Roz Abrams (AM ’71) arrived at the University of Michigan in 1970, a first-generation college student beginning her undergraduate education on the heels of the civil rights movement. “My father had a fifth grade education. My mother had a high school education. They were aware that their whole lives would have been different had they been able to go to college,” she recalls. “I was part of that first wave of civil rights children who had grown up watching places like Birmingham on television. We knew that we were standing on the shoulders of giants.”

“But when I got to U-M, I saw that there were African Americans in the Law School, African Americans in the Medical School. African Americans throughout the campus,” she says. “There was a support system that was built in for people like me. I was able to be comfortable, but still reach out and enjoy the backgrounds of other people.”

Her postgraduate education at the Rackham Graduate School was made possible by a full scholarship, a gift that she credits as a major influence on her philanthropic activism later in life. “Look at all the millions of people who never got hoisted up,” she says. “Poverty can keep you down. Lack of education can keep you down. I really feel to this day that lack of education can keep you down. Poverty can keep you down. Lack of education can keep you down.”

“Poverty can keep you down.”

Her gift to U-M establishes the Rosalyn M. Abrams Fund at the Rackham Graduate School, with preference for students with financial need. Abrams says that the gift is rooted in a longstanding personal commitment to supporting education at all levels, tracing back to those formative years at U-M.

“All I want to do is make sure that in 2027—in dollars, love, support, and activism—I’ve paid the debt going back to 1970 and 1971,” she says. “It was a very special time. I got a very special gift. If I can pay it forward for a couple of other students, then I’ll be a happy woman.”

In November, Abrams met with U-M graduate students at Rackham, including members of the Edward Alexander Bouchet Graduate Honor Society and the Students of Color Rackham student group. “They were breathtaking in their brilliance, and I mean that sincerely,” she says. In their talks, Abrams stressed the importance of earning a postgraduate degree and using that experience to give back to their communities later in life. “They’re going to do the work. They’re going to do it to the best of their ability. They have an eye on the future in a world that is shifting underneath their feet,” she says. “The future looks bright.”

The Michigan Wolverines kicked off the 2017 football season with the Advocare Classic in sunny Arlington, Texas. On Friday, U-M faculty, friends, and alumni gathered at The Star—the Dallas Cowboys World Headquarters—for a special pregame reception hosted by U-M alumni Derek Barger (BSE Aero ’96, MBA ’91) and Carolyn Kerr (MBA, ’91). The following day, the Wolverines earned a hardfought 33-17 victory in a marquee matchup against the Florida Gators at AT&T Stadium.
Two centuries later, U-M commemorated its 1817 founding with a festive day of reflection and celebration in downtown Detroit. Faculty, friends, students, and alumni gathered for a daylong festival observing the 200-year history of service, collaboration, and cultural exchange between U-M and the state’s largest city.

The Bicentennial Detroit Festival began with a series of seminars reflective of the long history between U-M and Detroit. Faculty and alumni invited city leaders to discuss the university’s founding, its investment in Detroit’s future, and the outlook for education and innovation in Detroit.

The ceremony celebrating U-M’s ties to Detroit and its native peoples continued with a special afterglow reception at the David Whitney Building, hosted by U-M alumni David Di Rita (BBA ’86, JD ’89) and Stacy Fox (BS ’74, JD ’83) of The Whitney Group. Alumni, faculty, and friends joined together to toast to 200 years of U-M history in Detroit and beyond.

The Spirit of Detroit by Marshall Fredericks bears a decorative U-M Bicentennial jersey to commemorate the 200th anniversary (U-M Events Office). See photos at ldrsnb.st/BicentennialDetroitSeminars

NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. 3:17

See more seminar photos at ldrsnb/st/BicentennialDetroitSeminars

“NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. 3:17”
MILESTONE REUNION
CELEBRATORY DINNER
ANN ARBOR, MI | OCTOBER 27, 2017 | MICHIGAN LEAGUE
Alumnae observing their milestone reunions kicked off Homecoming Weekend with a host of activities on Friday afternoon, featuring a celebratory dinner at the Michigan League. The class of 1967, 77, 87, 97, and 2007 gathered to reunite with old classmates and welcome new friends as the U-M 200 Fall Festival began on Ingalls Mall. Alumnae celebrating their 50th reunion or beyond were awarded milestone anniversary pins commemorating their reunion. Following the reception, the HAILstorm light show began on the facade of the Rackham Building. Guests gathered to enjoy the nighttime 3D projection mapping celebrating 200 years of U-M history.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
BARBOUR SCHOLAR
ANN ARBOR, MI | OCTOBER 28, 2017 | FELDMAN CENTER
At Crisler Center, President Mark Schlissel and the Regents of the University welcomed fans, friends, and alumni to a special tailgate and reception. Guests enjoyed food, games and half-time show with the U-M Marching Band. Following the halftime show at Crisler Center, President Mark Schlissel and the Regents of the University welcomed fans, friends, and alumni to a special tailgate and reception. Guests enjoyed food, games and half-time show with the U-M Marching Band.

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MICHELINE AWARD CEREMONY
DAVID B. HERMELIN AWARD FOR FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP
Ann Arbor, MI | October 27, 2017 | University of Michigan
The David B. Hermelin Award for Fundraising Volunteer Leadership was established in 2004 to recognize outstanding fundraising volunteers whose commitment to and support of the University of Michigan reflects the standards set by the late David B. Hermelin (BBA ’58, LLH ’00). A lifetime and board-level volunteer for Michigan for more than two decades, Hermelin served on the national committee for the U-M campaign in the 1980s and was a major gift solicitor of the campaign fundraising committee for the billion-dollar Campaign for Michigan in the 1990s. He also served as co-chair of the Detroit Major Gifts Committee. The Hermelin Award is presented annually to volunteers whose fundraising efforts for the University exemplify the dedication David Hermelin showed to the university until his death in 2000. This award recognizes a volunteer who demonstrates outstanding fiscal responsibility and passion for the University of Michigan during Homecoming Weekend.

FOR FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP
DAVID B. HERMELIN AWARD
The university is proud to recognize this year’s Hermelin Award recipients: Joan Edgar Evans and David Evans of Chicago; and Trish Turner-McConnell of Atherton, California. Award recipients: Joan Edgar Evans and David Evans of Chicago; and Trish Turner-McConnell of Atherton, California. For more on the life and Legacy of David B. Hermelin, visit ldrsnb.st/HermelinAward2017
Yu-Chun “Peter” Fan (MSE ’77, PhD ’82), Chairman of Wytte International, Dr. TAIPEI, TAIWAN

Dr. Yu-Chun “Peter” Fan has had a loyal U-M supporter, Peter has had the opportunity to travel throughout Asia to attend university events such as the Pan Asia Alumni Reunion and connect with alumni from near and far. He constantly encourages his fellow alumni to support the university, who work with a diverse array of financial resources. To better engage with alumni, the region, Peter recently spearheaded a scholarship fundraising effort for the U-M Alumni Association of Taiwan.

The Louis Evans Chair in U.S. History at LSA, named in honor of Dr. Evans’ grandfather, was endowed by the Fransen in 2005. Joan and David support the Evans Child Behavior Health Clinic and the Illinois Scholars program. In 2013, they launched the TrAMS initiative at the Depression Center, bringing mental health care to school-age adolescents and children throughout Michigan. The Evans believe passionately in the university’s capacity to tackle the world’s most urgent problems and to help young people achieve their highest potential.

David Evans and Joan Edgar Evans

Chicago residents David Evans (BS 80, MS 82), chairman of Evans-Dreier Foundations, and Joan Evans (AR ’82, director of the Procter Road Foundation, effect positive change through their involvement with the University of Michigan. They host events, inspire U-M alumni and friends to give, and share expertise with university leaders. They support the U-M Depression Center, the School of Education/TeachingWorks, the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA), Camp Michigan, and the Athletic Department.

Irving Stenn, Jr.

Irving Stenn, Jr. (AB ’52, JD ’55) has been an enduring champion for the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) and the U-M Law School for years. As an advocate for the arts, Irving serves as a member of UMMA’s National Leadership Council. In 2013, it was honored at the inaugural UMMA Grow, the university’s celebration of art leadership. With service spanning two campaigns, Irving has helped raise millions for UMMA.

A respected art ambassador and Chicago attorney, Irving Stenn, Jr. (AB ’52, JD ’55) has been an enduring champion for the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) and the U-M Law School for years. As an advocate for the arts, Irving serves as a member of UMMA’s National Leadership Council. In 2013, it was honored at the inaugural UMMA Grow, the university’s celebration of art leadership. With service spanning two campaigns, Irving has helped raise millions for UMMA.

A key reward of being a development volunteer is the many well-developed personal relationships cultivated over decades. The ongoing interaction and collaboration with alumni, scholarship recipients, faculty, and staff is meaningful and motivating. My love for this university is expressed through volunteering and supporting the development process.

John Greene

John Greene (BE ’63, BA ’70) of Denver began serving the university in 1972, supporting students and leading knowledge to multiple boards and councils. John spent six years on the Dean’s Advisory Council at the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and recruited supporters as a member of the College’s Campaign Advisory Council. A founding member and chair of the Earth and Environmental Sciences Advisory Board, John was recognized with the department’s highest honor—the Distinguished Alumnus Award—in 2016. Through the M. Joan Evans Scholarship Fund, the Evans Family Scholarship Fund, John’s generosity has come full circle, supporting two scholarships named to honor his own philanthropic efforts on campus.

My reward for volunteering for Michigan is knowing that these efforts help to bring a broader education and experience for outstanding applicants and students. These are the young men and women who will, in the future, be our leaders in making U-M a greater institution and the world a better place.

Trish Turner-McConnell

Trish Turner-McConnell (AB ’77) lives in Alhambra, California, and is a certified marketing executive for a number of software start-ups. She serves as the co-chair of the San Francisco/Bay Area Campaign Council for U-M’s Victory for Michigan Campaign. She has endowed scholarships in U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts for transfer students from community colleges. She serves on the President’s Advisory Group, the Parent International Committee, and the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) National Advisory Committee. She recently served on the search committee for UMMA’s next director. Trish’s leadership, expertise, and passion have made her a strong advocate for the university’s mission in higher education.

I grew up in a small town in Michigan and couldn’t attend college without receiving scholarship assistance. Michigan changed my life when they offered me a scholarship. I have established scholarships to give students the same life-changing opportunity given to me. Working as a volunteer enables me to support Michigan and to develop wonderful friendships.

Trish Turner-McConnell and Thomas McConnell

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IN MEMORIAM

JOAN TISCH

Over the years, the Tisch family’s shared dedication to the university found expression through numerous gifts with immediate and long-lasting impact.

In 1997, the Tisch family name became the first in U-M history to appear on both academic and athletic buildings. The Tisch Foundation gave a landmark gift to what became known on campus as the “front door to the humanities,” Tisch Hall. The family simultaneously supported a new tennis facility, the Preston Robert Tisch Tennis Building. In recognition of the Tisches’ longtime support of the Athletics Department, the university named the northeast tower of Michigan Stadium the Joan and Bob Tisch Tower.

In 2007, during the award-winning expansion project of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, another foundational gift led to the naming of the Joan and Bob Tisch Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art.

And in 2008, three years after her husband’s death, Tisch made gifts to the Athletics Department for the renovation and expansion of Michigan Stadium, and to the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA). The latter established the Preston Robert and Joan Tisch Endowed Scholarship Fund, providing financial support for out-of-state LSA undergraduates. The first Tisch Scholars were named in the fall of 2009.

Joan’s legacy of activism and generosity continues through her children, who have been ardent supporters of causes at U-M and beyond.

Blessed friend and aluma Joan Tisch (AB ’48, LLD Hon ’09) of New York City died on November 2, 2017. She was 90.

Joan was survived by her three children, Steven, Laurie (ABEd ’73, TeachCert ’73), and Jonathan.

A dedicated philanthropist, Tisch devoted time, energy, and resources to educational, civic, and cultural organizations around the country. At U-M, she will be remembered for her driven philanthropic spirit and enduring loyalty to her alma mater.

Tisch arrived at U-M in the 1940s as an undergraduate, earning a bachelor's degree in English. On the steps of the Hatcher Graduate Library, she met her husband and future partner in philanthropy: the late Preston Robert (Bob) Tisch (AB ’48). The couple married in 1948.

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EUGENE APPLEBAUM

Arbor Drugs founder and dedicated philanthropist Eugene Applebaum of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan died on December 25, 2017, at age 85. He is survived by his wife, Marcia, and his two daughters, Lisa (AB ’84) and Pamela Applebaum (AB ’87).

After earning a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy from Wayne State University, Applebaum opened the first Civic Drugs store in Dearborn, Michigan in 1963. In 1974, he expanded the chain to form Arbor Drugs Inc., selling the company to the CVS Corporation in 1998, and founding Arbor Investments Group.

Eugene and Marcia have been exemplary philanthropists across the state of Michigan, supporting education, arts and culture, and health care. At the University of Michigan, the impact of the Applebaum’s gifts have spanned across campus. The family has supported students, research, facilities, and more, most notably at the Stephen M. Ross School of Business; the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts (LSA); and the Medical School.

As a major benefactor to the Ross School of Business, the Eugene Applebaum Family Foundation provided support for the Eugene Applebaum Dars to Dream grant program, the Eugene Applebaum Professor of Entrepreneurial Studies, and the Eugene Applebaum Family Entrepreneurial Excellence Awards, among other gifts. In 1994, he received the Ross School of Business Entrepreneur Award.

Created in 2002, the Dars to Dream grant program at the Samuel Zell and Robert H. Lurie Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies awards venture-shaping and startup grants to U-M students ranging from $500 to $5,000.

Recently, the Applebaum Family established the Applebaum Program for Non-Profit Internships in Southeast Michigan, providing LSA students with an opportunity to intern with Detroit organizations.

At Michigan Medicine, the foundation has helped enhance the understanding of conditions such as ALS, diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, spinal cord injuries, and muscular dystrophy. The foundation has provided support for clinical trials, laboratory tests, advanced imaging technology, and more.

A passionate and tireless volunteer for U-M, Applebaum served as a member of the Michigan Medicine Advisory Group, the Ross Zell Lab Institute Advisory Board, and the Taubman Medical Research Institute Leadership Advisory Board.

Tisch was ardent in her support of causes at U-M and beyond. Her driven philanthropic spirit and enduring loyalty to her alma mater

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