

# Planning Matters

A CHARITABLE PLANNING GUIDE FOR **MARY WASHINGTON** ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

## Building Peace

### UMW scholarship recipient strives to make world safer and more inclusive

**Gabriel Jose Paguada Matteson '22** is immersed in the culture and daily life of Berlin, Germany, finally taking part in the study abroad program he had planned last year.

"This program offers the best courses related to security studies and international affairs through an in-depth and hands-on approach," says Gabriel. "It was postponed due to COVID, but I am here now on historic ground where three of the biggest conflicts of the 20th century took place."

Gabriel will graduate from UMW in May with a double major in international affairs and anthropology and a minor in security and conflict studies. He plans to follow in his mother's footsteps by serving in the Peace Corps. He has also applied for a Fulbright Scholarship in Spain and plans to pursue a master's degree in global security studies.

"Whether I work in the intelligence community, academia, or the private sector, my ultimate career goal is that my daily labors be in service to making the world a safer and more inclusive place for all people," says Gabriel.

Growing up in Arlington, Virginia, with an American and Honduran heritage, Gabriel has always been serious about

his academic record, soccer skills, and volunteer work to support justice and peace.

"I grew up believing you work hard and are kind to neighbors," says Gabriel. "I might not fit in anywhere, but I fit everywhere."

This has helped me see different points of view and understand everybody comes with a story and a background that should be honored."

Gabriel is grateful for the financial assistance he has received to support his education and experiential learning activities, including scholarships established by Heritage Society members **Marjorie Jean Frost '44** and former Mary Washington archivist Barbara Alden.

"My time in Berlin has been great," says Gabriel. "I'm blown away by the multitude of cultural exchanges and opportunities for collaborating with people from all over the world. I am truly thankful for this incredible experience."

For information about creating scholarships for students, contact the Office of Gift Planning at [jlclarke@umw.edu](mailto:jlclarke@umw.edu) or 540-654-2064.



Gabriel Matteson '22 appreciates the scholarships that make his study abroad experience possible.

See inside for guidelines about designating beneficiaries.



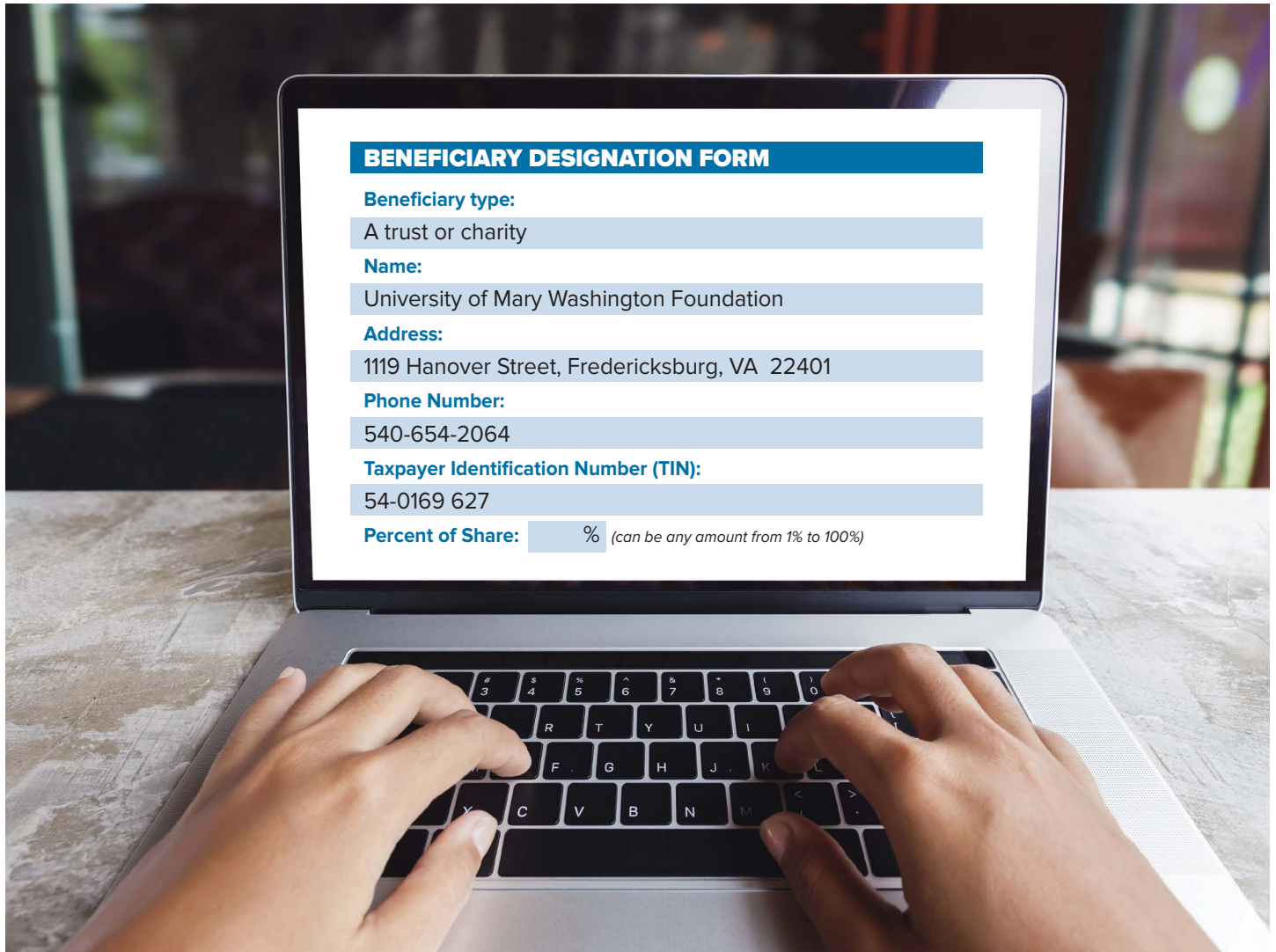
## Check the Boxes

### Include accurate information on all beneficiary forms

As you begin – or finalize – your estate plans, be sure to complete financial account or life insurance policy beneficiary forms with as much information as possible. As relationships change and beneficiaries relocate or pass away, it's important to regularly review the information to ensure your forms remain accurate. In some cases, the recipient listed on a beneficiary form may take precedence over a different name included in a will.

Types of accounts or policies that may require a beneficiary designation for Transfer on Death (TOD) include checking or savings accounts. Those eligible for Payable on Death (POD) include investment accounts, mutual funds, stocks and bonds held in a brokerage account, IRA or other retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and even some types of personal property.

Assets in these accounts can pass directly to the person or charitable organization you designate without going through the probate process or being counted as part of your taxable estate.



For information about including Mary Washington as a beneficiary of the residual of any of your accounts, please contact Jan Clarke in the UMW Office of Gift Planning at [jclarke@umw.edu](mailto:jclarke@umw.edu) or 540-654-2064.



# Speaking the Language

## Alumna offers tributes through new UMW scholarships

Born in Illinois, **Catherine Elwell '73** says she knew at a young age that she had a gift for foreign languages. When her family moved to Springfield, Virginia, in 1966, she soon began considering her college choices.

“Mary Washington was in-state, had a strong modern foreign language department, and offered a number of possibilities to study abroad,” says Cathy.

She arrived on campus with plans to major in French. During her four years at Mary Washington, she also found herself drawn to theater, and soon was able to combine many of her interests into an unforgettable three-semester study abroad experience in France.

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*Cathy is creating two UMW scholarships through her estate plans.*

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“I loved living in the center of Paris,” says Cathy, “and I tried to organize as many ‘dirt-cheap’ excursions as possible. Regardless of my travels, I always focused on academics so I could graduate when I returned home.”

A few years earlier, Cathy’s suitemate, **Patricia Mavine Sauls '71**, had suggested Cathy consider applying at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

“When I returned from Paris, I was oozing with confidence,” says Cathy. “I knew my French and I was ready. So, I applied in the spring of 1973, was hired, graduated from Mary Washington in May, and walked into the door of IMF that June.”

During the next 35 years of her career, Cathy supported IMF economists in a variety of roles and says she traveled on more than 30 missions to nearly all the French-speaking countries in Africa, the Comoros Islands and Madagascar in the Indian Ocean region, and parts of Asia.

“I truly put my studies at MWC and at La Sorbonne at the University of Paris, to full use every day,” says Cathy.



Catherine Elwell '73 at work in the IMF building in 2002.

As a member of the Heritage Society, Cathy’s estate plans will pay tribute to those who have guided her. In addition to a UMW study abroad scholarship in memory of her parents, Cathy also is creating a UMW theater scholarship in honor of her suitemate, Patty.

“I truly have been blessed,” says Cathy. “Everything I see out my window and everything I touch is a product of where I came from and the choices I made. This is my legacy.”

Visit <https://bit.ly/UMWElwell> to read more of Cathy’s story.

*For more information about bequests or designating Mary Washington as a beneficiary of your retirement or banking accounts, contact Jan Clarke at [jclarke@umw.edu](mailto:jclarke@umw.edu) or 540-654-2064.*

*Opportunities*



# A Message from President Troy D. Paino

**Dear Alumni and Friends:** Mary Washington has come a long way since 1908, when legislation created a state school for women in Fredericksburg. At that time, its main mission was to prepare teachers to educate our country's youth. Over the years, the name evolved; enrollment was expanded; degree programs were updated; and a number of buildings were added.

The first four buildings – Willard, Monroe, Virginia, and Seacobeck – make up Mary Washington's historic Quad and are a vital part of the campus experience. In recent years, UMW invested in significant renovations to repair, preserve, update, and upgrade these facilities to serve a new generation of students.

In January 2022, the newly renovated and repurposed Seacobeck will open its doors as the home for the College of Education. This milestone reflects UMW's continuing mission to educate teachers for the Commonwealth, while demonstrating how this institution has remained true to its tradition of excellence.

After more than a century, UMW continues to prepare graduates to lead, to seek the greater good, and to make the world a better place. This is the purpose of higher education in our society, and it is what makes me proud to serve as this institution's president. As always, I thank you for all you do for today's students and for remaining true to Mary Washington.



## Living History

### Students enjoy modern amenities in historic Virginia Hall

When students moved into Virginia Hall in August 2021, they were thrilled to experience the "newness" of it all, including central air and an elevator. They also were treated to a series of historic markers that highlight the numerous transitions in the building's construction, its purpose, and its residents.

Visit <https://bit.ly/UMWLivingHistory> to read about the building's architect, Charles Robinson; Dean Nina Bushnell; and one-time housekeeper, Ida Thornton. Learn about the open stairs, the pressing room, the trunk room, and more.

For information about naming opportunities in Virginia Hall, contact the Office of Advancement at [advance@umw.edu](mailto:advance@umw.edu) or 540-654-2059.

Eleven different signs displayed in Virginia Hall highlight its important role in Mary Washington's history.

