



# 149 Reasons to Give

## The Friends Academy Annual Fund

1. "To uphold Quaker principles in education."
2. "Because every gift matters."
3. "I believe in and love this community--students and teachers and staff!"
4. "Lucky to call this place my home away from home."
5. **Your reason here!**
6. "To nurture a strong community."
7. "FA faculty have had an awesome, positive impact on my life for decades."
8. "We love Friends Academy!"
9. "To teach simplicity."
10. ["Kindness. Curiosity. Respect."](#)
11. "I am so appreciative of the education that Friends Academy has provided for so many young people for over a century."
12. "To empower students to live with purpose."
13. "In honor of Jean Stubbs, Friends faculty, 1946-68."
14. "To encourage self-reflection and inquiry."
15. "To develop each students' moral compass."
16. "Because I always carry with me the ability to center myself that I learned in weekly Meeting for Worship."
17. ["It's one way for me to give back to a place that means so much to me."](#)
18. "To honor the 'light' in every individual."
19. "I believe Friends Academy is a special school that not only prepares students for college, but also focuses on being a kind, thoughtful, compassionate adult who is interested in making the world a better place."
20. "To develop the skills of deep listening, critical thinking, and coherent expression."
21. "Because our world needs ethical citizens and leaders."
22. "Friends lifts up compassion, inquiry, creativity, and curiosity."
23. "To enable our students to reach their potential both inside and outside of the classroom."
24. "To cultivate empathy in students."
25. ["Helps us find our inner peace."](#)
26. "In gratitude for my three FA graduates, and all the teachers, coaches, and administrators who assist all our students to find their pathway to purpose."

27. "To keep the highest standards of learning and living."
28. "Because I want to make sure the Quaker mission thrives for generations."
29. "To promote honesty and respect in all interactions."
30. "To bridge the gap between tuition and the true cost of educating a student."
31. "In memory of David Seeler '59."
32. "To create a diverse community in which everyone feels seen and known."
33. "Our family is grateful for the welcome and support we have received from the FA community."
34. "Saturday Sandwich making fills me with hope."
35. "I am proud to support my granddaughter's school!"
36. "To fund the Science Research Program."
37. "To sustain the inquiry-based model of learning."
38. "Inspired by my wonderful experience at Friends Academy (Class of 2012). Thank you for everything!"
39. "Because, 'it takes a village,' and Friends is our village."
40. "To expand real-world problem-solving programs."
41. "Because I have very different children and they have all found their place at Friends."
42. ["Friends Academy has an exceptional hidden curriculum."](#)
43. "To support the middle school athletics program—our daughter discovered a passion for running that changed the trajectory of her life."
44. "In memory of my classmates who are no longer with us."
45. "To provide small classes and personalized attention."
46. "Because I found friends for life at Friends."
47. "My children have never been happier, calmer, or working harder; thank you, Friends!"
48. "Congratulations Class of 2026!"
49. "In honor of Boys Varsity Lacrosse Coaches."
50. "To model for our children what it looks like to invest in what our family values: ethical education."
51. "To maintain our beautiful campus!"
52. "Coach Jacobson's encouragement during an Outdoor Ed trip was the only thing that enabled me to climb a huge rock so that I could continue the overnight hike. It was an important moment in my life and I will be forever grateful."
53. "To attract and retain exceptional teachers."
54. "To support a dynamic teaching environment."
55. "Because our family loves the musicals!"
56. "Our children wake up early, and can't wait to get to school."
57. "The Forest Program!"
58. "To fund school counselors and psychologists."
59. "I appreciate our faculty who model high expectations."
60. "My kids know, and love, their SPICES."
61. "The emphasis on kindness, empathy, and service in the community."
62. "This community is doing great work, and we want to support that in any way we can."
63. "We are truly grateful for the supportive teaching environment."
64. ["Friends Academy embraces parent involvement."](#)

65. "Our children are in lower school, and we are investing in the 17 year-old who will be able to make big decisions about college and life, because Friends has shaped their intellect *and* their character."
66. "We love the specialist teachers in Lower School!"
67. "Friends made me into the person I am, and I am grateful for all the school did for me and my family."
68. "This school has done so much for me; I don't want to take that for granted."
69. "I want to ensure the school has the funds to respond to cool opportunities."
70. "Friends taught me to not be afraid of hard things."
71. "Because teachers here really want to know you as people."
72. "This place is full of smart, kind people. That's pretty special."
73. "In honor of Mr. Stellato's retirement."
74. "The values and morals that are important to us at home, are emphasized at school."
75. "To champion peace."
76. "School administrators at Friends are amazing individuals who make making a difference look effortless!"
77. "Because I loved my Community Group."
78. "In memory of Doc Sullivan."
79. "To fund All-School cultural celebrations."
80. "My daughter's science teacher goes above and beyond her role as teacher and coach. She cares deeply for all of her students."
81. "What could be more important than Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equity, Service and Stewardship?"
82. "[Continuity](#)"
83. "Because at Friends I learned that my voice is a tool and my ideas have value."
84. "To support the 9th Grade Service Program."
85. "Because my son is graduating, and he feels excited and ready for the future."
86. "Friends truly changed my life."
87. "In honor of FA's wonderful faculty and staff."
88. "Because I'm so grateful for Friends' summer calculus class."
89. "To support the entrepreneurship program."
90. "[Partnership.](#)"
91. "To expand community partnerships and service projects."
92. "To increase financial aid and accessibility."
93. "To support collective efforts to solve the challenges facing our world."
94. "Because education is the most powerful fuel for social change."
95. "In honor of Frank Ingrassia."
96. "Because I walk across the Quad, and everyone smiles and says 'hi' to me."
97. "When our son was out sick, his physics teacher created a personalized learning plan for him."
98. "To support international trips and real-world immersion."
99. "As alumni, we are part of something bigger; a legacy that grows with each graduating class."
100. "Friends provides a [holistic](#) education."

101. ["Great sports, but even better fans."](#)
102. "To nurture curiosity and imagination."
103. "I am so grateful for early morning extra math help."
104. "As an alum, and the daughter of an alum, the school holds a special place in my heart."
105. "My granddaughters love being here."
106. "Supporting Friends makes me happy. Thrilled, actually."
107. "To ensure students can develop the best of who they are."
108. "My children will have the core values of Friends for the rest of their lives."
109. "Madame Sampsidis, with whom I studied both French and Russian for four years, made every day in her language classes exceptionally educational, and our trip to Russia in 1977 will forever remain one of the loveliest memories of my life."
110. "Beautiful new tennis courts!"
111. "To help students become confident and knowledgeable."
112. "Our partnership with Cold Spring Harbor DNA Learning Center."
113. "To ensure long-term stability for the school."
114. "The new maker spaces in the Science Hub."
115. "Every gift counts, and every voice matters."
116. "To secure the school's financial health."
117. "Our daughters love coming to school each and everyday and that is because of the warm and meaningful relationships they have with their teachers, and for the wonderful learning environment they create in and around their classrooms."
118. "To maintain and renovate advanced learning facilities."
119. "We're so grateful to be part of this special community. Our son had an amazing first year and we're so excited for all that is ahead."
120. "It's my chance to pay it forward."
121. "We are investing in our children's future."
122. "I want to support learning that is a joyful and empowering experience."
123. "My daughter had so many opportunities to learn and explore as a new middle school student this year. Math Fair, Science Fair, Robotics, an overnight trip to Boston, and teachers who really know and support her."
124. "Our family cannot donate a large dollar amount, but we know that high participation rates send an important message about the strength of our school community."
125. "To reduce reliance on tuition revenue."
126. "My daughter's English teacher creates an environment where students feel supported, valued, and motivated to do their best."
127. "To build the school's long-term reputation."
128. "The enthusiasm, joy, love, and expertise that my child's teacher brings to the classroom with our children is absolutely amazing!"
129. "We believe unrestricted gifts allow school leaders to think big about what the school needs."
130. "To maintain the extraordinary spirit of the campus."
131. "Friends teachers truly go above and beyond."
132. "To fund essential facility maintenance and operations."

133. "To show current students what Friends Academy pride really looks like."
134. "To make a real, lasting impact."
135. "Our daughter's advisor emits warmth and compassion for her students. She has been an incredible advisor to our daughter and has made her feel incredibly welcomed as a new student to Friends."
136. "What better way to use a Charitable IRA Rollover?"
137. "Thanks for making third grade so fun!"
138. "My son's science teacher has gone above and beyond, he's kind and caring and has impacted my son's life forever."
139. "Because being a teacher is one of the hardest jobs in the world. Our teachers have consistently shown up for my children in ways I could never fully express, and I am so incredibly grateful."
140. "To the coaches and PE team: thank you all for your dedication, encouragement, and support throughout the season. We truly appreciate everything you do for the athletes. Your hard work and positive influence mean so much to our family."
141. "To fund the 'magic moments' that shape student lives."
142. "To support a close-knit community."
143. "To invest in local social change."
144. "The Junior Senior prom is such a special tradition; programs like this make the Friends Academy experience one-of-a kind."
145. "Thank you to everyone in the visual and performing arts departments for cultivating students in the fields of music and arts."
146. "Mrs. Vuillet's encouragement and kindness throughout my childhood and beyond has been one of most positive influences in my life. I will be eternally grateful for her love and support."
147. "To empower students to become thoughtful and dynamic leaders."
148. "To support students in their future role as alumni."
149. "To join a powerful tradition of generosity."