

JOHNS HOPKINS OFFICE OF GIFT PLANNING
SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Planning MATTERS





On the cover: Mindy Farber and John Camp, pictured above with one of their rescue dogs
Photographs by Lisa Helfert

FROM THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS NETWORK

HUB

The **Milton S. Eisenhower Library**, on Johns Hopkins University’s Homewood campus, is scheduled to begin a multi-year, large-scale modernization project this summer. Renovations will include updates to the building’s safety and mechanical systems, infrastructure, and interior architecture. New spaces will be added, including a Digital Scholarship Lab and a Material Collections Research and Teaching Center.



Historically, management of food allergies has relied on avoidance and emergency treatment with epinephrine when an accidental exposure occurs. A **Johns Hopkins Children’s Center** study shows omalizumab — an injectable, FDA-approved medication for treating asthma and other allergic conditions—substantially reduced potentially life-threatening reactions in patients with food allergies. The FDA recently approved omalizumab for treatment of multiple food allergies following an interim analysis based on this study.



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WILL KIRK, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



More bakers than ever competed in this year’s **Sheridan Libraries Edible Book Festival**, a competition in which Johns Hopkins University students, faculty, and staff create sweet or savory baked goods inspired by books. The 2024 Best in Show winner was a multi-tiered edible homage to Dr. Seuss’s *The Lorax*, featuring pink cotton candy “truffula trees,” made by undergraduate student bakers Cassie Peterson, Julianna Smith, and Eliza Stokes.

The HUB is the news center for all the activity going on at Johns Hopkins. To see what’s new, important, and just worth sharing, visit

hub.jhu.edu

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Planning Matters

• charitable giving & tax tips •

—SPRING/SUMMER 2024—

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Couple’s gift funds bold new lines of research into brain sciences in perpetuity

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Small Margins Make a Big Difference

How a new system designed by a team of Johns Hopkins researchers is combining surgeons' expertise with robotic precision to improve tumor resection treatment

By Axel Krieger, Engr '08 (PhD)

When removing cancerous tissue, the aim is to preserve as much healthy tissue as possible to prevent unnecessary losses to the patient; however, removing too little tissue risks leaving behind cancer cells that may return or spread.

The gold standard for tongue surgery is to remove the tumor and 5mm of healthy tissue surrounding it. That 5mm — about the size of an eraser on a pencil — is enough to ensure that the affected cells are included while keeping the overall damage minimal. The challenge is that cancerous tumors can often present as having visible horizontal borders on the edges, but less obvious vertical borders. Surgeons can see the surface of the tumor and use a ruler to see the 5mm distance and mark off the edges on the sides, but determining how deep to go is difficult because they do not have direct access to the tumor due to surrounding tissue. Additionally, surgeons are often limited by fatigue and visual obstruction. This makes doing a resection that has precise margins a difficult task.

Enter ASTR: the Autonomous System for Tumor Resection. ASTR is a new, autonomous, dual-arm, vision-guided robotic system based on technology we developed for our Smart Tissue Autonomous Robot (STAR), which made

international news two years ago for performing the first fully autonomous laparoscopic surgery: a procedure to connect two ends of an intestine. The difference is that while STAR focused on connecting tissue, ASTR is specifically tailored to remove it.

With ASTR, the physician can supervise the robot and give pre-surgery inputs, then the robot does it step by step. To test the system, we drew outlines of tumors on biological tissue based on empirical research and programmed ASTR to remove the simulated tumor and exactly 5mm of healthy tissue using its combination of vacuum grasping and cutting. ASTR succeeded each time and did not require stoppage by the supervisors.

While surgeons can get very good horizontal margins with the ruler, on the depth margins our robot really shows improvement. What it does is translate human guidance into robotic precision. We've sent the robot in to make an incision before, but this is the first time we've done a bulk resection and taken a tumor out fully. Our hope is that by improving the precision of the margins with which tumors are removed, ASTR can reduce cancer recurrence and metastasis while improving quality of life for patients by minimizing the loss of healthy tissue.



Dr. Axel Krieger is an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the Whiting School of Engineering. He is also director of the Intelligent Medical Robotic Systems and Equipment (IMERSE) Lab and the leader of the team that developed both ASTR and STAR.

Creating a Legacy out of Tragedy

The John Camp and Mindy Farber '74 Endowed Award will fund bold new lines of research into brain sciences in perpetuity

STORY BY SARA FALLIGANT • PHOTOGRAPHS BY LISA HELFERT

Mindy Farber, A&S '74, and John Camp have committed to spending their retirement supporting the causes about which they're most passionate — promoting animal welfare through their nonprofit Friends of All Critters at Shelters, Inc. (FOACAS), which has helped find loving homes for more than 600 dogs in the last three years, and powering new research to better

understand the brain. Together, they have established the John Camp and Mindy Farber '74 Endowed Award at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

"We want to build something beautiful out of tragedy and loss," Farber explains. "It's changed the trajectory of our lives."



Mindy Farber and John Camp share the personal losses that inspired their gift.

Farber and Camp met and married in the wake of loss. In 2018, Farber's late husband, Edward Charles Schweitzer, passed from early onset Alzheimer's disease. The same year, Camp's first wife, Jill Hollander Camp, lost her battle with metastatic breast cancer.

Just one year later, the pair said goodbye to two more of the people they held dearest — Farber's Johns Hopkins roommate and longtime friend, Rhonda Schneider Casas, and Camp's brother, Tom. Both died from glioblastoma, an aggressive and fast-growing brain tumor.

"You have these feelings that everyone will experience at some point in their lives. We encountered it earlier than most people, and we were still able to act on those feelings through our estate."

- JOHN CAMP -

Tom was Camp's twin, Farber explains, and his diagnosis and death had implications on Camp's emotional health. And as two of the First Women of Hopkins — the inaugural group of undergraduate women to enter Johns Hopkins University, 94 years after its founding — Farber and Schneider Casas shared a unique, lifetime bond. Their daughters even roomed together during their time on the Homewood campus.

Mindy Farber and John Camp have included a gift in their estate to establish the John Camp and Mindy Farber '74 Endowed Award at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine to support brain and cancer research.

“We were in our 60s when we lost our spouses and loved ones. We were in our ‘golden years,’” Camp says. “You work hard your whole life. We decided we wanted to use this time to give back to the things we care about.”

The couple say navigating loss encouraged them to think about their legacy. They decided to establish the endowed fund as a gift through their estate plan.

“You have these feelings that everyone will experience at some point in their lives. We encountered it earlier than most people, and we were still able to act on those feelings through our estate,” Camp says. “Many people want to make a big impact after loss, in our case that’s to advance research into cancer and brain sciences.”

The endowed fund will grow in perpetuity while powering explorative research destined to become independently funded through government or foundational grants. It’s designed to support the development of young scientists — from undergraduate researchers to early career faculty — and stimulate bold new lines of research aimed at understanding the brain, specifically the cancers and cognitive disorders that have impacted the couple and their loved ones.

“Mindy and John’s commitment will help the Krieger School and Johns Hopkins evolve into the world’s leader in life-changing brain research. Their legacy and impact will be one of healing and comfort for an untold number of patients and their families for years to come,” says Christopher Celenza, the James P. Knapp Dean of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences. “We are grateful for their continued dedication



and generosity to further our mission to make a difference in the world of patient care and healthy aging.”

Though the work powered by the endowed fund will inform future therapies, Farber and Camp are also excited about the research itself. The award will encourage cross-departmental and cross-divisional collaboration in the neurosciences. The pair is especially interested in the intersection between brain and computer sciences.

They’re also proud to leave a legacy at an institution that has meant so much to Farber, who says Hopkins is her family school. As a parent, she hosted summer send-off parties for new Blue Jays and served as president of the Parents Association for four years. As an alum, she has been involved with

the National Alumni Council and the Executive Council of the D.C. Region, and she’s chaired every class reunion for the last two decades. This year marked her 50th.

“As a woman, I want to encourage involvement, juggling working and family, and philanthropy,” she says.

Though her connection to the university has grown and evolved over the years, Farber still remembers her first visit to campus as a child, when her older brother first joined the ranks of Hopkins undergraduates. Then-university president Milton S. Eisenhower took her grandmother’s hand and thanked her family for being a part of Hopkins.

“With the endowment,” she says, “everything has come full circle.”

Music to Our Ears

STORY BY JHU COMMUNICATIONS • PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILL KIRK AND HOWARD KORN

The Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University has announced it will meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for all domestic undergraduate students and eliminate loans from financial aid packages beginning in the fall 2024 semester. Current domestic undergraduate students with unmet financial need also received a grant in spring 2024.

“We are incredibly excited to announce this debt reduction initiative for the next generation of performing

artists,” Peabody Institute Dean Fred Bronstein said. “Our investment in undergraduate financial aid will expand access to a world-class education in classical music, dance, jazz, the recording arts, and other innovative programs to exceptionally talented students from a diverse range of socioeconomic backgrounds, regardless of their financial circumstances. Countless aspiring young performing artists will realize a new opportunity to pursue their dreams, unencumbered by student

loan debt, and make an impact as citizen artists and leaders in the world.”

The conservatory will continue its longstanding practice of need-blind admissions, meaning a family’s financial circumstances will not factor into an admissions decision. Additionally, Peabody will continue to provide a competitive merit scholarship program for which all students, including international and graduate students, are automatically considered during the admissions process.



Left: A trio of Peabody musicians performs on the rooftop terrace of the Hopkins Bloomberg Center in Washington, D.C.

Right: Peabody vocalists perform during the dedication ceremony of the Hopkins Bloomberg Center.

“Removing barriers to education for the best young minds and brightest young talent continues to be a driving priority for Johns Hopkins University, and we have made exceptional progress,” said Ron Daniels, president of Johns Hopkins University. “We remain deeply committed to the promise of equal opportunity, and we are thrilled to be creating new pathways for extraordinary student artists with this program tailored to the Peabody Conservatory’s unique needs. At Johns Hopkins and throughout our society, we all benefit from a more vibrant future for the performing arts.”

The ability to meet 100% of students’ financial need is unusual among conservatories. Traditionally, financial aid for conservatory education in the United States is primarily available

through competitive merit scholarships, without the family income-based assistance more typical in university and college financial aid programs. This status quo puts conservatory education out of reach for many talented young performers, and the burden of student loans is a significant deterrent to establishing a career after graduation, particularly in a shifting arts landscape where freelancing and entrepreneurship are increasingly the norm.

With this announcement, Peabody is the largest conservatory in the U.S. to make the commitment to meeting full financial need. With a total of 815 students, fall 2023 marked the highest enrollment in Peabody’s history — a 43% increase since the 2015 implementation of Peabody’s Breakthrough Plan, which launched a reimagining of the conservatory experience within the classical tradition and beyond, alongside new academic programs, fellowships, and initiatives to expand access and impact across the performing arts.

At the same time, Peabody has more than doubled the number of students from underrepresented communities since 2015. Its innovative Breakthrough Curriculum, introduced in 2017, empowers students to engage with a diverse range of styles, techniques, and artistic traditions across disciplines and genres, with a suite of core classes and career resources designed to prepare every student for 21st-century arts careers.

Peabody dancers perform for onlookers in the Hopkins Bloomberg Center as part of the Oct. 19, 2023 dedication day celebration.



A Special Connection with Sibley

Monika Petter's gifts benefit gynecologic and oncology center and honor its team of experts

STORY BY RUTH WENDLANDT • PHOTOGRAPH BY LISA HELFERT

It's a valuable relationship between Sibley Memorial Hospital and D.C. area communities, explains Monika Petter, a longtime Washingtonian, who has depended on the Johns Hopkins Medicine partner hospital for her health care needs.

Sibley offers a wide range of medical services from surgical, oncology, inpatient and outpatient, to community health initiatives and primary care. Petter underscores Sibley's compassionate care, especially when she learned of her ovarian cancer diagnosis.

"I can truthfully say Dr. Jeffery Lin saved my life," she says of the Sibley Center for Gynecologic Oncology and Advanced Pelvic Surgery director. "I'm appreciative of him, his team, and the hospital."

Nearly 20,000 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer in the United States each year. It's not exactly known what causes ovarian cancer, but according to Johns Hopkins Medicine, approximately 15% of ovarian cancers are linked to genetic mutations. Currently there are no approved screening tests, making early detection a challenge.

To show her gratitude for the care and treatment she received, Petter established a charitable gift annuity (CGA) to support the center's needs. A CGA provides guaranteed income and potential tax savings to Petter and future funding to Sibley. She also made an outright gift to recognize her medical team.

We spoke with Petter about her giving, the importance of women's health, and her relationship with Sibley.

Why is it important to have a community hospital in Sibley that's committed to improving the health and wellness of its neighborhood residents?

Most recently, I've had a terrible affliction of stage 4: ovarian cancer, very advanced. Dr. Lin removed my cancer. Between Dr. Lin and Dr. Frederick Smith, a medical oncologist at Sibley, they are the reasons I'm still here and doing fine. Outside of the doctors, the nurses were so supportive. The nurses make it all bearable. I've been living in the Washington, D.C., area for more than 40 years. I'm a proud community member. It's crucial to have a hospital so close; it brings less stress. I feel connected to Sibley.

The CGA you established acknowledges Dr. Lin, who is also an assistant professor of gynecology and obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and his team. Why did you want to pay tribute to them?

I set up a CGA to show my appreciation for Dr. Lin. He regularly checks me for cancer. I know I'm in good hands with him. He's a very pleasant person whom I trust. Dr. Lin, his team, and the entire staff at Sibley are empathic, helpful, and skilled.

Monika Petter supports Dr. Jeffery Lin and his team at Sibley through a charitable gift annuity.

Why do you want community members, especially women, to know about the extraordinary care you received at Sibley?

I have empathy for everyone struggling with an illness or disease, but especially women who have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer. I received wonderful care from Dr. Lin and his team. I know firsthand the comfort of being well cared for, and I want others to experience this when they are in need. Dr. Lin is an expert. I hope he will continue to practice his wonderful skills and save the lives of more women in our community. There are so many amazing doctors and nurses at the hospital. I want community members to know about the resources available at Sibley.

You also made an outright gift to support an additional gynecologic oncology nurse practitioner position in the center. What motivated this gift?

The gift I made was in honor of Ashley Purwin, the gynecologic oncology nurse practitioner who works closely with Dr. Lin. Ashley assisted me during my appointments. I wanted to contribute because I knew the additional nurse practitioner would be beneficial to Dr. Lin, Ashley, and patients.

What do you hope your gifts will achieve?

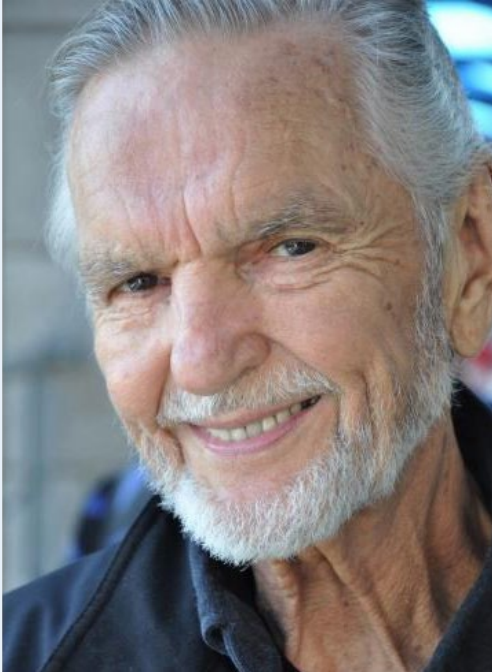
I hope my contributions will benefit Dr. Lin and the center. I hope Dr. Lin will receive more support and assistance to further the center's goals. I feel good about making these gifts to such worthwhile causes, and I'm glad to be in a position to do it. I hope others will be inspired to give as well.



“There are so many amazing doctors and nurses at the hospital. I want community members to know about the resources available at Sibley.”

– Monika Petter –

Their Legacy Told



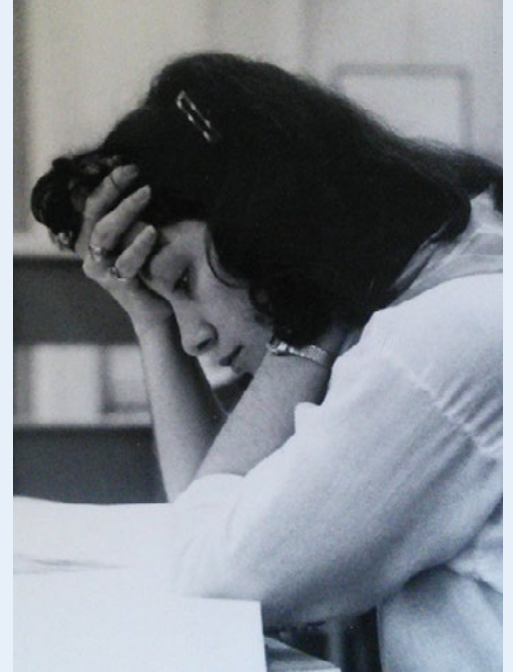
A gift of retirement assets from the estate of Daniel Tamkus founded the Daniel and Ellen Cutler Tamkus Writing Seminars Scholarship.

DANIEL TAMKUS was well-known as a prolific and talented writer whose work includes poems, novels, and films. He attended Johns Hopkins University for both undergraduate and graduate school, earning his bachelor's in 1953 and his masters from the university's Department of Writing, Speech, and Drama (now the Writing Seminars) in 1954. He later became Aberdeen Proving Ground's head editor at Development and Proof Services before moving on to a successful career in advertising and starting his own company in 1974. He and his wife, Ellen, who survives him, founded the Daniel and Ellen Cutler Tamkus Writing Seminars Scholarship to help aspiring young writers access world-class education that places creative writing in the greater context of the general humanities.

DAVID DANJCZEK was a trusted mentor and friend to many. He completed his undergraduate education at Georgetown University, where he later became an adjunct professor, and earned a graduate degree from Waseda University in Japan. He was quick with a joke, and his kindness and generosity were well documented by family, friends, and students. He donated a kidney to his brother, Michael, and received Georgetown's first-ever Excellence in Adjunct Teaching Award. In addition to his role as an educator, he had a successful career in business and later served as an advisor and board member for various governmental organizations. A gift from his estate supports the Johns Hopkins Brady Urological Institute and Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center.



David Danjczek supported the Johns Hopkins Brady Urological Institute and Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center through his estate.



Gertrude Huster founded the Gertrude A. Huster (née Russell) Endowed Scholarship in Biostatistics through a gift from her estate.




GERTRUDE HUSTER was a respected biostatistician and researcher who used her exceptional skills in science and math to help others. She studied statistics and mathematics on scholarship at Virginia Tech and then attended the Bloomberg School of Public Health, supported by another scholarship and stipend, where she met her husband, Dr. Bill Huster, who survives her. Later, she had a rewarding career in biostatistics and public health research. Because of her deep appreciation for the scholarships and assistance that made her success possible, she and her family established the Gertrude A. Huster (née Russell) Endowed Scholarship in Biostatistics at the Bloomberg School through her estate to help aspiring scientists turn their own professional dreams into impactful careers.

Sweet New CGA Rates



A Johns Hopkins charitable gift annuity provides guaranteed income for you and/or a loved one and future support for Johns Hopkins.

Take advantage of new rates effective January 1, 2024, and these benefits:


-  Potential tax savings, including a charitable income tax deduction
-  Guaranteed income for you and/or a loved one
-  Favorable treatment of capital gains, when you fund your gift with appreciated stock or other securities

The chart shows rates for immediate payment. You can also delay payments and receive potentially higher rates with a deferred or flexible charitable gift annuity.

JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY & MEDICINE

Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

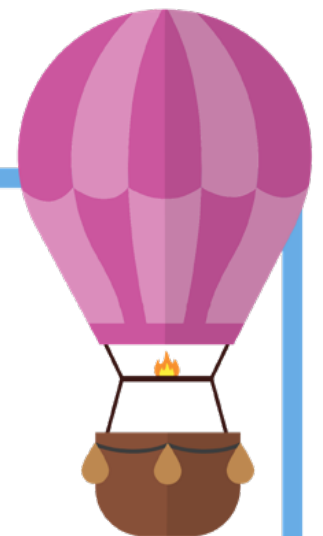
Age	One-life Rate
90	10.1%
85	9.1%
80	8.1%
75	7.0%
70	6.3%
65	5.7%
60	5.2%

 [Click here to calculate your potential benefits](#)

To learn more, contact the Office of Gift Planning
giftplanning@jhu.edu | 410-516-7954 or 800-548-1268
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Annual Limit on **Tax-Free IRA** Charitable Distributions Reaches **New Heights**

If you are 70 ½ or older, you may now give up to \$105,000 a year directly from your traditional IRA to Johns Hopkins. Unlike withdrawals from your IRA, the amount of the gift won't be included in your taxable income. If you are 73 or older, the transferred amount will count toward your required minimum distribution.

To learn more, visit: giving.jhu.edu/tax-free-ira-distribution or contact the **Office of Gift Planning** at giftplanning@jhu.edu or 410-516-7954.

