgate and provide similar opportunities for future generations.”

— GABRIEL SCHWARTZ ’00
“Colgate is a place that gave us the foundation to become the people we are today. It is a priceless gift, and through our philanthropy as a family, our hope is to provide the next generation the same opportunities and experiences.”

— LISA MILLMAN ’96, DAVID MILLMAN ’03, RON AND MERRI MILLMAN P’96,’03