

1973 Class Gift Letter

March 2023

Dear Fellow Alum,

If anyone needs a reminder that time is marching on, coming face to face with our 50th college reunion should do it!

In addition to gathering together for Alumni Weekend, there is another long-standing tradition associated with the 50th Reunion and that is a significant class gift. Barrie (Keeler) King received LEC's brochure for the Now and Forever Campaign, and one part of the plan jumped out at her: The Experiential or Off-Campus Learning Experiences. For her, it brought together two LEC programs that were exceptional. One was the WTA Program. The other was the Internship Program managed, in our day, by Gladys Haddad. Barrie got in touch with those of us whose names you see below and with the Development Department at LEC and hatched this plan.

Thinking back to all those college applications we filled out and why we made the final choice that we did, we thought that the WTA program was probably one of the strongest reasons for choosing LEC. It was unique at the time that a college would send its entire junior class abroad to study and live with local families. We have talked to one another across the years, now decades, about how our overseas experiences instilled a lifelong love of travel and adventure. In fact, some have expressed that this immersion experience was life-changing.

Meanwhile, the Internship Program provided students with real work experience that proved to be invaluable. Some worked at The John Tracy Center for the deaf in Los Angeles, The Boston Center for International Visitors, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Parker-Hannifin, Coe Manufacturing and Lincoln Electric. For those who took advantage, they got hands on work experience that, in some cases, led to their first jobs out of LEC and Garfield. The programs will, with the help of this gift, begin again. Back to the Future we go!

While many of us have made contributions over the years, for our 50th we wanted our collective gift to be even more meaningful. The hope is to use The 1973 Class Gift to set up an Endowment for The Experiential Learning Program to cover program costs and scholarships. Our goal is to raise \$50k. Reaching that amount will make it eligible for matching funds from the Stillwagon Scholarship Challenge, and our class gift to this project would be \$100k! These numbers may seem a bit daunting but we believe it can be accomplished. In fact, we already have received a total of \$15,000 in commitments from some of your classmates.

Your contributions may be made as an outright donation or as a pledge to be paid over a two-year period. The 50th class reunion marks a tremendous milestone and provides us with an opportunity to expand our support for LEC by making a special commitment to the college and leaving a lasting legacy. Please join those of us, who have already done so, by making your donation towards our class gift.

You may make your tax-deductible donation securely online at www.lec.edu/giving. Be sure to choose "1973 Class Gift" in the designation drop-down box. Donations may also be made in honor of a family member, another classmate, or professor. If it is more convenient to pay over a two-year period, enter the total amount you will contribute and indicate in the comments section the pledge will be fulfilled in 2023, and 2024. Or you may use the enclosed gift reply card and envelope to mail your check or charge your gift. Be sure to indicate on the check it is for the 1973 Class Gift. If you have questions regarding other giving options or using your IRA required minimum distribution for your gift, please contact Aimee Bell, in the Development Office at (440) 375-7186 or at aibell@lec.edu.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of the committee members shown below or call Aimee Bell at (440) 375-7186. Thank you for helping us achieve the goal.

Best Regards,

The 1973 Class Gift Committee

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