New Dimensions: The Campaign for UT Dallas launched in May 2020 with an ambitious $750 million goal. Achieving this goal will have a transformational effect on UT Dallas, expanding the University’s ability to attract and retain the best students, empowering research that changes lives, driving economic development and jump-starting a new era of cultural expansion in North Texas.

With the New Dimensions Campaign fully underway, UT Dallas just concluded its most successful fundraising year in history, raising more than $96 million during fiscal year 2023. This milestone achievement helped push the campaign past its halfway mark, with nearly $400 million raised so far.

Signs of the campaign’s impact can be seen on campus and throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, as new facilities dedicated to innovation, entrepreneurship and the arts allow UT Dallas to redefine how the world lives, works and learns. The formation of the University’s newest school, the Harry W. Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, has united the traditional liberal and creative arts with UT Dallas’ own distinctive approach to imaginative exploration, building a unique home for those interested in advancing fundamental questions of human nature to the frontiers of knowledge.

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New Dimensions: The Campaign for UT Dallas will create new scholarships, expand immersive study experiences for students, increase faculty support and advance dynamic creative practices that combine UT Dallas’ high-tech sensibility with traditional art forms.

“...the combination of the School of Arts and Humanities with the School of Technology...will strengthen the foundation of our school...It multiplies opportunities for students, faculty and communities to engage in essential experiences of arts, humanities and emerging technologies...”

The impact of this gift cannot be overstated,” said Dr. Nils Roemer, Bass School dean and the Arts, Humanities, and Technology Distinguished University Chair. “It will strengthen the foundation of our scholarships, research and programming and change the trajectory of our school.”

Spearheaded by a $32 million commitment from the O’Donnell Foundation, the Edith and Peter O’Donnell Jr. Athenaeum is a significant component of the New Dimensions campaign. Located on 12 acres of UT Dallas’ Richardson campus, the first phase of the O’Donnell Athenaeum is set to open in 2024, with several museums, community event spaces and unique study rooms to enhance academic offerings in the arts and humanities. Future phases of the project will include a performing arts complex, an additional museum and new facilities dedicated to innovation, entrepreneurship and the arts.

Building a Cultural Destination for North Texas

A $40 million gift from the Harry W. Bass Jr. Foundation has named the Harry W. Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, which emerged from the combination of the School of Arts and Humanities and the School of Arts, Technology, and Emerging Communication in 2022. The Bass Foundation’s gift will create new scholarships, expand immersive study experiences for students, increase faculty support and advance dynamic creative practices that combine UT Dallas’ high-tech sensibility with traditional art forms.

Currently under construction, the first phase of the Edith and Peter O’Donnell Jr. Athenaeum will open in 2024.

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The O’Donnell Art Museum’s galleries will be located on a second level of the new Center for BrainHealth building. The $2 million campaign for the building’s construction and a further $250,000 grant establishing the Lydia H. and Richard D. Lindley Jr. Endowed Chair in Neurosurgery was secured through a generous gift from the Eugene McDermott Foundation.

The Jindal School of Management is designing a new PhD in Business Administration, and the Jindal School’s new MBA program is offering concentrations in cybersecurity, health care, and energy. The Accounting program is being expanded and a new $2 million lab is being built for the Jindal School’s Health Services system.

The Department of BioMedical Engineering and Sciences is recruiting faculty members to fill positions in the areas of neuroscience, bioinformatics, and physiology.

Several governmental and corporate partnerships are fueling UT Dallas’ mission to transform lives through research and education. For example, ATEC is supported by a $15 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop an integrated curriculum that integrates technologies and provides opportunities for interdisciplinary research.

Trey B. Hensley, a former UT Dallas student and entrepreneur, has donated $1 million to establish the Vail Faculty Endowment. The endowment will support the hiring of additional faculty members and the expansion of research activities in the Department of Computer Science.

UT Dallas is home to a number of recognition programs for students who excel academically and in leadership. Ron Nash, head of the University’s Center for Undergraduate Success, has established the Nash Leader’s Program to recognize and support students who are already on this path. The program provides students with access to a robust set of leadership opportunities and a strong network of alumni mentors who can help them achieve their goals.

In 2023, UT Dallas enrolled a record 31,750 students. Two-thirds of the University’s graduates choose to reside and work in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropole after graduation, making UT Dallas a major source of talent for the region.

In addition to the Nash Leader’s Program, UT Dallas is home to the Nash Leader’s Program for Undergraduate Success Scholars and Comet Scholars. These programs provide students with substantial financial aid to support their academic success.

In 2023, UT Dallas was ranked for the first time in the top 100 colleges in the country according to Forbes. The University is also ranked among the top 100 colleges in the country for its undergraduate engineering programs.

Innovating for a Better Tomorrow

UT Dallas was founded to support industry and innovation in North Texas. Fifty years on, the University is an economic engine for the region, generating over $2.9 billion in impact through research, commercialization and community engagement.

Dallas Museum of Art in the O'Donnell Athenaeum. This partnership to exhibit significant works on loan from the family has been supported by a second location of the Bank of America Foundation and other donors.

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Dr. De’Edra S. Williams MBA’00 and Lisa Rosales

Alumna’s Gift Helps Students Pursue the Possible

A SIGNIFICANT GIFT from Dr. De’Edra S. Williams MBA’00 will help students in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (EPPS) take greater advantage of the opportunities available to them during their time at The University of Texas at Dallas. De’Edra’s gift will help students pay for a forward-thinking emergency fund, an endowment that provides critical financial resources for students navigating unexpected challenges, while also expanding international travel opportunities for students through the Global Engagement Scholarship fund.

In recognition of her gift, a student resource room in the Founders Building has been named the De’Edra S. Williams ‘The Pursuit of the Possible’ Resource Room.

“This dedication of ‘The Pursuit of the Possible’ Resource Room is the realization of a dream,” De’Edra said at the room’s ribbon-cutting ceremony. “I believe that if you want to make a world a better place for UT Dallas students.”

De’Edra, a longtime advocate for UT Dallas, is the New Dimensions campaign chair for EPPS and chair of the school’s advisory council. She has also dedicated her time to mentor students through the University’s Undergraduate Success Scholars program. For De’Edra, this gift is the culmination of a personal mission to give students the kind of robust, formative college enrichment offered by her school.

This time, however, UT Dallas offered a hint of the enrichment offered by her school.

“While my experiences in undergrad and grad school were profound, the journeys were less than easy going,” Rosales said. “I never had a person I could go to with questions about my career.” Rosales said. “I hope one day I can be like her, and give back to other students in the same manner, helping people make their dreams come true.”

De’Edra wanted students to be inspired by her story to achieve their full potential. "I want them to know that there are endless possibilities, while also expanding international travel opportunities for students through the Global Engagement Scholarship fund.”

De’Edra has already been directly impacted by De’Edra is Lisa Rosales, a senior marketing major in the School of Business.

“I’m a first-generation student, and before I met Miss De’Edra I didn’t know what a mentor was. Never had a person I could go to with questions about my career,” Rosales said. “I hope one day I can be like her, and give back to other students in the same manner, helping people make their dreams come true.”

De’Edra wanted students to be inspired by her story to achieve their full potential. "I want them to know that there are endless possibilities,” De’Edra said. “I want to help others because that’s who I am.”

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Foundation Gifts Expand Impact at Center for Children and Families

TWO LOCAL FOUNDATIONS have made grants to support the expansion of outreach programming at the Center for Children and Families (CCF). The Rees-Jones Foundation awarded $250,000 over two years to support the expansion of the center’s Grow With Me and Play With Me programs. This grant will provide an additional staff member to increase the number of developmental screenings, referrals and early intervention services the center provides for at-risk children in the Dallas area. The Call B. & Florence E. King Foundation also made a $30,000 one-year grant to expand the Play With Me program in Pleasant Grove.

Along with supporting Erin’s children and families, these gifts will also support additional research and student training opportunities.

“These grants add needed center staff for expansion of our outreach programming,” said Dr. Margaret Owen, director of the Center for Children and Families, Interim dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and the Robinson Family Professor. “They will also help expand training experiences for students and research of our faculty with underserved populations. At CCF, investment in children and families is an Impact multiplier, changing the way developmental science is studied, conducted and disseminated.”

Play With Me is a playful learning program for children up to age 3 and their parents. Conducted in weekly sessions over 12 weeks, the program served more than 200 children and parents in 2023. Participating parents reported improved confidence, effectiveness and understanding of their children, with significant growth in their ability to manage parental stress and understand their child’s development.

The Grow With Me program provides developmental screenings for children up to age 5. Last year, CCF conducted 268 screenings, with over 65% of children scoring below developmental expectations in at least one area. These screenings help parents understand their children’s needs and allow for targeted early intervention opportunities to improve development.

In a statement, the Rees-Jones Foundation noted the importance of supporting programs that strive to make a difference for local families.

“The Rees-Jones Foundation is honored to support programs at the Center for Children and Families that provide important early interventions for children with developmental delays and disorders. The foundation hopes to one day see our community be a place where all children have access to high-quality therapeutic services regardless of circumstance, financial capacity or need. Programs like Grow With Me and Play With Me are helping to make this a reality for families in North Texas.”

The funds provided by the Call B. & Florence E. King Foundation will help CCF renew efforts in areas of Dallas that had been scaled back during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The Call B. & Florence E. King Foundation has long supported early childhood development and education programs in the community to increase access to early education for families unable to afford private-pay programs and to increase the quality of early childhood programming,” said Michelle Monroe, foundation president. “Our 2023 grant for the Play With Me program’s return to Pleasant Grove after the pandemic was to accomplish both of the foundation’s objectives of increasing access to and quality of programs.”

Alumni Couple Supports School Where They Met

ANDY MAISH BS’10, MS’11 AND SARAH TROWSDALE MAISH BS’10, MS’12 recently made a significant contribution to establish the Andy and Sarah Maish Endowment of Excellence in the Naveen Jindal School of Management, fulfilling a long-held promise to themselves to support organizations that helped them.

“Creating an endowment for excellence is one of the most meaningful ways that alumni can give back,” said Dr. Hanson Prukl, Caufrie Chair and Jindal School dean. “We will remain forever grateful to Andy and Sarah for their generous gift.”

The couple met as students in the Jindal School. While at UT Dallas, Sarah was involved in Student Government, studied accounting and finance as an undergraduate and healthcare leadership and management in graduate school. Andy played basketball for the Comets while studying accounting and finance and then auditing in graduate school. He continues to support the basketball program and the athletic department.

“Dallas was the first place that felt like home to us,” Andy said. “We lived on campus and were involved in campus activities. It was a small community with big school benefits. Dallas is not a college town that you have to leave after you graduate to find a job. You can find a good job right here.”

John Barden, associate dean of executive education, got to know the couple while they attended UTD.

“They were great students, and you could tell they were going to be successful,” he said. “Their donation will help the University grow, as well as help fund faculty research, case competitions, scholarships and engagement of students—all of which will lead to excellence in educational outcomes.”

After graduating, Sarah joined AA Care Services, a San Antonio-based medical home care services firm founded by her mother. Andy joined RSM US LLP, worked at Colmore Inc. and later joined his wife at AA Care Services as a CPA and chief financial officer. In August 2022, the company was sold to a private equity firm. This couple owns equity in the firm, and both serve on the board.

“We would not be where we are today without our education,” Andy said. “We wanted to do something to support the school forever, not just in the here and now.”

Members of UT Dallas’ Legacy Society met for the annual appreciation luncheon at the Davidson-Gundy Alumni Center on the UTD campus. The society is composed of donors who support the University through planned giving.

The University of Texas at Dallas celebrated 16 of its most distinguished faculty members and recognized the benefactors who established their endowed positions during the 2022 Investiture Ceremony.
CAMPAIGN UPDATE: DONORS ACCELERATE CAMPUS IMPACT

A Historic Philanthropic Year
UT Dallas celebrated its most successful fundraising year in history during fiscal year 2023, raising over $96 million. This unprecedented support carried the New Dimensions campaign past its halfway point as investments from alumni, donors and corporate partners accelerate UT Dallas’ emergence as the premier public research university in North Texas.

Record-High Endowment
The UT Dallas endowment reached an all-time high market value in 2023, exceeding $792 million across 852 funds. Since 2019, contributions from donors have helped UTD’s endowment grow over 42%, ensuring the University’s long-term stability while enhancing life-changing resources for students, empowering faculty research and driving impact across the community.

The Arts Expand at UTD
A $40 million gift from the Harry W. Bass Jr. Foundation became one of the most significant contributions made so far during the New Dimensions campaign.

Naming the Harry W. Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology and supporting the construction of the Edith and Peter O’Donnell Jr. Athenaeum, this gift punctuated the transformation of the arts at UTD.

Discover. Create. Innovate.
In classrooms, laboratories and performance spaces across The University of Texas at Dallas, students are creating new dimensions of insight and innovation. Join us in supporting the arts and the innovators who break through or brazenly build a better or more beautiful world for all.

Make a gift today at newdimensions.utdallas.edu

MOMENTUM FALL 2023

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS