Friends groups supporting art, athletics, the botanic gardens, and the library, 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, experiential learning opportunities—from participating in career panels to learning about environmental preservation, and from athletic team building to engaging in critical global dialogues. Together, they share a common mission: to enhance the Wellesley experience for students.

Strengthen some of Wellesley’s most valued programs and support truly transformative student experiences—plus, receive exclusive membership benefits—by joining or renewing today!
Friends of Art is a dynamic organization, providing more than 50 years of generous giving in support of visual art at Wellesley College. A vital resource for the Wellesley community and beyond, the Davis Museum is one of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine art museums in the United States; its signature Rafael Moneo building houses collections that span global history from antiquity to the present.

Funds raised by Friends of Art are essential to the Davis’s educational mission at Wellesley and directly support the Museum’s student programs and tours, special exhibitions, innovative public programs, scholarly publications, and new acquisitions. In addition, Friends of Art provides ongoing support for student opportunities unique to Wellesley: the Davis Museum Student Advisory Committee, Student Visitor Assistant Program, Summer Internship Program, Student Guides, Student Initiative Program Fund, and the integration of a bespoke mobile app that highlights student-generated content for visitors.

Wellesley faculty across disciplines utilize the Davis for teaching and learning. From August 2019 through March 2020, the Museum hosted 82 in-person classes for 1,344 students. In April 2020, Davis curators quickly adapted to remote learning to offer 15 virtual classes for 399 students during spring and summer 2020.

“Friends of Art is an incredible resource for Wellesley students. Like its jewel-box design suggests, the museum is a treasure trove of art, culture, and knowledge. During classes and lectures, we enrich our understanding by learning directly from objects, as Wellesley women have done for over a century.” — Megan McNally ’20, 2019 Davis summer intern coordinator
Friends of Athletics

“Friends of Wellesley College Athletics has supported the athletics department and our teams where we need it most. Every year I am grateful to them for helping fund our spring training trip as well as our practice gear. These two things are imperative to the success and daily functioning of our crew team. I am glad that we can count on a group of people who care about our sport and experience as much as we do as athletes. I appreciate that Friends of Athletics seeks to make the student-athlete experience memorable and achievable.”

— Zoe Cheng ’21, student-athlete advisory committee

Friends of Athletics is a group 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 alumnae and the College community to pursue a lifelong interest in athletics and wellness. More than $1 million in gifts and awards have been generously contributed by Friends over the past five years to enrich athletic and recreational activities at Wellesley, positively impacting every Wellesley student’s experience.

Although traditional team competitions are cancelled for the 2020–21 academic year, athletic programming will continue to foster the physical and mental health of students. Friends will continue to support team practices, training, and staffing of wellness professionals—including a nutritionist and a sport psychologist. To best serve the entire student population, an enhanced program of virtual opportunities will promote resilience, leadership, and wellness while continuing to expand programming related to diversity, equity and inclusion.

We will be working hard to intentionally build and maintain a strong community for Wellesley students.

Support these initiatives and more by joining Friends of Wellesley Athletics.

For more information, including 2020–21 programming and rosters, visit wellesleyblue.com.

Blue Crew on its way to first place in the Fall 2018 Seven Sisters Regatta.
For nearly 35 years, Friends of Wellesley College Botanic Gardens (WCBG) has been committed to sparking interest in horticulture, plant science, and the natural environment. WCBG provides funds and staffing for student programs and internships, educational opportunities for volunteer docents, and the Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration program (now hosted through Zoom).

With the completion of the Global Flora Conservatory, we also have expanded learning opportunities for students. During the 2019–20 academic year, 17 students conducted work and research within the new greenhouses. With generous support from WCBG, we have been able to meet the high demand for experiential learning opportunities as we employ students through both on-campus and remote work. This year, 20 students work in a variety of areas, including plant and fish care; pest management; weekend watering; and outreach, interpretation, and antiracism efforts.

Our permanent collection of subtropical plants is housed in a series of mini-ecosystems monitored with environmental sensors, providing an exciting new platform for teaching and research year-round. WCBG’s 22 acres of outdoor gardens continue to be used for exploration and relaxation as well as research and teaching projects like the Water Challenge, the Edible Ecosystem Teaching Garden, and Farm in a Box.

Support these student programs and activities, greenhouse renovations, and more by becoming a WCBG friend today.

For more information, including membership levels and benefits, visit wellesley.edu/wcbg.

Friends of Botanic Gardens

“The botanic gardens summer internship is a unique supplement to each of the educational paths we’re pursuing. Our workshops and field trips help enhance these skills while also fostering relationships with each other and with our campus’s natural environment. We’re excited to continue applying the skills we’re building!”

— Ronnie Alvarez-Alfani ’20, Sophia Harrison ’21, Amy Liu ’22, Annalise Michaelson ’21, and McKenna Montminy ’21, WCBG interns

For more information, including membership levels and benefits, visit wellesley.edu/wcbg.

McKenna Montminy ’21 is one of several students who helped plant Global Flora. Photo Credit: Jenn Yang ’12.
“The library is at the heart of Wellesley’s mission. Its amazing collections, the creativity of its staff, and their dedication to supporting students and faculty in their research and teaching make me proud to contribute.”

— Kerry Carwile Masteller ’01, Friends of the Library co-chair

Friends of Wellesley College Library (FOL) is dedicated to **enhancing teaching, learning and research** at Wellesley by supporting the College’s network of vibrant, academic hubs.

FOL has provided over 30 years of annual support for the Margaret Clapp Library as well as the branch libraries for art and music. The group also strives to foster intellectual exploration by providing the surrounding community with an avenue to learn more about the College’s library services.

Funding from FOL supports the **acquisition of new collection materials** and the **preservation and digitization of the College’s unique collections**. FOL recently enabled the library to acquire a collection of nearly 200 documentary films on a streaming platform, providing access to high-quality media that is used in courses across the curriculum. FOL also provides funding for library events and the Student Library Research Awards, established to reward students who develop a thoughtful, methodical, scholarly, and creative approach to research using library resources. These initiatives support the vibrant intellectual community of Wellesley, no matter where its individual members reside.

Your membership in Friends of Wellesley College Library will ensure that the College’s library keeps pace with the exponential growth of new information.

To learn more and view membership courtesies, such as special invitations to programs and workshops throughout the year, visit wellesley.edu/lts/fol.
Students celebrate Flower Sunday, the oldest tradition at Wellesley, where first year "little" students are paired with an upperclass student who will act as their "big" sibling.

The Office of Religious and Spiritual Life (ORSL) supports a wide range of opportunities for worship and prayer, interfaith dialogue, fellowship, spiritual wellness, social action, and community building. ORSL seeks to equip students to be global citizens who build community across religious lines and engage energetically with difference.

Students have the opportunity to take a credit-bearing mindfulness course, taught by Wellesley’s Buddhist chaplain. This exciting addition supports ORSL’s goal of educating the whole person. ORSL has partnered with Residential Life to create the Neighborhood Chaplain program: a creative way to connect each chaplain with residential communities through weekly meals, teas, and meetings, which continues this year in a virtual format.

Through its 40 Days of Gratitude and Kindness initiative, ORSL engaged students, staff, faculty, alumnae, and the wider Wellesley community to explore both themes through special programs, meditations, experiential opportunities, and conversations.

During Flower Sunday this year, as we welcomed first-year students into the campus community, chaplains delivered flowers, gratitude journals, and large bouquets of flowers to each of the residence halls. Students enjoyed a socially distanced but fun day outdoors, full of laughter, flowers, and friendship, continuing one of our College’s most beloved traditions.

“I was inspired to be open and bold about my beliefs; to live with conviction; to advocate for what I believe is right; to listen to others; and to never lose sight of a more peaceful, just world.”

— Participant, Alternative break program, 2018