DONOR SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT

TRANSFORMING LIVES AT UCONN
YOU!

ARE OUR SUPERHERO!
What’s your superpower?
Your generosity transforms lives.

Thanks to you, we raised nearly $17 million in 2015-16 in support of UConn students. That brings the total dollars given to scholarships to an incredible $61 million! Your gifts have transformed the lives of many deserving students who can now realize their potential, fulfill their dreams, and discover their strengths at UConn.

For many students, their “kapow!” moment happened when you made a gift in support of scholarships, making their dream of attending UConn come true. I know how that feels, because I was one of them. As a first-generation college student, my scholarship was a “kapow!” moment in my life. Thanks to the generosity of those who came before me, I became a college graduate — and since then, I have been committed to paying it forward every day. Gifts like yours truly transform lives, and you’ll get to see how when you turn the page.

This report shows the dramatic impact of your generosity. You’ll meet students who have developed their own superpowers (like making music, serious cheerleading skills, and a love for helping people), allies (family, friends, and faculty whose academic passions are infectious), and even archenemies (that alarm going off for an 8 AM class)! You’ll learn more about their UConn experience and how grateful they are for caring donors like you. Because of your support, these students and many others have the opportunity to fulfill their potential as heroes — now and in the future.

Today, my “kapow!” moments happen when we can thank you for your tremendous support, vision, and commitment to strengthening the University. And for the students you are about to meet on these pages, you are the superhero.

THANK YOU!

NAME:
JOSH NEWTON
President & CEO
UConn Foundation
$61,000,000
We envision a future where every student admitted to UConn will be able to attend regardless of financial circumstances.

Through scholarship support:

- **You** help deserving students realize their potential and fulfill their dreams.
- **You** help them become engaged citizens of their communities, and the world.
- **You** strengthen UConn by making it possible to attract exceptional students.
- **You** unleash opportunity.
- **You** change lives forever.
12,202 donors made a gift to the Transform Lives Initiative (including YOU)

Out of these donors, 5,196 were alumni and of those, 1,267 were dual-alumni households
Thanks to YOU, the UConn Foundation is one-third of the way to reaching its goal, having raised $61 million for student support.

$150M
The UConn Foundation has committed to raising $150 million for scholarships.

$61M
raised through Sept. 30, 2016

MEET OUR STUDENTS
...was when college became a reality for me with the Day of Pride scholarship. My financial status was definitely my Kryptonite when it came to pursuing my dreams. Being able to get a Bachelor’s degree from a college like UConn was something that I could only dream about and now I am here, having life-changing experiences and being presented with so many opportunities. I am forever grateful.
SUPERPOWER: Being able to lend a helping hand. I love to volunteer and improve the quality of life for others in any way possible.

ALIASES: Honor Student, PATH Mentor, Beyoncé enthusiast, Proud Husky

WHEN I’M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO
I’m going to the gym, tutoring at a school in Hartford, and dancing with friends.

MY SUPERHEROES AT UCONN ARE
African American Cultural Center Director Dr. Willena Kimpson Price, my roommate Gabby, and my advisor Susan “Zen” Buraceski.

MY ALLIES ARE: my best friend Paola, taco days in the dining halls, and extra credit assignments.

MY NEMESIS: I have three: 8 AM classes, long lines at events, and UConn winds.

AS A FUTURE SUPERHERO, MY PLANS ARE to become a nurse, either specializing in emergency care or neonatal services. Also, I want to create my own volunteering organization that focuses on giving back to my community in Hartford and other inner-city areas.

My major is Biology
NAME: ALEX BARRIGA
2018

SUPERPOWER: Helping others

ALIASES: Mr. Finesse

WHEN I'M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO
I’m playing and watching soccer.

MY SUPERHERO AT UCONN IS Professor Arthur Schmeiser in Accounting

MY ALLIES ARE my family and my friend, Riyad Twal (see page 11!)

MY NEMESIS IS Getting up early

FUTURE SUPERHERO PLANS: A career in finance in NYC

My major is Finance
I did not believe I had received a scholarship at first. Once it was finally confirmed, I was really excited because it meant that I could go to college.
A METEORIC RISE

UConn’s spectacular rise in stature has created new energy, new optimism, and some dazzling new possibilities.

The rapid ascent has touched every faculty member and every student, and has greatly increased the University’s ability to effect change in the larger world. And the ascent is far from over.

In setting a course for the future, faculty, administrators, and trustees have established ambitious goals. Bold new approaches are driving a strategic expansion that will enhance programs across the entire academic spectrum, from the arts and humanities to science, technology, engineering, and math. The overarching aim is to achieve excellence in research, education, and public service throughout the University.

Students will always be a key measure of success. UConn’s high standing is attracting record numbers of undergraduate applications. Each incoming freshman class exceeds the previous one in academic accomplishment, with average SAT scores reaching historic highs year after year. Just as important, students have become increasingly diverse, mirroring the rich diversity of our state and nation.

“Are we transforming lives? Indeed we are.”

—WAYNE LOCUST Vice President for Enrollment Planning and Management, University of Connecticut
THE LIFE-CHANGING GIFT
OF EDUCATION
UConn’s strong growth comes at a time when, nationwide, the cost of higher education is soaring. Now, more than ever, farsighted, caring donors are essential to bringing an education within reach of every deserving student.

Your continued generosity enables young people with promise to realize their dreams and contribute to the betterment of our world. When talented students achieve their educational goals, the future is brighter for everyone.

Through scholarship support, you have opened doors to a rewarding life that otherwise might not be possible.

The students you’ve helped will be grateful forever.

YOU HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE
For UConn to continue its remarkable upward trajectory, a substantial increase in scholarship funds is critical.

To meet this escalating need, the UConn Foundation has committed to raising $150 million.

When students weigh their options, a scholarship often means the difference between attending UConn or not. Your support tips the balance. Besides giving UConn a recruitment edge, your generosity brings a superb education within reach of worthy students. Your gift has had a profound and enduring impact. You are transforming lives.

NAME: JONAH GARCIA 2020
SUPERPOWER: I love to make music, especially in group settings where passionate people get to work together for a common goal.

ALIASES: UConn Chamber Singer

WHEN I’M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO I enjoy cycling, hiking, and watching movies with my friends.

MY SUPERHEROES AT UCONN ARE my choral director, Dr. Spillane, and my friends from Buckley and Shippee halls.

MY ALLIES ARE my incredibly supportive family, who have always encouraged me to do what I love.

MY NEMESIS IS not getting enough sleep.

AS A FUTURE SUPERHERO, MY PLANS ARE to become a music teacher and help other people have the same amazing musical experiences that I’ve been lucky to have. I’m inspired by the dedication of my teachers throughout high school and as I begin my career at UConn.

MY FAVORITE SUPERHERO MOVIE: The Avengers. I love the convergent storylines and I think it showcases the characters very well.

My major is Music

MY KAPOW! MOMENT...

Learning that I had received a UConn scholarship was one of the happiest moments of my senior year of high school. UConn was my first-choice school and knowing that I got a scholarship lifted an enormous weight off my shoulders. For me, it wasn’t just learning about a scholarship; it was when I knew for sure that I was going to be a Husky.
SUPERPOWER: I love helping other people! In the future, I want to help other people by applying what I’m learning as a chemical engineering student to real-life scenarios.

ALIASES: Vice-President of Engineers Without Borders-UConn Chapter

WHEN I’M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO I enjoy hanging out with friends, playing sports, and reading in my free time!

MY SUPERHEROES AT UCONN ARE my friends — they are my biggest support system. I can always count on them to encourage me and help me through any situation I’m in.

MY ALLIES: I can always count on my family to support and believe in me.

MY NEMESIS: Taking early classes is terrible! I try to make course schedule without 8 AMs, but as an engineering student that isn’t always possible with all of the classes we need to take.

AS A FUTURE SUPERHERO, MY PLANS ARE to work in the pharmaceutical industry, possibly in research and development or manufacturing. I want to help discover treatments for some of the most pressing diseases and conditions.

MY major is Chemical Engineering

MOMENT...

I was so excited to receive a scholarship, because it allows me to focus on my classes and get involved on campus, instead of worrying about making tuition payments.
When I learned I received a scholarship to attend UConn, I was very excited because I would be able to attend a great school without worrying about student loans. That way I could focus more time on my academics, being involved in the UConn community, and enjoying the college experience!
**SUPERPOWER:** Helping others

**ALIASES:** Member of the UConn cheerleading team, member of the Special Program in Medicine

**WHEN I’M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO** I am hanging out with my friends, going out for sushi, and watching Grey’s Anatomy.

**MY SUPERHEROES AT UCONN ARE** my friends in the honors program at UConn who study with me, push me to do my best, and inspire me with all the amazing things they do.

**MY ALLIES:** My family who has been so supportive throughout my life...and pizza!

**MY NEMESIS IS** getting up early and long walks around campus to get to class.

**AS A FUTURE SUPERHERO, MY PLANS ARE** to go to UConn School of Medicine and become a doctor. I want to help other people feel better and heal so they can have a better quality of life in the future.

**My major is** Molecular and Cell Biology
When I learned I had received a full four-year scholarship to attend UConn, I was completely shocked and taken aback; it was the last thing I expected! I was nervous at first, but have not looked back at my decision once. I firmly believe that choosing to attend UConn was one of the greatest decisions I have ever made.
**SUPERPOWER:** Ability to put a smile on people’s faces — whether that is through a simple act of kindness, through laughter, or through my bubbly personality

**ALIASES:** UConn D1 Soccer Manager, El Niño, Lalu, Laluel, Laluel Eto’o, Riri Moss, Torres, Riyad Mahrez

**WHEN I’M NOT BEING A SUPERHERO:** I am hard at work filming and making motivational videos for the soccer team. I can also be found fishing, traveling, playing soccer, or wrestling in my spare time.

**MY SUPERHEROES AT UCONN:** Dan Toscano, Richard Kohanek, Jacob Burte, Alex Reed, Abdou Mbacke Thiam, Cheikh Stephane Coly, Jacob Hauser, Niko Petridis, and Alex Barriga.

**MY ALLIES ARE** Reinaldo Buitron Jr., Ramuel Eto’o, Drake Aubrey Graham, Fernando Torres, Jordan Burroughs, Jordan Oliver, Conor McGregor, Dr. Chetan Joshi, Claudia Arias-Cirinna, Louis C.K., humor, and memes.

**MY NEMESIS IS** not getting texts back, when the professor changes the slide before you finish writing down the notes, and sometimes UCONN-SECURE.

**AS A FUTURE SUPERHERO, MY PLANS ARE** to continue to be positively involved in my community, and to continue to inspire others. I also plan to give back to others, whether through philanthropy or guidance, like others have given to me. In regards to my career, I want to be the best accountant I can be and see where life takes me from there.
The six students you’ve met here are just some of the many students who have benefitted from your generosity. And because many scholarship students can’t wait to pay it forward, you’ve impacted many superheroes to come. We can’t thank you enough—but we’ll try!

THANK YOU FOR BEING OUR SUPERHERO
THANKS!
THANKS!
THANKS!
PUT YOUR SUPERHERO ON!

CUT OUT THIS MASK, TRY IT ON, AND SEND A SELFIE TO CONTACTUS@FOUNDATION.UCONN.EDU. YOU MAY JUST SEE YOURSELF ON ONE OF OUR SOCIAL NETWORKS!