GREAT RETURNS: AUGSBURG’S SESQUICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

Great Returns is a campaign in conjunction with Augsburg’s Sesquicentennial celebration, which begins Fall 2019. This campaign is focused on building our endowment, including endowed scholarships and professorships, to ensure our vital and sustainable future, plus:

- Renovating Old Main, the oldest building on campus and an historic landmark important to the University’s identity
- Designing and developing a campus-wide Urban Arboretum that transforms the outdoor campus into a space for education, research, and community engagement
- Constructing a new ice arena to support Augsburg’s nationally-renowned hockey program

Why Focus on the Augsburg Endowment?

For Augsburg, a growing endowment means long-term stability, fiscal responsibility, and financial viability.

For donors, endowment giving has many benefits.

- An endowment gift can perpetuate the donor’s values; it can provide assurance that programs that are important to the donor will thrive far into the future.
- Because an endowment gift will be invested permanently, it can serve as a lasting tribute and make visible the donor’s values for future generations.
- Many donors make larger endowment gifts through estate giving and receive great satisfaction from making a contribution from assets accumulated over their lifetimes.
- Some kinds of endowment gifts—split interest gifts—pay income to the donor for life, with the remainder going to Augsburg’s endowment after the donor’s death. These kinds of gifts can provide a stable income to the donor during retirement or can help the donor meet family obligations.

MEET PAUL MUELLER

Paul Mueller ’84, M.D., serves as Great Returns Campaign Chair, and he shares updates online at engage.augsburg.edu/greatreturns.

“Through endowed funds, we can invest in students and faculty and produce great returns for many generations to come. For example, a gift to an Augsburg endowed fund for scholarships can help ensure that an Augsburg education is affordable in perpetuity.”
As of May 2018, Augsburg had annual realized and unrealized gains of 12.19 percent on the University endowment. The five-year average annual return on the endowment is 8.21 percent, and the 10-year average annual return is 4.34 percent. The University is committed to maintaining the value of the principal to provide support to Augsburg in perpetuity.

Charitable Investments

MARY E. LARSEN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP
Designated as an estate gift by Eric Browning Larson ’75, this was established to champion learning that takes root in college but continues to grow through the experiential education of travel, navigating career challenges, and cultivating creative pursuits.

JOHN N. SCHWARTZ FUND FOR CHORAL MUSIC
Committed to establish a signature academic program fund which will enhance, nurture, and increase the effectiveness of Augsburg’s choral music program by supporting student scholarships, private music lessons for students, and general choral music program expenses.

SESQUICENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP
A new, unrestricted scholarship created to support students in financial need, in celebration of the 150th anniversary of Augsburg University’s founding.

Learn More and Join the Campaign

1. Read Great Returns Campaign updates from Paul Mueller: engage.augsburg.edu/greatreturns
2. Give to increase Augsburg’s momentum: augsburg.edu/giving

For questions, contact Vice President of Institutional Advancement Heather Riddle at riddle@augsburg.edu or 612-330-1177.