

# *Annual Fund 2011-2012*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is the Annual Fund/U Fund?**

The purpose of the Annual Fund is to raise unrestricted funds, which help to make up the difference between the school's tuition and the cost of educating each student. Annual Fund contributions are applied directly to meeting the everyday expenses of running the school during the fiscal year July 1-June 30.

A gift to the Annual Fund enables the trustees, current parents, faculty and staff, past parents, former trustees, grandparents and friends to partner in making a difference in the lives of our students.

### **What is this year's goal?**

The goal of this year's Annual Fund is **\$600,000**.

University High School designs its operating budget to encompass what it needs to do in a current year to fulfill its mission and unrestricted contributions make it possible for the administration to achieve these goals.

### **When and where can I see my dollars at work?**

Every day and everywhere there are University High School students and their teachers learning and working. Over seventy percent (71.5%) of our operating budget pays for faculty and staff salaries and benefits. In addition to teachers, other areas supported by the Annual Fund include: financial aid and scholarships; faculty and staff salaries; technology upgrades and enhancements; professional development opportunities; arts, media resources, athletic materials and equipment; plant and facility maintenance.

### **What is the difference between the Annual Fund and a capital campaign or endowment giving?**

The Annual Fund is a yearly campaign that has a defined start (July 1) and end (June 30) dates. Donations to the Annual Fund help to fund the daily operations of the school and are budget relieving, meaning that donations help offset costs so that funds are freed up for additional experiences and opportunities for our students, faculty and staff. Capital and endowment giving differs in that it does not always have a set start and end date, and funds are typically for larger projects such as the building of new facilities on campus or the improvement of current buildings. All funding initiatives are driven by the school's strategic plan.

### **How much should I give?**

We ask all of our parents, alumni parents and friends of University High School to give to the best of their abilities, and hope that University High School is a top philanthropic priority. Given this, one of our goals is also participation. ***Strong participation is a reflection of our community's belief in the school, and its mission to expand the hearts and minds of students and to nurture excellence through academic, creative and physical achievement.*** Over the last three years an average of 70% of our families made gifts to the Annual Fund.

**The gap between the cost of educating each student and paid tuition is approximately \$6,000.**

A gift of any amount whether \$5, \$50, \$500 or \$15,000 will help us reach our \$600,000 goal. Each year, we also ask our constituents to consider increasing their gifts to the Annual Fund to help subsidize the costs of University's unique learning environment.

**How can I give?**

Donations to the Annual Fund may be in the form of cash, checks, matching gifts, and gifts of stock. You may make your contribution via MasterCard, VISA, Discover and American Express credit card. You may also make your gift directly online at [www.universityhighschool.org](http://www.universityhighschool.org) and click on "GIVE NOW".

**Is my gift tax deductible? And will my gift be listed in the 2011-2012 Annual Report?**

Yes, all gifts to the Annual Fund are 100 percent tax deductible to the full extent of the law. (Please consult your tax advisor for clarification.) All donors will be listed in the Annual Report unless the donor wishes to contribute anonymously.

**My company has a matching gifts program. Will my gift to University High School qualify for a match?**

More than likely it will. Check with your company's benefits office, but most corporate matching gift programs apply to private education as well as post-secondary education. You will be given credit in the Annual Report for your gift PLUS the match.

**When should I give?**

Annual Fund 2011-2012 officially begins August 2011 and concludes June 30, 2012. All of our constituencies are solicited initially in the fall. Contributions, however, will be accepted throughout the fiscal year. Please keep in mind that we accept gifts in the form of pledges throughout the year. Pledges can be paid in installments at your convenience. Please contact the Advancement Office with any questions about setting up a pledge payment plan.

**Giving Levels:**

The average gift to the Annual Fund is about \$2,000. Every gift, no matter the size, impacts the school. We encourage you to consider an amount that's appropriate for your situation and hope that University High School becomes a philanthropic priority for your family.

Visionaries	(\$25,000+)
Founders	(\$10,000 - \$24,999)
Leaders	(\$5,000 - \$9,999)
Stewards	(\$1,000 - \$4,999)
Pathfinders	(\$500 - \$999)
Blazers	(\$10 - \$499)

**For additional information please contact:**

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