

**Submitted by: David Ripple, Vice President for Development and Alumni Affairs  
President, Wayne State University Foundation**

The Division of Development and Alumni Affairs at Wayne State University engages the institution's constituencies and garners philanthropic resources in support of Wayne State University's mission to positively impact lives and communities near and far.

## **DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS PERFORMANCE**

### **Student Affairs**

The spring 2024 commencement ceremonies were held May 1-3 at the Wayne State Fieldhouse. We are proud to welcome our newest alumni and add this cohort into our alumni network of more than 300,000 Warriors.

On May 17, the Wayne State University School of Social Work and the Alumni Association hosted a dynamic panel discussion featuring experts who have successfully launched private practices while staying true to their mission. Panelists included professionals from a variety of fields such as athletics, social justice, neurodevelopmental disabilities, and more. Following the panel discussion, students, alumni and friends enjoyed a social hour to connect and network.

Notable gifts and pledges received:

- Realized bequest gift of \$580,366 for the Museum of Natural History in the Department of Biological Sciences.
- A \$175,000 increase to a planned gift in the College of Education.
- A pledge of \$165,000 to establish the Romano Stancroff Public Interest Law Fellow Endowed Support Fund in the Law School.
- A pledge of \$150,000 to establish the Roger and Kimberly Rivard Endowed Scholarship to support full-time undergraduate students in the Mike Ilitch School of Business.
- An estate gift of \$100,000 to fund two endowed scholarships in the Mike Ilitch School of Business.
- A gift of \$50,892 to establish the Dorine L. Chase Endowed Scholarship to support full-time undergraduate nursing students in the College of Nursing.
- A gift of \$50,000 to establish The Suzanne L. Feetham, PhD, RN, FAAN, PhD Student Scholarship in the College of Nursing.

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- A planned gift of \$50,000 in support of the Diehl Giving Fund Endowed Scholarship in the Law School.
- A gift of \$35,000 in support of the Phyllis S. Brenner, PhD Endowed Student Success Fund to Promote Workforce Diversity in the College of Nursing.
- A gift of \$35,000 to endow a scholarship to support students seeking a career in school library/media or elementary education.
- A gift of \$30,000 to establish the Dr. Barbara Zonca Endowed Scholarship in the College of Nursing.
- A pledge of \$25,000 to establish an endowed scholarship to support an accounting student in perpetuity, and to provide a challenge match to acquire 25 more scholarship gifts on Giving Day.
- A gift of \$25,000 from the DTE Energy Foundation for the Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies.
- A pledge of \$25,000 to convert the Mark Anderson Annual Memorial Scholarship into an endowed scholarship to support a business student in perpetuity.
- A pledge of \$25,000 to fund the Linda and Herbert Henkel Endowed Scholarship to support members of the Wayne Women in Business Student Organization.

### **Teaching Excellence**

Notable gifts and pledges received:

- A gift of \$225,000 from the Ford Foundation in support of the Detroit Equity Action Lab (DEAL) in the Law School.
- A gift of \$125,163 in support of the C.S. Mott Center for research at the School of Medicine.
- A gift of \$100,000 in support of research in the Department of Pharmacology at the School of Medicine.
- An estate gift of \$100,000 to support the School of Medicine Dean's Fund.

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- A gift of \$30,000 in support of the Department of Physics and Astronomy Support Fund.
- A gift of \$30,000 to create an expendable fund for the Mike Ilitch School of Business to cover expenses associated with faculty summer research.

### **Diversity and Inclusion**

The Alumni Association participated in pre-commencement graduation celebrations designed to honor the academic achievements of diverse students and spotlight the cultural richness of those students' communities. Graduation celebrations were held April 26-30 and included Middle Eastern and North African Pre-Commencement Celebration, Black Graduation Celebration of Excellence, El Nuevo Comienzo Latina/o/x and Native Student Graduation Celebration and Rainbow Graduation.

On June 14, WSU alumni and supporters celebrated queer art and programming at Wayne State at the *I'll Be Your Mirror; Art, Alumni and Friends* reception. Attendees viewed art curated through Mighty Real/Queer Detroit's second biennial exhibition that explored the mirroring relationship between art and self, as well as art and communities.

The Organization of Black Alumni hosted a Juneteenth DEI educational panel discussion on June 18. Experts in the field discussed how DEI education has been shaping the landscape in various sectors, how it impacts people today and how it will shape the community of tomorrow. Prior to the panel, alumni, students, panelists, and community members enjoyed a pre-event reception to connect and network.

### **Community Engagement**

Presidential Alumni Receptions were held on May 8 at St. John's in Plymouth and on June 17 at the War Memorial in Grosse Pointe. Alumni and friends enjoyed a vibrant evening of networking and exciting updates from President Espy.

To recognize the contributions that nurses make to the community, alumni and friends were invited to celebrate Nurses Appreciation Week with the Alumni Association and College of Nursing (CON) on May 8. Guests spent the evening celebrating our wonderful nurses at the Bloomfield Hills Country Club. Attendees heard from Interim Dean Ramona Benkert regarding the current climate of the campus and exciting CON updates.

On May 29, Wayne State University hosted our first community brunch at the Detroit Regional Chamber 2024 Mackinac Policy Conference. Attendees had the opportunity to meet and greet with President Espy, along with community partners, alumni, and friends on the expansive Grand Hotel lawn.

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On June 4, members of division of Development and Alumni Affairs were joined by staff members from Internal Audit to participate in a community service project with Cass Community Social Services. The team played a major role in transforming the interior and exterior landscape of a home in Detroit.

**UPCOMING DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS EVENTS**

- June 27 Alumni 101 Cocktails and Career Networking Event
- June 29 Art Across Campus
- June 29 SIS Alumni Reception at the American Library Association Conference
- August 6 School of Social Work Summer Social
- August 7 Wayne Law Legal Briefs, featuring Dean Bierschbach

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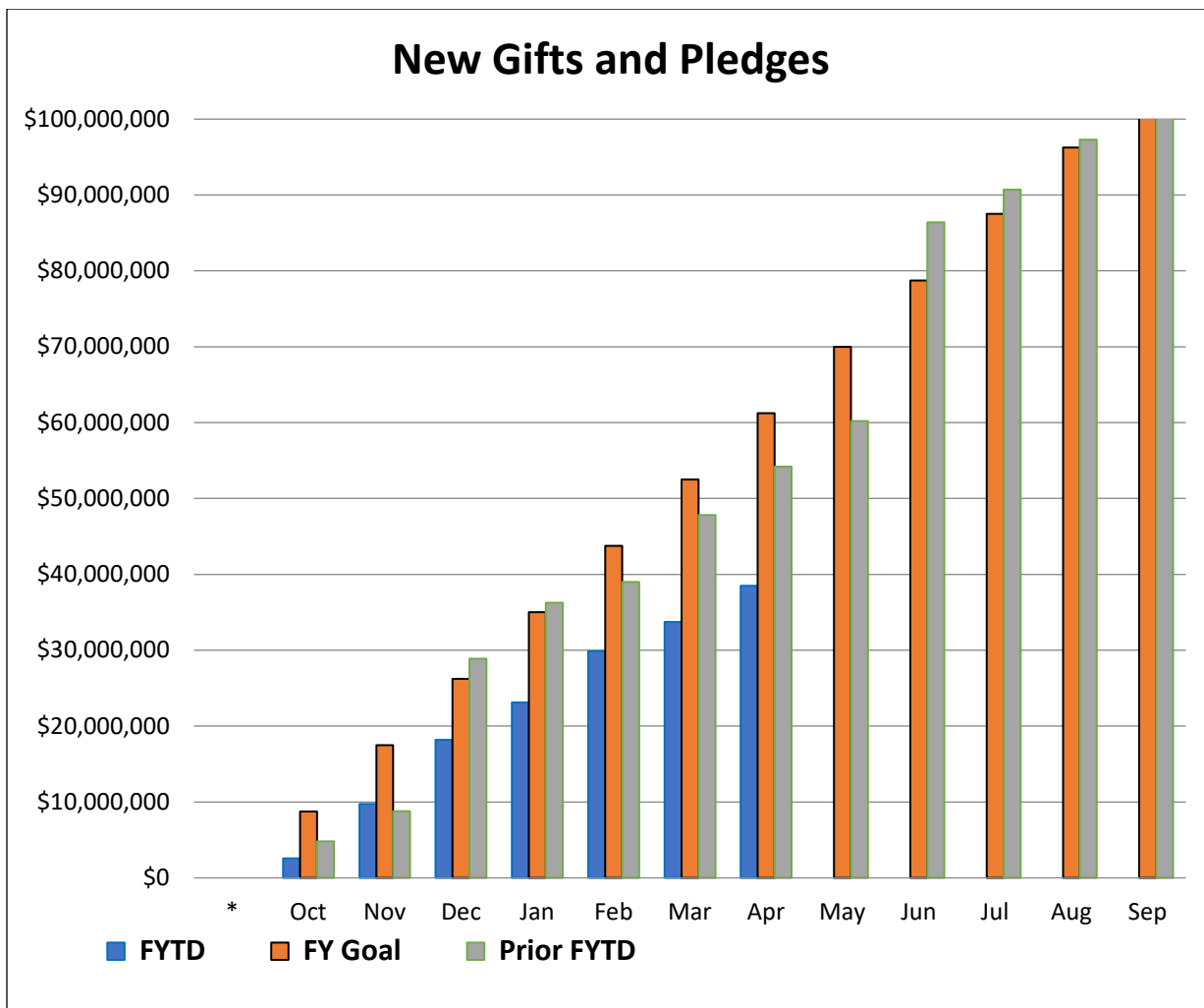
**FUNDRAISING PERFORMANCE**

Fiscal year totals as of April 30, 2024 (does not include philanthropy from FMRE)

	Current FYTD		Prior FYTD
	FY End Goal	Total	Total
<b>New Gifts and Pledges <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$105,000,000</b>	<b>\$38,486,111</b>	<b>\$54,217,301</b>
<b>Cash Gifts <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>\$50,000,000</b>	<b>\$30,278,531</b>	<b>\$26,704,571</b>
<b>In-Kind Gifts <sup>2</sup></b>		<b>\$1,636,477</b>	<b>\$105,188</b>

<sup>1</sup> New gifts and pledges include new cash gifts, pledge commitments, realized estate gifts and gifts-in-kind. Pledge payments are not included.

<sup>2</sup> Cash/in-kind gifts include only new cash gifts and gifts-in-kind. Pledge payments are included.



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