Medical School Breaks Ground on Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center

Friday, May 8, marked the historic groundbreaking for the new Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center. Mr. Simpson and Ms. Querrey have made an extraordinarily generous $92 million gift to enable the construction of this world-class research facility.

Global Partnerships: Northwestern Medicine Impacting Healthcare Around the World

Northwestern Medicine and the Global Health Initiative (GHI) Fund recently partnered with Operation Walk Chicago following the recent devastating earthquakes in Nepal. Several Northwestern Medicine physicians share their stories of caring for patients in need.

Leadership Gift to Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital Celebrates Quality and Equality

John and Kathy Schreiber recently made a generous gift in support of The Lake Forest Destination for Health: Our Legacy. Our Future.—the fundraising campaign for the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital.

Northwestern Medicine Celebrates Transformational Campaign Progress to Date

Northwestern Medicine has passed the $1 billion mark in We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine. Read more about gifts, large and small, that are changing the fabric of our school and academic medical center.

Remembering Dr. Andrew Parsa

Andrew T. Parsa, MD, PhD, the Michael J. Marchese Professor and chair of the Department of Neurological Surgery at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Hospital, was a respected leader, colleague, and educator, as well as a pioneering surgeon-scientist. He passed away suddenly in April 2015.

The Andrew Parsa Memorial Lecture is being created in his memory to honor his contributions as a visionary leader at Northwestern Medicine and to perpetuate his deep commitment to medical education and training.

To support this lectureship fund in Dr. Parsa’s memory, please visit wewill.northwestern.edu/feinberg.
On Friday, May 8, Northwestern Medicine broke ground on the new Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center. The 600,000-square-foot, 14-story building will be connected floor by floor to the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center between East Superior Street and East Huron Street and will house nine laboratory floors dedicated to biomedical research. It is projected to open in late 2018, and is designed to accommodate up to an additional 15 laboratory floors in the future.

In addition to hundreds of guests from across the Chicago campus, leaders from Northwestern University, Northwestern Medicine, and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago gathered to share in the formal groundbreaking ceremony. Honored guests Louis Simpson and Kimberly Querrey spoke during the program, as did Northwestern University President and Professor Morton Schapiro; Illinois State Senator Mark Kirk; Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel; Chicago 42nd Ward Alderman Brendan Reilly; Patrick M. Magoon, president and chief executive officer of Lurie Children’s; and Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

“This is a landmark moment in our history, and one that will impact health for generations to come, here in Chicago and around the country,” said Dean Neilson. “Today, we build on a legacy of 156 years of innovation and discovery and open a bold new chapter in the history of Northwestern University.”

An Amazing Gift for Northwestern
The extraordinarily generous $92 million gift from Mr. Simpson and Ms. Querrey enables construction of the building to begin. Mr. Simpson is a 1958 alumnus of the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and a University Trustee. He and his wife have been longtime supporters of the University. This latest gift comes just a year after the couple made a $25 million gift to Northwestern to endow the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Institute for BioNanotechnology in Medicine (SQI). Directed by Samuel Stupp, PhD, the Board of Trustees Professor of Materials Science, Chemistry, and Medicine, the SQI is taking the lead in some of the world’s most innovative, interdisciplinary research in applying nanotechnology to regenerative medicine.

“Today, we build on a legacy of 156 years of innovation and discovery and open a bold new chapter in the history of Northwestern University.”

—Eric G. Neilson, MD
Mr. Simpson and Ms. Querrey’s giving to We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine totals $117.8 million—the largest amount given by a single donor to the campaign.

“I was fortunate to join with Northwestern, because both Kimberly’s and my passion is in medical research and, particularly, research that can solve many of the major issues and diseases in the world,” said Mr. Simpson. “So bringing the biomedical research center to Chicago will do many things—above all enhance Feinberg’s vision of being a leading-edge, elite medical research complex, and, over the years, bring more medical researchers to Northwestern who will work on many discoveries.”

“Lou and Kimberly are truly exceptional philanthropists,” said President Schapiro. “Their understanding of our biomedical research enterprise is remarkable, and their leadership and commitment to Northwestern inspire all of us. We are deeply grateful for this latest expression of their enormous faith in Northwestern University and the important work that is ahead.” Over the past year, gifts totaling $6 million from three Northwestern University Trustees also have been made in support of the new Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center. Dr. Andrew E. and Mrs. JoAnn Senyei have committed $3 million, the Weinberg family has provided $2 million, and Mr. Howard J. Trienens has pledged $1 million in generous, unrestricted support. Likewise, Mr. Stanley Manne provided a generous gift to name the Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute, which will occupy four floors in the new Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center.
Mayor Emanuel shared great excitement in anticipation of the new construction: “This Center cements Chicago’s leadership in the world. Chicago, as a city, now not only has the technology, the talent, and the training to create the jobs of today in the healthcare field, but also the cures for the diseases of tomorrow.” He continued: “We are a city on the move and a city growing. I cannot think of something that is more important for the city of Chicago than becoming the premier healthcare and research center of the country.”

Alderman Reilly, who has been an avid supporter of the new facility in the Streeterville area, spoke on the facility’s significance and anticipated contribution to Chicago and pediatric medicine. “A critical investment like this really is a game-changer for the city of Chicago,” he said. “This campus is already one of the most prestigious in the country, and with the introduction of this new research facility, Chicago enters the global arena for medical research and patient diagnostics.”

The Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center will support collaborations between scientists at Feinberg and other schools across Northwestern University, and will add more than 2,500 construction jobs and 2,000 permanent, full-time positions. “We are pleased that our gift will make Northwestern one of the premier biomedical research institutions in the world,” said Ms. Querrey. “It will allow for the recruitment of the best scientists who will expand the intellectual diversity of the city and the nation, and it will allow the condition of the human life to continue.”

Senator Kirk, who described himself as the number one salesman for Illinois, talked about the state as a hotbed of innovation. “There is no doubt that the key to the 21st-century economy is biomedical research. I want to go on the Senate floor one day and say that I represent the state where they cured cancer at this institution,” he said.
Since Ronald McDonald House near Central DuPage Hospital opened its doors in January, more than 100 families have been welcomed into comfortable surroundings close to their loved ones receiving critical pediatric healthcare nearby.

Located directly across the street from Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, a new Ronald McDonald House® opened its doors to the community on January 18, 2015, and became the first Ronald McDonald House in the western suburbs. Through Central DuPage Hospital’s affiliation with Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, the new Ronald McDonald House is greeting many families from far beyond Chicagoland with a safe, comforting, and supportive environment in which to stay while their children are hospitalized or receiving treatment.

The 19,000-square-foot Ronald McDonald House features 12 private guest rooms and inviting common spaces that make these visiting families feel more at home. Families can enjoy home-cooked meals and activities such as craft night and game night, all provided by volunteers. For parents needing to stay near their child while he or she undergoes treatment, Ronald McDonald House is the ideal locale because of its wide range of services and family atmosphere. Families who stay at a Ronald McDonald House are asked—but not required—to make a $10 donation for each night of their stay. Otherwise, living at the house is free and length of stay can extend throughout a child’s inpatient or outpatient treatment.

Since its opening, Ronald McDonald House near Central DuPage Hospital has welcomed 102 families—17 of which returned for a second stay. Of these families, 62 percent were from Illinois and Indiana; another 34 percent were from visiting states including Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; and the final four percent were international visitors from Singapore. Of the total 1,119 nights of occupancy, the average length of stay has been 12 days.

Central DuPage Hospital and Delnor Hospital are committed to enhancing their service capabilities and responding to the growing demand for high-quality pediatric care close to home by providing a new level of inpatient, outpatient, and emergency medicine pediatric care and expertise to families in the western suburbs. Since 2005, the partnership with Lurie Children’s has been instrumental to meeting this goal. The new Ronald McDonald House is another significant partner in this journey to improved pediatric care.

The fundraising goal to open the doors of the new House was $6.5 million, which was met through a partnership between the Cadence Health Foundation and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Chicagoland & Northwest Indiana, and with the help of the Cadence Health Auxiliary, the Topfer Family Foundation, and other generous donors.

Jackie Hynek’s family created the Topfer Family Foundation, which donated $1 million toward the opening of the new House. “Almost nothing could be worse than having a sick child, when all you can do is be present,” she said. “A Ronald McDonald House is just such a wonderful, healing place for caregivers to be cared for.”

Continued philanthropy in support of Ronald McDonald House ensures that we can do our very best every day to improve overall experiences and outcomes for pediatric patients and their families. If you are interested in supporting Ronald McDonald House near Central DuPage Hospital, please contact Clare Malysiak at 630-933-5505 or clare.malysiak@cadencehealth.org.
Global Partnerships: Northwestern Medicine Impacting Healthcare Around the World

Northwestern Medicine’s partnerships span the globe. Medical students and residents are provided opportunities to participate in clinical rotations at partner hospitals in many countries across Africa and Asia. Many of our faculty physician-scientists have developed lasting relationships with colleagues at hospitals where they participate in medical service trips across the world. Northwestern Medicine also works in partnership with aid organizations beyond our walls to maximize contact with these global communities and to extend the reach of our care. Operation Walk Chicago is one such organization. Following the recent devastating earthquakes in Nepal, this partnership became even more vital.

When Disaster Strikes

Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital was inundated with patients seeking medical attention following injuries resulting from the 7.8-magnitude quake in May. While hospital staff members were ready and willing to help as many individuals as they could, the hospital did not have enough supplies and other equipment necessary to treat the hundreds of patients gathered in and around the facility—though they did manage to treat more than 1,200 patients in the five days immediately following the quake.

After speaking with Drs. Saju Pradhan and Anil Shrestha—her long-time friends and colleagues on staff at Nepal Orthopaedic—Victoria Brander, MD, associate professor of clinical physical medicine and rehabilitation at Northwestern and co-founder of Operation Walk Chicago, said they made a deal. “We decided that the ethical, compassionate, and appropriate choice was to convert the hospital into a 100 percent charity facility for earthquake victims. Drs. Pradhan, Shrestha, and their staff would focus on patients, and Operation Walk Chicago would focus on obtaining the resources—assuming payment of all operating costs—until the situation stabilized.”

Dr. Brander boarded a plane with other volunteers from the Northwestern Medicine community to lend a hand. In addition to container shipments sent separately, containing beds, anesthesia machines, and casts, the group carried medical supplies provided thanks to the generosity of donors to Operation Walk Chicago and Northwestern Medicine.

One individual eager to help was William J. Gilligan, MD, who is a 1962 alumnus of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and a member of the global health subcommittee within Feinberg’s Medical Alumni Association. “Obviously it’s devastating to see the destruction, but it is amazing and inspiring to see all of the Nepalese people coming together to help each other, brick by brick, clearing the rubble, trying to restore the loss of what little they had,” said Dr. Gilligan when reflecting on his experience in Nepal.
In collaboration with the Global Health Initiative (GHI) Fund at Northwestern Medicine, Operation Walk Chicago has continued to send container shipments of long-term relief supplies to Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital since the earthquake. Operation Walk Chicago has partnered with Nepal Orthopaedic since 2010 to provide ongoing education and patient care in this impoverished Nepalese community. The GHI also has provided communication and assistance for Operation Walk Chicago’s outreach, and arranged for Northwestern Medicine faculty members traveling to Nepal to take roller bags of emergency surgical supplies with them, as Dr. Brander and others did in May.

Support for Nepal and Operation Walk Chicago

Thanks to generous donors around the Chicagoland area, Operation Walk Chicago has succeeded in maintaining Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital as a 100 percent charitable facility for patients. In collaboration with the Global Health Initiative (GHI) Fund at Northwestern Medicine, Operation Walk Chicago has continued to send container shipments of long-term relief supplies to Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital since the earthquake. Operation Walk Chicago has partnered with Nepal Orthopaedic since 2010 to provide ongoing education and patient care in this impoverished Nepalese community. The GHI also has provided communication and assistance for Operation Walk Chicago’s outreach, and arranged for Northwestern Medicine faculty members traveling to Nepal to take roller bags of emergency surgical supplies with them, as Dr. Brander and others did in May.

The group will continue to send supplies and plan future trips to Nepal. They plan to follow up with patients where they can and help Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital get back to business as usual. “What’s been uplifting is how supportive the people of Nepal are, and how they have drawn together to overcome what’s happened to them,” said Dr. Cordes. “It’s remarkable how a severe event can bring a country together as a whole.”

To learn more or to make a contribution to support Northwestern Medicine’s efforts in Nepal, visit foundation.nmh.org/nepalearthquake.

To view video updates from the Operation Walk Chicago group in Nepal, visit www.operationwalkchicago.com/nepal.php.
On May 8, the members of Northwestern Medicine’s Lung Cancer Advisory Council welcomed more than 80 people to Gibson’s Steakhouse for the first annual fundraiser to benefit lung cancer research and the tissue bank at Northwestern Medicine—a wonderful show of support and an exceptional turn-out for this first-time event. The gathering was marked by a spirit of camaraderie and celebration as guests paid tribute to the courage and fortitude of all lung cancer patients—and, in particular, the late Diane Cole. Diane lived with lung cancer for 10 years and was able to enjoy a high quality of life thanks to an experimental drug that she received through a clinical trial at Northwestern. Although Diane’s brave battle came to an end in April 2014 when her treatment ceased to be effective, her memory and spirit continue to symbolize hope, as well as the promise of improved treatments and survival rates for all lung cancer patients and the people who love them. Proceeds from the event, together with funds from Diane’s estate, reached the $400,000 mark! Photographed above, from left to right: event co-chairs Gabrielle Weisberg and Nancy Labinger with Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, the Jesse, Sara, Abigail, Benjamin, and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology and director of the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.

On June 26, 635 young professionals attended the Auxiliary Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s 15th annual Summer Lovin’ party at the Chicago History Museum, which raised nearly $90,000 in support of Northwestern Medicine. A festive and fun-filled occasion, Summer Lovin’ featured delicious cocktails and food from leading Chicago restaurants, outstanding entertainment, and the introduction of Chicago magazine’s “Most Eligible Singles” for 2015. During the event, guests also enjoyed access to the Chicago History Museum’s many eclectic exhibits. All proceeds from the event will support innovative research into type 1 diabetes at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. In the photo above, members of The Auxiliary Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital gather together at this year’s successful event.

Some 450 friends and supporters gathered on May 1 to celebrate another year of great accomplishments in the field of brain cancer research and care at Northwestern Medicine. The annual Minds Matter event raised more than $480,000 to benefit the Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute (NBTI) thanks to the generosity of those who purchased tickets and participated in the evening’s live auction and paddle raiser events. The NBTI is a nationally recognized leader in the fight against brain and spinal cord tumors, offering patients the most advanced clinical trial and treatment options available. The world-class resources, research and medical expertise of faculty, and preeminent healthcare facilities of Northwestern Medicine enable the NBTI to provide patients with the best possible care. Photographed above, from left to right: Jeffrey J. Raizer, MD, professor of neurology and hematology/oncology and co-director of the NBTI; Faris and Maria Najim, 2015 Minds Matter event co-chairs; and James P. Chandler, MD, Lavin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery and co-director of the NBTI.

More than 400 medical school alumni and guests returned to campus on April 17 and 18 to reunite with classmates and faculty and to reminisce about their time at Feinberg. Over two days, attendees talked with current students, visited hospital sites, and attended forums led by Feinberg faculty on topics ranging from social media and medicine to human genome sequencing. Visitors also went behind the scenes at the Galter Health Sciences Library, saw how students practice their skills in the Northwestern Simulation facility, and met with investigators in the Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Sciences laboratory. Members in attendance from the Class of 1965 were the weekend’s special honorees, celebrating their 50-year reunion this year. During Alumni Weekend 2015, the medical school hosted its annual Nathan Smith Davis Society Reception, which honors alumni and friends of the Feinberg School who have given at or above the $1,000 level within the past fiscal year. Photographed above at the reception, from left to right: Thomas Pitts, ’76 MD, and his wife, Ruby Haughton-Pitts, with Patti Gerbie and her husband, Melvin V. Gerbie, ’60 MD.
On April 15, nearly 100 friends and supporters of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago came together at the historic Chicago home of Ann Lurie to discuss collaborative research initiatives that provide a bridge between pediatric disease and adult research. Physicians and scientists from Feinberg and Lurie Children’s participated in research discussions across several areas of interest, including: clinical trials, neuroscience, genetics, public health, and cancer. “When you think about great science and clinical care, it’s not just about ratings but the individual human stories,” said Northwestern University President and Professor Morton Schapiro. “The fact that we at Northwestern provide this amazing healthcare is a great thing and demonstrates our wonderful partnership with Lurie Children’s.”

Photographed above, from left to right: Eric G. Neilson, MD, vice president for medical affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean of the Feinberg School; President Schapiro; Ms. Lurie; and Patrick M. Magoon, president and chief executive officer at Lurie Children’s.

On May 20, more than 65 people attended the 33rd Annual Reception and Program of the Streeterville Society of Northwestern Memorial Hospital. The event celebrated the generosity of Streeterville Society members—donors who, in the past year, have given $1,000 or more in support of patient care programs, research initiatives, educational efforts, and/or community service projects at Northwestern Memorial. The reception and program highlighted and took place within the new Center for Orthopaedic and Spine Care—located on the 13th floor of Northwestern Medicine’s Lurie Children’s.

The Les Turner ALS Foundation recently launched an awareness campaign for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) called “Freeze ALS” in partnership with the recently launched Les Turner ALS Research and Patient Center at Northwestern Medicine. Building off of the success of the Ice Bucket Challenge, the ice sculptures depicting 12 ALS patients were commissioned and stationed around Northwestern’s main campuses and around downtown Chicago in early May. Ice was chosen as a metaphor for how ALS affects the human body. The life-size sculptures were created by artist Jim Nadeau, who studied photos and videos of the patients, and a plaque accompanied each sculpture to provide details about the person’s life. One of the ice sculptures, representing ALS patient Umesh P. Saini, is photographed here. Before being diagnosed in August 2011, Umesh spent her days helping others live independently as an assisted living caregiver. Now, she relies solely on the care of others—she continues to fight and believes a cure is out there.

The reception and program took place within the new Center for Orthopaedic and Spine Care located on the 13th floor of Northwestern Medicine’s Lurie Children’s.
As longtime Lake Forest residents and dedicated philanthropists, John and Kathy Schreiber care deeply about the health and future of the Lake Forest community and, equally important, about the needs and well-being of all people who are facing challenges and obstacles in their lives. Recently, the Schreibers demonstrated the depth of their generosity and leadership by making a significant gift in support of The Lake Forest Destination for Health: Our Legacy. Our Future—campaign for the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital. Through this ambitious $150 million campaign, the hospital’s 160-acre campus will be completely revitalized and will feature a new, state-of-the-art hospital, characterized by patient care of the highest caliber, the most advanced services and technology, and a commitment to ongoing progress. Additional elements of the enhanced campus will include walking and biking trails, lush gardens, and a common area for community activities.

Through their thoughtful commitment to the campaign, the Schreibers will name the John and Kathy Schreiber Arrival Court, Lobby, and Main Entry Building at the new Lake Forest Hospital, and will establish an endowment known as the John and Kathy Schreiber Fund for Innovations and Quality Enhancements. Aided by funds from this endowment, leadership and staff at Lake Forest Hospital will be able to develop and implement novel, patient-centered programs and protocols that will promote effective communication, a team-oriented approach to care, and improved quality across the hospital, including in the Emergency Department.

A Strong Family Connection
Through the years, the Schreiber family has cultivated a strong connection with Lake Forest Hospital, and, now, Mr. and Mrs. Schreiber are especially excited about the hospital’s future. “For four generations, our family—beginning with my parents, and continuing through today, with our grandchildren—has received care at Lake Forest Hospital. It means a lot to us to know that, for years to come, Northwestern-quality care will be available right here in Lake Forest,” remarked Mrs. Schreiber. “We are happy to make this gift in support of the campaign, because we know that the quality of care is being continually elevated—through the finest technologies, programs, and caregivers. We are confident that Lake Forest Hospital will become a true ‘go-to’ place for emergency care, serious cardiac care, oncology treatment, psychological services, and more.”

Recognizing the importance of investing in Lake Forest Hospital both now and in the future, the Schreibers have structured their gift to the Our Legacy. Our Future campaign to include both a cash contribution and an estate gift. Through this approach, the Schreibers will be agents of progress at the hospital for many years to come.

“Kathy and I believe very strongly that Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital is dedicated to being a quality facility that delivers the very best care to people who are experiencing a health crisis or emergency and, without question, to traditionally underserved patients,” said Mr. Schreiber. “We want to help ensure that, today and well into the future, the hospital provides the same access and quality of services to everyone.”

Agreeing with her husband’s message of inclusion and equality, Mrs. Schreiber added, “We want Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital to always be a hospital that is widely known as a place where patients want to go, and where the very best doctors and the most dedicated staff members want to work. John and I want our recent gift to help people in the area to understand that, throughout the whole revitalized campus, patients will receive the very best, most contemporary care and services, no matter what the health need.”
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—Kathy Schreiber

Quality Care and Patient-Centered Services for All

At Lake Forest Hospital, strong emphasis is placed on the importance of improving quality in all aspects of healthcare. This quality-based mission has inspired the Schreibers’ philanthropy for years; in fact, their support has played a pivotal role in the implementation and success of Lake Forest Hospital’s TeleStroke service.

“We had personal knowledge of the hospital’s need and desire to improve its stroke-related care, and we wanted to do something to make a real difference,” said Mrs. Schreiber. “We are so pleased to know that our contribution to the TeleStroke service has been helping to bring critical diagnosis and treatment to people at a time when, truly, every second counts. We really see TeleStroke as an example of the kind of excellence that will exist throughout the new Lake Forest Hospital.”

By connecting Northwestern Memorial and Lake Forest Hospitals through virtual “in-person” interactions, the TeleStroke service enhances collaboration among physicians and staff members, and promotes the best possible outcomes for patients. Electronic communications and consultations via TeleStroke occur around the clock at Lake Forest Hospital and Northwestern Memorial. Since the TeleStroke service was launched at Lake Forest Hospital in June of 2013, hundreds of stroke patients have received immediate assessment and care.

“It is a privilege and a pleasure to have forged a strong relationship with Mr. and Mrs. Schreiber and their family. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with them on initiatives that will have a positive impact on our patients, our staff members, and our surrounding communities,” said Thomas McAfee, president of Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital. “We are humbled by the Schreibers’ remarkable support of our hospital and our campaign, and we are honored to know how strongly they believe in our vision for the future of Lake Forest Hospital.”

In recognition of their recent, transformational gift, John and Kathy Schreiber were welcomed into The Founders’ Society of the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital. This most prestigious recognition society includes benefactors who exhibit the greatest generosity in support of the Our Legacy. Our Future. campaign.

“More than anything, we want to encourage others to join us in supporting the campaign for the new Lake Forest Hospital,” said Mrs. Schreiber. “Together, we can help to create a hospital that will be an even brighter example of both quality and equality.”
Aided by a gift from The Woman’s Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital, “Music Matters Med”—Northwestern Medicine’s first hospital-wide music program for patients—is touching the lives of many patients and their family members. A thoughtfully designed program, “Music Matters Med” was developed in late 2013 by Eileen Hammersmith, a former cancer patient at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and Matthew “Matt” Sakumoto, MD, who recently graduated from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and will soon begin his residency in internal medicine at Scripps Mercy Clinic and Hospital in San Diego, California.

“I’ve always been musical—I play the guitar and the trumpet—and I’ve always loved to share music with others and to see how music can bring people together,” said Matt. “Thanks to serendipity or good luck or happy coincidence, my path crossed Eileen’s and, in the past year and a half, we have been able to create a program that really touches patients and their loved ones on very personal levels.”

“Music Matters Med” brings together caring, talented volunteer musicians who, like Matt and Eileen, recognize the healing power of music and want to share their musical gifts with patients. Currently, the musicians involved with “Music Matters Med” visit patients in the neurology and cardiac care units, as well as the chemotherapy suite, at Northwestern.

Eileen noted, “When I was fighting my illness, music helped me through many difficult times and absolutely made a difference in my strength, my hope, and my perseverance. Through ‘Music Matters Med,’ we want to reach out to patients and their families, talk with them, and share music with them in the hopes of lifting their spirits and giving them some comfort.” To date, “Music Matters Med” has provided more than 350 patients with more than 100 hours of live music at the bedside.

Stephanie McKeen, vice president of The Woman’s Board, has personal experience with the powerful role that music can play in the life of a loved one who is battling illness. “When my mother was in the hospital, we were visited by two violinists, and the beautiful music brought such joy to my mother and just transformed her day,” recalled Stephanie. “We were so grateful for that gift of music, so I am especially thrilled that, now, The Woman’s Board is able to help the incredible ‘Music Matters Med’ volunteers bring live music to patients.”

Melanie Zhang, a medical student who just completed her first year at the Feinberg School, has played the flute for more than a decade and is grateful for the opportunity to be involved with “Music Matters Med.”

“Music is something that is so important to me; it will always be a part of my life,” said Melanie. “Before I started playing the flute, I played the oboe. I love to sing, too, and I know that, without music, I’d feel like a part of me was missing. I think music is a universal language that we all can share and enjoy, so I love being able to bring music to other people and to create connections and moments that we all can remember.”

On a recent afternoon, Melanie joined Eileen on a neurology unit at Northwestern Memorial and played her flute for five patients and their families and visitors. Melanie happily honored each person’s special requests and, through her flute music, brought smiles, tears, laughter, and even a bit of toe-tapping to her listeners. Musical pieces ranging from “Ode to Joy” and “Amazing Grace,” to a Beatles medley of “Yesterday,” “Yellow Submarine,” and “Eight Days a Week,” to Pharrell Williams’s “Happy” (complemented by some gentle percussion, courtesy of Melanie’s iPad) and the Ben E. King classic “Stand By Me” filled the rooms and hallways of the unit. One patient perfectly captured the emotion and the meaning of the afternoon by offering an appreciative “thumbs up!” to both Melanie and Eileen.

As “Music Matters Med” continues to develop and to reach ever-increasing numbers of patients, the enthusiasm and involvement of volunteer musicians, as well as the interest and support of thoughtful philanthropists such as The Woman’s Board, will play a pivotal role in raising awareness of the program among Northwestern’s staff, faculty, and students; patients and families; and members of the broader community.

To showcase the talents of the “Music Matters Med” musicians, The Woman’s Board has invited the members of the group to perform at the Board’s “Tune Up!” fundraiser on September 11. All proceeds from “Tune Up!” will support the efforts of volunteers who share their musical talents with patients at Northwestern.
In 2005, the Class of 1955 established the Bruno Epstein Class of 1955 Scholarship Fund in honor of its 50th reunion. This close-knit group of alumni chose to establish an endowed scholarship to forever remember their late classmate, Dr. Bruno Epstein. A survivor of the Holocaust, Dr. Epstein attended the University of Chicago as an undergraduate and then came to Northwestern University to earn his medical degree. During a clerkship rotation at Cook County Hospital in 1956, Dr. Epstein was stabbed and killed by an irate patient.

“Bruno and his family fled Austria and the Holocaust just in time. He accomplished so much in such a short time, but it was just the beginning,” said James F. Eggert, '55 MD. Drs. Eggert and Epstein were “alphabetical friends”, often standing and sitting next to one another. “Bruno never got to ‘walk the walk,’ and that is the tragedy.”

In celebration of their 60th reunion, the Class of 1955 contributed enough to their scholarship fund for it to surpass the $1 million level, making it the first medical school class scholarship ever to achieve such a milestone. Additionally, the Class of 1955 currently has the highest class participation in scholarship giving, with 82 percent of the class contributing to the fund since September 1, 2014. The generosity and foresight shown by the members of the Class of 1955 will touch generations of physicians to come, as well as provide a lasting tribute to both Dr. Epstein and the countless professional and lifetime accomplishments of his classmates.

According to Dr. Eggert, who was instrumental in spearheading the class’s scholarship fund initiative, he and his classmates were influenced by the post-World War II GI Bill to create this reward for generations to come. “The GI Bill was one of the greatest things our country ever did. It was the basis for huge rewards, and we wanted to do that again,” he shared. “The people you want in medicine are good, moral, honest people, and good, moral, honest people want to pay their debts. So we decided to help them to do so.”

“We hope that today’s medical students and those in future generations will be inspired by Bruno’s admirable life,” said Dr. Eggert.

The most recent Class of 1955 scholar, Maylyn Martinez, graduated from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in May. Dr. Martinez began her residency in internal medicine this summer at the University of California-Irvine Medical Center.

“Giving awards like this to students like me suggests that in the future things don’t have to be the way they’ve always been. If you can dream it, you can be it,” said Dr. Martinez, who grew up in a poor area of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and did not have the financial means to attend Northwestern. “The course of my life was changed for the better by attending medical school at Northwestern, and that could not have happened without your donations,” she continued. “Thank you, Class of 1955 and Bruno Epstein, from the bottom of my heart. Every single day I think of Dr. Epstein, who lost his life so tragically, and I make sure that I am honoring him by becoming the kind of physician that would make him and his classmates proud.”

In 2005, the Class of 1955 established the Bruno Epstein Class of 1955 Scholarship Fund in honor of its 50th reunion. This close-knit group of alumni chose to establish an endowed scholarship to forever remember their late classmate, Dr. Bruno Epstein. A survivor of the Holocaust, Dr. Epstein attended the University of Chicago as an undergraduate and then came to Northwestern University to earn his medical degree. During a clerkship rotation at Cook County Hospital in 1956, Dr. Epstein was stabbed and killed by an irate patient.

“Bruno and his family fled Austria and the Holocaust just in time. He accomplished so much in such a short time, but it was just the beginning,” said James F. Eggert, '55 MD. Drs. Eggert and Epstein were “alphabetical friends”, often standing and sitting next to one another. “Bruno never got to ‘walk the walk,’ and that is the tragedy.”

In celebration of their 60th reunion, the Class of 1955 contributed enough to their scholarship fund for it to surpass the $1 million level, making it the first medical school class scholarship ever to achieve such a milestone. Additionally, the Class of 1955 currently has the highest class participation in scholarship giving, with 82 percent of the class contributing to the fund since September 1, 2014. The generosity and foresight shown by the members of the Class of 1955 will touch generations of physicians to come, as well as provide a lasting tribute to both Dr. Epstein and the countless professional and lifetime accomplishments of his classmates.

According to Dr. Eggert, who was instrumental in spearheading the class’s scholarship fund initiative, he and his classmates were influenced by the post-World War II GI Bill to create this reward for generations to come. “The GI Bill was one of the greatest things our country ever did. It was the basis for huge rewards, and we wanted to do that again,” he shared. “The people you want in medicine are good, moral, honest people, and good, moral, honest people want to pay their debts. So we decided to help them to do so.”

“We hope that today’s medical students and those in future generations will be inspired by Bruno’s admirable life,” said Dr. Eggert.

The most recent Class of 1955 scholar, Maylyn Martinez, graduated from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in May. Dr. Martinez began her residency in internal medicine this summer at the University of California-Irvine Medical Center.

“Giving awards like this to students like me suggests that in the future things don’t have to be the way they’ve always been. If you can dream it, you can be it,” said Dr. Martinez, who grew up in a poor area of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and did not have the financial means to attend Northwestern. “The course of my life was changed for the better by attending medical school at Northwestern, and that could not have happened without your donations,” she continued. “Thank you, Class of 1955 and Bruno Epstein, from the bottom of my heart. Every single day I think of Dr. Epstein, who lost his life so tragically, and I make sure that I am honoring him by becoming the kind of physician that would make him and his classmates proud.”
Northwestern University alumni Muneer Satter and Kristen Hertel have committed nearly $8.5 million to support the Satter Foundation Scholarship program at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. This merit-based scholarship is awarded to three outstanding first-year students and continues through each recipient’s third year of medical school.

Since the scholarship was created in 2008, it has supported 18 outstanding scholars at Feinberg. “Kristen and I are committed to the goal of assuring a Northwestern education to promising future physicians and medical scientists,” said Mr. Satter. “These scholarships are investments that will ultimately benefit medical science and humanity.”
Loving wife and nurse Mary DeBoer has made a significant gift to further her late husband’s surgical legacy. Arthur DeBoer, MD, a renowned cardiac surgeon at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the former Children’s Memorial Hospital, now Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, performed the first open heart surgery at Wesley Memorial Hospital. Dr. DeBoer passed away in 2007. In gratitude and to honor him, Mary has made lifetime gifts and a gift in her will that will support the Bridge Program, which helps pediatric cardiology patients at Lurie Children’s Hospital as they transition to adult care at Northwestern Medicine’s Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute. Louise Study was only one day old when Dr. DeBoer performed life-saving surgery on her in the 1960s. In the photo below, Mary (left) and Louise (right) reconnect to share fond memories of Dr. DeBoer.

Jeffrey D. Crane, grateful patient and Northwestern Medicine Comprehensive Transplant Center Advisory Council member, has committed to raise $5 million in support of an endowment for the Center, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in April 2014. Because an endowment offers support well into the future, gifts like Mr. Crane’s will ensure that the Comprehensive Transplant Center continues to lead the field and improve the lives of men, women, and children as it has done over the last five decades. Gifts to the endowment will give life to future transplant patients and their families, and will help to support critical medical research that will shape the future of transplantation.

Paul and Joan Rubschlager recently gave $2 million to support the new Les Turner ALS Research and Patient Center at Northwestern Medicine. These extraordinary commitments are providing tremendous momentum to help the Les Turner ALS Foundation and Northwestern Medicine achieve a $10 million goal to endow the Center in perpetuity. “We were pleased to learn of plans for the new Les Turner ALS Research and Patient Center at Northwestern Medicine,” shared the Rubschlagers. “We believe that this new Center will further advance the impressive research taking place at Northwestern, and that it holds great potential for finally finding treatment and hopefully a cure for this catastrophic disease.”