

CARROLLSCHOOL

Celebration
of Giving
2024-2025





Our Mission

Carroll School empowers children with language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia, to become academically skilled students who are strong self-advocates and confident lifelong learners. Carroll is an inclusive community committed to embracing diverse strengths, identities, and lived experiences in order to give each child what they most need to thrive.

A LETTER FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

In my time at Carroll School, first as an educator and now as Head of School, our School's values remain unchanged and serve as a model for other school communities.



Instead of viewing dyslexia as a problem to be solved, our community embraces and celebrates thinking differently. We are a school where educators look at each one of our students and see their talents and their offerings to our community and the wider world.

Our students are what we all have in common. They provide daily inspiration for the amazing adults that work at Carroll School. One of those adults is Lower School English Language Arts Department Head, Irum Haque. On Giving Day, Irum generously shared her story, including why she dedicates her professional life to Carroll: working alongside brilliant, passionate educators and spending her days with our exceptional students. Like so many Carroll adults, Irum's main source of joy is the privilege of learning each student's distinct interests, needs, and sense of humor.

As you enjoy our 2024-2025 Celebration of Giving, I invite you to take in stories from students, alumni, and families who share the same dedication to Carroll School as Irum. Their stories exemplify the unwavering optimism that defines us.

Thank you for all the ways you give to Carroll School. Your generosity continues to make so much possible for Carroll's greatest gifts: our students and their educators.

With gratitude,

Dr. Renée Greenfield
Head of School

For the past four years, I had the privilege of serving as Chair of Carroll School's Board of Trustees.



I am profoundly grateful for how community members like you support our school in a variety of ways, helping to ensure we continue to meet the unique and evolving needs of our students. Together, we are transforming lives.

The 2024-2025 year marked two milestones in my own Carroll journey: my final year as Board Chair and the launch of Carroll 2030, our ambitious strategic plan that will guide our school's next chapter. As I reflect on the last four years, I am proud to be a part of bringing Carroll to the threshold of this incredibly exciting next stage. Carroll 2030 reflects our identity: bold, intentional, and student-centric.

By investing in our students, educators, and physical spaces, we will enhance our ability to serve families that need us. And, by expanding our contributions to the field of dyslexia and outreach to communities outside of our three campuses, we will magnify our impact in meaningful and profound ways.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for your partnership.

Devin

Devin O'Reilly P'20

Chair, Board of Trustees, 2021-2025



Giving Through Service

Carroll is a dynamic community with a long tradition of active involvement by parents, alumni, and other key partners. We are grateful to the many individuals who guide, enrich, and advocate for our beloved school. The individuals listed here gave their leadership service during the 2024-2025 school year.

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Carroll Family Association Leadership

Jennifer Ackil
Co-President
 Dana Chaffee
Co-President
 Krasimira Petkov
Communications Support

"As the parent of an alum and an 8th grader, I see the **incredible impact of a Carroll education** in my family's life each day and am awed by the passion and generosity of our community. Thank you for showing up to demonstrate that you believe in the long-term impact that our school has. With your support, Carroll can continue to grow and help more children thrive."

Nicolle Keally

Annual Fund Chair and parent of Hadley '23 and Taylor, 8th grade



Carroll Family Association Grade Representatives & Committee Chairs

Sarah Bettencourt
 Liz Eldridge
 Alicia Enos
 Lee Farris
 Erin Hannon-Foley
 Courtney Hunnewell
 Kristine Lee
 Cori Lekites
 Liz Levin
 Amy Lyons
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Annual Fund Chair
 Krasimira Petkov
 Linda Lynch
 Michela Van Patten
 David Waters
 Kari Williams
 Louisa West

Medical Advisor

Dr. Sara Nelson
Massachusetts General Hospital

Research Advisory Board

Joanna Christodoulo, EdD
*Director of the Brain, Education, and Mind (BEAM) Lab
 MGH Institute of Health Professions*

John Gabrieli, PhD
*Director of the Gabrieli Lab
 McGovern Institute for Brain Research
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

Meredith Rowe
*Professor of Early Learning and Development
 Harvard Graduate School of Education*

Maryanne Wolf, PhD
*Director for the Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners and Social Justice
 University of California, Los Angeles*

Jason Yeatman, PhD
*Director of the Brain Development and Education Lab
 Stanford University*



"Carroll changed the trajectory of my child's life. It gave Syd a sense of belonging, the tools to navigate a learning journey that once felt uncertain, and the confidence to advocate for herself. As a parent, I'll always be grateful for the care, skill, and heart this community brings to every child and the child's family. As I step into the role of Board Chair, I'm honored to support a mission that has meant so much to my family. Thank you to everyone whose generosity makes this work possible. **You are helping change lives.**"

Rena Clark P'19

Chair, Board of Trustees, 2025-

Telling Carroll School Stories through Annual Giving

Gifts to Carroll's Annual Fund are more than just financial contributions; they are the bedrock of a truly individualized education. Every year, hundreds of donors come together to show their love and appreciation for Carroll while helping to bridge the gap between the cost of tuition and the comprehensive resources needed to educate every Carroll student. These unrestricted funds are immediately deployed to support all aspects of the Carroll program.

The Annual Fund also plays a vital role in nurturing student passions and helping their stories unfold. This past year, our Annual Fund communications proudly highlighted these incredible stories from within the Carroll community, showcasing the tangible impact of every contribution.



Isabelle Higgins, *Dreaming of a Quilt Made of Your T-Shirts, 2021*



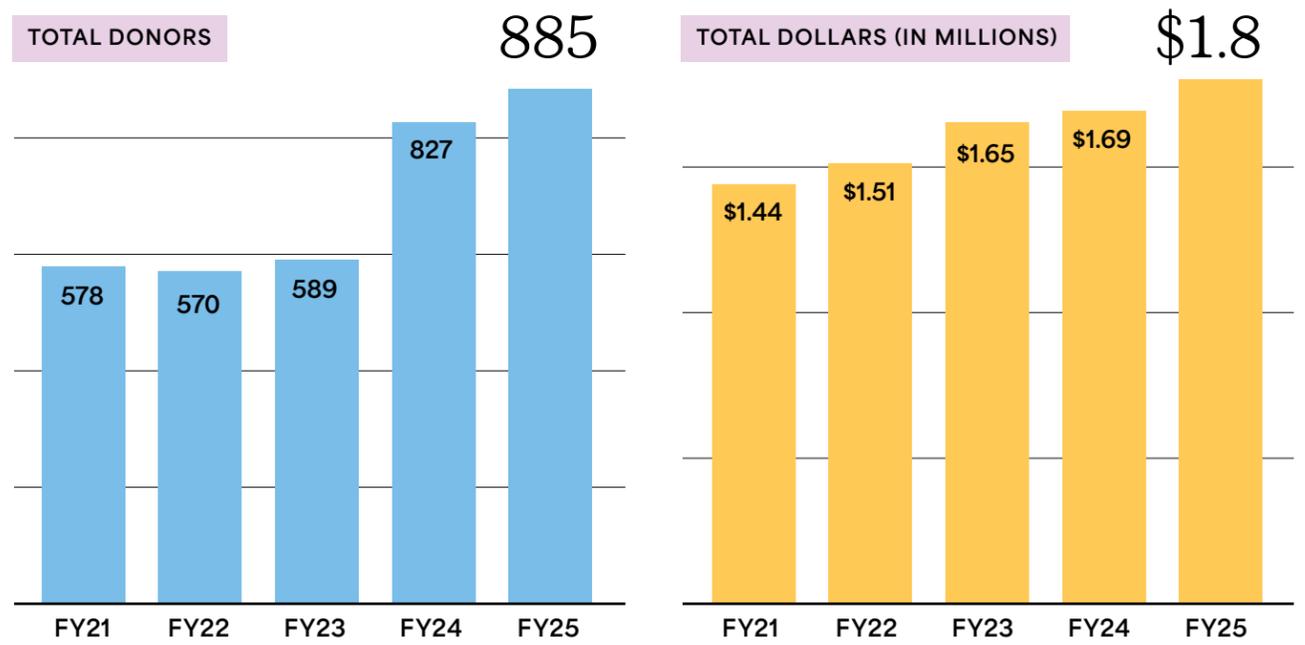
Fall Mailing

In our fall mailing, alum Isabelle Higgins shared how her dyslexia helped her explore visual storytelling and build a career around viewing the world differently. Today, Isabelle is an artist working in community engagement, where she helps others foster the creative expression she began learning at Carroll.



Giving Day

On Carroll's Second Annual Giving Day, we told stories of educators, alumni and students. Emma Petkov, a Carroll Middle School student, shared how Carroll has unlocked learning for her. From playing the violin to trying volleyball for the first time, she no longer feels fear or anxiety about trying new things. Since starting at Carroll, she says that her brain feels like a flower that is blooming.



This year, with your thoughtfulness and generosity, we raised \$1.8 million for the Annual Fund from 885 donors. Your support allows us to continue crafting incredible Carroll stories together.

Endowment Funds

Carroll closed its fiscal year on June 30, 2024, with an endowment of \$53.2 million. We extend our gratitude to donors who generously contribute to the endowment. As the endowment grows, so does Carroll's capacity to create lasting impact.

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| ABC Scholarship Fund | Grateful Carroll Family Endowed Scholarship Fund | Ellen "Polly" Meckel Endowed Scholarship Fund |
| Ackil Family Gratitude Fund | GwinnLandry Family Endowed Fund for Financial Aid | Maureen McGuire Myers Endowment Fund for Faculty Professional Development |
| Bill/Giorgio Families Endowed Scholarship Fund | Hall-Copacino Endowment Fund | Robert B. Newman Library Endowment |
| Blair Faculty Development Fund | The Herndon Family Scholarship Fund | The O'Reilly Family Fund |
| Brizius Family Scholarship Fund | Higgins Family Endowment Fund | Patkin Family Endowed Fund for Cognitive Intervention and Research |
| Cognitive Support Endowed Fund | Howland Family Fund | The Simon Family Endowment Fund |
| C.B. Corson Science Fund | The JCF Family Endowed Faculty Fund | Spillane Family Endowed Financial Assistance Fund |
| DeSanto Family Endowed Scholarship Fund | The Kenrose Kitchen Table Scholarship Fund | Ellen Desmond Stone Fund |
| Donner Visiting Speaker Fund | Kistler Family Fund for Cognitive Intervention and Research | Robin and Bina Thompson Family Endowed Fund |
| Endowment for Faculty Training and Professional Development | Guy and Belle Leighton Math Award | Watts Family Endowed Scholarship Fund |
| Faculty Support Fund Honoring Larry Brown | MacDonald/Rodgers Family Endowment | Wilkins Family Endowed Faculty Fund |
| Nicholas Anthony Farley Financial Aid Fund | Gerard M. Martin Family Endowed Fund for Cognitive Research and Development | |
| Edward E. Ford Endowment Fund | | |
| Thomas and Katherine Gilbane Endowed Scholarship Fund | | |

We Remember Nancy Herndon



This year, we remember one of the Carroll community's earliest champions, Nancy Herndon. When Nancy's oldest son, Noah Jr., struggled in grammar school, she and her husband Noah advocated for dyslexia education and helped found the Carroll School. Their early support built our community into what it is today: a place where children with dyslexia thrive.

Nancy's commitment and generosity have been a mainstay of our school since its founding. She opened her home for events to help advance the school, and in 1987 she and Noah established the Herndon Family Scholarship Fund. Since then, her philanthropy has helped countless families access a Carroll education. We are incredibly grateful to Nancy and her family for their enduring support of our beloved school.



Unlocking Brilliance

Why One Grandparent Gives Back to Carroll

For Jeannie Smith, a proud Carroll School grandparent, supporting Carroll is deeply personal. "I've grown up in a family in which there is dyslexia in all different branches," she shares. "For a long time, I thought we were inadequate."

That perception shifted over the years, as she watched her loved ones grow into their own gifts. "I've learned a lot through my children and grandchildren," she says. "I am staggered by what can be accomplished and discovered when dyslexic children receive an education that reminds them they have something really fabulous to contribute to a world that needs their gifts."

Carroll's mission to nurture the strengths of children with dyslexia resonates powerfully with Jeannie. When she had the opportunity to make a special gift through a distribution from her IRA, choosing Carroll as a recipient was obvious. Her generosity reflects a belief that investing in Carroll has a ripple effect far beyond the classroom. "I can't think of a better way to influence the world than to tap into the brilliance and creativity of young people with dyslexia." Through her support, Jeannie is helping to create a future where every child at Carroll is reminded of their value – and empowered to change the world.

The late Dr. Edwin Cole was a neuropsychiatrist at Mass. General Hospital who specialized in working with children with learning challenges. In 1967, he co-founded Carroll School to work specifically with that population. Today's Carroll School is Dr. Cole's legacy. The Cole Society honors those who leave their own legacy at Carroll by including the school in their estate plans.

If you have included Carroll in your estate plans or wish to learn more, please let Jordyn Rappaport know at jrappaport@carrollschool.org or 781-314-9736. We would be thrilled to recognize and celebrate you as a member of the Cole Society.

Before & After

One Family's Carroll Transformation and Why They Give Back

Carroll parent Kari Williams recently came across a photo of her son Silas from October, 2022. She clearly remembers the day it was taken: she let Silas skip school and they took a long hike in the woods together to help clear his head.



Silas is smiling, but Kari can see in his eyes how sad and tired he felt. As a second grader, Silas was diagnosed with a language-based learning disability, and they fought for years to have his academic and social-emotional needs met in his public school. As school grew more demanding, Silas struggled and felt worse about himself. Kari and her husband Eric watched Silas grow more frustrated and they feared losing the intuitive, smart, and kind child they knew. The day the photo was taken, she felt hopeless.

They heard about Carroll School from a friend, and learning that there was a school that would normalize and celebrate his dyslexia restored some of their lost hope. Despite concerns about how they would afford tuition if he was accepted, they knew that Silas deserved better and pushed forward.

Silas was accepted, and with the support of financial assistance, Kari and Eric's determination and incredible advocacy, and Silas's

hard work, he graduated from the Upper School in June 2025. Carroll dramatically improved Silas's academic skills, but Kari thinks that what he'll remember most about his experience are the connections he made: lasting friendships with peers and relationships with amazing educators that truly understood him.

During Silas's time at Carroll, Kari volunteered as an Annual Fund Ambassador, advocating for the incredible impact that philanthropic giving has on our school. Her family was supported by financial assistance, so it was an easy decision for her to help other families feel the same sense of support and gratitude. Kari gave of her time however she could, whether through reaching out to families to talk about the Annual Fund or handing out Giving Day buttons on a chilly morning. A throughline we hear from Carroll families is gratitude, and Kari found a way to show her gratitude and give back that worked for her family.



The Williams family is from upstate New York and traveled ten hours to get Silas to and from school each week.

“Over the past two years, I’ve spent ten hours a week in the car, traveling back and forth to New York every weekend. That adds up to 58,747 miles. Measured in miles, I have driven the circumference of the world — twice — just to get to school. I’ve earned more than just an education. I’ve earned my future. **Carroll gave me the world** — I just had to drive around it twice to get there.”

Silas Williams '25 in his graduation speech

Alumni Giving Back

Watching the members of our 3,500+ alumni community launch businesses, create art, and become educators themselves is an incredible reminder of why giving to Carroll matters. And in turn, we are so proud of how our alumni give back to Carroll in numerous ways – coming back to campus to speak on panels, connecting with current students, and contributing to the Annual Fund.



Eline with fellow Carroll alumni

“My four years at Carroll School meant so much to me. Carroll gave me back my confidence and made me realize that dyslexia represents an integral part of who I am: a part that comes with many strengths and that I have come to embrace.

My journey at Carroll ignited in me a passion for developmental psychology. *I aspire to create a lasting, positive impact on the lives of children* who are neurodiverse, especially those with developmental learning differences, and to help push the boundaries of what we know about early detection, intervention, and advocacy. Throughout the years, I have given back to Carroll because of how much the community has supported me. I would not be where I am today without Carroll.”

Eline Laurent '14

Our 2nd Annual Legacy Breakfast & Alumni Awards

At this year's Legacy Breakfast in June, we welcomed Carroll alumni spanning five decades back to campus to celebrate our 2025 graduates. Alumni reconnected with teachers and friends, made new connections with one another and our soon to be graduates, and demonstrated what makes Carroll a dynamic, lifelong community.



Congratulations to our 2025 Alumni Award recipients. These alumni give back by sharing their stories and using their dyslexic strengths to cultivate meaningful careers and interests. We are proud that they represent Carroll.

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jonas Wood

Jonas is a celebrated contemporary artist with work in major museums around the world, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum. His journey, from a student with dyslexia discovering how he learns to a world renowned artist, is a powerful reminder that difference can be a source of strength.

THINKING DIFFERENTLY AWARD

David Bamforth

David is an entrepreneur, problem-solver, and lifelong car enthusiast whose innovative mindset and drive have fueled success across multiple industries. David is the founder and operator of two thriving companies, and he exemplifies the idea that dyslexia is not a limitation but a different – often more creative – way of thinking.

SERVICE TO CARROLL SCHOOL AWARD

Isabelle Higgins

This year, Isabelle played a vital role in Carroll's Fall Annual Fund campaign, sharing her paintings and personal story to bring the school's mission to life. She exemplifies our core value of fostering belonging and engages with the Carroll community with creativity and empathy.

SERVICE TO CARROLL SCHOOL AWARD

Erin McNulty

Over many years, Erin has given generously of her time and her voice, most recently returning to speak with students about her experience as an athletic trainer. Her energy and authenticity resonate with students and faculty alike, and she is guided by her deep belief in Carroll's mission and values.

JULY 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2025

YEAR IN NUMBERS

924

Total donors

517

Supporters gave less than \$500

257

First time donors

105

Gifts in honor or memory of
Carroll community members

\$587,751

Contributed by current
Carroll families

\$6,065,678

Total contributions

450

Amazing Carroll
students supported by
these contributions





“Carroll School is the reason our grandson, who we adore, is making progress to be able to be all he can be in this world. He is *learning and thriving* as a young boy to bring out the best in him with the help of the caring staff who will lead him into his future.”

Nancy Collins
Grandparent of Parker, 1st grade



“Carroll School’s commitment to giving each child what they need most to thrive is one of the reasons I worked here for 16 years. *Carroll School truly changes lives*, and it will always be special to me.”

Gretchen McAuliffe
Former Director of Human Resources
at Carroll School



Your support
means the
world to us.

Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of all lists. If you note any errors or omissions, please accept our apologies and notify the Advancement Office at advancement@carrollschool.org or (781) 314-9783 so that we can correct our records.

“We support Carroll because Carroll supports our family. Our 9-year-old Remy is learning with confidence in a *warm and welcoming environment*, and thanks to Carroll, we now have a better understanding of dyslexia and how to help Remy in his learning and growing. We couldn’t ask for a better fit and more dedicated and caring educators and mentors!”

Andrew Maggiore and Jeremy Hayes
Parents of Remy, 3rd grade





45 Waltham Road
Wayland, MA 01778



Lower School

1841 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02451



Middle School

25 Baker Bridge Road
Lincoln, MA 01773



Upper School

45 Waltham Road
Wayland, MA 01778



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