

University of  
La Verne

# Donor Report

## 2016/17

*The Office of University Advancement*

## OUR MISSION

The University of La Verne offers a distinctive and relevant educational experience to a diverse population of traditional-age, adult, and graduate learners, preparing them for successful careers and a commitment to lifelong learning across the liberal arts and professional programs.

### CORE VALUES

Ethical Reasoning

Diversity & Inclusivity

Lifelong Learning

Community & Civic Engagement



"At the beginning of each academic year, I ask incoming students to think about their personal mission and purpose in life, what they want to accomplish, and what legacy they want to create. At the University of La Verne, our mission's success is measured by the lives we transform and our purpose is to make a positive impact on the world. These are the same motivators that inspire the generosity of our donors. We are extremely thankful to all of you who, as part of your legacies, are enabling our students to envision and create theirs."

**Devorah Lieberman, Ph.D.**  
President  
University of La Verne



"The focal point of the University's 125th Anniversary Celebration, the 2016-2017 academic year was among our most successful fundraising years ever. Through the dedication and financial support of our alumni and friends, including individuals, corporations and foundations, La Verne is able to continue to serve our mission, instill our core values and impact future generations. Thank you!"

**Sherri Mylott**  
Vice President  
University Advancement

**10**  
CAMPUSES

**4**  
COLLEGES

**1**  
UNIVERSITY

# 15,421,000

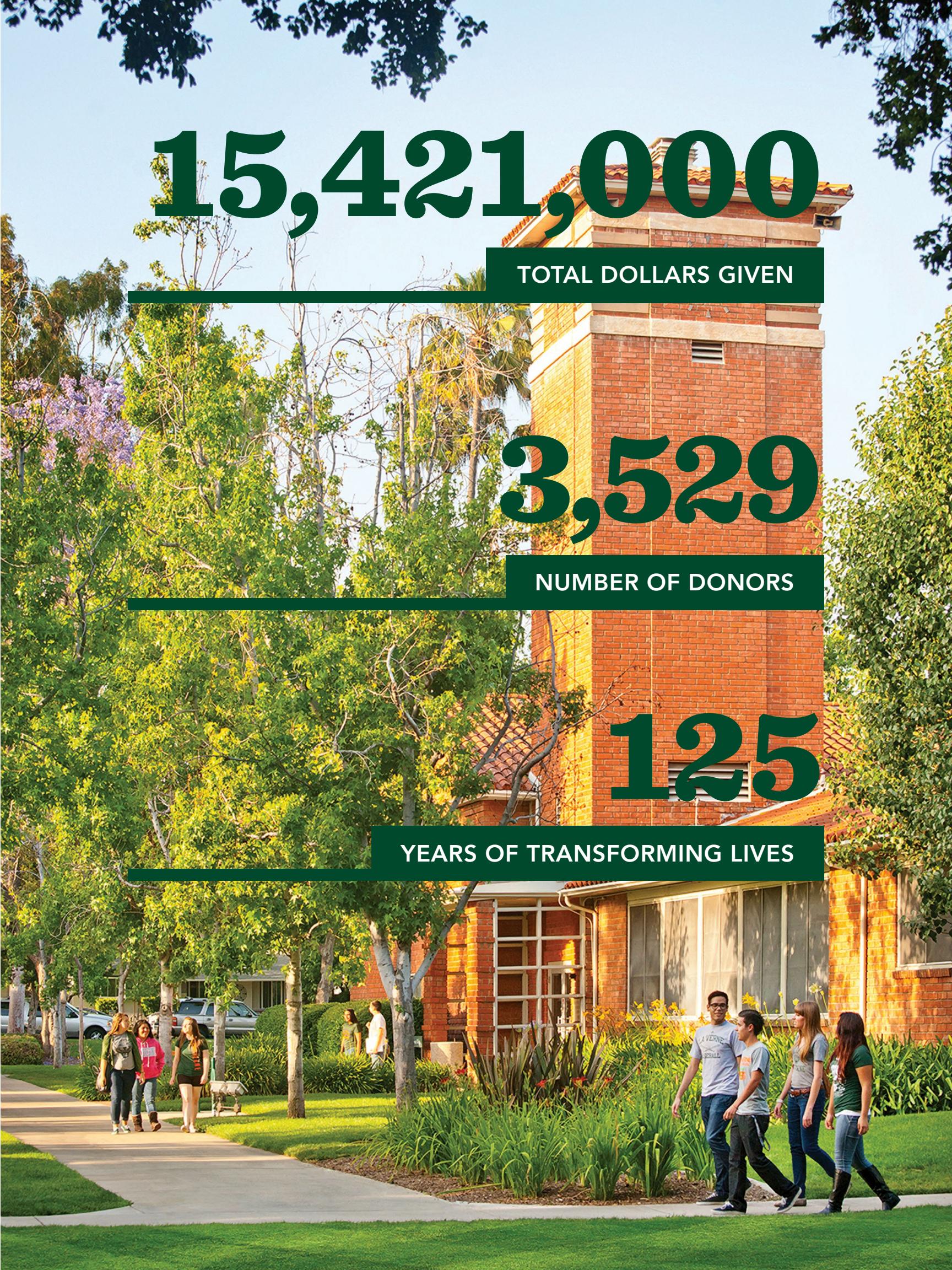
TOTAL DOLLARS GIVEN

# 3,529

NUMBER OF DONORS

# 125

YEARS OF TRANSFORMING LIVES



YOUR GIFTS MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE –  
THANK YOU

TOTAL  
GIVEN

\$15,421,000



Scholarships

**\$4,229,000**

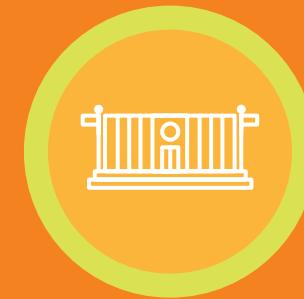
In honor of his late wife, Heshmat, and her wish inspired through years of teaching in Iran to help deserving students in need, Dr. Taghi Mirsepassi used money Heshmat had saved and additional funds to establish the \$1 million Heshmat Mirsepassi Endowed Scholarship. Supporting Muslim students in financial need, it was one of 14 named scholarships created at La Verne during 2016-2017.



Chairs  
Professorships  
& Lectureships

**\$1,359,000**

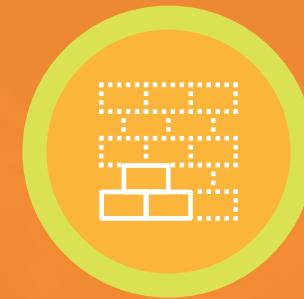
Filling endowed chairs created through generous contributions by the Fletcher Jones Foundation, Dr. David Bickford, an international expert in biodiversity, was recruited as the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair in Biology, and Dr. Tatiana Tatarinova, a leading computational scientist, as the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair in Computational Biology.



Centers

**\$1,170,000**

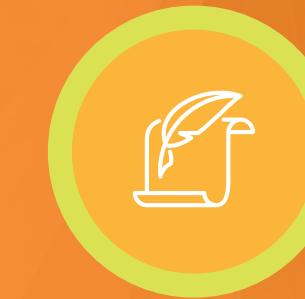
The Center for Neurodiversity, Learning and Wellness in the LaFetra College of Education marks a paradigm shift for students and teachers dealing with autism, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder or other learning challenges. Funded through the record \$10 million gift from University Trustee Tony LaFetra in 2015-2016, the center puts the spirit of the learner above the diagnosis.



Capital

**\$1,104,000**

On the 125th anniversary of Founders Day, La Verne broke ground on a five-story, nearly 400-bed residence and dining hall envisioned as part of a larger student village at the southeast corner of the main campus. Slated to open in August 2018, the hall will have ample parking, thanks to the University's new five-level parking structure, which has 944 spaces and sustainable features such as solar panels to help meet the campus' energy needs.



Programs

**\$7,559,000**

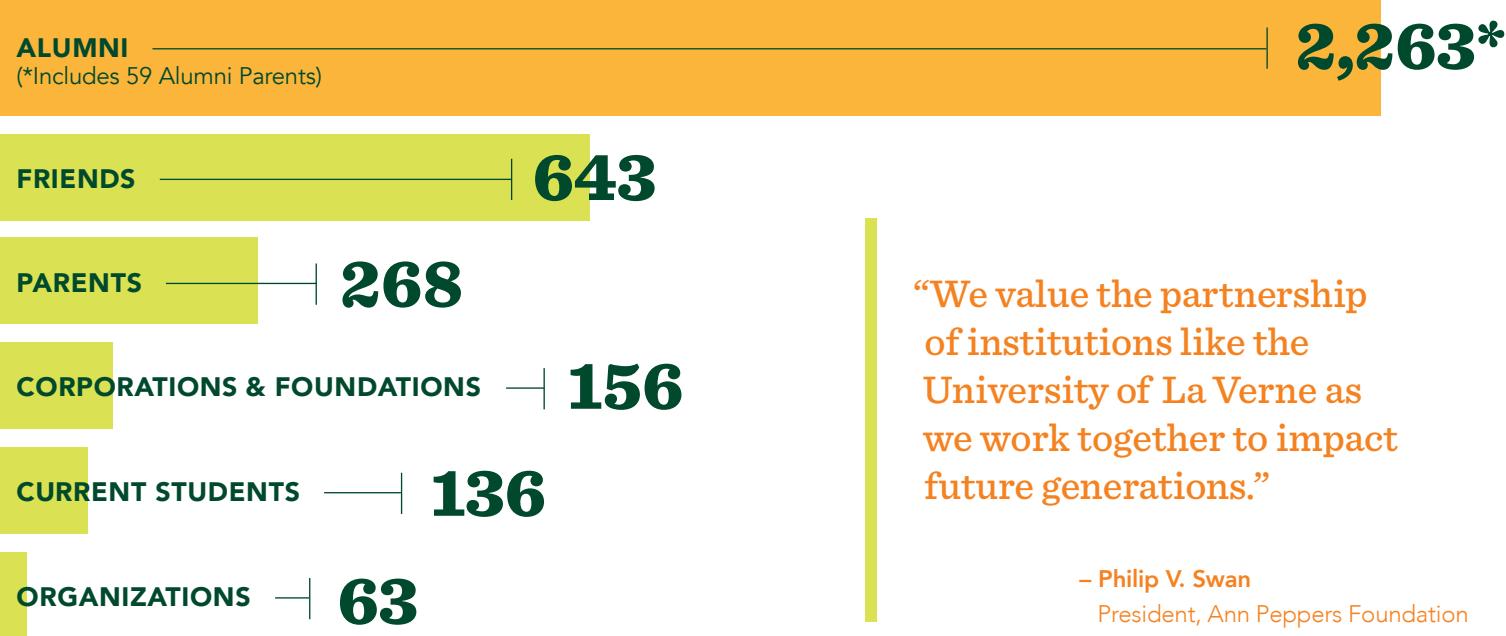
For 60 years, La Verne's Summer Service Program has aided students' leadership development, personal and spiritual growth, and social responsibility. Providing volunteer opportunities that benefit the community, the program welcomes students of all religious, philosophical and secular perspectives. Over the past decade, donors have given nearly \$100,000 to the program and pledged more than \$450,000 in future support.



# ■ 3,529

TOTAL NUMBER OF DONORS

## » DONOR BREAKDOWNS



### ALUMNI CLASS Giving

431	2010s
430	2000s
438	1990s
391	1980s
271	1970s
178	1960s
90	1950s
32	1940s
2	1930s

# ■ 1,882

New Alumni Donors During Three-Year Challenge

## Alumni Counted, Challenge Exceeded!

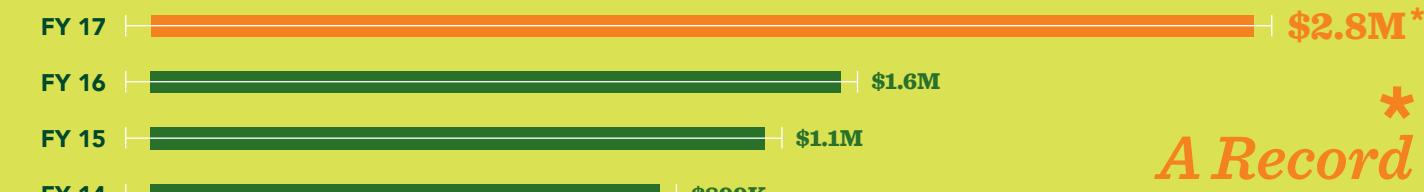
Leos from around the world doubled down on an anonymous donor's three-year challenge to increase the number of new alumni donors at La Verne by more than 1,000. In all, the "Count Me In" Challenge, which began in 2014, added nearly 1,900 new alumni donors, bucking a national trend in declining alumni engagement. As a result, the University received the full \$500,000 challenge award.

### Goal: 360 New Alumni Donors Each Year

NUMBER OF DONORS	
Year 1	906
Year 2	569
Year 3	407

Total: 1,882 New Alumni Donors = \$500,000 Challenge Award

## CORPORATE & FOUNDATION GIVING



FY = Fiscal Year, July 1-June 30

A Record  
High! \*

## HIGHLIGHTS

### STRONG FOUNDATION FOR UNDERGRADUATES

"We value the partnership of institutions like the University of La Verne as we work together to impact future generations," said Philip V. Swan, President of the Ann Peppers Foundation, which awarded a \$250,000 endowed scholarship to La Verne after it met the foundation's challenge to raise matching funds.

### CORPORATE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

Corporate education partnerships at La Verne reached an all-time high of 111 in 2016-2017, thanks to companies like American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and Behr Paint, which created programs to enhance their employees' leadership and management skills.

**"I understand the challenges and pressure of being a working professional while continuing an education. My wife and I are very supportive of lifelong learning and helping Honda associates achieve their career goals."**

— John Mendel

Executive Vice President, American Honda Motor Co.  
(Honda has been a Corporate Education Partner since January 2017)



## CASE AWARD

### CREDIT TO DONORS FOR NATIONAL FUNDRAISING HONOR

"Our team is proud to be recognized with the Council for Advancement of Higher Education (CASE) Educational Fundraising Award, one of our field's highest honors," said Sherri Mylott, Vice President, University Advancement. "Ultimately, however, much of the credit belongs to our donors and other University community partners who make our jobs so very exciting and rewarding. Thanks to them, we get to impact generations of students through a distinctive La Verne education."

# Paying It Forward, Inspiring Others

TAYLOR BRISTOL WARNER AND CRISTA HAYNES credit the scholarships they received in the La Verne College of Law for allowing them to excel in their studies and be active student leaders. A recipient of the Joseph & Doleen Borba Scholarship, Taylor served as Chief Managing Editor of the University's Law Review and founded the La Verne Public Interest Law Foundation. Crista, a recipient of the Paul Egly Scholarship, was Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Law, Business & Ethics*. Upon earning their law degrees in 2011, the pair hoped one day to reciprocate their donors' generosity by supporting law student scholarships of their own. Little did they know

that "one day" would come sooner than they thought or that they would endow a scholarship together from the success of their own law firm, Bristol & Haynes.

First awarded for 2016-2017, the Bristol Haynes Leadership Endowed Scholarship supports a top College of Law student who has shown exemplary leadership in student organizations or clinics. "We worked hard to make it through law school and build a successful firm, but the scholarships made it all possible," says Crista. Taylor added, "It's gratifying, so early in our careers, to be able to pay forward the generous support we received and, hopefully, inspire others to do the same."



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— Taylor Bristol, J.D. '11 (left)  
Founding Partner, Bristol & Haynes

“

...the scholarships made it all possible.

— Crista Haynes, J.D. '11  
Founding Partner, Bristol & Haynes



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
GIFTS OF TIME, TALENT  
& RESOURCES

## GIVING SOCIETIES

### 1891 Society

Donors who gave cash gifts of \$1,200 or more during the fiscal year

**\$5,899,000**

AMOUNT GIVEN

### Veritas Society

Individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the University through the establishment of an annuity, trust, bequest, life insurance policy, or endowment

**\$59,572,000**

CUMULATIVE LIFETIME GIVING

### La Verne Athletic Associates

Athletic boosters who gave \$100 or more during the fiscal year

**\$110,000**

AMOUNT GIVEN

**412**

MEMBERS IN 2016-17

**235**

LIFETIME MEMBERS

**300**

MEMBERS IN 2016-17



#### University Leadership

Board of Trustees  
President's Advisory Council  
President's Health Advisory Council  
Campaign Steering Committee

#### Advisory Groups

Alumni Advisory Board  
College of Business and Public Management Advisory Board  
College of Law Board of Advisors  
La Verne Athletic Associates Board  
Planned Giving Advisory Council  
Spiritual Life and Interfaith Advisory Council

## Green and Orange Society

Loyal supporters who have given for three or more consecutive years.  
Lifetime members have given for 25 or more consecutive years.

1,277 MEMBERS IN 2016-17 

AMOUNT GIVEN

GIVING ..... | **3-5 YRS.**

MEMBERS ..... | **617**

GIVING ..... | **6-9 YRS.**

MEMBERS ..... | **264**

GIVING ..... | **10-14 YRS.**

MEMBERS ..... | **162**

GIVING ..... | **15-19 YRS.**

MEMBERS ..... | **94**

GIVING ..... | **20-24 YRS.**

MEMBERS ..... | **44**

GIVING ..... | **25+ YRS.  
(Lifetime)**

**\$1,125,000**

“

#### DONOR SPOTLIGHT

My personal belief is that all the blessings I have been given in life are borrowed. It is my responsibility to ensure those blessings are shared with others. I enjoy doing this through my financial and volunteer contributions in support of the University and its students. The University of La Verne is a first-class institution that embodies a set of core values that are dear to my heart.

”



**Ben Eramya, M.B.A. '12**  
Owner, FEAST Enterprises, Inc.  
College of Business and Public Management  
Advisory Board Member

#### Committees

125th Anniversary Committee  
Golf Tournament Committee  
Scholarship Gala Committee

#### Affinity Groups

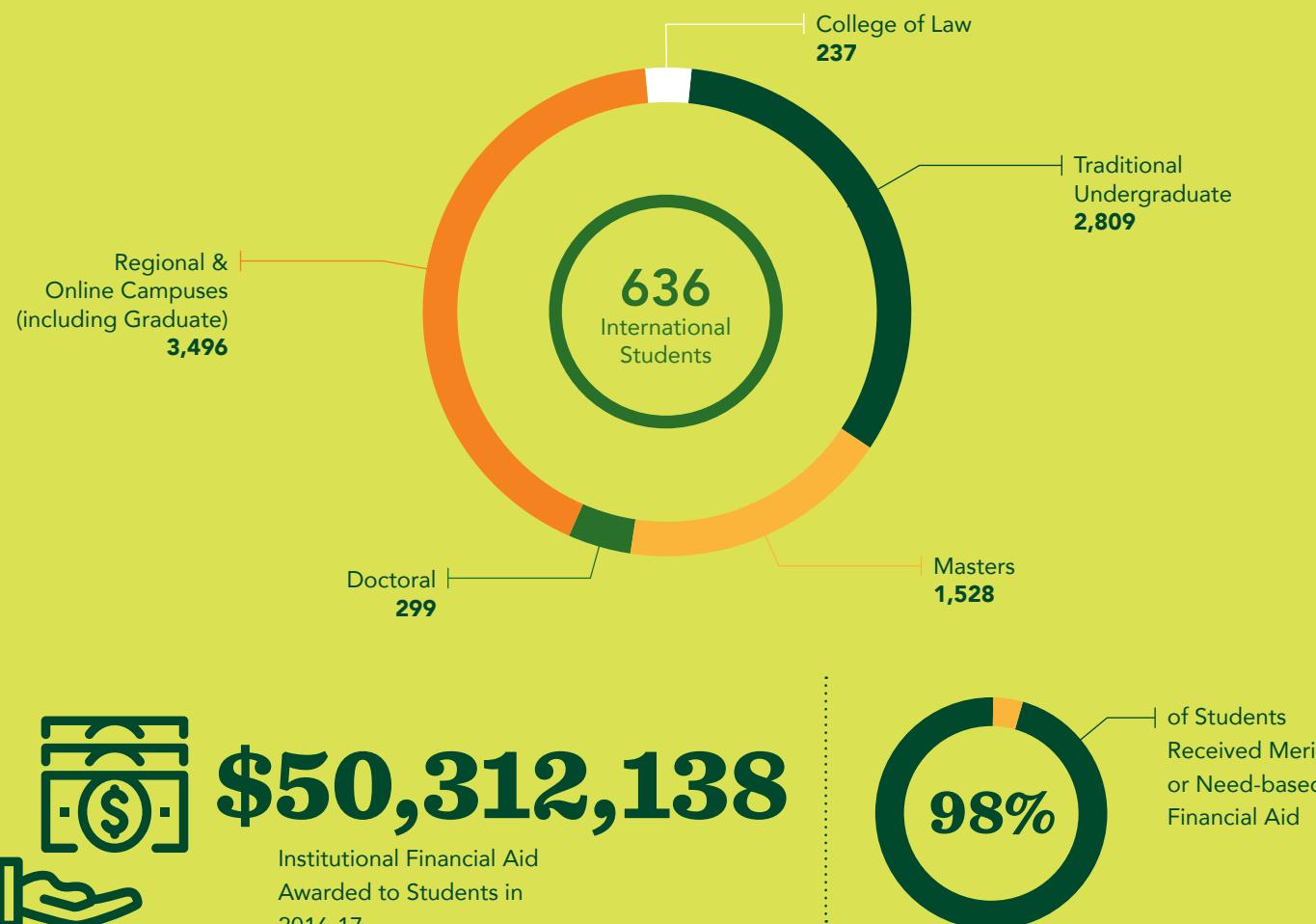
Alumni, Friends & Floaters  
CAPA (College Accelerated Program for Adults)  
College of Business and Public Management  
College of Law  
Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership  
Master of Public Administration

#### International Groups

United Arab Emirates Alumni Chapter  
Taiwan Alumni Chapter  
Pearl River Delta (China) Alumni Chapter

# 8,369

## TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED



## HIGHLIGHTS

The University celebrated its 125th Anniversary with special Founder's Day activities and other events during the year, recognition of La Verne's 125 most influential individuals, and publishing of a commemorative book, *Generations of Transforming Lives: The University of*

# 125



From excavating bones in Africa to teaching schoolchildren in China, nearly 40 La Verne students kept busy this past summer researching and teaching in field schools around the world, thanks to research awards that put their classroom learning into real-world practice.

Demonstrating their entrepreneurial spirit, La Verne's Enactus team won the 2017 Western Regional competition. Enactus is an international community of student, academic and business leaders taking entrepreneurial action to transform lives and create a more sustainable world.



# 56

The College of Business and Public Management's 2017 REACH Summer Business Camp brought 56 motivated, mostly first-generation high school seniors to La Verne to learn first-hand what university life is like. Donors gave nearly \$34,000 to help make the three-week residential program possible.



Hundreds of debaters representing colleges and universities across North, South and Central America met in La Verne for the 2017 Pan-American Universities Debating Championship, where La Verne reached the finals alongside Cornell University, UCLA and the University of Rochester. La Verne also won the California Cup, besting debaters from UC Berkeley and New York University, among others.



In the University's largest government grant ever, the U.S. Department of Education awarded La Verne \$6 million to increase the number of Latino students graduating with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) degrees.



Thanks to the artists, patrons and subscribers, the inaugural season of Lyceum @ La Verne offered an array of culturally diverse performances and lectures that celebrated and advanced the arts at La Verne and in the community.

## ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS

“

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

La Verne has not only benefitted me academically, it has provided amazing memories from my athletic experiences, campus and social activities, and supportive relationships with faculty, staff, coaches and fellow students. At La Verne, you're not just a number; you're someone who matters and has unlimited potential.

Jessica Hernandez '18  
Kinesiology

- ★ **4 All Americans**
- ★ **16 All West-Region Selections**
- ★ **5 Individual SCIAC Champions**
- ★ **Softball Back-to-Back SCIAC Champions**
- ★ **141** scholar-athletes attained an average **3.6 GPA**
- ★ **7** scholar-athletes maintained a cumulative **4.0 GPA** or higher

”

# Lifted Up By His La Verne Family

A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT from a tough part of Southern California, De Vonte Moore '18, Chemistry (Biology minor), felt a weight on his shoulders when he arrived at La Verne. "That first year was hard. I was representing my family, working two jobs and struggling with the transition," he said. "My Summer Service Program experience was the turning point. It got me away from negative influences in my neighborhood. I lived with a family in Washington State for 10 weeks and it changed my perspective on people and culture."

That fall, De Vonte became more involved on campus. His membership in the Brother's Forum student group led to College of Law Dean Emeritus Gilbert Holmes becoming his mentor. In his junior year, based on faculty recommendations, he was awarded the Robert & Mary Neher Biology Scholarship, which helped financially and boosted his confidence. "It validated my hard work and told me someone out there cared enough to help," said De Vonte, who subsequently earned internships at Colorado State University and USC. "The collective support of my La Verne family – donors, professors and advisors – has shaped who I am academically and personally, and pushed me to the next level. I couldn't be more thankful."

Above, right: College of Law  
Dean Emeritus Gilbert Holmes



# 453

students received named scholarships in 2016-17



**De Vonte Moore '18**  
Chemistry

“

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A sincere thank you to all  
of our donors.

**University of La Verne**

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