William & Mary was the first public university in Virginia to admit women. In 1918, the first women students walked through the doors of the Wren Building and made history. Since then, generations of women have followed in their footsteps and made vital contributions to William & Mary’s rich legacy of achievement.

Today, the majority of William & Mary’s alumni are women. They are leaders, mentors and innovators who are making a difference in their communities, the nation and world.

To celebrate and honor the important role women have played at William & Mary for 100 years, the university has established the Society of 1918. The Society offers an opportunity for members to deepen their connection with one another and the university while inspiring, encouraging and empowering all William & Mary women to reach their fullest potential. The Society will strengthen the impact and amplify the influence women have on William & Mary’s future.
MISSION & VISION

The Society of 1918 is committed to growing women’s engagement, leadership and philanthropy and to celebrating and honoring William & Mary women. Our vision is for William & Mary women to achieve a level of impact, influence and generosity commensurate with their majority representation in the alumni community.

MEMBERSHIP

Charter membership is offered to all women who actively support the vision of the Society and make a $10,000 commitment to the Alumnae Initiatives Endowment prior to June 30, 2018. Gifts may be paid over five years ($2,000/year).

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

In addition to the benefits associated with William & Mary’s giving societies, Society of 1918 members receive the following benefits:

Access to a dynamic, inspiring group of current and emerging W&M women leaders and supporters.

Opportunity to serve as a leader in the W&M community to help build a robust and diverse multigenerational pipeline of women seeking deeper engagement and influence at W&M.

Advance invitations and registration to alumnae initiatives events.

Invitations to special William & Mary events and opportunities to interact with speakers, special guests, senior leaders, faculty and other women philanthropists.

The first 24 women students made up only 17% of their class. Women make up 58% of the Class of 2018.

53% of William & Mary’s alumni are women.
ALUMNAE INITIATIVES ENDOWMENT

As part of the effort to commemorate 100 years of coeducation, William & Mary has established an endowment to support alumnae initiatives programs. Income from the endowment will be used to enrich and expand current offerings that bring all W&M women together to strengthen their bonds with one another and with alma mater. Examples include William & Mary Women’s Weekend, regional women’s events, networking opportunities and support for the celebration of 100 years of coeducation.

The goal is to create a $1.918 million endowment in commemoration of 1918, the first year women were admitted to William & Mary.

If women gave at the same level as men each year, it would generate almost $1 million more annually for William & Mary.

To support the Alumnae Initiatives Endowment or to become a member of the Society of 1918, please contact:

Valerie Cushman
Director of Alumnae Initiatives
vjcushman@wm.edu
(757) 221-1622

Lee J. Foster HON ’13
Executive Director of Principal Gifts & Foundation Operations
ljfost@wm.edu
(757) 221-1368

Save the date for W&M Women’s Weekend!
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2018