

Visionary Impact

SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT FUND

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

WILLIAM & MARY

Expanding horizons, educating for impact

Scholarships afford students untold opportunities
that go beyond their experience in the classroom.
They have the power to transform lives.

The students you'll meet in this report offer a small glimpse into the thousands of unique stories about the profound impact of scholarship support throughout the W&M community.

Unrestricted, need-based scholarships are the university's highest priority. Gifts made to the **Scholarships Impact Fund** provide the university with the most flexibility to ensure your investment gets put to immediate use in support of our students' most pressing needs.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of William & Mary students.

giving.wm.edu/scholarships



Elizabeth Diaz '24

GEOLOGY

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA



It's challenging to navigate the college experience as a **first-generation student**, but at the same time **it's inspiring to see how my confidence has grown** while I'm going through things a lot of my peers aren't — **I know I can overcome challenges and be an inspiration for my family**, and that is all thanks to the scholarships support that has made my college experience possible.”

Elizabeth's Story

“I’m the daughter of an immigrant — I’m proud that I got here because of my family’s support. It makes me want to do more to make them proud in return.”

When Elizabeth was accepted to William & Mary, it was a moment of both elation and the big question of “now what?”

“My family and I were so happy, but I had absolutely no idea how paying for college worked. It was a source of anxiety and stress. When I learned that I was the recipient of scholarships and need-based aid, it was such a relief and made me feel like I can focus on achieving my goals,” she says.

A geology major, those goals include studying the impacts of climate change on our natural world and delving into the intersections of society, poverty and the environment. For Elizabeth, her studies at W&M have demonstrated to her how connected things truly are and has helped her to think more holistically.

“The more we can study climate change, the more we can help humanity,” she says.

Elizabeth has been afforded the opportunity to take several experiential learning trips through the geology department, including to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Eastern Shore Laboratory to study the shifting barrier islands of Virginia’s Eastern Shore, and to the Tye River basin in Nelson County, Virginia.

Her experiences at the university are all thanks to one simple act of connection from a friend.

“When I was in high school, I knew someone who went to William & Mary. One afternoon, she offered to give me a tour of the campus and told me about her experience here. From that one moment of reaching out, W&M became my dream school,” she says.

Now that the dream has become reality, she has gotten involved across campus life. A member and officer of the William & Mary Choir and a member of the Tribe Tones a cappella group, Elizabeth says that building community is the most important part of her experience as a student at the university.

“William & Mary has allowed me to step outside my comfort zone, challenge myself academically and push for higher goals — all thanks to that confidence that being financially able to attend has offered,” she says.

Philanthropy has had an immense impact on her life, Elizabeth says. “I am paving the way for others in my family who maybe want to go to college or pursue higher education. My father immigrated here from Honduras when he was younger and he taught me so many values I take with me every day. Being able to say I’m at a prestigious university like W&M while carrying my identity and my heritage with me motivates me every day — then to be succeeding academically and personally, giving back to my parents ... in that way, I can’t say thank you enough to the donors who have made that possible.

“You are investing in people’s futures and their success — that’s what I appreciate so much. It gives people so much more opportunity to succeed and change our communities for the better. That’s what I hope to do.”

Scholarships Impact Fund

BY THE NUMBERS

DONORS

1,649

TOTAL DONORS IN FY22

\$99

MEDIAN GIFT GIVEN

RECIPIENTS

85%

STUDENTS ENROLLED
AS FRESHMEN

22%

FIRST-GENERATION
COLLEGE STUDENTS

13%

PELL GRANT ELIGIBLE
STUDENTS

78%

RANKED IN THE TOP 10%
OF THEIR CLASS

\$10,000

MEDIAN AWARD GIVEN
TO EACH RECIPIENT

4.28

AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL
GPA OF ENROLLED
FRESHMEN

Brooks Lucarelli '24

PHYSICS

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

“

I have learned — and continue to learn — a lot about myself both inside and outside the classroom at William & Mary. **I have discovered a passion for fostering scientific discovery for the future. W&M has taught me to keep moving forward** and strive for greatness, but to also give myself grace. From physics classes to ballroom dance, film studies to club water polo, **I have had incredibly rewarding experiences** I never could have imagined before I came here. **I am grateful for all you have done and continue to do** to provide these opportunities to students like me.

11%

CURRENT UNDERGRADUATES ARE
FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS



Alumni Spotlight



For **Hababo Jima '20**,
graduating from
William & Mary debt-free
has opened up her world.

An economics major from Arlington, Virginia, Hababo's time at W&M was marked with memorable highs but also significant challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic hit during her final semester at William & Mary.

"It was something I never expected, going from in-person classes to virtual," she says. "I missed out on a lot of the senior year traditions and was unable to have a proper goodbye with many friends. But it taught me how to be flexible."

Hababo was a member of the Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Co-ed Business Fraternity (AKPsi) at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business, participated in Tribe Innovation — a William & Mary affiliated, student-run consultancy — and had a job working at the Cohen Career Center on campus.

"I was drawn to William & Mary because of its prestige and my desire to be with like-minded people. The fact that I would also be graduating debt-free made my decision to choose William & Mary very easy," she says.

Hababo interned her junior year with the General Services Administration in Washington, D.C., made possible through a program offered by the W&M Washington Center. Following graduation, she was able to leverage connections she had made through AKPsi and her internship to find a job with an IT consulting firm in Northern Virginia. Just

two years later, she did the same thing when it was time to move on to a new company.

She directly attributes the scholarship support she received as a student to her current success at CapTech Ventures Inc. and her role as a business analyst for the national consulting firm.

"I absolutely believe that the scholarships I received enriched my experiences, because I was able to get involved in my communities and get a leg up in the professional world. I graduated debt-free, and that has now allowed me to invest in my future, travel the world and engage in philanthropy immediately after college — that's huge."

Hababo likes to travel as much as possible and hopes to visit every continent before she turns 30, she says. She has just three to go.

"Being able to visit new environments, try new foods and immerse myself in new cultures is something I would not be able to do if I was worried about paying off student loans. William & Mary has opened up the world to me and for that I am very grateful.

"I hope my story inspires others to see the impact of giving, and I encourage everyone to give back. You never know how it will alter someone's path."

1345

AVERAGE SAT SCORE
OF ENROLLING FRESHMAN
SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT FUND
RECIPIENTS



Jackson Smith '25

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

“

What I'm learning at William & Mary could lead me down 100 different paths, and that's exciting!

My professors inspire me because they are passionate, too, and they encourage me to go out into the world and discover for myself what I'm learning in the classroom. Even though I don't know my career path, **I'm acquiring the skills here to be successful no matter where life takes me.** Thank you for helping me explore my passion and find my path to the future.

Affording Opportunity

35%

OF W&M
UNDERGRADUATES RECEIVE
SOME NEED-BASED AID

\$350M

RAISED IN SUPPORT FOR
SCHOLARSHIPS SINCE START OF
THE *FOR THE BOLD* CAMPAIGN

MORE THAN

\$890K

IN PLANNED GIFTS, PLEDGES AND CASH
DONATIONS WERE CONTRIBUTED TO THE
SCHOLARSHIPS IMPACT FUND IN FY22

14%

OF W&M'S ANNUAL
BUDGET GOES TO
FINANCIAL AID*

According to the Princeton Review, in 2022 William & Mary ranked nationally:

#10

BEST VALUE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#13

BEST PUBLIC COLLEGES FOR
CAREER PLACEMENT

#16

TOP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOR ALUMNI NETWORKS

Noah Heupel '24

ACCOUNTING
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA



The classes I've taken at W&M have made me feel confident about my future in the business world. Thanks to your generosity, **I can stay completely focused on my education** rather than worrying about how I will fund my schooling. Thank you so much for supporting my future — **I hope to have a positive impact on the world following the opportunities I've been provided here.**



THANKS TO PRIVATE SUPPORT
MORE THAN

738

STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS
TO ATTEND WILLIAM & MARY IN THE
2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR

Please help us create more incredible stories of lives forever changed through scholarship support.

Gifts of all sizes to the Scholarships Impact Fund are welcome and all donors will receive special updates on student recipients, including an annual Scholarships Impact Fund report highlighting the progress of our fundraising efforts.

Donors who have given \$2,000 or more to the Scholarships Impact Fund will be invited to meet some of William & Mary's remarkable scholarship recipients at virtual and in-person events throughout the year.

For more information about scholarships, please contact: **Suzie Armstrong '93**, assistant vice president for development for campus initiatives, smarmstrong@wm.edu.

WILLIAM & MARY

giving.wm.edu/scholarships