

## The SYA Women's Giving Initiative

### BACKGROUND

As we observe the 50th anniversary of welcoming young women as students to School Year Abroad, we will honor and celebrate the women of SYA during the 2020–2021 school year. It was a revolutionary move in 1970 for girls to be educated alongside boys, and especially in a foreign country. Many of the New England boarding schools, including SYA's three original founding schools, had not yet become fully coeducational. But SYA has never been about maintaining the status quo.

Women have been historically generous to SYA. Two alumnae sisters (Natalia ES'86 and Veronica FR'81 Bulgari) and their family made the first million-dollar gift to SYA in 2011 to establish *The Halsey Fund*. Of the 26 donors currently committed at \$100,000 or more to our first-ever comprehensive capital campaign, *The Campaign for SYA*, eleven of them are women. Those eleven women have given a collective total of more than \$3,502,000.

As we enter the final year of fundraising for *The Campaign for SYA*, there is an opportunity for the women of SYA to showcase their deep commitment to SYA at new levels. And the need has never been greater.

### THE GOAL

Our goal, by June 30, 2021, is to raise a total of \$7,000,000 in gifts and pledges to *The Campaign for SYA* from women in the SYA community. This goal is purposefully ambitious because we know that when women come together for a common cause, the potential for impact is tremendous.

### THE METHOD

To achieve this goal, we are initiating The SYA Women's Giving Initiative. We are asking at least 20 women to give at the leadership level of \$100,000 or more to raise a total of approximately \$4,800,000 in leadership gifts. The remaining \$2,200,000 will come from women in the community who may not give at the leadership level, but who want to make a difference in the lives of SYA students through their financial support.

### THE PROGRESS (as of September 30, 2020)

Total women's giving to *The Campaign for SYA*: \$4,630,000\*

\*Leadership gifts of \$100,000 or more comprise \$3,502,000 of this total.

Total remaining to reach \$7,000,000 women's giving goal: \$2,370,000\*

\*We propose that additional leadership gifts of \$100,000 or more comprise at least \$1,100,000 of this total.

### THE IMPACT OF WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

In addition to making a strong statement about the commitment women have to SYA's mission, collective gifts of \$7,000,000 will be significant in providing a strong financial foundation for SYA's future. And every leadership gift of \$100,000 or more will be matched at 25% through the Alvarez Multiplier Match.

As SYA strives to deepen our commitment to excellence through *The Campaign for SYA*, your dollars will directly influence our ability to provide student aid, support our incredible faculty, and engage students in an innovative place-based curriculum. The legacy you leave will serve as an inspiration for all students of SYA who follow in your footsteps.

*Please consider the impact SYA has had on you personally and professionally,  
and consider a leadership gift to The Campaign for SYA today.*

**THE LOGISTICS**

As of September 2020, nine women have already committed \$100,000 or more each. We need nine more women to join them at that level. And we need all the women of SYA to consider stretch giving to help contribute to the collective total of \$7,000,000.

While fundraising for the campaign will end on June 30, 2021, pledge payments can be made out as far as June 30, 2026. And payment structures are very flexible. Some donors make a lump sum gift, others have divided pledge payments equally over five years, and some give in increasing or decreasing increments depending on their personal financial plans. You control the terms of your pledge.