FINANCIAL AID. THE ARTS. HEALTH AND WELLNESS.

Trustee Marieke Rothschild P’16 and her husband, Jeff Rothschild P’16, have given $16 million to support those College priorities, continuing support that previously included a $4.5-million gift for financial aid.

“This is a magical gift,” said President David A. Greene. “It accelerates the implementation of initiatives that better the lives of students and strengthen the College.”

Their generosity will help make Colby affordable for families across the income spectrum, support the upcoming Gordon Center for Creative and Performing Arts, and contribute to the new Harold Alfond Athletics and Recreation Center.

While supporting financial aid at Colby has been a priority for the couple, said Marieke Rothschild, “we were struck by the ongoing efforts to provide students with the support necessary to have extraordinary experiences related to the arts and an ongoing commitment to healthy living.”

“The irony that we all recognize is that learning and living through deep, meaningful relationships—the most fulfilling, enlightening way to live—is threatened when this pandemic limits close personal interaction. But this threat will not last.”

—President David A. Greene to the Class of 2020

ENGAGED
QuestBridge Scholar Bethashley Cajuste ’20 received the College’s prestigious Condon Medal for 2020 for her commitment to community and constructive citizenship. The global health major from Wesley Chapel, Fla., was a sexual violence prevention peer and executive chair of the Pugh Community Board.

ILLUMINATIVE
“Embrace the weird,” Class Speaker Kabir Singh ’20 said during the May 24 virtual celebration. “Interrogating the peculiar things can empower us with transformational connections and push us to really be uncomfortable in a way a lot of us need to do more of.”

PROPHETIC
Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies, won this year’s Charles Bassett Teaching Award. “I’m speaking to you who are pioneers, shapers, potential prophets of the 21st century,” she said in her Last Lecture. “Keep marching for justice.”
“We knew that we needed to turbo-charge our efforts to ensure post-graduate success.”

—Vice President and Dean of Student Advancement Andy McGadney on the Pay it Northward initiative
The new Harold Alfond Athletics and Recreation Center is now 95 percent complete and has welcomed Colbians this fall. The facility is expected to become a regional center for competitive and recreational athletics as well as a part of the College’s community partnership and economic development efforts.

From field house to fitness studios, hockey rink to basketball arena, informal seating spaces to classrooms, this new 350,000-square-foot facility is designed with the best training facilities and an inviting atmosphere in mind. One of the key features is the 50-meter Myrtha pool, the state’s only Olympic-size swimming pool and New England’s only Myrtha pool. Filled over the course of four weeks in May and June, it holds 850,000 gallons of water and has the same design used in the last three Olympics.

A central courtyard (approximately the size of the Eustis Administration Building) brings trees, plants, and natural light into the heart of the building. The 26-acre site will include wetland and upland meadows, a sloping front lawn, and a large recreation field—all designed to retain more than 80 percent of rainfall on the site.

“What was only an idea five years ago is now a reality. The future is bright for Colby, and this amazing new facility will inspire generations of Mules to come.”

—Vice President and Harold Alfond Director of Athletics Mike Wisecup
A visionary leader, Jacqueline Terrassa has been appointed Carolyn Muzzy Director of the Colby College Museum of Art. Terrassa, who currently serves as the Woman’s Board vice president for learning and public engagement at the Art Institute of Chicago, will assume her role in October.

“Terrassa’s “personal warmth, experiences at the nation’s top museums and universities, and forward-looking approach to the role of museums in societies make her a spectacular choice at this auspicious moment in Colby’s history.”

—President David A. Greene

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Luis Gonzalez Kompalic ’20, an inaugural O’Hanian-Szostak Fellow, has been collecting stories of Waterville residents through his project Narrating Waterville. The goal, he explained, “is to capture a moment in time when a lot of things are changing, to try and make sure the change doesn’t erase everything that was here before.”

BEST IN THE COUNTRY

Colby sent three alpine skiers to the NCAA Championships, only to see the event canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. For Rosie Hust ’21 it would have been three appearances in three years. Sandy Schoepke ’20 (above) qualified for the second straight year.