



# PEPPERDINE LEGACY PARTNERS



## Letter from PLP President, Tiffany Ferguson

“Welcome, we are glad you are here!” During the first few weeks of our fall semester I was certain the students would tire of hearing that phrase. Sometimes words lose their meaning when we hear them often, but that heartfelt “Welcome!” uttered by faculty and staff to all the new and returning students this fall has never been more true. The best part, however, was the joyful and enthusiastic responses from the students: “I am so thankful to be here!” and “Me too!”

After the campus remained mostly empty for the past year, the libraries, cafeterias, residence halls, and hallways are buzzing with activity as our students return to in-person classes and community. They are eager to be in classes, clubs, plays, and ministries among other students.

This year Pepperdine Legacy Partners awarded scholarships to 56 Helen Young scholars and two Andy and Debby Benton Scholars. When I hear our students express gratitude for being at Pepperdine I know it could not have been accomplished without our wonderful members and donors that make it possible for these students to come to Pepperdine.

On behalf of our Pepperdine Legacy Partners board and our student scholarship recipients I say, “Welcome, we are glad you are here!” We are glad and thankful that you are part of our Pepperdine Legacy Partner community.

Blessings,

Tiffany Ferguson  
PLP Board President 2021-2022

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## Fall Festival

Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to watch videos created by students and to learn more about this year's Fall Festival (p. 4)!



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## New Students

Your annual membership and gifts to Pepperdine Legacy Partners have allowed us to provide \$5,000 scholarships to these amazing students. As they start their life-changing journeys at Pepperdine we hope you will take the time to write a quick note or prayer to them. Please direct your correspondences to [plp@pepperdine.edu](mailto:plp@pepperdine.edu).



## Recent Events

We so enjoyed getting to know our new students and their families during our annual New Student Orientation reception in August. Later in the semester, we had the chance to gather with many of our students for brunch and games. Finally, Benton scholars Jackson and Madison had the opportunity to meet Andy and Debby Benton this fall.



**New Students with Sara Jackson**



**Eating burritos at PLP Brunch**



**Benton Scholars meeting the Bentons**

## Fall Festival



Our Fall Festival has always been an opportunity for the Pepperdine community to shop with us, enjoy baked goods, and connect with others on campus. While we typically host this event in person, we had our first virtual Fall Festival last year and it was a great success! We are so grateful for the support we received from our community in 2020. With limited available space on the Pepperdine University campus and continually changing COVID-19 guidelines, we decided it would be best to keep this fundraising event online again for 2021.



Scan the QR code (left) or [click here to watch videos](#) from our Pepperdine Legacy Partner students sharing what they have been up to this semester. You will see them studying abroad in Lausanne, Switzerland, conducting research in the lab, attending an on-campus worship event, practicing for our fall musical, *Mamma Mia!*, and exploring different areas on campus and throughout Malibu. Remember, these students would not be able to have these wonderful experiences without your support!

You will also find [on our website](#) the opportunity to contribute to our ongoing work as we financially and spiritually support students from Churches of Christ, equip them for faithful service, and encourage meaningful engagement in church throughout their lives. This year Pepperdine Legacy Partners awarded scholarships to 56 Helen Young scholars and two Andy and Debby Benton Scholars. We rely on supporters like you to make this happen.

In November, faculty and staff at the Malibu and Calabasas campuses at Pepperdine University supported our efforts through a pie fundraiser we hosted in partnership with Julian Pie Company. We sold a wide variety of apple pie flavors for \$25 per pie, and our Pepperdine Legacy Partner scholars hand-delivered each pie to buyers. Thank you to all who purchased pies for their Thanksgiving meals, and a special thank you to Julian Pie Company for their continued partnership!



## Estate Sale



In October Pepperdine Legacy Partners had the opportunity to host an estate sale at the home of Cynthia Wright, a long-time friend of Pepperdine University. Cynthia was a native Californian, born on June 26, 1935. She enjoyed an atmosphere of creativity and beauty as a small child playing in her father's flower shop, the first shop in LA. Her family frequently sailed to Catalina Island on weekends and vacations on their vintage yawl sailboat.

Cynthia was awarded a scholarship to Chouinard Art Institute, graduating with a major in fashion design in 1956. Cynthia's talents led her to design a line of clothing for women and she opened her first shop, Cynthia's Casuals, in Manhattan Beach in July of 1956 then branching into Westwood and Torrance.

Cynthia's path took a diverse turn in 1968 when she married Thomas Wright, a career abalone fisherman. Together the couple planned and oversaw the building of a state-of-the-art fishing schooner. Cynthia spent the next 15 years on the high seas tending the boat for her diver husband, also managing the business and bookkeeping aspects as partner in Wright Commercial Fishing.

In 1983, single again, Cynthia's home in Pacific Palisades became the love of her life. Focusing on interior decoration and creative gardening, Cynthia found a rewarding career close to home in the Village of Pacific Palisades. Upon retirement, Cynthia focused on her garden, filled with Hawaiian orchids and other exotic flowering plants. Her love of antique fairs and swap meets was a long-time interest. Cynthia passed away on August 20, 2021 at the age of 86.

Her Pacific Palisades home was filled with large and small furniture items, design and art books, various collectibles, artwork, potted plants, oriental lanterns, and so much more. The \$3,068.17 in proceeds from the sale went toward the Helen Young Scholarship Fund.

