“Students might not have the money, but they are hungry for an education so they can go out and make the world a better place. That’s exactly who I want to invest in.”

Milagro Ruiz ’84GS
To support the School of General Studies through an endowed fund

The 1754 Society

Members of the 1754 Society, like bequest donors dating back to Columbia’s pre-revolutionary origins, lay a strong foundation for the University’s preeminence. Society members past and present are instrumental in supporting the world’s most promising students, distinguished faculty, and transformational teaching, research, patient care, and search for solutions to the most challenging issues of our time.

The 1754 Society commemorates the tradition of thoughtful planning for Columbia’s future and recognizes the vital role that alumni, parents, and friends of Columbia—people like you—have played over the centuries in Columbia’s emergence as one of the greatest research universities in the world. Such foresight and generosity form the foundation upon which Columbia was built and serves as inspiration now and long into the future.
Become a Member

1754 Society members are forward-thinking alumni and friends who remember Columbia in their will, trust, or other estate plans. There is no minimum gift to become a 1754 Society member and all ages are welcome.

To become a member, simply do one of the following:

• inform us that you have included Columbia in your will, living trust or charitable remainder trust, or other estate plan.

• share with us that you have created a beneficiary designation for Columbia with your retirement plan, life insurance policy, bank or brokerage account, or other financial plan.

• establish a charitable gift annuity (CGA) or charitable remainder trust (CRT) at Columbia.

• tell us that you have created a CGA or CRT at another organization and designate a portion of the residuum or remainder to benefit Columbia.

• designate Columbia as a recipient of a lead interest in your charitable lead trust, and tell us you did so.

Our members have designated the use of charitable bequests and life income plans for a particular school or program, or for unrestricted purposes to provide future leadership with the utmost flexibility to address current priorities. Others have designated their funds to be used for scholarships for undergraduate students or fellowships for graduate students; faculty support; or a particular academic department or extracurricular program, such as Athletics. The choice is yours, though we strongly encourage you to select a broad purpose that will be relevant in the distant future, and to work with the Office of Gift Planning to ensure that Columbia can carry out your specific wishes.
Your 1754 Society Membership

By notifying us of your planned gift, you join the 1754 Society, a robust community of individuals who support Columbia through legacy giving. Your membership allows us to recognize you for your generosity and to give you special access to the unique people and experiences that Columbia offers.

Let’s Make More Possible

To begin a conversation about celebrating and preserving what matters most to you, or to inform us that you have included Columbia in your plans, contact the Office of Gift Planning. The specifics of your arrangements for the University will remain confidential.

P: 212-851-7857
E: gift.planning@columbia.edu
W: giftplanning.columbia.edu

COLUMBIA | Office of Gift Planning

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