

McGill Annual Fund

For a Better Tomorrow



McGill Library
Bibliothèque

Information • Innovation • Service



The Alma Mater Fund: Building on McGill's Legacy



“The major share of our McGill education was paid for by the contributions of others. Now we have the opportunity of giving similar help to the students of today and tomorrow.”

—E.P. Taylor, BSc'22, LLD'77



The Alma Mater Fund is McGill's annual appeal to alumni to help support the University's most pressing needs and opportunities. Annual gifts have an immediate and direct impact, and are the driving force that allows McGill to move forward with confidence, inspiration and strength.

The Alma Mater Fund was founded in 1948 by wealthy industrialist and McGill graduate E.P. Taylor, who urged alumni to help offset McGill's growing deficit by making annual donations to the University. Taylor and his team of dedicated volunteers were hugely successful, raising \$132,230 for the fund in its first year.

Today, the Alma Mater Fund is more important than ever, with donations providing flexible financial support that enables McGill to strengthen its library system, enhance teaching and research programs, offer life-changing scholarships and internships, and act on new opportunities. Annual gifts are the lifeblood of the University and combine to create a living endowment. For example, a \$2,500 gift is equivalent to the yearly income from a \$50,000 endowment fund.

All gifts, regardless of size, are important and have a meaningful effect on students, faculty and the entire McGill community.



Other supporters of McGill may designate their annual contribution to one of the following:

- The **Parents Fund**, which invites parents of McGill students to help improve the University's extensive library collections, a resource that directly affects all students, or to invest in another area that is important to them;
- The **Faculty and Staff Fund**, which provides an additional way in which McGill employees can contribute to the University's important work;
- The **Associates Fund**, which enables members of the business community to contribute to areas with the greatest need and the greatest potential for impact.

Your contribution helps change the world

For second-year Law student Alexandra Pace, BA'07, the McGill Library is much more than a place to study—it is a source of inspiration and a stimulus for creativity and knowledge. While completing her undergraduate degree, Alexandra spent countless hours scouring the Library's vast print and online collections of over six million items, primarily in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library. Now, she spends much of her time at the Nahum Gelber Law Library, consulting its extensive selection of statutes, law reports and other legal material, both online and in print.

“What I most value about the Library is being able to read somewhere that is open to natural light, where a community assembles to work and where I can get assistance with all sorts of questions as soon as I need it,” she says.

Grateful for the role that the McGill Library has played in her education, Alexandra joined the Library Improvement Fund, a student-run initiative that helps raise financial support for the University's 13 branch libraries and assists in determining library service priorities and allocation of the funds provided by the students.

Resources raised by Alexandra and her fellow students have an immediate impact, helping to introduce much-needed 24-hour study spaces, expand book and journal collections, and enhance facilities to create more comfortable student workstations.

Alexandra stresses the importance of supporting the Library, a resource that she says is essential to student life and learning. “The Library is a symbolic site of learning and the very spirit of the University,” she says. “Many students spend more hours there than they do at home in an average week, the resources and the facilities being essential to the work they do.”

When you give to the McGill Parents Fund, you are supporting exceptional students who are making a real difference in the world today.



Every Gift Counts

Here are just some examples of what can be accomplished in the Library thanks to the help from donors to the Annual Fund:

Gifts of \$750 will purchase an e-book reader and five e-books, allowing the Library to meet the evolving needs of students.

Gifts of \$1,500 will enrich the Library's printed book holdings, purchasing six books in various subject areas, such as law, medicine or music.

Gifts of \$2,500 will repair, rebind and restore several rare books in the Library's collection, allowing access to valuable research materials and safeguarding the future of important academic resources.

Gifts of \$5,000 will support an exhibition featuring some of the Library's many treasures, promoting knowledge on topics ranging from historical Islamic manuscripts to 16th century maps of North America.

Gifts of \$10,000 will furnish one small group study and learning space at the Library, providing students with an important area to collaborate and share ideas.

Gifts of \$25,000 will procure over two terabytes of valuable server space – enough to make available more than 50,000 digitized books, improving access and supporting teaching and learning.



Campaign McGill: History in the making

The McGill Library is a 24-hour hub for student life, with more than 10,000 people using its facilities daily to study, conduct research or collaborate on group projects.

Through Campaign McGill, the Library seeks the philanthropic support to achieve the following priorities:

- renewing its flagship branch with updated learning environments like the Cyberthèque
- establishing learner-focused, student-centered branch libraries
- building vibrant, valuable and unique real and virtual collections
- broadening access through the digital library to meet learning and research needs
- unveiling its collections through exhibitions, both real and virtual

All gifts to the Alma Mater Fund count towards Campaign McGill and will play a powerful role in helping the Library address the needs of current and future generations of scholars.

Donate now

Make an annual gift to the McGill Library and support our students in their efforts to become the leaders of tomorrow.

Every gift matters. Make yours today.



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