

HERE FOR EVERY VOICE

Smith's Commitment
to Scholarships



In 1871, Sophia Smith raised her voice and made a bold declaration—that women deserve an education of the same quality, rigor and status afforded to men.

Today, nearly 150 years later, we are echoing Sophia's call for access, setting our sights on a new, ambitious goal to dismantle the financial barriers to education that exist for so many of the world's most promising students.

A commitment like this requires a bold investment.

We're ready.

And we're calling on you to join us as we ensure that the most qualified students find their way to Smith and discover the power of their own voices.

.....
Because, more than ever, the world needs women who will speak up and speak out.

"I hope Smith continues to foster a community that looks to each other for aid and support, and where we continue to give back to give others the opportunities that were given to us."

—Gracie Griffin '21

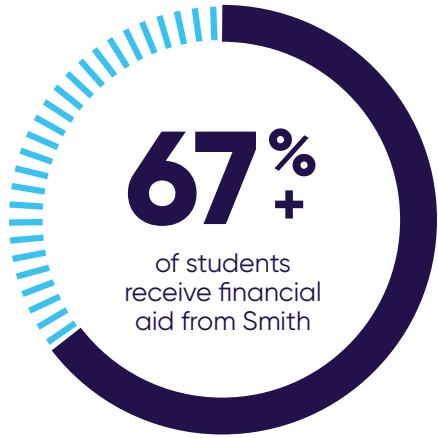
Redefining access, disrupting convention

This is our moment to step forward. Smith must be a leader in the movement to bridge the economic gap that far too often places education out of reach for so many of the world's brightest students.

With your partnership, we will open Smith's gates to the best minds. We will create opportunities that didn't exist before. We will educate the next generation of women who will—with the benefit of their Smith education and the power of their voices—lead the conversations that will lift communities, change policies, disrupt convention, and create a more just and equitable world.

.....
Together, we will ensure that cost is never an obstacle for any Smithie.

Together, we will give voice to students of all backgrounds.



Our Goal:

\$75million

for scholarship aid

An investment in women to:

Achieve Excellence

Expand Opportunity

Create and Sustain Change

**That's the kind of audacity
Smithies are known for.**

This is what we ask of you.

onal
nts
ose
mith

college committed to fairness and equity, it is our responsibility to make the highest-quality liberal education affordable to the deserving students. Access to excellence. It's as simple as that. Smithies, regardless of their financial aid status, go on to do extraordinary things, from building businesses to changing the face of government to illuminating the diversity of the arts.

Redefining a disrupting co

This is our moment to step forward as a leader in the movement to build a world that far too often places education in front of so many of the world's brightest minds.

With your partnership, we will create a path to the best minds. We will create a path that didn't exist before. We will create a generation of women who will lead the conversations that change policies, disrupt conventional wisdom, and create a more just and equitable world.

.....
Together, we will overcome every obstacle.

Together, we will grow the potential of students of all backgrounds.

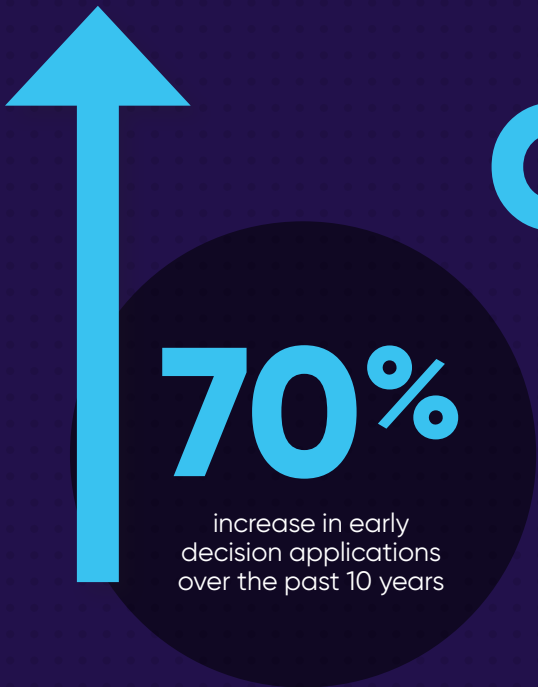
\$48,117

average need-based grant

Exceptional students

choose

Smith



Our data shows that alumnae who received financial aid are just as accomplished as their unaided peers in areas such as:

- Pursuing graduate-level education
- Employment after graduation
- Satisfaction with their lives, education and jobs
- Dedication to Smith College

As a college committed to fairness and equity, it is our responsibility to make the highest-quality liberal arts education affordable to the most-deserving students. Access leads to excellence. It's as simple as that. Smithies, regardless of their financial aid status, go on to do extraordinary things, from building new businesses to changing the face of government to illuminating the diversity of the arts.

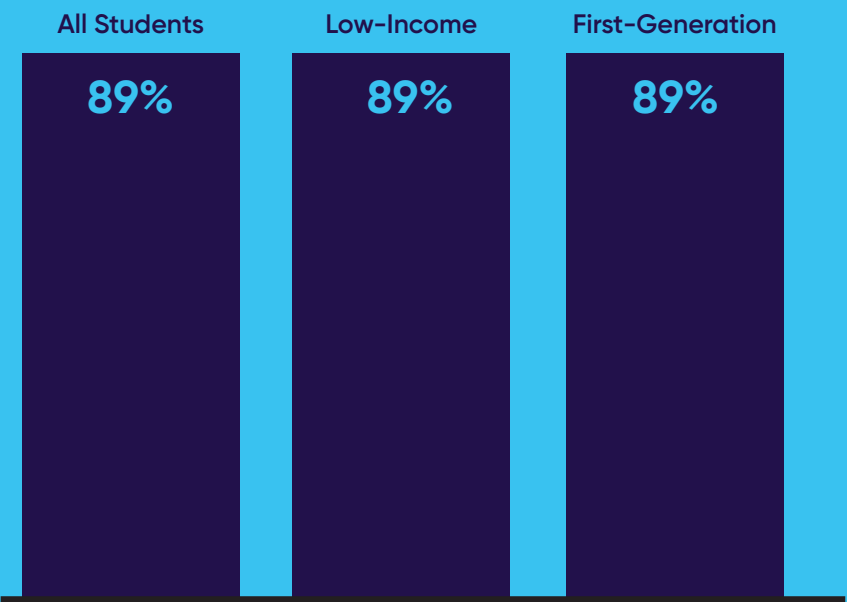
HERE

Access to excellence

Establishing a financial path to Smith is only the beginning. Once they're on campus, students are equipped for an empowered academic career through comprehensive support. From emergency medical funds to textbook assistance to travel grants, we ensure that all Smithies have the resources to fully prioritize their education without unnecessary financial stress.

Smith Graduation Rates

Our extensive support of every Smith student has powerful results: nearly all Smithies graduate, regardless of their financial situation.



TO



"As the first in my family to attend college, I consider myself lucky. In today's knowledge economy, without college access there is no level playing field, there is no equity, there is no American dream."

—Kathleen McCartney
President

RE-

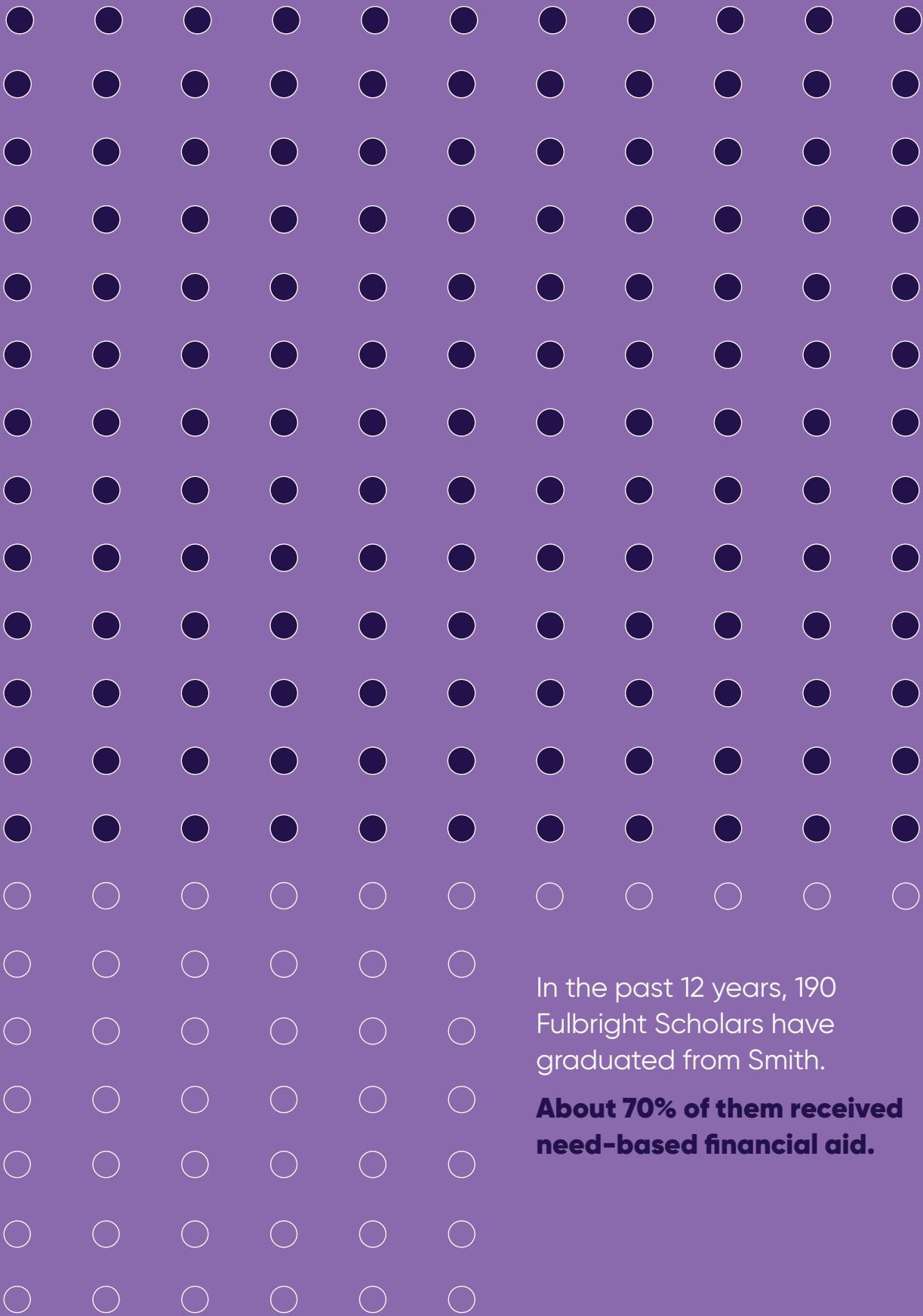
FRAME

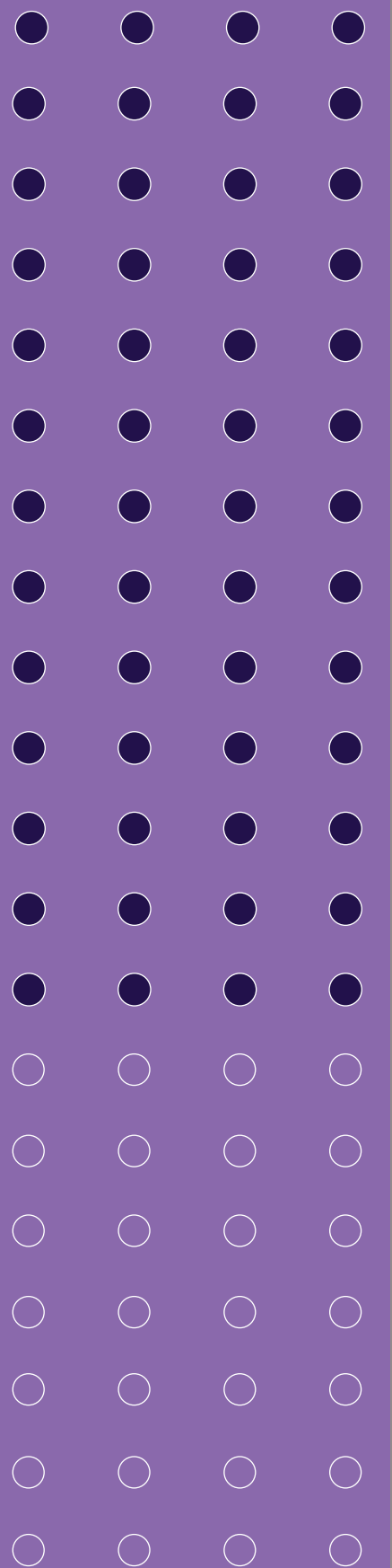
Achieving Excellence



In the past 12 years, 190
Fulbright Scholars have
graduated from Smith.

**About 70% of them received
need-based financial aid.**





Here for Every Ambition

Recruiting the best and brightest students goes beyond sustaining our reputation as one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the nation. It speaks to our commitment to providing the world with accomplished, original thinkers and doers who use their education to address society's most pressing challenges.

We seek the best because academic excellence is at the core of our mission. With generous financial aid, we can be more selective. And when we're more selective the value of a Smith degree goes up—for everyone.

Smith's success—and our standing as a meeting place for women with big ideas—is rooted in the potential of future Smithies.

We must never lose smart, creative, ambitious students to our peers simply because of cost.

An investment in financial aid is an investment in excellence.

Reengineering Health Care

In high school, Nancy was already challenging convention as a research intern in a biotech lab, optimizing genomic DNA yields and purification. At Smith, she continues to question what's possible, with research that has far-reaching implications for those impacted by antibiotic resistance. Under the guidance of Professor Robert Dorit, Nancy is working to create a more intelligently designed antibiotic that targets only a specified bacteria, preserving essential gut flora—and leaving patients healthier and less vulnerable to other infections.

.....
"I knew I wouldn't be able to attend a college with a large price tag. It simply didn't make sense to dig myself into a huge amount of debt for undergrad when I knew I also had to pay for graduate school. Smith has been incredible with the support they provide me. Donations from alumnae have made it possible for students of all backgrounds to pursue an education at Smith. It's what has made generations of strong Smithies possible."

Nancy Jung '20



Rethinking Advocacy

Madeline Turner '21

As a semifinalist in the Draper Competition for Collegiate Women Entrepreneurs, Madeline co-founded Eet, an app that allows consumers to make more ethical consumption decisions by comparing brands and creating a collaborative network of ethics-conscious people.

"Financial aid means the opportunity to pursue my dreams in tangible ways and continually empowers me to give back to the communities I came from. As a young woman from rural Ohio, as a farm kid and as a child of the agricultural industry, it provides me with an opportunity that few of the people around me are able to access."



Class of 2009

"Being at Smith made me think about a lot of new things, including what it means to be a Muslim woman. Is there any possibility of conversation between Islam and feminism?"

Shaharзад Akbar

Craving more thoughtful dialogue and debate, Shaharзад made the decision to transfer from Afghanistan's Kabul University to Smith in 2006, thanks in part to the support of scholarship aid. Three years later, she became the first Afghan woman to study at the graduate level at Oxford University. Today, she's reframing the conversation around politics in her home country as the founder of Afghanistan 1400, an organization committed to empowering her fellow citizens to participate in the country's political, social and economic development.



Class of 2008 AC

"For me, being a poet isn't just about putting things on the page. It's about telling our stories and sharing our humanity."

Laurie Ann Guerrero

The first time Laurie read the poetry of Sylvia Plath '55 in her middle school English class, a spark of inspiration took hold. Many years later, as a mother of three, Laurie attended Smith as an Ada Comstock Scholar, immersing herself in the legacy of Plath, while forging her own. From 2016 to 2017, she served as poet laureate of Texas and became known for telling the stories of those whose voices have been silenced. Laurie credits her reputation as a feminist, teacher and community advocate to her time at Smith, where she found her own voice.

Minimizing debt to enhance outcomes

On average, students graduate with about \$22,100 in loan debt from Smith—significantly less than the national average of \$37,000.

\$22K

\$37K⁺

- Average loan debt as part of Smith's aid package
- ◎ Average national student loan debt

Expanding Opportunity

the



Minimize enhance

On average, students graduate with
\$22,100 in loan debt from Smith, which is
less than the national average of \$37,000.

\$22K

● Average loan debt
as part of Smith's
aid package

◎ Average national
student loan debt

Here for Every Possibility

Financial aid has the power to change
the trajectory of a life and open a
world of possibilities.

Every day, we hear stories from
students and alumnae whose
perspectives were changed by new
experiences, whose ideas were
brought to life, whose lives were lifted
because of scholarship support.

With this boost, our graduates have
the freedom to follow their passions
and pursue careers in which they can
make the most difference because
they aren't burdened with large
amounts of college debt.

Together, we can continue this
tradition of ensuring that the doors to
excellence and opportunity remain
open to the most eager minds,
creating a more equitable academic
experience that raises every individual.

**We know the best ideas happen
when we bring people with different
life experiences together.**

Reexamining the Status Quo

Before Grace arrived on campus
from Nairobi, Kenya, she knew she
wanted to do research. Financial aid
made her Smith education possible,
but it's her passion for neuroscience
and economics that has inspired her
innovative thinking.

Through her work in Smith's Harrington
Lab as an AEMES Scholar (Achieving
Excellence in Mathematics, Engineering
and Sciences), Grace is studying
circadian disruption and was recently
accepted into the Computational and
Systems Neuroscience conference as
one of 10 fully funded undergraduates
nationwide. She's also conducting
independent research—and working on
her first publication—on social networks
and the LGBTQ+ community.

.....
"Financial aid has opened so many
doors for me. For that reason, I
keep pushing myself to be the best
I can be for everyone who took that
chance on me—Smith, my family
and myself."

Grace Irungu '20

Redefining Opportunity



Anika Penn

Recognizing there was a disconnect between low-cost diagnostic and treatment devices and the developing world, Anika founded Frontier Health, a new kind of health care marketplace that connects innovators to providers and customers. In rethinking the conventional model, Anika sought to ensure that critical solutions gained visibility within the communities that most needed affordable medical treatments and interventions. Anika credits Smith and its generous scholarship support with honing her work ethic and inspiring her to dream big.

"This is what's so special about Smith: it opens doors to things you didn't know were possible."

"I was excited to be part of a community where being a smart, strong female was the norm instead of the exception."



Janet McKinley

Janet McKinley understands the impact that a good investment can have. And for her, it started at Smith. Thanks to a generous financial aid package, she was exposed to more systematic ways of thinking in history professor Joan Afferica's honors seminar on power structures in 18th-century Europe. Today, Janet is using what she learned to elevate women entrepreneurs by increasing their access to properly structured financing—a trillion-dollar unmet need. Her investment firm, Advance Global Capital, has globally financed over \$1 billion in short-term working capital so that small businesses can survive and thrive.

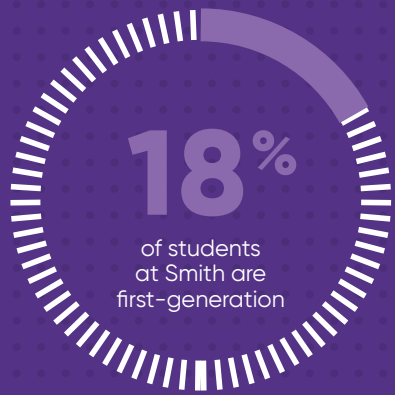
"Poverty is not about people not having things; poverty is about not having power, not having access."



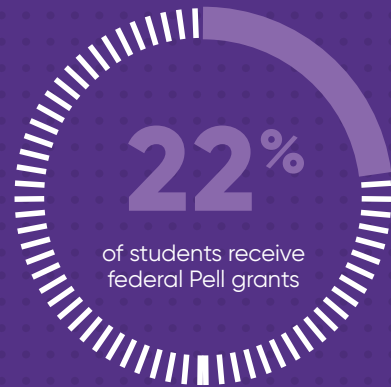
Gracie Griffin '21

For Gracie—an English major with a Book Studies Concentration—it's about connecting the evolution of language with technological changes in a way that will uniquely prepare her for a career in publishing. Smith's liberal arts focus, dedicated faculty and open curriculum have given her the opportunity to immerse herself in her concentration—something that may not have been possible otherwise.

Gracie's scholarship aid package not only allowed her to attend Smith, but a Praxis internship stipend made it possible for Gracie to spend a summer working for a literary nonprofit. As a result, she's been given the freedom to pursue valuable academic and experiential opportunities without sacrificing financial stability.

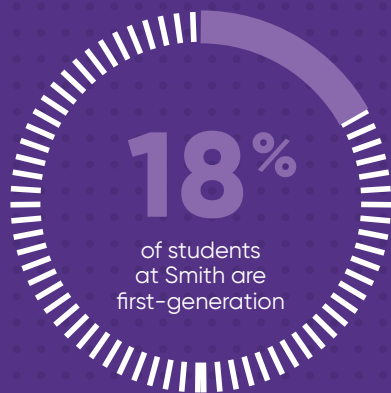


A national leader in economic diversity



Creating
and
Sustaining
Change





Here for Even More

Thanks to their Smith education, our graduates have the skills, confidence and drive to create the change the world needs. Making a difference is what Smithies do best.

And it all starts at Smith.

This is our moment to prepare the next generation of changemakers who will build on the legacy of the Smithies who came before them and move our society forward in beautifully disruptive ways.

In supporting students through financial aid, we will fuel a vision for a new future championed by the leaders, educators, activists, artists, CEOs and policy makers who found their voices at Smith.



Rethinking Legacy

As an engineering student and athlete, Karena understands the power of collaboration. She knows how to go the distance as a member of the cross country and track and field teams. On the basketball court, her teamwork and her tenacity helped lead Smith to an at-large bid in the Division III NCAA tournament. She brings the same ethos to her engineering courses, working with classmates to creatively tackle the challenging material, while making all-academic teams in all three sports.

Karena is also creating opportunities that extend beyond scholarship and athletics. As a first-generation college student—and because of the generosity of Smith alumnae—she is reimagining her family's legacy.

.....
"I am the first in my family to attend a four-year college, let alone a prestigious institution like Smith; I am paving the way for my younger siblings by showing them that college is not just some abstract dream, but a concrete reality."

Karena Garcia '21

Ways to Give Boldly

Named Endowed Scholarship Funds

By expanding our access to scholarship aid, we can provide sustainable funding that will strengthen the college and that will support students from all backgrounds in perpetuity.

Full Endowed Scholarship Fund

\$1 million or more to generate approximately the annual income required to cover the cost of tuition for a student receiving full financial aid.

Partial Endowed Scholarship Fund

\$250,000 or more to generate income toward financial aid grants.

Unrestricted Endowed Scholarship Fund

\$150,000 or more to support students with demonstrated financial need as determined by the college.

Annual Giving

Annual gifts to The Smith Fund’s Essential Smith designation are an important source of scholarship aid in any amount.

Named funds may be established to support general financial aid, Ada Comstock Scholars or international students. See www.smith.edu/access for minimums and other details.

Planned Gifts

These gifts include those created through a will, living trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy. Planned gifts also include such giving tools as charitable trusts and gift annuities that can provide an income stream to the donor or a designee.



“I have so much gratitude for your consideration of this cause. Through your support, you will have the most tangible, empowering and lasting impact on an individual’s life. My financial aid has changed my life, and I encourage you to consider making a life-changing contribution to enable another young person to grow in new ways.”

—Madeline Turner '21

"Why are we still talking about this? Because we have a responsibility. There is still so much inherent unfairness in higher education. We still have work to do."

—Kathleen McCartney
President

**For more information
and to give a gift:**

Betsy Carpenter '93
Director of Development
ewcarpen@smith.edu
413-585-2052

Watch videos, read about more scholarship aid recipients, find out about events near you and learn how you can add your voice to our call for scholarship support.

www.smith.edu/access