



March 13, 2020

Dear Friends,

I am writing to follow up on the news that I shared on March 23, about our decision to postpone MCLA's 125th Anniversary Celebration. **We are targeting October 3, 2020** as our rescheduled date, though it's possible that due to the rapidly evolving situation that we may need to reassess. Please plan to save that date for October 3.

I'm sure that this event is not top-of-mind for you as you navigate other more pressing concerns, but I wanted to make sure that all ticket holders and sponsors are up-to-date on their options and next steps.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have pivoted our immediate fundraising efforts to the **MCLA Resiliency Fund**, an emergency relief fund ensuring that all currently enrolled students receive the instruction and support they need without worry about the unexpected financial burden this crisis presents. We are committed to providing stability to our students who face great need in our current reality. The MCLA Resiliency Fund will allow the College to help ease the immediate needs of our students, including food insecurity, technology for virtual learning, and other unforeseen financial challenges. [Click here](#) to view a message from President Birge about The Resiliency Fund.

It is my hope that you will be able to join us in October. **If you plan on attending the event in October – you do not need to do anything. We will roll your ticket purchase forward to the rescheduled date.** I understand that your circumstances may be different in October. So here are some options for you to consider:

- Turn your ticket into a fully tax-deductible donation to the 125th Elevating Lives Fund which will go to support students with Scholarship, Career Launching internships, and academic travel experiences.
- Turn your ticket into a fully tax-deductible donation to the MCLA Resiliency Fund. Described above.
- Ask for a refund (this would go back to your original form of payment)

Please email advancement@mcla.edu by **May 1, 2020** with guidance on how you would like to proceed. If we do not hear from you by May 1, we will plan on rolling your ticket purchase forward to the rescheduled date.

I would like to extend my deepest appreciation for your continued support of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Your ticket purchase for MCLA's 125th Anniversary Celebration proves invaluable in the support of our students and our continued goal of Elevating Lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert P. Ziomek".

Robert P. Ziomek '89
Vice President of Institutional Advancement