For nearly 35 years, the Friends of Wellesley College Botanic Gardens (WCBG) has been committed to sparking interest in and knowledge of horticulture, plant science, and the natural environment. Friends of WCBG provides funds and staffing for field trips, group tours, educational opportunities for volunteer docents, the Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration program, and more. Each fall, WCBG friends lead the New Student Plant Giveaway, inviting first-year students to pay a visit to the Botanic Gardens and take plants back to their dorm rooms. Friends of WCBG also helps fund positions for student workers in the outdoor gardens.

As part of the College’s multi-year campus renewal effort, plans to rehouse and reinvent the permanent greenhouses as the Global Flora collection are well underway. Scheduled to break ground in 2018, the new greenhouse complex will incorporate aesthetics, sustainable design, and an enhanced platform for teaching and research.

“The Davis truly enriches liberal arts learning at Wellesley. Faculty of all disciplines utilize the Davis to enhance the Wellesley educational experience. During the 2016-17 academic year alone, the museum hosted class visits for 1,221 students—approximately half of the campus population.”

“You really loved learning all the specific biological details about the plants... And knowing everything that went into creating them made me feel even closer to them. I love being able to feel that way about more and more plants in the greenhouses as time goes on.”—Suika Sono-Knowles ’20, student docent

Friends of Art at the Davis is a dynamic organization, providing more than 50 years of generous giving in support of the arts at Wellesley College. A vital academic resource on campus, the Davis Museum offers a wellspring of creativity to the community through its collections, which encompass paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, photographs, and decorative arts.

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“We are committed to making the Museum’s truly exceptional collections accessible to all, and in reaching students of all ages, scholars, and art lovers around the world.”—Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro ’37 Director

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Support all of these initiatives and more by becoming a WCBG friend. For more information, including membership levels and benefits, as well as the latest updates about the Global Flora project, visit wellesley.edu/wcbg.

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Support your passions and connect with your Wellesley community!

Friends groups supporting art, the botanic gardens, the library, and athletics, along with religious and spiritual life, enable Wellesley students to gain knowledge and insight outside of the classroom.

Each group provides program funding for unique, hands-on learning opportunities—from athletic team building to learning about environmental preservation to practicing wellness—and they all share a common mission: to enhance the Wellesley experience for students.

Friends of Wellesley Athletics is dedicated to the continued excellence and growth of the College’s athletic and recreational programs. Friends of Athletics supports student-athletes and provides opportunities for alumni and the College community to pursue a lifelong interest in athletics and fitness. More than $900,000 in gifts and awards have been generously contributed by Friends over the past five years to supplement athletic and recreational activities at Wellesley, such as training trips and gear for varsity athletes, athletic training and travel costs for club sports, and staffing of wellness professionals—including a nutritionist and a sport psychologist.

Supporting Wellesley College Library is a way to ensure that the College’s library services enable Wellesley students to gain knowledge and insight and provide opportunities for alumnae and the College community to pursue a lifelong interest in learning and research. More than $500,000 in gifts and awards have been generously contributed by Friends over the past five years to support the College’s library programs.

Friends of Wellesley Athletics is dedicated to enhancing teaching, learning, and the Wellesley experience by supporting the College’s on-campus network of academic and athletic hubs.

Friends of the Library has provided over 30 years of annual support for the Margaret Clapp Library—otherwise Special Collections, the Book Arts Lab, and the College Archives are also located—as well as the Branch Library for art, music, and science. The group also is inveterate intellectual explorers by providing the surrounding community with an avenue to learn more about the College’s library services.

Your gift to the Office of Religious & Spiritual Life will support robust multi-faith programming, foster on-campus religious communities, provide spaces for community connection, and so much more. For more information, visit wellesley.edu/religiouslife.

Religious and spiritual life on Wellesley’s campus is as diverse as the student body. ORSL is committed to teaching that students have access to the religious services and practices of their choice, but that they also have abundant opportunities for devotional exploration and collective contemplation.

Students have the opportunity to take a credit-bearing course, taught by Wellesley’s Buddhist chaplain, on wellness and mindfulness. This existing addition supports ORSL’s goal of educating the whole person. Also new this fall, ORSL has partnered with Residential Life to create the Neighborhood Chaplain program: a creative way to connect each chaplain with dorm residents through weekly meals, talks, and meetings.

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