A Message from the Chancellor

Because of the tremendous strides we are making in teaching, research, and discovery, it’s a great time to be at Berkeley. Our researchers and scholars go well beyond meeting challenges; they anticipate what's next. Our donor community is no different. As a collective of change-makers themselves, they ask, “What’s next?”

This is why there is no place like Berkeley. And there is no donor community like ours. I am immensely grateful to you and your dedication to preserving the transformational power of our university.

Your giving over the past year reflects your diverse interests, and it also shows your unwavering confidence in Berkeley to address the abounding issues facing society. From equitable healthcare and artificial intelligence to psychedelics research and data science, your generosity to all these arenas—and many, many more—is directly tied to the success of our students and faculty.

I am truly in awe of what donors have achieved for Berkeley through the Light the Way campaign that will close at the end of 2023. We hit our ambitious $6 billion goal 14 months early. The total continues to climb because our donors wholeheartedly engage with and support the campaign’s priorities: faculty and fellowships, research for the public good, undergraduate opportunity and experience, and places of possibility.

With the help of passionate supporters like you, our university will continue to shine its light on the world. Again, my deepest thanks to you.

Fiat Lux and Go Bears!

Carol T. Christ
Chancellor
A Message from the Vice Chancellor

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your extraordinary generosity to this incredible university in 2022–23. I continue to be inspired by our dedicated donor community.

As of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, we raised more than one million gifts and pledges during our Light the Way campaign, the goal of which was reached more than a year before the campaign’s close date of December 2023. I know you share my excitement in watching the total climb even higher past the $6 billion goal as we near this historic campaign’s conclusion at the end of this year.

I was particularly struck by the breadth of gifts this past fiscal year; gifts which reflect the multitude of ways in which our donor community is engaged. With the broad range and excellence of our academic and research programs, Berkeley is in a unique position to address society’s greatest challenges. Your generosity demonstrates your passion for helping to tackle issues around climate and the environment, equitable healthcare, and a world increasingly informed and shaped by data and machine learning. You also care for the campus community by helping to enrich the undergraduate experience, support our brilliant graduate students, and inspire our esteemed faculty.

Our impact on California and the world ranges far and wide, and we could not consistently be ranked the No. 1 public university in the world without committed partners like you. Thanks to your continuing vision and critical support, Berkeley is inspiring new generations to dream bigger than ever and light the way toward a better world for all. Once again, I extend my deepest gratitude to you.

Julie M. Hooper, CFRE
Vice Chancellor, University Development and Alumni Relations
President, UC Berkeley Foundation
The Year in Numbers

FY23 CAMPAIGN $2,819M
$2,034M
$178M
FY23 CAMPAIGN $1,016M
$55M
FY23 CAMPAIGN $513M
$39M
FY23 CAMPAIGN $276M

TOTAL RAISED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2023 = $6,657,454,644

BERKELEY’S DONOR COMMUNITY
Alums FY23 CAMPAIGN $342M
Friends FY23 CAMPAIGN $322M
Founders FY23 CAMPAIGN $178M
Corporate FY23 CAMPAIGN $513M
Parents FY23 CAMPAIGN $275M

Markets Value of Berkeley’s Endowment ($ in billions)

Berkeley’s Fiscal Year and Campaign Totals
This year, 59,913 donors made contributions, and $6.7 billion has been raised toward Light the Way, surpassing the $6 billion goal. Thank you for spreading Berkeley’s light.

Berkeley’s Endowment:
The endowment provides a reliable funding source for our students, faculty, and the groundbreaking programs that maintain Berkeley’s reputation of excellence. In 2022–23, $207 million generated by the endowment was distributed to the campus.
During the fiscal year, Berkeley received generous gifts from donors that were particularly wide-ranging. “Audacious” projects using CRISPR tools for better climate and health; digital advances to improve the health of our planet; promotion of health equity advocacy; research into beneficial effects of psychedelics; and resources for our talented student-athletes are just a few examples of how Berkeley continues to push the boundaries of what’s possible in partnership with our donor community.

Gifts in Action

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Editing microbiomes to improve health and the climate

Donors generously supported Berkeley’s Innovative Genomic Institute (IGI), the world’s premier genomic editing institution, enabling the team of researchers led by Professors Jennifer Doudna and Jill Banfield (pictured at right) to tackle two urgent health and climate challenges facing our world: preventing childhood asthma and eliminating methane emissions from livestock by using CRISPR genome editing to precisely modify communities of microbes or microbiomes.

Microbes — bacteria, fungi, viruses, and other microscopic organisms — are everywhere. The complex communities in which these organisms live are called microbiomes. The IGI’s decision to focus on preventing childhood asthma and eliminating methane emissions was strategic; researchers specifically selected problems that affect people on a broad scale, often with a disproportionate impact on underserved populations.

The support was awarded through the Audacious Project, which is housed at TED, the nonprofit media organization. The initiative encourages society’s change makers to solve real-world problems with the support of visionary philanthropists.

Thank you for choosing to invest in Berkeley. Your gifts are being put to work, cultivating critical thinkers, ethical leaders, and problem solvers who are all working to change the world.
Advancing health equity

The remarkable generosity of Lynn Barr and Bob Campbell through their Barr-Campbell Family Foundation is allowing Berkeley Public Health to launch the Rural Health Innovation Program, which provides 100 public health scholars the opportunity to receive full support to attend the school’s online master of public health program.

Ten scholars per year will be selected as Rural Policy Fellows to attend the National Rural Health Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., where they will meet with influential policy leaders and receive additional training in policy and advocacy.

Most public health master’s programs don’t include programming focused specifically on rural public health, but Berkeley is challenging the status quo to help give public health providers in rural areas a voice over policies that affect the populations they serve — all through this visionary support. “This next generation of leaders will enable rural Americans to access better care and lead healthier lives,” said Dean Michael C. Lu.

A new AI-powered science

Philanthropic support in fiscal year 2022–23 is enabling researchers at Berkeley to build a new field: AI (artificial intelligence) for science, which intersects computer science and the basic sciences in groundbreaking new ways. Launched in the fall of 2022, the Bakar Institute of Digital Materials for the Planet (BIDMaP) is a part of Berkeley’s new College of Computing, Data Science, and Society.

These generous gifts are comprehensive. Some specifically support faculty while others boost resources for students and postdoctoral fellows or address campus improvement and unrestricted areas within BIDMaP.

“Hydrogen and carbon dioxide are some of the smallest molecules in chemistry,” said Omar M. Yaghi (pictured at right), the scientific leader of the new institute. The Berkeley chemistry professor invented metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) and covalent organic frameworks (COFs).

“If we can find a way to capture them efficiently, in large quantities, then we will unlock the answers to the greatest problems facing our planet,” Yaghi said.

MOFs and COFs are crystalline porous materials that are being deployed to achieve clean air, energy, and water. One recent BIDMaP project that is showing promise for addressing climate issues: a new water harvester based on MOFs that produced double the amount of water from the desert air of Death Valley than previous technology, all without an energy source aside from ambient sunlight. It’s a breakthrough for mitigating water stresses in dry climates.

“Providing funding to BIDMaP’s research labs and postdoctoral scholars will accelerate discovering solutions that enable a meaningful response to climate change,” said professor and BIDMaP director Christian Borgs.
Therapeutic potential of psychedelics

Generous support from donors this year is also allowing the Berkeley Center for the Science of Psychedelics (BCSP) to expand its psychedelic research, training, and public education. Gifts provide for planning and launching a podcast, original reporting, public dialogue, and other areas in which BCSP experts determine gifts can have the most impact. This support benefits teaching, research, and the public mission at BCSP, mirroring the larger, multipronged approach for which Berkeley is known.

By researching the neuroscience and molecular biology of psychedelics, researchers are investigating how psychedelic substances may work as interventions for post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and addiction as well as gaining new insights into healthy aging, and the prevention of neurodegenerative diseases.

BCSP is pursuing several historic firsts at Berkeley, including human-subject research with psilocybin, graduating its first cohort from the Psychedelic Facilitation Certificate Program, and producing a free online course about psychedelics.

“These recent gifts are enabling the center to bring together interdisciplinary experts at a time when psychedelic-focused research, public education and training are vital to inform and prepare society for the shifting cultural, research, and regulatory landscapes,” said Imran Khan, BCSP’s executive director.

Supporting student-athletes’ pursuit of excellence

The Cal family’s philanthropic support for our exceptional student-athletes this year illustrates a steadfast commitment to ensuring an environment where they can achieve their best in academics and athletics.

The Rogers Family Foundation deepened its longtime commitment to Cal men’s rowing with a new $10 million pledge, offering a $5 million challenge that provides a one-to-one match for every new gift or pledge to endowments that benefit the program.

The Witter Rugby Field Enhancement Project was launched to renovate the current facility to provide an improved experience for players and fans. Building on the strength of the program, this project was bolstered by $1 million lead gifts from several devoted rugby alums and their families.

It is befitting that gifts from our donor community this past year were so far-reaching; Berkeley illuminates the world with our multipronged mission of world-class research, teaching, and public service. From making student experiences the brightest they can be to investing in buildings that ignite brilliant discoveries, the deep dedication of our donors fuels Berkeley’s scholars and researchers to make a difference for our communities, California, and the world.

Berkeley illuminates the world with our multipronged mission of world-class research, teaching, and public service.
The UC Berkeley Foundation (UCBF or “the Foundation”), dedicated to advancing the University of California, Berkeley since 1948, is the leading force behind raising private funds for Cal. Governed by a Board of Trustees, it is composed of professional, business, and philanthropic leaders. In addition to securing gifts, trusts, and bequests to benefit programs across campus, the foundation is one of the primary advisory groups to the Chancellor and provides guidance in maintaining Berkeley’s global preeminence.

The UCBF is also responsible for carefully monitoring invested gifts under its jurisdiction and has demonstrated consistent success. The Berkley Endowment Management Company, launched in 2009, manages the strategic investment of endowment funds given through the foundation and helps ensure long-term support for the university’s most essential priorities.

Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) are three areas of focus used to guide socially responsible investing. The UCBF formally established an ESG Subcommittee in 2014 to translate Berkeley’s core mission of teaching, research, and public service into a set of awareness-focused principles that govern the Foundation’s investment approach.

To learn more, visit ucberkeleyfoundation.org.
In order to reflect the full relationships our donors have with the university, honor roll listings include Berkeley degrees and an indicator noting parents of Berkeley students or graduates. Names are presented using contemporary standards. Every effort has been made to provide a complete and accurate listing of donors and gifts received between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. We apologize if we made a mistake.

If you found an error, want extra copies, or need this report in an alternative format, including electronic, large-print, or braille, contact us below. Please expect seven to 10 days for braille requests.

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