A Campaign Measured in Milestones

With a $600 million goal, For the Greater Great: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change launched as the most ambitious philanthropic effort in the University’s history—designed to underwrite initiatives set forth in Villanova’s comprehensive strategic plan.

The Villanova community—alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends—responded fervently and generously. Each year since the launch of this campaign, the University has raised more than $100 million. Villanova soared past its $600 million goal in December 2016. Eclipsed $700 million in November 2017. And closed at $760 million in May.

From the University’s largest-ever gift, to 1842 Day—the inaugural day of giving—each milestone helped Villanova move forward, climb higher and fuel the momentum that never ceased.

This campaign has transformed how the University educates students. How it attracts and retains the very best faculty. How it creates opportunity and ignites change, here on campus and around the globe.

With the support of the entire community, this campaign has shaped Villanova’s present and established a solid foundation for its future.

Your Impact

- 2 named colleges: the Charles Widger School of Law and the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing
- 10 centers of excellence and interdisciplinary institutes made possible
- Nearly 300 new endowed scholarships
- 8 named, endowed chairs and 7 named, endowed professorships
- 40 new and reimagined academic and athletic spaces across campus
- $60 million for the renovation of the Finneran Pavilion
- $60 million for a new Performing Arts Center—the cornerstone of the campus transformation along Lancaster Avenue

Campaign Initiatives

Endowment

- $321.2 million Goal: $250 million

Academics and Programs

- $177.9 million Goal: $125 million

Facilities

- $177.7 million Goal: $150 million

Annual Fund

- $83.2 million Goal: $75 million
October 2013
The Matthew Carr Society launches, recognizing the University’s most generous benefactors who have made lifetime gifts totaling $1 million or more. Villanova inducts 130 inaugural members.

January 2014
Villanova inaugurates the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, the first endowed chair in the College of Nursing.

March 2014
Robert F. Moran ’72 commits $7 million to support the Track and Field program and to establish the Elenore and Robert F. Moran, Sr. Center for Global Leadership in the Villanova School of Business.

May 2014
Villanova announces the Charlotte and James V. O’Donnell ’63 Center for Professional Development at the Villanova School of Business, established by a $5 million commitment from Charlotte and James ’63 O’Donnell.

May 31, 2014
Launch Year Concludes
Campaign Total: $328 million
• $139.2 million in new gifts and pledges
• 25% undergraduate alumni participation
August 2014
Villanova launches the Young Alumni Challenge, with support from a $1 million commitment from Brigid ’02, Shannon ’04, Kerry-Lynn ’07 and Courtney ’11 Riley, and their parents, James and Ellen. In recognition of the family’s generosity throughout the campaign, Villanova names the Riley Ellipse at the center of campus.

October 2014
The Nydick Family Commons opens in Bartley Hall, named in honor of Villanova School of Business Professor Robert L. Nydick, PhD; his wife, Susan; and sons Robert III ’06 and Gregory ’09. The family’s $2 million gift also establishes the Nydick Family Business Analytics Fund.

January 2015
Villanova establishes the Nance K. Dicciani Chemical Engineering Chair through a $2.5 million commitment from Nance Dicciani ’69.

February 2015
Villanova University School of Law names the David F. and Constance B. Girard-diCarlo Center for Ethics, Integrity and Compliance, recognizing a $5 million commitment from the Girard-diCarlos.

April 2015
The College of Engineering marks the largest gift in its history—a $13.5 million commitment from Jan and Paul J. ’65 Varello to support future deans and their visions for the College.

April 2015
Villanova announces the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professorship in the Nursing of Vulnerable Populations, established by Marianne and Richard ’83 Kreider.

May 31, 2015
FY2015 Ends

Campaign Total:
$435 million
• $107.5 million in new gifts and pledges
• 26% undergraduate alumni participation

June 2015
Groundbreaking for the Andrew J. Talley Athletic Center—an $18 million athletic facilities project funded entirely through donor contributions. Villanova announces a $1 million gift from Diane and Howie Long in support of the project.

November 2015
Villanova’s renowned Irish Studies Program is elevated to the Center for Irish Studies, through a $1 million commitment from the Connelly Foundation. The Center’s directorship is named in honor of Emily C. Riley, Executive Vice President for the Connelly Foundation and a former Villanova Trustee.

January 2016
The Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law becomes the first named college at Villanova, recognizing a transformative $25 million gift—the second largest gift in University history—from Charles Widger ’73 JD.

April 2016
Villanova announces the largest-ever gift to Athletics—$22.6 million from William B. Finneran ’63 to advance the renovation of the Pavilion and support Villanova Men’s Basketball.

May 31, 2016
FY2016 Ends

Campaign Total:
$540 million
• $105.7 million in new gifts and pledges
• 27% undergraduate alumni participation

July 2016
The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences receives a $10 million commitment from Albert Lepage ’69 to establish the Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest. This marks the largest-ever gift to the College.

September 2016
Villanova University College of Nursing receives a $3 million gift—the second-largest commitment in the College’s history—in memory of Doris Clark Schley ’57.
September 2016
Villanova dedicates the Kevin M. Curley Family Exchange in Bartley Hall, recognizing a $2.5 million commitment from Kevin M. Curley ’80.

December 2016
The campaign exceeds $600 million in gifts and pledges, surpassing its goal 18 months early.

March 2017
The Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law names the Eleanor H. McCullen Center for Law, Religion and Public Policy, in recognition of $5 million in gifts from Eleanor H. and Joseph T. ’57 McCullen Jr.

May 31, 2017
FY2017 Ends

Campaign Total:
$647.8 million
• $108.2 million in new gifts and pledges
• 28% undergraduate alumni participation

June 2017
Renovations begin in the Finneran Pavilion—a $60 million project supported entirely by donor contributions, including a $5 million gift from Kristen and Patrick ’85 McMahon, and a $1 million commitment from Villanova Basketball great Kyle Lowry and his wife, Ayahna, among many others.

September 2017
1842 Day, Villanova’s first day of giving, exceeds all goals. 4,756 donors commit more than $6 million in 1,842 minutes.

October 2017
The University celebrates the launch of the Anne Welsh McNulty Institute for Women’s Leadership—the first named interdisciplinary institute at Villanova, made possible by a $5 million gift from Anne Welsh McNulty ’75 and the John P. & Anne Welsh McNulty Foundation.

December 2017
The University announces the naming of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing—recognizing the life and work of the College’s visionary and beloved dean. This naming is made possible by a $5 million anchor gift from Deborah Silvers Adams ’86 and her husband, Nick; and additional philanthropic support from alumni, parents and friends.

January 2018
The University celebrates the groundbreaking of the Performing Arts Center. Underpinned by two anonymous lead gifts of $20 million, this $60 million donor-funded project is the cornerstone of a dramatic campus transformation along Lancaster Avenue.

March 2018
Marilyn and Richard K. ’69, ’70 Faris commit $5 million to support engineering facilities. This gift joins lead support from Denise and John P. ’72 Jones III ($3 million) and Gloria and John G. ’65 Drosdick ($2.5 million), and additional gifts from the Villanova community, to bring the total raised for the future expansion of the Center for Engineering Education and Research to $12.7 million.

March 2018
For the Greater Great: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change exceeds $750 million in gifts and confirmed pledges.

May 31, 2018
Campaign Closes
Total: $760 million
• $117 million in new gifts and pledges (FY18)
• 5th consecutive year of $100+ million in giving
• 30% undergraduate alumni participation