



THE GIFT OF  
A LIFETIME



## In the Scottish Tradition: An Enduring Legacy

When Kayleigh-Ann Clegg (pictured above with Margaret Cathcart) learned she'd been awarded the Thomson-Cathcart Entrance Bursary, the prospect of going to McGill became an exciting reality. Two years later, the McGill experience proved even more fulfilling than she could have imagined. She wrote to the founder of the bursary, Margaret Cathcart, "I cannot even begin to thank you enough. Every mid-term I write, every lecture I attend, I am thankful for where I am and the people – like you – who have helped me get here."

Back when she was just a child, **Margaret Cathcart**, BA'39 and MEd'73, also came to McGill – albeit under different circumstances. Born in Edinburgh, she immigrated to Montreal with her family, settling in an area she, like many, affectionately refer to as the "McGill ghetto." Back in the 1920s, Margaret lived just a stone's throw away from the University that would play a significant role in her academic life.

McGill is truly in her DNA. "It became our playground. We tobogganed in the hollow next to the Arts Building." Margaret reflects, "Looking back, my parents both contributed their particular talents and wove their own

threads into the Canadian tapestry." That tapestry would have included strands from her family tartan, as Margaret's Scottish roots run deep.

In 2005, Margaret and her (now late) husband, Thomas, established the Thomson-Cathcart Entrance Bursary, which is awarded to a full-time undergraduate student in the Faculty of Arts on the basis of financial need and academic standing. The bursary allowed Kayleigh-Ann to thrive in her academic career; she graduated in 2013 with a BA&Sc in psychology.

Margaret Cathcart continues to seek out ways to support the brightest minds, and to strengthen her McGill and Scottish connections. These ambitions dovetail nicely in another new initiative, a Chair of Canadian-Scottish Studies at McGill, toward which funds are currently being sought. Margaret generously bequeathed a gift to support the realization of this new Chair.

Through the years, Mrs. Cathcart's philanthropy has made a real difference in the lives of McGill students, continuing to weave a tapestry for the next generation.



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