

# ALWAYS GRATEFUL

UMKC Foundation  
Appreciation Report 2017-18

UMKC | UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY  
FOUNDATION



*“Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to experience everyday epiphanies, those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world.”*

JOHN MILTON

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If gratitude inspires happiness, then the UMKC Foundation is overflowing with joy! Thanks to your support of so many areas of UMKC, our students and faculty are experiencing new paths, greater ambition and more impactful results than ever before.

This past year brought 646 scholarships, 51 filled endowed chairs and professorships, numerous renovated spaces for learning and plans for new facilities that will allow necessary growth for future generations. Recently, we broke ground for the School of Computing and Engineering’s new Robert W. Plaster Free Enterprise and Research Center — the result of \$32 million in donor and state contributions. The newly established UMKC Health Sciences District brings together health-care partners in the Hospital Hill area. Working as one, they will create new potential for collaboration on research, grants, community outreach and shared wellness for employees, faculty, students and surrounding neighborhoods. And with our theatre department’s pending merger with the Conservatory of Music and Dance, we are optimistic about the reality of a new campus building that will house the university’s renowned arts programs and performances.

None of our progress would be possible without our loyal donors. The budgetary challenges we face will be even greater, and philanthropic support will become even more critical to meet the needs of the university and community.

For your ongoing generosity, for the life-changing impact of your gifts, for your steadfast belief in the future success of UMKC and its students — we will be always grateful.





*“Wear gratitude like a cloak  
and it will feed every corner  
of your life.”*

RUMI

## *Growth Through Change*

When I look back on the 2017-2018 academic year at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, change is the word that first comes to mind.

Change is good and, in many cases, change presents new and exciting opportunities.

We have witnessed the selection of a new leader for our university, C. Mauli Agrawal. We have also welcomed two new deans: Diane Petrella at the Conservatory of Music and Dance and Barbara Glesner Fines at the School of Law. We celebrated and thanked our former UMKC Foundation President Steven Norris for his stellar fundraising efforts on behalf of this great university. Finally, we are grateful for the outstanding work of Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer, who served as interim chancellor during this evolution. Her leadership and guidance allow us to carry on our mission of serving the thousands of alumni and donors who continue to ensure UMKC is Kansas City's University.

As we have said goodbye to friends of this institution and hello to new faces, we have you — our donors — to thank for remaining the core element of our operation. Your generosity has led to more than \$41 million in new gifts and pledges this past year, and we look forward to preparing for the next great chapter in UMKC history.

Sincerely,

**JAY WILSON**

Interim President, UMKC Foundation





***“Gratitude is thankfulness  
expressed in action.”***

**WILLIAM GEORGE JORDAN**

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“As a student who emigrated here from Africa, I always dreamed of going to college to become a human resource manager. I was not sure if a college education would be possible because I grew up in a single-parent household. Due to donors like you, I was able to graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in business administration. As the first person to attend college in my family, it is my lifelong dream to keep moving forward by pursuing an MBA degree and working to resolve employee concerns regarding hiring, payroll and benefits.

I have developed skills to adapt to any professional demand. These positions have afforded me the opportunity to be a flexible and confident critical thinker who is able to handle stressful situations.

In addition to my educational and professional experiences, I have learned to give back to the community by volunteering. It is my dream to work at a nongovernmental organization (NGO) where I can do something I am passionate about and still give back to the community.

This scholarship will play an important role in achieving my educational and professional goals. Because of your generosity, I will be able to spend more time on my studies by reducing the number of jobs I have to work.

Thank you for believing in and investing in the Bloch School and the future of students like me.”

**NAOMI MUSEMBI**

B.A. Business Administration, Henry W. Bloch School of Management '13  
Current MBA student, anticipated graduation-2019




“It has been a great honor and privilege to hold the title of Dr. George Tanaka Hawaii Professor of Restorative Dentistry. I am so proud and honored to be at the UMKC School of Dentistry and work with great educators who deeply care about the students and our profession. I feel the faculty are the main framework of a university. This position has allowed me to help promote and develop faculty who in return give so much back to our school, our department and the students.”

**CYNTHIA S. PETRIE, D.D.S., MS, FACP**

Chair, Department of Restorative Clinical Sciences  
Dr. George Tanaka Hawaii Professor  
Diplomate, American Board of Prosthodontics  
UMKC School of Dentistry





*“Gratitude makes sense of  
our past, brings peace for  
today and creates a vision  
for tomorrow.”*

MELODY BEATTIE

## *Setting the Standard in Broadcasting*

The vibrant Communication Studies program at the University of Missouri-Kansas City consists of talented and recognized faculty and an engaged and diverse student population. Passionate about covering the news, investigative reporting and in-depth personal storytelling, our program’s students have the skills to succeed in broadcasting. But a lot of their success depends upon much-needed renovations of the video and audio studios.

The last significant update of the video and audio studios was in 1998. Originally designed for the analog broadcast world, the video studio was outdated for the creation of digital, high definition video, which is now the industry standard.

Recent donations have allowed us to begin replacing critical equipment. The results are dramatic.

“Having access to the new studio will make getting experience with the technology and equipment so much easier and enjoyable. My classes are more interactive and make me and other students like me, eager to attend,” says Ciara Pate, a Communications Studies sophomore.

“As a communications major with an emphasis in journalism, I would like to go into broadcasting, and having a chance to understand this technology will make me ready for this field on both sides of the camera,” Pate added.

# Donor Impact by the Numbers

2017-2018 Fiscal Year

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018,  
the UMKC Foundation received

# \$41,198,050

96%

from



INDIVIDUALS

3%

from



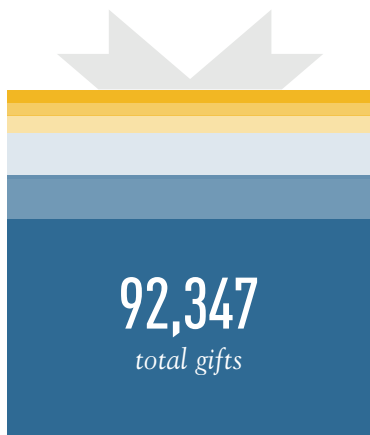
BUSINESSES

1%

from



FOUNDATIONS



*how the gifts were designated*

- 62% programs
- 17% students
- 16% unrestricted
- 9% facilities
- 5% faculty/staff support
- 1% research

## FY18 BY THE NUMBERS

24,893



total donors

92,347



total gifts

## FACULTY AND STAFF DONATIONS

\$613,673



total raised

1,013



total donors

5,803



total gifts

## ALUMNI DONATIONS

\$2,511,760



total raised

5,510



total donors