

George Mason University

27th ANNUAL DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC



WESTFIELDS GOLF CLUB | MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 | SHOTGUN START AT 8:30 A.M.

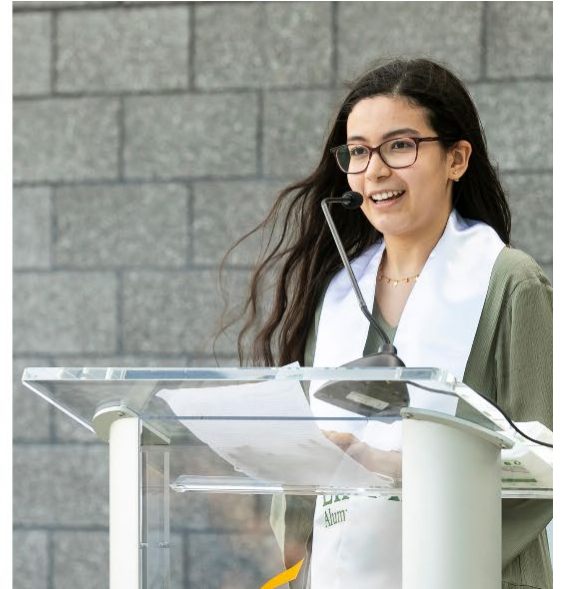


27TH ANNUAL
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The Early Identification Program

4400 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for joining us at the Diversity Scholarship Golf Classic to celebrate the 35th anniversary of George Mason University's transformative Early Identification Program.



Your support contributes to Mason being not only an institution of higher education, but an institution of higher purpose. Your spirit of giving helps EIP and the Student Transition Empowerment Program (STEP) extend academic opportunities to talented Northern Virginia students of all backgrounds.

We discover, inspire and develop promising first-generation scholars who might otherwise not have the resources to attend college. These programs empower students, strengthen communities and fill critical needs in the workplace for area employers.

Mason is the largest and most diverse public university in Virginia, and we're proud that EIP is growing right along with us. Over the past five years, EIP enrollment is up 28%. And we plan to continue to grow EIP through our Mason Virginia Promise, a guaranteed pathway to a bachelor's degree, or help starting a business, for any Virginian who aspires to either goal.

Thank you again for your engagement and generosity. You are making a positive impact on the lives of Northern Virginia families, Mason students, and the region we call home.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregory Washington

Dr. Gregory Washington
President, George Mason University





Vice President for University Life

4400 University Drive, MS1C2, Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Phone: 703-993-8760; Fax: 703-993-8745

June 12, 2023

What a perfect day for a round of golf with friends in support of first-generation college students in Mason's Early Identification Program (EIP) and Student Transition and Empowerment Program (STEP). We are so grateful for your commitment and generosity. We continue to be thankful for Jay O'Brien, Executive Vice President for Commercial and Retail Banking, and the magic of Annie Bolger, at Sandy Spring Bank for their on-going support as the Title Sponsor for the thirteenth year. The Diversity Scholarship Golf Classic has raised \$850,000 over the years supporting student scholarships. We could not have done it without you! Your participation as a golfer, sponsor, contributor, volunteer, alumni, Patriot, friend of George Mason University, or all of the above, makes an incredible difference impacting the lives of EIP and STEP students. On behalf of them all, I thank you. I must also thank the tireless efforts of the University Life Advisory Board members (many of whom serve on the golf committee) for their dedication to George Mason student success: the Executive Committee, led by Chair, Ted Williams; and board members Huey Battle, Annie Bolger, Trina Dixon, Denyse Gordon, Jim Green, Delegate Charniele Herring, Angela Moody, Dr. John Patton, Rick Starr, Wenbo Su, Steven Tan, LaVurne Williams and Terry Wang. Finally, a special thank you to the Diversity Scholarship Golf Classic golf committee, led with tireless enthusiasm by Ted Williams, for their commitment to planning, meeting and securing sponsors, ads, prizes, delicious treats, and auction items. This event happens because of their stellar efforts and is a success because of their hard work and dedication to educating and supporting first-gen college students.

With gratitude,

Rose Pascarell

Rose Pascarell, Vice President for University Life,

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS!

The Student Transition Empowerment Program (STEP) is a multi-year bridge program within the First-gen+ Center (new department launched in early June 2021). STEP was created to enhance the recruitment, engagement, and retention of first-generation college students accepted to Mason. The program components empower students through academic skills, access to resources, community building, self-discovery, and builds to confidence needed to thrive in college and beyond.



"STEP helped me gain the confidence that I needed when I was in front of an obstacle or seemed too far away from the goal."

-Min Ko, *STEP 2019*



"STEP is a time to reflect, learn, and improve. You probably wouldn't even see this quote if it weren't for this program and the many future opportunities it offers."

-John Sejas-Cordova, *STEP 2020*



"STEP has been such an important resource for me as a first-generation student. It has shown me many opportunities that have allowed me to continue my educational journey."

-Joselyn Andrade, *STEP 2020*



"STEP helped me start college with a positive mindset on something I felt unprepared for. It helped me move forward with confidence and support towards my journey through higher education. Having that support system is what kept me in college when I felt like everything else was pushing me off the path of staying in school."

-Sohila Hassan, *STEP 2019*



"STEP helped me discover who I am as a student, a young adult, and as an advocate for my different identities."

-Ivan Gonzales, *STEP 2017*

The cost to support one STEP student is approximately \$5,600 per summer. Your financial contribution is essential to sustaining and growing STEP.

For **online** donations, please navigate to the following website: give.gmu.edu

Under the first question, "Where would you like your gift to be applied?" Select "Choose your area of interest." Under the "University Programs" heading, you will see "Diversity Initiatives." Select "STEP!"

For **mail** donations, please make checks payable to "**GMU Foundation**" and indicate "**STEP**" in the memo section.

Checks should be mailed to:

George Mason University
GMU Foundation, Inc.
4400 University Drive, MSN 1A3
Fairfax, VA 22030

Contact Us!

STEP@gmu.edu or
Email: Dr. Amber Holton-Thomas,
Director of the First-gen+ Center
ahampto@gmu.edu

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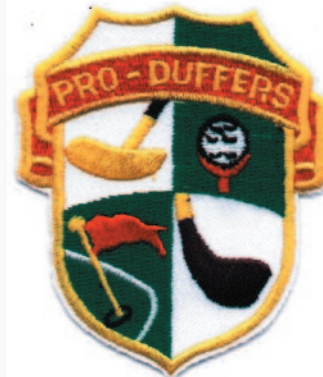
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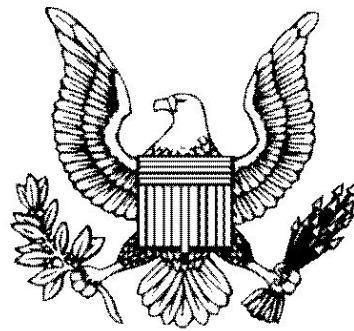
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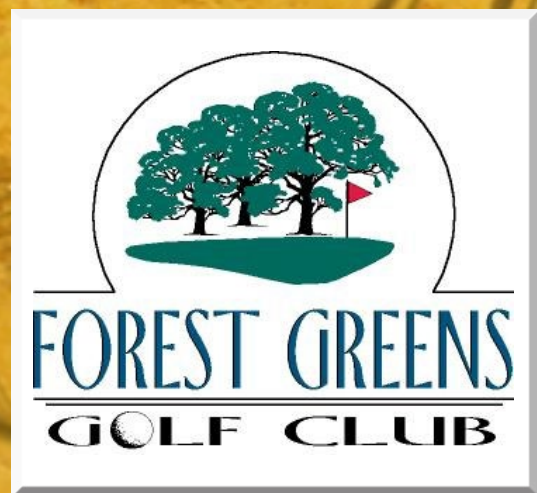
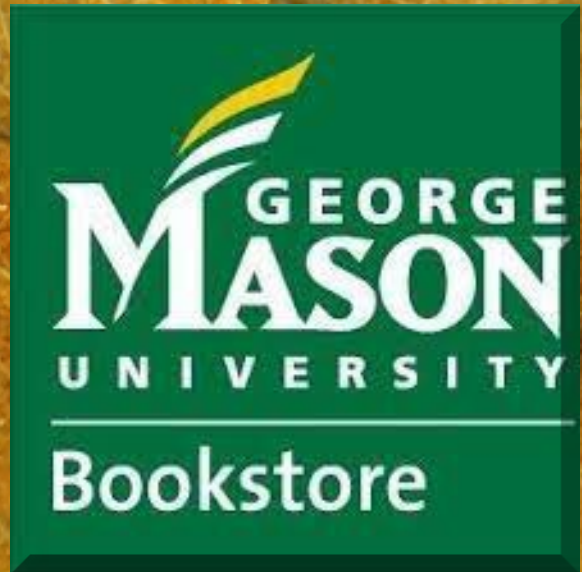


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alumni.gmu.edu

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SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC!**



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SAVE THE DATE
32nd GEN BENJAMIN O. DAVIS, JR.
GOLF CLASSIC



Hosted by ECCTAI

Monday August 28, 2023

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MASON NOW

POWER THE POSSIBLE

In April, the George Mason University launched **Mason Now: Power the Possible**, a one billion dollar comprehensive campaign to support student success, research, innovation, community, and a sustainable future. As with all things Mason, this campaign is about — and will depend on — our community.

Our goal is ambitious. It's audacious.
And, it will require determination and grit.

That's what makes it Mason.



Support Mason Now
gmu.edu/masonnow



CONGRATULATIONS

Obtaining a college degree is one of the most important steps you can take to set yourself up for future success. Doing so as the first in your family is often a transformational accomplishment and one that many George Mason University students achieve because of their hard work, determination and access to important programs like the Early Identification Program (EIP) and the Student Transition Empowerment Program (STEP).

Sandy Spring Bank is proud to support these programs and these students as they fulfill their lifelong dreams. I can't wait to see what they accomplish next.



Joseph J. O'Brien, Jr.

Executive Vice President and Chief Banking Officer,
Sandy Spring Bank

Trustee, George Mason University Foundation, Inc.



Sandy Spring Bank

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