



## Alumnus Thankful for Marietta's Support

It's been nearly 50 years since Dr. Erich Keel '70 was a student at Marietta College, but memories of his time on campus and his gratitude for the people who helped him reach his potential inspired him to establish a Legacy Gift for the Visual Fine Art Program at Marietta.

In the mid 1960s, Keel was an undergraduate student at the University of Zurich in Switzerland. "I saw a posting in the Department of English by Amity Institute of California," Keel said. "They were looking for native speakers to be placed in colleges and high schools."

He signed on to work in the German lab at Marietta College for one year.

But by the end of his first year he knew he wanted to continue at Marietta and earn his undergraduate degree in English. He served a second year as a German lab assistant before obtaining an F-1 Visa to study full time



in the U.S., but it was the full scholarship that Marietta provided him that made finishing his degree in America possible.

"Without access to scholarships, this would have been very difficult," Keel said.

At Marietta, Keel worked toward an undergraduate degree, taught German and participated in programs such as the Cinema Classics

Club and the Foreign Students Association. He also developed a close relationship with Professor Robert L. Jones, who taught American History and Civilization.

Jones helped Keel springboard into graduate school at Emory University.

"He wrote to Emory on my behalf and they gave me a three-year full fellowship," Keel said. "During my fourth year at Emory, I got a Wilson Dissertation Fellowship."

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*Dr. Erich Keel '70 Continued from page 1*

After earning his Ph.D. in Critical Theory from Emory, he began working for the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and later became the Head of Education for the Kreeger Museum in Washington, D.C., until his retirement in 2013. He continues to serve as a museum and art consultant, lectures on 20th century German Art, leads art-themed study tours to Europe, and is

a volunteer curator for the Arts Club of Washington Exhibition Program.

“The reason I could stay in the U.S. was because of the support I got from Marietta College,” he said. “So, remembering Marietta College in my estate plans was an easy decision....I could never give back what I was given. It’s a sign of my gratitude.”

## Bequest Gifts are Just Like People

A bequest gift can be many shapes and an infinite number of sizes. What matters is that your gift fits you and your unique family and financial circumstances.

### Any Shape

You can structure your bequest to leave a certain piece of property, such as a stamp collection or a parcel of real estate. If you prefer, you can specify a certain sum of money. Or you might decide to direct that a percentage of your assets—it can be all or just a portion—go to Marietta after you have provided for your family. And when you are uncertain, you can even make the bequest contingent on certain events occurring (or not occurring).

### Any Size

Many people think bequest gifts have to be large and they have to be rich to make one. Nothing could be further from the truth. All sizes of bequest gifts have been received by Marietta and are greatly appreciated. Modest gifts, when added together with those from other donors, can make a big difference. What matters is that you pick the size that works for you and for your family.

## If You Would Like to Remember Marietta

Here is some sample wording to share with your attorney:

*“I give, devise, and bequeath to Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, Federal Tax ID 31-4379584 (the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_ percent of my estate) (the following property) (the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate). The property comprising this gift may be used to further the charitable purposes of Marietta College at the discretion of its trustees.”*



# Passing Your Values Along to Others

As you ponder the legacy you'd like to leave, you'll find you have many choices to make:

- 1 How do you wish to be known and remembered?** When people think of you, what do you want them to think? Are there key words, characteristics, or concepts that—ideally—would come to mind?
- 2 Whom do you want to influence?** The whole world? A handful of family members and close friends? One or more different communities (whether defined by geography or by affinities and interests)?
- 3 Perhaps most important, what can you do to help ensure the legacy you envision will indeed be realized?** Are there specific steps to be taken? Things that definitely should not be done? What's the right combination of “walk” and “talk,” “think,” or “feel”?

Yet another consideration is how far into the future you want to have an impact. If you're focused on the long term, there's really no substitute for something such as a perpetual endowed fund that both bears your name and, by virtue of the charitable activities supported

through annual distributions from the fund, continues to reflect what you have determined to be most important in life. There are few ways that can better demonstrate your values to subsequent generations of loved ones than their receiving reports by how your endowed fund continues to do for others—year after year—enhancing the educational experience of Marietta students.

By contrast, you may decide it's sufficient to instill in people particular values you hope that they, in turn, will pass along to others. One increasingly popular tool you might wish to employ is what's known as an “ethical will,” i.e., either a written document or an audio, visual, or other electronic statement that has no legally binding effect but is instead intended to be morally persuasive for those who survive you.

Finally, don't underestimate the influence inherent in the ways you provide for others, both tangibly and intangibly. For example, simply bestowing gifts, whether in terms of money or things or in terms of wisdom, caring, and good humor, enables you to demonstrate for others what you value most.



If you would like to learn more, please contact:

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# MARIETTA LEGACY WINTER 2018

## CONSIDERING YOUR LEGACY

*For our loyal donors who have already remembered Marietta College in your estate plans... We are grateful for your support and are proud to have you as a partner in providing outstanding education for our students. With your planned gift, you join more than 100 other members in the Legacy Society and will have a deep and lasting impact on students' lives.*

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