



The DeVotie Legacy Society Provides a Lifetime and Beyond of Giving

Established in 1995 to memorialize founding trustee James H. DeVotie, the DeVotie Society recognizes our present responsibility to plant shade trees under which we know we will never sit. We celebrate the many who have planted—and are planting—for the future, with planned gifts through their estates. To date, estate state gifts make up approximately 60 percent of all giving to Samford and include wills/trusts, IRAs, life insurance policies, and charitable remainder trusts.

“We first made the choice to include Samford in our estate plan when we were quite young, but whether you are young, old or somewhere in the middle, it’s always the right time to consider a gift through your estate. We know that we are creating a legacy that will outlive us.”

Chris B. Blackerby '88

Commitment from alumni, friends, faculty and staff continues to help our university achieve increasingly more advantageous goals. With \$147.1 million left to raise, your support is integral. Please consider making a gift to help us in this second half of the campaign. Together, we are building a Forever Samford.

..... Thank you for your generosity and dedication.

samford.edu/giving



FOREVER SAMFORD

Campaign REPORT



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share with you that, thanks to the support of many friends, we have exceeded the halfway point in our *Forever Samford* campaign, the most ambitious fundraising effort in our history. To date we have received gifts and commitments of \$152.9 million toward our \$300 million goal.

Commitments have been received by 12,711 donors since the inception of the campaign, and our alumni, friends, faculty and staff, and parents have become deeply engaged as volunteers, sharing our vision far beyond the campus gates.

It is overwhelming to consider the implications of these gifts for students, now and in the years ahead. Every gift, from the smallest contributions to large estate commitments, will help to prepare and send dedicated, thoughtful, ethical people into the world. We are grateful to God for His blessings and for your dedication to and partnership in *Forever Samford*.

I often say that we sit in the shade of trees we did not plant. As we move forward to meet and exceed our \$300 million goal, we are reminded that *Forever Samford* is our opportunity to provide shade for current and future generations of students, alumni and employees, and for the local and global communities we serve.

Sincerely,
Andrew Westmoreland, *President*



Scholarships
\$93.6 million

Academic Programs



Places and Spaces \$7 million

A solid foundation



..... Total **\$152,914,523**

Median gift

\$125



151 New Scholarships





Scholarships

Lighting the Path to
Forever Samford

The path to higher education is challenging, and many students need some type of financial aid to make a university education possible. Samford University has made funding scholarships a priority so that the Samford experience is possible for more students. We have raised \$93.6 million in gifts and pledges for Samford to give much-needed support to students through scholarships. The impact of these collective gifts is immeasurable. As enrollment continues to grow, scholarships will become even more important and we look forward to engaging our donors in making a difference through these initiatives.

Major gifts given over the first half of the campaign are advancing academic excellence and improving facilities.

- The School of Health Professions received a \$250,000 gift from Encompass Health Corporation, formerly known as HealthSouth, to endow scholarships for minority students.
- The Center for Congregational Resources received a \$1.5 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to develop a plan to help congregations and their participants discover their Christian callings.
- Through the generosity of John and Rosemary Brown of Atlanta, scholarships can be awarded to deserving students in the School of Health Professions, the School of Public Health and the School of the Arts.
- Ron '69 and Cindy Files '70 Mims pledged \$1.2 million from their estate to support two of their Samford passions: athletics and the School of the Arts. Their gift will fund arts scholarships and athletic programs.

Samford's Big Give

Faculty, Friends, Staff, Students and Alumni

The Big Give fundraising event has grown substantially over the last six years, focusing on specific projects and initiatives, and encourages Samford supporters to share with others why they give back to Samford. Seventy five percent of Samford employees gave back to this specific effort. Students got involved in this year's Big Give by hosting events in Ben Brown Plaza and participating in giving back. There were 158 student donations made to the campaign in honor of Samford faculty.

The Big Give includes alumni leaders encouraging their reunion year alumni to give back. Alumni leaders are provided the tools they need to reach out via phone, email and social media to reconnect with alumni and work together to support the university with gifts of any amount. In 2017, reunion year classes raised \$193,500 and in 2018, \$197,706 was raised.

The next Big Give is April 9-10, 2019.



Bulldog Club Members Boost Athletics

The Bulldog Club is a group of Samford Athletics enthusiasts who, through their membership, ensure each of the 17 men's and women's teams have the resources they need to learn and compete at the highest level. Because of the members, Samford Athletics has:

- *Dramatically improved the acoustics, lighting and facilities in the Pete Hanna Center's Tom and Marla Corts Arena*
- *Renovated both the men's and women's basketball locker rooms*
- *Established Samford Athletics' Hall of Fame and inducted two classes*
- *Raised nearly \$30,000 in support of team mission trips*
- *Started renovation of the academic center for student athletes*



Places and Spaces: Samford's Campus and Beyond

The university has received \$2.7 million for the University Center renovation and has raised \$1.5 million for Brock School of Business's Cooney Hall. Other projects range from the Lucille Stewart Beeson Law Library and J.T. Haywood Field House to Ben F. Harrison Theatre and Brewer Plaza. Samford's Daniel House in London has received \$644,286 to begin renovations. An anonymous gift of \$250,000 was accompanied by alumni teams providing small monthly gifts to fund rooms in the house. A team led by Lauren Doss '08 raised \$30,000 to name a room in memory of her fellow alumna Christine Mosley Furr '08, and demonstrated how smaller gifts can make a big difference. Go to samford.edu/giving/daniel-house to learn more.

“Being able to name a room in our dear friend's honor enables us to envision her legacy and passion carrying on into the lives of the students who reside there.”

Lauren Doss '08



A Community of Alumni Ensure a Legacy

The Rev. John T. Porter Minority Scholarship was created in 2003 by Jewel Littleton Williams '05. She wanted to make it possible for more minority students to attend Samford. This scholarship recognizes Porter's dedication to the Birmingham community in hopes of enhancing diversity efforts at Samford. Fifteen years later, the scholarship fund was at \$92,000 because of generous donors. The Samford Black Alumni Association (SBAA) focused on this scholarship during the spring luncheon and the Big Give. Through multitude of gifts ranging from \$5 to \$250, they brought the scholarship to \$108,000. The SBAA leaders motivated giving through phone calls and their social media networks. Inspired by the mission, a Samford trustee donated \$10,000 to help even more students benefit from the scholarship.

Samford Parents: Taking Care of Each Other

In fall 2017, 30 parent volunteers worked together to encourage fellow parents to donate to the Samford Parents' Scholarship. This special fund provides a safety net for students who encounter unforeseen circumstances that may cause a significant financial burden, such as the loss of a parent. Together, Samford parents have raised \$224,836, and thus far, three students have received much-needed scholarships.

To learn more about this year's campaign, go to samford.edu/give/parents18.

The Legacy League

Wrapping Arms Around Students in Need

The Legacy League, a volunteer organization, helps make the Samford experience possible for students who have faced a variety of challenging circumstances including inner-city violence, the death or disability of a parent or sibling, foster care, parental job loss and the sacrifices of full-time ministry. In addition to raising funds for need-based scholarships, members minister to students through caring relationships, home-cooked meals and more. Over the course of the campaign, the Legacy League has raised nearly \$1.5 million for endowed scholarships through contributions and community-wide events, including the annual Christmas Home Tour. To learn more about membership and events, go to samford.edu/legacyleague.

