Fiscal Year Ends Strong

In 2020–2021, we asked alumni, families, and friends of Simon’s Rock to support us through a challenging year like no other. Thanks to a record number of generous donors, we raised almost $5 million for the Fund for Simon’s Rock. Your support truly sustained us. Thank you for your generosity.

June 30 marked the end of our Fiscal Year. Our efforts were guided by the stewardship of our Board of Advisors and Board of Trustees, and the leadership of President John B. Weinstein. Those in attendance at the Board’s annual meeting on June 5th heard a message from new Board Chair Michaela DeVillard, who assumed the position in 2020 and whose leadership has helped the Board navigate the pandemic and its challenges.

Longevity & Early College

Prospective Rockers can also join a virtual “Conversation with the Provost” this month, where they’ll hear cutting-edge insights from Provost John B. Weinstein. Prospective students and families can also attend the “Senior Research Symposium” later this season, highlighting student work of the academic year.

Prominent Bard scholar and former Chancellor of Bard College, Pat Sharpe, passed away earlier this year. She was a key contributor to the 1991 founding of Bard’s High School East Colleges, which would eventually become the nation’s first network of early college programs. Among her myriad contributions to our institution, Pat was notably a key contributor to our defining 2011 book, Educating Outside the Lines: Transforming the “Middle Years” of Modern Education.

Pat received her PhD in Literature from the University of Texas at Austin and taught in India on a Fulbright grant before her tenure at the University of Virginia where she began carrying out research on new early college models. She went on to lead Bard’s HSECs, which were granted independent college status in 1995. Pat also served as the founding president of Bard College at Simon’s Rock, in 1999.

In 1967, Elizabeth Blodgett Hall declared, “the house of culture is built on culture.” She envisioned a college that would be open to all and diverse in nature. Today, through her core gift, we carry on her dream.

On July 12th, we’ll celebrate the inaugural event of the Great Pine Society, an organization that supports the College’s mission. The Great Pine Society was established a year after Pat’s passing to honor her invaluable service to Simon’s Rock.

“Pat was a true innovator, and her contributions to our institution are immeasurable,” says President John B. Weinstein. “During her tenure as President of Bard College at Simon’s Rock, Pat was a champion for the College and for early college education as a whole. She made it her life’s work to challenge the norm of American higher education.”

Retiring

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