

RISING TOGETHER

A PUBLICATION OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY'S ADVANCEMENT DIVISION

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Edelmans support success for CCCA students

With every initiative they support, every gift they give, Ric and Jean Edelman have a singular goal: to make a positive, measurable impact on the lives of others.

That goal certainly will be achieved through their \$10 million gift to provide scholarships to Rowan University students in the College of Communication & Creative Arts (CCCA).

The Edelmands, founders of Edelman Financial Engines, the nation's largest independent financial planning and investment management firm, announced the gift during a ceremony on November 14.

The largest single endowed gift to Rowan dedicated solely to student scholarships, the donation will support both merit- and need-based academic scholarships for students pursuing careers in the fields of communication and creative arts.

Students selected as Edelman Scholars will be eligible for funding from the new Edelman Professional Development Fund. The stipend would be used for conference travel, workshops and other professional development opportunities.

Scholarships will be primarily awarded to freshmen, but also will be available to returning undergraduates and transfer students.

The gift will help CCCA, a rapidly growing college, attract more top-notch students seeking communication careers. The college, which boasts more than 1,900 students, has experienced a 133 percent

freshman enrollment increase in the past three years.

"The Edelmands understand how difficult it is for students to pay for college and their endowment speaks volumes about their commitment to providing opportunities to students, based both on merit and need," says Rowan President Ali A. Houshmand.

Since 2002, the Edelmands, both alumni, have pledged more than \$36 million to the University through the Jean and Ric Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University and the Ric and Jean Edelman Planetarium.

Their \$25 million gift for the fossil park in 2016 was the largest gift ever to Rowan from alumni and the second largest gift in University history.

Their gift to CCCA will help talented, driven students as they pursue careers in writing, art, radio/television/film, public relations, sports communication and related disciplines.

"Creativity and communication matter," says Ric, who earned his bachelor's degree in communications in 1980 from then-Glassboro State College. "We want to help students pursue these disciplines, and help provide them the tools they need to succeed."

Jean, who earned her bachelor's degree in consumer economics and marketing in 1981 and now serves on the University Board of Trustees, adds, "Our experience at Rowan gave us the foundation to succeed in our career. We are grateful and want to help today's students have the same opportunity for success." **RA**

"We couldn't be more pleased that Ric and Jean have decided to support our College of Communication & Creative Arts with a gift that is 100 percent focused on student success."

**—Ali Houshmand
President**

Pet Therapy Program opens for business—and love

An animal enthusiast to the core, there are no limits to Gerald Shreiber's generosity when furry friends are involved.

His remarkable love for dogs and their unparalleled companionship inspired his most recent gift to Rowan University: a \$3 million endowment to bring certified therapy dogs to campus to help students, especially those struggling with stress and anxiety.

Students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends gathered outside Winans Hall on Nov. 7 to celebrate the opening of the Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program with an honorary ribbon cutting and unveiling of the program's newly renovated space.

Shreiber attended the event with his family, including his most recent rescue, Hachi, and reminisced about his adventures as a child trying to rescue stray dogs in Chester, Penn.

"Dogs, cats and other animals became part of my DNA," he said. "Anyone who's ever had [a pet] knows, no matter what kind of day you have, when you get home, it's better."

Shreiber believes strongly in the therapeutic qualities of dogs and their calming, unconditional love—and as a proud supporter of Rowan University, he was overjoyed to bring that love to students who might need it.

"It is a pleasure for me to give back to the community," Shreiber said. "I can think of nothing better than (to support) our students, striving

for education, complemented by therapy dogs."

Over the past three years, Rowan's Wellness Center in Winans Hall has offered "Paws for a Break," a program that enables students to interact with certified therapy dogs, and it's become one of its most popular outreach efforts.

Now, the Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program will expand that effort with a 744-square-foot home in Winans, a full-time Assistant Director and five certified therapy dogs.

Wellness Center Director Scott Woodside said much of the interaction between Rowan students and the center's therapy dogs will be casual, fun and stress relieving. "Right now, we're the only University in the region to operate a full time pet therapy program," he added. "So our goal is to positively impact our students while expanding in research and new program development."

While Shreiber is no stranger to philanthropic support at the University, having established the Gerald B. Shreiber Scholarship for business students in 2014, he has transformed the scope of pet therapy and animal well-being initiatives in the region.

He is a former Board Member and supporter of the North American Wildlife Park Foundation (Wolf Park), American Anti-Vivisection Society, Animal Welfare Institute, PETA, Guide Dogs for the Blind and many other preservation and animal welfare organizations. He also established the Shreiber Animal Foundation Enterprise (SAFE) and made a transformational gift to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Virtua Hospital in southern New Jersey to establish their own respective pet therapy programs.

"We thank Mr. Shreiber for his generosity, his ongoing support of the University and his commitment to our students," said Rowan President Ali Houshmand. **RA**

"This gift will ensure our continued ability to deliver resources to enhance the health and well-being of our students and the Rowan community."

**—Ali Houshmand
President**



The Shreiber family celebrates the launch of the Shreiber Family Pet Therapy Program of Rowan University. L to R: Betty London, Marjorie Shreiber-Roshcoff, Gerald Shreiber, Dr. Lindsay Shreiber, Caitlin Shreiber, Dr. Elisabeth Hasslacher and Hachi.

INTRODUCING

ROWAN RISING

PODCAST



Discover the newly launched **Rowan Rising podcast** to celebrate *RISING: The Campaign for Rowan University*.

Listeners can look forward to two exclusive interviews each month with members of the Rowan community. Hosted by Vice President for University Advancement R.J. Tallarida, episodes are thought-provoking, inspiring and fun, while highlighting each guest's unique accomplishments and rise to success.

From students and faculty to community leaders and President Houshmand himself, these podcasts offer new and exciting insights into our collective Rowan story.

TUNE IN TODAY!

Available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, SoundCloud, Stitcher and Podbean.

CMSRU awarded prestigious community engagement award



Although Cooper Medical School of Rowan University admitted its first class just seven years ago, this summer they bested formidable competition to win the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) 2019 Spencer Foreman Award for Outstanding Community Engagement.

The national honor was made possible by the efforts of faculty, staff, students, alumni and generous benefactors who believe in the medical advancements and community enrichments happening in Camden.

The award recognizes the many ways CMSRU partners with the Camden community, to both improve residents' well

being and educate future physicians.

AAMC stated that "CMSRU has integrated the community into the fabric of the school, exemplifying its motto, 'Camden is our classroom; Camden is our home.'"

Since its opening in 2012, CMSRU benefactors have contributed to the school's service learning programs that complement students' academic programming. Students are required to participate in 30-40 hours of community service each year—but many aim far beyond this level.

The community engagement happening in Camden speaks to the core of CMSRU's educational model—*we learn and we serve*.

At home at Hollybush

Philanthropy often can be realized in unexpected ways. Daniel J. Clements III didn't attend Rowan University as a student, but more than 60 years later, he still remembers his family's profound connection to campus.

As the grandson of the University's second president, Dr. Edgar F. Bunce, Dan spent frequent childhood visits in the Whitney House, now known as Hollybush mansion.

The home played various roles in the University's history, serving as a women's dormitory as well as a historic meeting place for U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin.

It was also a presidential residence that holds a powerful kind of nostalgia for someone like Dan Clements.

His mother grew up in the home, returning after college and dating Dan's father, a young Navy officer. After Dan was born at the Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, she brought him to the Whitney House as she waited to move to a new duty station with his father.

"I remember little things like jumping on the beds upstairs and my grandmother having summer dinners in the sunroom with her favorite Mexican-styled china," said Clements. "Since my mother actually grew up there, her stories have become part of my own memories as well."

When his father visited for a weekend date, he would always place his naval officer's hat on the Samuel Whitney statue by the front doors. He'd also spend time with Mrs.

Bunce on the steps of the grand staircase where they'd tell jokes and stories into the night, probably sipping a neat, short nightcap and being careful not to wake Dr. Bunce.

"I can picture them sitting here," said Clements, standing at the bottom of the staircase, "and all the pieces are still here. I can even picture my dad leaving his hat on the statue just so. He loved a good laugh."

As part of a military family, Dan moved numerous times; home for him, his mother and his four siblings was wherever his father was stationed. Through high school, he attended nine different schools, including three second grades. After graduating from Notre Dame during the Vietnam War, Dan decided to follow in his father's footsteps and become a Navy officer.

"Close to my graduation, it was very likely I would be drafted, so I took the test to be an officer and served as a Supply Corps officer just as my father did," said Clements. "He swore me in and even commissioned me."

After an honorable discharge from the Navy due to a shipboard accident that almost cost him his life, Dan decided to pursue



While reviewing their estate plans with their financial advisor a few years ago, Dan (right) and Steve decided to keep an integral part of Dan's early childhood alive.

something he loved since he was a child—and that was architectural design. He joined a firm in Columbus, Ohio and it was in Columbus where he met his husband, Steve.

Together, they have established The Hollybush Restoration Fund to preserve the home's architectural integrity and historical and sentimental significance, while Dan has also included the fund in his own estate plans.

"Steve and I both want to support our passions as much as we can, but we also want to make sure we can continue that support after we're gone," said Clements. "Right now, Columbus is where we call home, but growing up, I never had a true hometown. Glassboro was one of the closest places I had to that, and it's important to us to help preserve the home that meant so much to me and my family."

As an architectural designer and veteran, Clements urges the community to help preserve one of Glassboro's most historic buildings. And as someone who remembers having summer fiestas in the sunroom as a young boy, he hopes a treasured part of his past will always remain part of a growing Glassboro's future. **RA**

Alumna gifts \$25,000 to support Rowan Radio students

At Rowan Radio 89.7 WGLS-FM it's the music that matters.

But, as generations of students have found, so are the lessons and connections that may be developed there.

Radio, Television & Film major Raquel Bruno '93, had such a good experience working at the station that she's gifted \$25,000 to the music library, which has been renamed in her honor.

A Leonia, New Jersey native, Bruno attended then-Glassboro State College for its robust communications program.

"I was actually one of the only students at my high school who was looking for internships before college," said Bruno. "All the career forms they had us fill out—what I wanted to do was never on them. I was always very excited to start a career in broadcasting, even though I didn't know that's what it would be at the time, and I knew the program at Glassboro would be the best fit for me."

Once on campus, Bruno gained experience broadcasting sporting events, commentating, hosting a 1980s music show called "Pop Rocks, Kabangers and

Clogs" and serving as music director for WGLS. She credits the station with helping her develop a wide range of professional skills and industry connections.

"My time at WGLS was life-changing," Bruno said. "By giving back to it I hope to help keep this program special for Rowan students who also look forward to bright futures in the industry."

Bruno has worked for such iconic networks as Nickelodeon, TV Land and MTV Radio. She recently spent time in Thailand helping to produce the Miss Universe pageant, joined the Producers Guild of America and produced the ABC/Disney Holiday specials for the fourth year in a row.

Currently, Bruno is the owner of a New York City production and talent agency, DRIVE Entertainment Group.

"There is no typical day in this business," said Bruno. "We are talent bookers and producers, so there are a lot of nuances that go into each of our projects. We also work on getting talent to support nonprofits. So many different things, no day is ever the same, which is why I love what I do."



Bruno said her ties to her alma mater still remain crucial even as she works to build her business, and that she hopes to use her own experiences to help students in the RTF program as much as she can.

Bruno visited campus last spring and encouraged students to take advantage of opportunities afforded by participation in Rowan Radio.

"There are so many wonderful opportunities in the industry today, far more than when I was trying to land my first job," she said. "Students now have the resources to go faster and farther than ever before, so I want to do what I can to help them execute on their own unique potential." RA

Celebrating generations of #ProfPride

Rowan University's 2019 Homecoming was an Out of This World week-long adventure that invited 96 years of alumni back to campus to celebrate their alma mater. The galactic event's theme was inspired by the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11's successful landing on the moon.

A variety of affinity events welcomed back decades of enthusiastic alumni, including Greek Life and Athletics alumni reunions, a College of Education Breakfast, the Class of 1969 50-Year Reunion, a Rowan Radio Alumni Mixer, and the Paul A. Hilton Fellowship Breakfast.

Students also spent the week participating in various competitions and events to earn spirit points for ultimate campus bragging rights. The annual #RowanTAG Competition, hosted by the Student Alumni Association, encourages students to take photos with golden "gift tags" throughout campus that raise awareness about the significant role our donors play in the institution's growth and success.

Share your #ProfPride and join us make plans now to join us next year for our Homecoming 2020 celebration!



YOU'RE INVITED!

We invite you join us in 2020 as we bring the Rowan experience to you—our most dedicated alumni and friends—with a special series of regional events celebrating *Rising: The Campaign for Rowan University*.

Each evening will include an opportunity to hear from President Ali Houshmand, University as he shares his vision for the institution and invites guests to rise with Rowan University

Tuesday, February 4, 2020
Philadelphia, PA | Four Seasons

Tuesday, March 26, 2020
New York City | Marriott Marquis

Thursday, April 23, 2020
Mt. Laurel, NJ | TBD

For more information or to register, visit:

ROWAN.EDU/RISING





Rising together to transform lives

Over 225 donors and their student recipients gathered on November 6 for the fourth annual Scholarship Reception & Dinner. The evening allowed donors who have created endowed scholarships to meet their scholarship recipients and students to express their gratitude. As the University strives to provide a well-rounded experience for all students as they work to achieve academic success, we are indebted to generous donors who have partnered with us in supporting this mission. **RA**

1. Diane Welburn '74, Craig Welburn, Kevin English '12 and Dr. Ali Houshmand
2. Reuben Kelly, Lawrence J. Salva '77 and Sean Kelly
3. Tina Yilmaz, Mahir Yilmaz, Benjamin Ballier, Robert Schauer and Faiza Zamon

A lifetime of Rowan service and support

"Rowan was my life."

Marguerite Stubbs '63 has spent close to 60 years tied to her alma mater—in the most fulfilling of ways. What began as her own student experience at Glassboro State College blossomed into a lifelong career and philanthropic adventure.

Stubbs majored in elementary education and after only five years teaching in a K-8 classroom, she was asked to return to the Glassboro campus as a counselor.

"The transition from elementary- to college-age was a shock at first," said Stubbs, "but I quickly became dedicated to what I was asked to do, and that was to take care of my students."

Students would speak about their time in Stubbs' office as if "the rest of the world left."

"I remember I was the only counselor who would be in the office throughout the summer and even the week before the semester started," added Stubbs. "That was a hard time for a lot of students. I saw firsthand how much they were struggling and it became my priority to fix that."

Stubbs soon founded the well-known orientation program run by a dedicated group of student volunteers known as The PROS (Peer Referral and Orientation Staff). She also played a large role in the organizational planning and programming for Commencement each year.

Stubbs held titles from counselor and director of the counseling center to associate dean of students and dean of students. Her work encompassed mental health counseling, career counseling and draft counseling to student conduct, student activities and student group advising.

She even spent time passionately pursuing potential scholarships for students who had great financial need.

"I decided to create a scholarship because I was given one when I was in school, but also because I remember what it was like

hunting for scholarships that could help my students," said Stubbs. "At one point, doing that was a huge part of my role, and I will never forget how rewarding it was to find one that was the difference between a student continuing or dropping out of school."

She was a member of the Rowan University Alumni Board from 1987 until 2013 and also served as the Board's Treasurer. In 2014, she received the Alumni Ambassador Award and was recognized for positively representing the University and its mission through service to Rowan and the surrounding community.

In 2003, Stubbs established the Piazza Stubbs Scholarship Endowment Fund with her late husband, William, to annually support a senior student pursuing a degree in education or communication.

Now, she funds her annual scholarship through using a portion of her annual Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) in addition to

leaving a bequest to the institution.

"Working in student life was never a nine to five," said Stubbs. "Rowan was very good to me. I loved my students, and I love that I can continue to be there for them in this way."

The 2019-2020 recipient of the Piazza Stubbs Scholarship Endowment Fund, Jennifer McNamara '20, shares Stubbs' remarkable devotion to education and creating a memorable experience for her students.

"I am beyond grateful to have received Marguerite's scholarship this year, and I hope to make her proud," said McNamara. "I am responsible for my tuition, so it's extremely helpful to have a bit of that weight off my shoulders. It has even helped with my student teaching experience and providing supplies for my kids. I want to make my classroom a special part of their day. When I'm teaching something new and I see students have that "aha!" moment—it's the best feeling." **RA**



Marguerite Stubbs and her scholarship recipient Jennifer McNamara

DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Shpeen Hall
40 North Academy Street
Glassboro, NJ 08028

856-256-4095
contact@rufoundation.org

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INSIDE**\$3 million gift establishes pet therapy program to enhance students' well-being**

CMSRU earns national award for community engagement

Home is where Hollybush is

RTF alumna names WGLS-FM music library

A lifetime of service and support for Rowan students

Plus much more!

Join us as we rise to new heights of excellence! Visit rowan.edu/rising

to learn more about the Campaign and to make a gift.

**SUPPORTING FUTURE CREATIVE ACHIEVERS**

On November 15, Drs. Paul Grand (second row from top) and Sunitha Menon-Rudolph welcomed students from Rowan's College of Communication & Creative Arts to their residence in Doylestown, PA for a personal tour of Dr. Grand's photographic art gallery. The couple's generous support of the University is helping to enhance the growth and prestige of the Art Department and related fields, as well as providing funding for initiatives including the Autism PATH Program and the Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies.