



'75 TURNS 50

The Class that pioneered diversity at Williams is thinking back, coming back, and giving back.

When we gather for Reunion in June 2025, we'll celebrate the first class of women to complete four years at Williams. We will celebrate the largest representation of Black students in the history of the college – twice that of any prior class. We will remember terrific times... but we will look ahead, too – with gifts that will shape Williams for years to come.

We've all traveled far since June 1975. The good news is that Williams College has, too. It is now a vastly more diverse institution than in our era, and that diversity enables it to thrive as one of the preeminent four-year colleges in the nation. How can you help keep Williams strong, dynamic, and diverse?

Read on...

Williams

The Class of 1975 50th Reunion Fund is comprised of:

The Michael E. Reed Class of 1975 Social Justice Professorship: We will endow a full professorship that will focus on the in-depth, interdisciplinary study of social diversity, and name it after our late classmate Mike Reed, the first Vice President of Diversity, Education, and Inclusion at Williams.

Class of 1975 Non-Traditional Student Scholarship Fund: The college is driving a significant rise in students from non-traditional backgrounds: military veterans, community college transfers, students coming from the work force or later in life.

The Class of 1975 Scholarship Fund: By continuing to make donations to our 25th Reunion Gift, we fully support two Williams students every year, and our scholarship fund has provided financial support for 40 students.



The Williams College Alumni Fund

The Alumni Fund ensures that Williams has the resources necessary to support all of the college's day-to-day operations.



Choose the purpose you wish to support

If there is a different purpose at Williams to which you'd like to contribute, class volunteers and Williams staff would be happy to speak with you about these possibilities.

= TOTAL 50th CLASS GIFT

It all counts! No matter which specific cause you choose to support, it's all tallied in our Class 50th Reunion Gift... and that's true for the next five years.

Ways to contribute. Please consider a personally meaningful 50th Reunion contribution that includes the following elements...

Class of 1975 50th Reunion Fund

We hope you will consider a stretch commitment, payable over five years, toward our Class Reunion Goals. There are many ways to customize your gift. Speak to your Gift Fund Chairs or the Gift Planning Office to maximize your support.

Alumni Fund Gift & 5-Year Pledge

Make a gift to this year's Alumni Fund by March 15, 2025, and also make a non-binding pledge to the next five annual Alumni Funds. All will count toward the Total 50th Class Gift.

Bequest via Williams Today & Tomorrow Plan

Consider a non-binding legacy commitment made via your will, trust, or beneficiary designation in a retirement account or life insurance policy to support any purpose at the college.

50th REUNION GIVING: FAQs

How can I make a gift to the Alumni Fund AND the Class of 1975 50th Reunion Funds?

To donate by credit card, visit give2.williams.edu/1975 and you may use the “Designation” drop down menu to split one gift transaction between two or more gift purposes.

If you prefer to give by check, please make it payable to “Williams College,” note the designation(s) in the memo line, and mail to Williams College, 50th Reunion Program, 75 Park Street, Williamstown, MA 01267.

Can I pledge to the Class of 1975 50th Reunion Fund or the Alumni Fund? How do I pledge?

Yes, we encourage you to spread your commitment out by making pledges to the '75 Fund and/or the Alumni Fund over up to five years. This is a particularly wonderful way to demonstrate your continued commitment to the college. The full amount of the pledge counts toward the Total 50th Class Gift.

To make an online pledge, visit connect.williams.edu/register/1975-SOI. Or, contact college staff at 50th.Reunion@williams.edu to request a personalized pledge form.

How can I give from my IRA?

A popular and often highly tax-advantaged way to make a 50th Reunion gift is via an

IRA. An IRA qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals age 70 ½ and older to make outright direct transfers of up to \$100,000 per year from traditional individual retirement accounts to qualified charities without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes. Since no tax is incurred on the withdrawal, gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction, but may be counted toward an individual’s required minimum distribution (RMD) for those who have one. Retirement assets in 401(k), 403(b), SEP, or SIMPLE plans do not qualify, but may be rolled into a new or existing IRA and transferred to the charity. In addition, as part of your QCD, you can use your IRA to make a one-time life income gift up to \$50,000. Visit giftplanning.williams.edu/qcd for gift parameters and further instructions to share with your IRA administrator.

What is a planned gift? How do they count toward our Total 50th Class Gift total?

Planned gifts are those made as part of your overall financial and/or estate planning. There are many ways to structure a gift to Williams and a wide variety of assets you can use. Planned gifts can count toward the Total 50th Class Gift while, in many cases, providing tax advantages and even an income stream.

What gift types can be used to support the Total 50th Class Gift?

Outright gifts can be made using a variety of assets, including:

- Cash (check, credit card, or wire transfer)
- Appreciated securities
- IRA (Qualified Charitable Distribution)
- Donor Advised Fund grants
- Life insurance policies
- Unique assets like art and real estate
- Gifts influenced by relatives, foundations, and corporations
- Matching gifts from an employer or a foundation

Learn more about these options and explore which could be a good fit for you financially via the enclosed gift sheet or by visiting giving.williams.edu/ways-to-give

1975 REUNION GIVING VOLUNTEERS

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Common planned gift types include:

- Williams Today & Tomorrow Plan bequest intention via your will, trust, or beneficiary designation in a retirement account or life insurance policy. Learn more at giftplanning.williams.edu/wtt
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Charitable Remainder Unitrust

As everyone's circumstances differ, a conversation with a member of Williams' Gift Planning team could help you determine the best option to meet your personal objectives. Email gift.planning@williams.edu or call 413-597-3538 to explore possibilities.

How do gifts to the annual Alumni Fund count in our Total 50th Class Gift?

All Alumni Fund gifts made since our 40th Reunion count toward our Total 50th Class Gift. However, they do NOT count toward the Class of 1975 50th Reunion Fund totals, as they serve a different purpose at Williams.

Can I support a priority at Williams that is not one of our 50th Reunion Fund purposes? Will that count to our Total 50th Class Gift?

Yes. 50th Reunion gifts may be made for any purpose acceptable to the college and count towards the Total 50th Reunion Class Gift. To discuss possibilities, please contact Ryan Ford, Director of Milestone Reunion Programs, at 413-597-2845 or 09rjf@williams.edu.

Let Us Help You Customize Just The Right 50th Reunion Gift

Every member of the Class of '75 has a fellow classmate assigned to help them answer questions and build the right gift plan for our 50th Reunion. In many cases this will be the Associate Agent that has been contacting you each year for the annual Alumni Fund. Some of you might be contacted by a member of the Reunion Fund Committee (RFC).

Starting in October 2024, these class volunteers will reach out to ask all classmates for a multi-part gift for our 50th. To summarize, we will ask you to consider:

1. A gift to the Alumni Fund this year toward the college's annual operating needs and a non-binding five-year pledge
2. A special 50th Reunion gift or pledge to help endow our Class of 1975 50th Reunion Funds.
3. A non-binding commitment bequest for Williams

If you have a question before someone reaches out to you, feel free to contact Rich Pickard '75 at richpickard27@gmail.com or Ryan Ford at 09rjf@williams.edu.

For all details and news regarding our upcoming 50th Reunion on June 12-15, 2025, please visit williams75.com.