“Why I Give”

Associate Professor of Geology Robert Gaines: one of 25,943
25,943
Gifts to the campaign from alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends

13,922
alumni and students

5,488
parents

181
faculty and staff

6,352
friends

How to give
Online: pomona.edu/give
Call: 888-736-9425
“I attended a 40th Pomona College reunion that was transformative. It reminded me that wherever I am, I belong to a community that is bigger than I am, and that I matter and have something to offer that larger community through my gifts and my time and abilities.”

— ONETTA BROOKS ’74
Minister, Metropolitan Community Churches; president-elect, Alumni Association Board
Donor for more than 35 years

“AFTER 34 YEARS
as an engineer for aerospace and defense contractors, Onetta Brooks completed a master of divinity degree, while continuing to work full time, and was ordained by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Brooks, who grew up in Watts, says that the church has always been important in her life, as have the issues that were part of her years as a student during the tumultuous ’70s.

“If I’ve learned anything in my 40 years since graduating it’s that we still need discussions on race and gender,” she says. “We never know what kind of impact we’ll have. It could be through a discussion in a college hallway that breaks a stereotype, which was my experience at Pomona. I hope we continue to embrace and celebrate our differences as we transform ourselves and our Pomona community.”

3,644 first-time donors during campaign, including
1,378 alums
1,326 parents
940 friends

10,726 gifts of less than $500 to Daring Minds campaign:

$100: median Annual Fund gift to campaign

$148,827,113: alumni gifts to campaign

“BEING PART OF
this community is huge for us. It’s an opportunity for us to be connected to Pomona and recognize the special time we spent there—the fever pitch of academics, the great conversations, the people we met. We’re excited to be able to stay involved and support Pomona through our gifts.”

— ADAM GARDNER ’04
program manager, Google

“POMONA HAS BEEN
the most important institution in my life, a place that’s been incredibly meaningful. Working on projects related to online education has made me think a lot about how unique a small liberal arts experience is. It’s rare and it’s special, and it’s something I want to support.”

— ELLEN GARDNER ’05
program officer, Schultz Family Foundation

To find out more about recurring gifts, please visit pomona.edu/ways-to-give
“Pomona students are a thrill to work with. It is a unique privilege to watch the process of discovery, the igniting of a passion that may burn for decades. In my 10 years at Pomona, I’ve seen how summer research experiences allow students to gain command of an area in their chosen discipline, and carry the confidence and excitement from that experience forward in their undergraduate careers and beyond. The opportunities the Summer Undergraduate Research Program provides to our exceptional students are among the many reasons I’m proud to work at Pomona and why I support this outstanding program.”

—ROBERT GAINES, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF GEOLGY

Monthly gifts directed to Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)
“It’s not only how much people give, but how many people give. Those numbers show that there is a whole corps of people who really care about this place.”

— FRANK AND CAROL GONZALEZ
18 consecutive years of giving

CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES SUPPORTED BY ALL GIFTS:

- Increasing support for scholarships
- Establishing a new Summer Internship Program
- Strengthening the Summer Undergraduate Research Program
- Developing international programs
- Creating an Outdoor Education Center
- Expanding the Draper Center for Community Partnerships
- Renewing investment in the arts
- Providing ongoing Annual Fund support for students and faculty

TWO OF POMONA’S most steadfast supporters are Frank and Carol Gonzalez, who have made gifts to the College for 18 consecutive years. Longtime staff members, the couple met in the housekeeping department, where Frank has worked for 34 years. Fittingly, they were married under one of the big oaks on Walker Beach in 1990 at the annual housekeeping picnic, attended by family, friends and co-workers. “We’ve made such good friends at Pomona,” says Carol, who retired in 2009 after almost 25 years at the College working in departments ranging from theatre to alumni relations. “I thought it was important to give back, to acknowledge there is an employer that thinks about its employees. Pomona makes us feel that we’re part of the family.”
“I donate because I think small classes, where everyone can have their voices heard, are one of the best things about Pomona.”
—DAN MYNICK ’15

“I give out of gratitude for the difference Pomona makes in the lives of my students. I see it every day, and it’s tremendously humbling. But honestly, selfishly: I give out of gratitude for the difference Pomona has made in my own life, as a faculty member. I’m lucky to be here, and I know it.”
—KEVIN DETTMAR, W.M. Keck Professor of English

“I started giving to Pomona in the first year that I worked here, and one reason was that the College was trying to raise money for the Smith Campus Center, the very building I would be working in for many years ahead. I continue to give because, year after year, I look around the College and see the incredible buildings and programs that benefit so many people. I am proud to do my part.”
—BRENDA SCHMIT, manager of retail services

“Our first gift to Pomona several years ago was inspired by impressive student research presentations. We continue to give to the College to provide additional students with the opportunity to conduct summer research with professors, and we enjoy seeing the incredible results of those efforts.”
—CHERYL FRIEDMAN ’13, ’16

“I hope that our contributions help Pomona continue its tradition of excellence, and make it possible for students to attend and graduate. Even if our individual gifts are not major gifts, the accumulation of many alumni giving what they can is important. Collectively we can make a difference.”
—BILL IRELAND ’81, member, Alumni Association Board

“I gave my first gift to Pomona in my first year of college. Working as a student caller for the Annual Fund, I knew that participation was a key to the success of the program. I also wanted to give back to Pomona because of the generous financial aid I receive. So, even if it wasn’t much, I decided that I should give, and that there was no better year to start than my first year.”
—NOVEMBER BAEZ TREQO ’16
Computer science major
Quest Scholar

“Being a part of any community involves more than taking up a seat: It involves a broader responsibility to make a contribution and to step in when you have an opportunity to go above and beyond. I’m grateful to be in a position where I can contribute in a small way to Pomona College’s success.”
—CHRIS WAUGH, associate dean of students; director of Smith Campus Center
As we enter the final year of Campaign Pomona: Daring Minds, I send my sincerest thanks to the thousands of alumni, parents, faculty, staff, students and friends who have contributed to making this campaign a historic success. For those who have not yet given, I respectfully ask you to consider making a gift, especially as this 2014 tax year comes to a close. Gifts of any amount and from every individual are necessary to sustain the Pomona community that has transformed so many lives like mine.

—CHRISTINA WIRE ’87
National Chair for Annual Giving