

The Annual Fund at NYA

**EVERY STUDENT,
EVERY DAY**

Annual Fund Information and Frequently Asked Questions

As is true at most independent schools, tuition income does not fully cover the cost of educating our students. Each year, independent schools such as North Yarmouth Academy rely on the generosity of the entire community – alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends – to make contributions to the Annual Fund. **This year's goal is \$270,000.**

The NYA Mission

North Yarmouth Academy is an independent, college preparatory, coeducational day school serving students in grades six through twelve. The school offers a structured program that sets clear standards and high expectations in an environment that emphasizes values of mutual respect, trust and community. North Yarmouth Academy is dedicated to fostering integrity, character and intellect in young adults.

The North Yarmouth Academy program encourages students to develop:

- Problem-solving skills based on sound analytical and creative thought;
- Sophistication in writing, speaking and artistic expression;
- Appreciation for the importance of athletic activity, teamwork and cooperation;
- Self-confidence and self-respect through a breadth of experiences that extend beyond the classroom;
- Concern for the larger community and an appreciation for the natural environment;
- Desire to continue the process of lifelong learning.

What is the Annual Fund?

The Annual Fund is the cornerstone of NYA's fundraising efforts. It provides support for the Academy's highest current priorities each year. For this reason, it is the first and most important gift we ask of every member of our community.

Why is the Annual Fund so important?

A strong Annual Fund is vital to the financial health of an independent school. The Annual Fund is the second largest source of income for NYA (following tuition). Your tax-deductible gift goes to work immediately where it is needed most. The impact of your contribution extends to every corner of the Academy.

Where does the money from the Annual Fund go?

Your gift to the Annual Fund allows NYA to carry out many activities each year. These include:

- Attract and retain exceptional faculty;
- Maintain a low student-teacher ratio for optimum learning;
- Maintain a strong financial aid program that ensures opportunity for as many qualified students as possible;
- Maintain and enhance our beautiful campus and historic buildings;

Provide inspired programs that keep pace with the needs of a global society;
Model good citizenship and concern for others through community service programs and volunteering;
Athletic uniforms, referees, art supplies, technology, music and theater programs, library books, faculty professional development, and much, much more.

Why doesn't tuition cover these things?

Tuition covers 80% of the school's expenses. By raising tuition, many students and their families would not be able to afford the excellent education and rich experience that attending NYA assures.

Do all independent schools have annual giving programs?

Yes. Independent schools throughout the country depend on the financial support of their community to maintain excellence in their programs and facilities.

How much should I give to the Annual Fund?

Given the importance of the Annual Fund to the quality and excellence of NYA, we ask that you make a meaningful contribution in proportion to your personal situation. Gifts of all sizes make a difference.

Does participation really matter?

Every gift is important and increases our participation rate. Your individual gift helps ensure that we will meet our financial goals, as well as demonstrates to the greater community that *the people closest to the school believe in and support the school financially*. When applying for grants and other sources of funding, *foundations and corporations look for strong internal support and institutional strength before committing their own philanthropic resources*.

Can I pledge now and pay later?

Yes. Contributions to the Annual Fund received through June 30 (the end of NYA's fiscal year) are counted toward the overall goal. You may pay your pledge at any time during the year and can elect to pay in installments as well. *We would like to meet this year's campaign goal by March 31, 2010*. Donations completed by December 31 qualify for possible tax benefits for the calendar year.

How do I make a gift to the Annual Fund?

You may donate online at www.nya.org, you may give your credit card information or check to your Class Agent or mail your check to: **North Yarmouth Academy Annual Fund, 148 Main Street, Yarmouth, ME 04096**

Who do I contact with questions about the Annual Fund or about making a gift of stock, planned gift or to submit a matching gift?

You may contact your Class Agent directly, 2009-2010 Annual Fund Chair Betsy Mead (blcmead@maine.rr.com) or Kate Putnam, NYA Chief Development Officer at 846-2380 ext. 9303 or kputnam@nya.org.

