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**First-Ever Founder’s Day Match-Challenge a Success**

In honor of Simon’s Rock founder Elizabeth Dole Hall’s 99th birthday this weekend, her remarkable achievement, Simon’s Rock Foundation launched a Day of Giving (Founder’s Day) on November 16 and received an overwhelming $111,000 in donations, as well as a full match from another anonymous donor.

The goal was set and achieved! Inspired by the founding mission, Simon’s Rock is committed to providing a high-quality educational experience for everyone and supported that this last milestone.

As we all know the time of year is better fundraising as people are often in need of financial assistance. The generous matching is in line with that goal but a lot more money is needed to ready the fledgling institution for the future.

*If you are interested in making a gift to $1,000 or more, we will thank you (as an alumni donor) with a Simon’s Rock tote bag. If you make a gift of $1,000 or more, we will thank you (as a non-alumni donor) with a Simon’s Rock tote bag. If you make a gift of $1,000 or more, we will thank you (as a non-alumni donor)*

To see our interview, click one of the following links:

- [Watch the full interview](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQ4ZoZoZoZo)
- [Read the full article](https://www.popularscience.com/education-and-democracy/a18146480/)

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**PopSci Highlights Our Successful Fall Semester**

Popular Science recently spoke with John Vincent at Student Affairs about the successes of the return to-in-person of our fall semester, which started tomorrow, December 11. John will share insights firsthand. Feel free to pass along these details and encourage interested students and families to register in advance:

- **College Sessions**
  - December 11, 7:00–7:30 p.m. EST
  - December 12, 5:00–5:30 p.m. EST
  - December 12, 6:00–6:30 p.m. EST
  - December 11, 7:00–7:30 p.m. EST

- **Academic Sessions**
  - December 14, 7:00–7:30 p.m. EST

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**Learn Barnet Discusses Education and Democracy on CNN**

Laurie Bankson, President of Bard College, recently spoke with CNN’s Christiane Amanpour about the vital links between democracy and education.

The article notes that our strategy “worked without a doubt.” We look forward to replicating the learning more about us, this is an excellent opportunity for them to meet John and hear his story-collecting project so far. If you haven’t joined us yet, stay tuned for information about how to participate in the fall semester. Dozens of alumni from each class are invited to this virtual gathering on December 30.

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**We Want Your Stories!**

Thanks to all the Rockers who have shared their favorite Simon’s Rock moments so far this semester. Dozens of alumni from each class already have their stories on file in our story-collecting project so far! Please help us find or curate your Simon’s Rock stories with Archivist Erin Donahue over the spring semester.

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**Info Sessions for Prospective Students with the Provost**

Prospective Simon’s Rock students and their families are invited to the Office of Admission for Informational calls with Provost John Weinstein starting tomorrow, December 11. Join us to learn more about our campus and the unique Simon’s Rock educational experience.

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**Save the Date: Next Alumni Zoom Meet-Up**

Join us on our next Alumni Zoom Meet-Up on December 14. Provost John Weinstein is very excited to include our new residents and friends to the site meeting highlighting the 111th birthday and in celebration of her remarkable achievements, Simon’s Rock marked Founder’s Day on December 11. Join us once again with host David Segil ’00 for the next Alumni Zoom Meet-Up on December 30.

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**Paws of Simon’s Rock**

Simon’s Rock is pleased to announce the launch of a new annual animal shelter.

Get a new pet you want to start? Meet us along with your new family member to learn more about our shelter at Simon’s Rock.

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**We Are on Track to Have One of Our Best Fundraising Quarters Ever!**

As a special year-end incentive, if you make a gift of $100 or more by December 31, we will thank you with a Simon’s Rock tote bag. If you make a gift of $1,000 or more, we will thank you (as a non-alumni donor) with a Simon’s Rock tote bag.

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**Founder’s Day 2020**

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