WOMEN WHO ROC
Gail Lione shares her passion for women's issues

AMONG THE FIRST
First-generation alumni on the power of mentorship

REPRESENTATION MATTERS
Introducing students to classical music composed by people of color

JUST FOR FUN
Season of Warhol, What to Stream, For Your Health, What's Cooking, coloring pages, and more
DEAR READER,

I’m pleased to introduce you to the spring edition of Buzz, our new lifestyle magazine for alumni, parents, and friends of the University of Rochester.

At the start of the pandemic, we launched Together for Rochester, a yearlong effort to help each other through the tough times. We started streaming faculty lectures and providing career coaching. We launched new affinity groups for networking and support. We grew our mentorship program, launched a virtual book club, and hosted real conversations focused on social justice. As a result, we’ve had thousands of new people get involved with the University.

This special edition of Buzz should reach your home at a time when winter hibernation is nearing its end and new hope is on the horizon. As we enter this next phase of the pandemic and start to imagine what’s next, we want to build on the sense of community that has been so important to our daily lives during the past year.

If you have feedback on this publication, or want to reconnect with Rochester, feel free to contact me at tom.farrell@rochester.edu.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas Farrell '88, '90W (MS)
Senior Vice President for University Advancement
Gail Lione ’71, a successful lawyer and volunteer leader, is passionate about women’s issues. Lione and her generation would become the first in many areas—in locker rooms, conference rooms, board rooms, and other places. They were inspired by people like Gloria Steinem, Dorothy Pitman Hughes, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Lione’s career now spans more than 40 years. For the last four, she has been senior counsel for Dentons in Washington, D.C. She is also a sought-after corporate board member, a University of Rochester trustee, and cochair, along with Tiffany Taylor Smith ’91, of the University’s recently launched Women’s Network.

WHO IS YOUR GREATEST ROLE MODEL?
My mother, hands down. She was the first woman president of her high school’s student body and its debate team, and she was also a graduate from Rochester—gender pay inequity, inadequate childcare and family leave, and challenges to ballot access. One of the significant issues facing women today is still not having a real voice at the table or enough voices at the table or any women of color at the table. A few of us may be seated at the table or on the bench or “be in the room where it happens,” but are we heard?

I believe that as a collective of women, with the support of our allies, we can move forward and make Susan B. and others like her proud.

Danica Patrick, a celebrated race car driver, once said after a win at Daytona, “we have a lot more history to make.” That’s so true, and the Women’s Network at Rochester will be part of that history.

WHAT DOES MENTORSHIP MEAN TO YOU?
The wonderful thing about mentoring is that it is mutual. You learn from each other. It’s about forming and nurturing relationships, and it is a foundational aspect of the new Women’s Network. We aim to connect, support, and engage each other in meaningful ways.

WHY DO YOU THINK WOMEN HAVE A LOT MORE HISTORY TO MAKE?
The year 2020 marked a historic milestone—the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Women have come a long way since then, but there’s still work to do. For instance, we have many of the same equity and access issues that we had in the 1970s when I graduated from Rochester—gender pay inequity, inadequate childcare and family leave, and challenges to ballot access. One of the significant issues facing women today is still not having a real voice at the table or enough voices at the table or any women of color at the table. A few of us may be seated at the table or on the bench or “be in the room where it happens,” but are we heard?

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ON THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

An Unlikely Journey from the Orphanage to the Boardroom

Ed Hajim ’58, who served as chair of the University of Rochester Board from 2008 to 2016, tells a powerful story that touches on family trauma, deprivation, and adversity balanced by a life of hard work and philanthropy. Learn about Hajim’s struggles bouncing from foster homes to orphanages to living the American dream as an accomplished Wall Street executive and family man with the means to give back to a world that seemed intent on rejecting him.

Find Hajim’s memoir at booksellers everywhere and on the University’s new Alumni Bookshelf, which features many alumni who are authors:

uofr.us/bookshelf

Interested in talking about books with fellow alumni? Join the University’s new, virtual alumni book club:

uofr.us/bookclub

ALUMNAE POWER

Join the University’s new volunteer-led Women’s Network and be part of a rich community focused on connecting and supporting fellow alumnae through dynamic programming and engaging conversations.

CONNECT TODAY

uofr.us/WomensNetwork

WOMEN’S NETWORK
connect | support | engage
Sean Bajwa ’18 and Genessis Galindo ’20 are among firsts at the University of Rochester. They were both the first in their families to graduate from a four-year college. They were also among the first to participate in a pilot mentorship match program last summer, which brought together first-generation students and alumni through the University’s online networking platform, The Meliora Collective.

Supporting students in their career search has always been a priority for the University, but it was elevated during COVID-19 as a key area within its new Together for Rochester campaign, a yearlong effort to help make life better for the University community. Expanding support for first-generation students—and helping them flourish while on campus and later in their careers—is also a campaign priority.

Currently, about 28 percent of undergraduates in the College are low income or first generation—that’s about 170 in the Class of 2024. For students like Bajwa and Galindo, financial support helped get them here—but having a support system and a network has helped them thrive.

The pilot mentoring program, which the Office of Alumni and Constituent Engagement ran in partnership with the Greene Center for Career Education and Connections, matched 85 alumni with 85 recent graduates and current students. The program has since expanded. In February 2021, more than 400 mentors and 400 mentees were matched based on their expertise, industry, location, interest, and more.

In addition to being first-generation students, Bajwa and Galindo were both business analytics majors from Southern California.
Bajwa is now an associate at Fortress Investment Group, a private equity firm based in New York City. Although he’s only two years out of college, he’s keen to pay it forward as a mentor.

“I want to provide the kind of support that was so freely given to me, including career advice, decision-making insight, and valuable networking opportunities,” says Bajwa, who adds that he and Galindo maintained their mentoring relationship even after the program officially ended.

After graduating, Galindo took a part-time job with the Emma Bowen Foundation, a not-for-profit that connects diverse student candidates with internship opportunities. She enjoyed the work but wanted to find a full-time position at a tech company, which she did, thanks in part to Bajwa.

“Last year, Sean introduced me to a recruiter in his network,” Galindo says. “I did an information interview with her and, a few months later, that person took a position at HubSpot. She then reached out to me and asked me if I’d be interested in a job there, as a remote customer support specialist in Los Angeles.”

As it turned out, she was offered that job plus another position at a different tech company. She talked it all through with Bajwa and it was clear HubSpot was the place for her—a decision she is very happy with. Because of her experience with the pilot mentoring program, Galindo signed up to be a mentor in the program’s next cycle. “I want to try and give back what Sean gave to me,” she adds.

“Mentoring can start off as a formal relationship, but it often leads to ongoing relationships,” says Michelle Cavalcanti, associate director of career and professional affinity programs with the Office of Alumni and Constituent Engagement. “We’re thrilled with how many want to be a part of this and we are always interested in hearing from more people. Together, we can make a difference and improve outcomes for our students and recent graduates.”
Bringing classical music into middle and high schools through a new, equitable lens

by KRISTINE THOMPSON

Last year, Travon Walker ’21E—an aspiring opera singer who is studying vocal performance and arts leadership at the Eastman School of Music—launched a University of Rochester crowdfunding project called “Representation Matters.” The project will introduce middle and high school students to classical music, specifically the music created by Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) that many are unaware of.

“Our goal is to show BIPOC youth that they belong in this classical music space and that there is a place for them,” Walker says. “For them, seeing people who look like them helps them feel included and imagine that they could make music like this, too.”

Walker says that it is important to present this music to white audiences, too—for them to listen, learn, and expand traditional perspectives around classical music. “Classical music is for everyone, and so is the music created by BIPOC composers. In order to elevate it, more people need to be aware of it, perform these works, and advocate and showcase these pieces and their composers.”

The project officially launches in early 2021. That’s when Walker and a group of 20 fellow Eastman students—both BIPOC and white—will bring this music to students in the Irondequoit, Penfield, and Webster school districts. That’s just the beginning, though. Walker plans to bring the program to Rochester City School District, which has a high population of BIPOC students, and he wants to expand it to even more suburban schools, which have more white students.

When the world erupted last year with issues of civil unrest, social injustice, and racial divide, Walker felt compelled to bring this project—which he first developed in an arts leadership class—to life. “I wanted to do something to make life better for more people through music,” he says.

Walker has rallied a lot of support, too. At first, the Friends of Eastman Opera came on board and provided some seed funding. Then, Walker met with Eastman administrators and together they developed this into a crowdfunding project.

“In the first month, we raised more than half of our initial $5,000 goal,” Walker says. “Now we are continuing to fundraise so we can expand the program.” Walker will use crowdfunding resources to cover costs for music, recording equipment, and more, including salaries for the project team’s student musicians.

“Classical music is for everyone, and so is the music created by BIPOC composers. In order to elevate it, more people need to be aware of it, perform these works, and advocate and showcase these pieces and their composers.”

TRAVON WALKER ’21E


READ THE FULL STORY
uofr.us/repmatters
IT'S ABOUT EVERYONE PITCHING IN

Crowdfunding is an important way to connect University of Rochester students, faculty, and staff with alumni, patients, families, and community members who are interested in supporting a variety of projects, such as Walker’s program, Meals on Wheels, Mt. Hope Family Center, the Food Pantry on the River Campus, and more. Every contribution supports innovation and excellence throughout the University and Medical Center.

LEARN MORE AND SUPPORT OUR PROJECTS
uofr.us/crowdfunding

TUNE IN

Enjoy this free Spotify playlist featuring Jon Batiste, Margaret Bonds, Scott Joplin, Florence Price, and some of the other BIPOC composers showcased in Travon Walker’s “Representation Matters” project.

LISTEN ON SPOTIFY
uofr.us/listen-RepMatters

UNITE. ENGAGE. EMPOWER.

The University’s new Black Alumni Network fosters, promotes, and celebrates an inclusive community. Join and expand your personal and professional circles while sharing your life’s experiences, advocating for change, and connecting with students and fellow alumni.

JOIN US TODAY
uofr.us/BlackAlumniNetwork

BLACK ALUMNI NETWORK

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
Three simultaneous exhibitions at the Memorial Art Gallery feature the works of celebrated American artist, film director, producer, and publisher Andy Warhol, who may be the most influential and important artist of the 20th century.

According to Jonathan Binstock, MAG’s Mary W. and Donald R. Clark Director, “Warhol was timely, prescient, and timeless. Through his ceaseless attention to documenting the moment—by means of the camera that constantly hung around his neck, the tape recorder that he always had in his pocket, and his outrageous productivity—Warhol achieved an evergreen relevance.”

Binstock continues, “Here we are in the era of Instagram, TikTok, and ‘fake news,’ and I cannot think of anyone who would have felt more comfortable with these circumstances. After all, he predicted them.”

Warhol admired celebrity, professed cynicism, and imagined a world where people who were reported on in the news owned the news because it was their news. Season of Warhol is Rochester’s best opportunity to consider the breadth of the artist’s career.

Silver Clouds
Warhol first exhibited these helium- and air-filled, pillow-shaped balloons at the Leo Castelli Gallery, New York City, in 1966. He had recently announced his retirement from painting in order to focus on filmmaking—although he never did stop painting. Warhol is often quoted as saying, “I thought that the way to finish off painting for me would be to have a painting that floats, so I invented the floating silver rectangles that you fill up with helium and let out of your windows.”

Cow Wallpaper
Warhol was a pioneer of installation art. The same year that he created Silver Clouds, he produced Cow Wallpaper, which has since covered the walls of Warhol exhibitions across the world. Arrayed in vertical strands, Warhol’s pink cows recall strips of contemporary photo booth portraits, which typically came stacked in groups of four. The reference, now historical, also relates to motion-picture film and the filmstrip format. Photography underpins all of Warhol’s art.
Warhol TV
For Warhol, television was a way to make anyone famous, and he often used informal real-time footage, a prescient version of today’s “reality TV,” to highlight both trivial and glamorous subjects. This exhibition in MAG’s Media Arts Watch gallery showcases three of Warhol’s TV series as well as some of his live TV appearances, video clips, and advertisements. More recent material drawn from YouTube explores how his tabloid television anticipated contemporary modes of mass media production.

Warhol Portfolios
Complementing the Season of Warhol, MAG also presents “Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop” from the Bank of America collection. This exhibition features additional selections from Warhol’s 40-year span of printmaking work. While many of the works were made in the 1970s and 1980s, their subject matter—iconic people, trends, and issues—reflects Warhol’s decades-long process of mirroring popular American culture.

WHAT to STREAM

Check out these movies, musicals, and TV shows that feature Rochester alumni.

1. THE PRODUCERS. The musical about two theatrical schemers began as a 1967 film, written and directed by Mel Brooks. The 2001 Broadway production, starring Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick, earned Doug Besterman ’86 a Tony Award for best orchestration. Lane and Broderick reprised their roles in a 2005 film version.

2. BYE BYE BIRDIE. Tony Award-winner Charles Strouse ’47E composed the music for this classic story that follows the PR machinations that take place after teen heartthrob Conrad Birdie is drafted into military service. The 1963 movie and fan favorite stars Dick Van Dyke, Janet Leigh, and Ann-Margret.

3. THAT ’70s SHOW. Debra Jo Rupp ’74 is well known for playing Kitty Forman, the mother in a Wisconsin family dealing with the social changes of that decade. Look for her in other roles, too, as Phoebe’s sister-in-law on Friends and on hits ranging from Seinfeld to This Is Us to Grey’s Anatomy.

CAN’T MAKE IT TO THE SHOW?

WATCH THE LECTURE
uofr.us/warhol
Experts from UR Medicine’s Fitness Science and Center for Community Health & Prevention programs weigh in on how to emerge from winter and pandemic hibernation.

**DO A LITTLE MORE THAN YESTERDAY**

“Many people think it takes a lot of hard work to take their fitness to the next level. If you play a high-level sport, it might,” says Cameron Apt. “But for most of us, it takes a consistent level of ‘just enough’ and ‘a little bit more than yesterday’ to shape our goals into reality.”

Apt offers these tips:

**Build your habits back slowly.** If you haven’t worked out recently, don’t start by running a 10K or lifting 300 pounds, just because that’s what you used to do—you’ll end up sore and maybe even injured. Our bodies adapt, but not overnight. Instead, for the first one to three weeks, do a little bit, and do it consistently. That could be stretching, taking a walk or short jog, or doing some bodyweight exercises.

**You don’t need gym equipment.** Bodyweight exercises are strength-training exercises that use our own weight to provide resistance against gravity, such as squats, push-ups, and planks. Not only do they have a massive impact on strength, flexibility, and cardiovascular fitness, they also improve mobility and stability in a way that traditional strength training does not. You’ll have a stronger core, better balance, and move more smoothly for everyday life.

Do less than you think you should, but do it more often. Try doing five or fewer bodyweight exercises each day. Or pick one exercise and do five every hour, on the hour, throughout your day—it adds up quickly and you’ll build strength without soreness or overstressing your body. Each day, add one more rep per hour or increase the number of hours. By making small changes and consistently applying them in our daily lives, we adapt without getting injured and build strength and performance.

For most of us, it takes a consistent level of ‘just enough’ and ‘a little bit more than yesterday’ to shape our goals into reality.

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CAMERON APT, ATC, CSCS, USAW
Director of Athletic Performance Services, UR Medicine Fitness Science

UR Medicine Fitness Science is a research-based program that helps people optimize their performance through movement analysis and training, nutrition consultation, and mental skills coaching.
PERSONALIZE YOUR PLATE
March is National Nutrition Month, and this year’s theme is “Personalize Your Plate.” But how? Jill Chodak offers the following advice.

Think about what you want to change and what you can change, rather than what you think you should change.
Take a kind, reflective look at where you are with life, health, food, money, work, and stress. This will make all the difference in how things go.

Recognize that every day is different and be prepared.
Have a plan A, B, and C to ensure flexibility, promote long-term change, and support those ups, downs, and in-betweens. One day you might work out, eat fiber, and go to sleep on time, while another day you might be so exhausted, none of that seems feasible. What can you do then? Rest. Call a friend to support mental health.
Identifying and navigating obstacles is the key to achieving long-term health.

Find what works for you and get the support to achieve it.
It seems simple, but how often do we consider choice in the health journey? We all have different bodies, genetics, health conditions, and eating patterns. Find out what makes your body and mind feel best and move toward it. This may also mean having to drown out “nutrition noise” from folks offering the latest trend or fad to get healthy. What works for a family member, best friend, or celebrity may not work for you. If you’re not sure where to start, reach out to the people who have dedicated their lives to this—registered dietitians. Visit eatright.org to find one near you.

MAKE A MINDFUL TRANSITION
"Many people expect that they’ll jump right back into their old routines and activities when things open up again," says Jennifer Lee. “But this may not be realistic or what we need.” She adds that acknowledging what we’ve all experienced—a year of collective hardship—and transitioning to new realities can be difficult. To help people adjust, Lee offers the following suggestions.

Try mindfulness-based stress reduction, or MBSR.
Mindfulness is the ability to know what is happening in your head at any given moment without getting carried away. Often recommended to manage disease, MBSR is a useful method for improving mental health and reducing symptoms of stress, anxiety, and depression. Lee likes compassion or loving-kindness meditation, and suggests the ten-minute “Guided Lovingkindness” meditation available at tenpercent.com/guided-meditations.

Practice gratitude.
You might journal for five minutes, recall meaningful memories, or write a letter to someone who’s made an impact on your life.

Lower expectations to a realistic level.
Our schedules will likely increase or shift and include more socializing, extracurricular activities, commuting, and much more. Having a realistic idea of what you can take on and how much time and energy you can give is important for self-preservation.

Align with your values.
Take time to reflect on what your values are and how or if the adjustments to routines are adding value to your life. When we align our behaviors with our values, there is a greater sense of well-being and vitality.

FIND MORE NUTRITION TIPS AND RECIPES FROM CHODAK
uofr.us/chodak

GET A PERSONALIZED EATING PLAN BASED ON USDA GUIDELINES
myplate.gov/myplate-plan

FOR MORE MEDITATION RESOURCES, LEE RECOMMENDS THE CALM, HEADSPACE, OR INSIGHT TIMER APPS.
FOR DINNER TONIGHT

Chad Martinovich, Rochester's head football coach, offers this family favorite, which is also a tribute to the Buffalo Bills' historic season.

Crockpot Buffalo Chicken Chili

NUMBER OF SERVINGS: 8    PREP: 10 MINUTES    COOK TIME: 4 HOURS

2 pounds ground chicken
2 cups chopped onion
2 cups chopped carrot
2 cups chopped celery
8 ounce can chicken stock
2 cans great northern beans
2/3 cup Buffalo wing sauce
3 tablespoons ground cumin
3 tablespoons chili powder
Sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
Sour cream

BROWN the ground chicken and place in Crockpot. In the same pan, sweat vegetables until softened, and add to the chicken.

RINSE the great northern beans and add to the Crockpot. Pour in the chicken stock, stir.

ADD the Buffalo wing sauce, cumin, and chili powder. (For a hotter chili, consider adding chopped jalapenos or Tabasco sauce.)

COOK for 4 hours on low. To serve, top with shredded cheddar and sour cream.

What's Cooking?

CHEERS TO YOU

Jill Kempie, an assistant director on the George Eastman Circle team, created this tangy, refreshing beverage in honor of George Eastman’s favorite dessert, lemon meringue pie.

Lemon Drop Cocktail

2 ounces vodka
½ ounce triple sec
1 ounce simple syrup
1 ounce lemon juice
Ice (optional)
Sugar or lemon peel (optional)

OR, TRY A MOCKTAIL:
1.25 ounces lemon juice
½ ounce simple syrup
2.5 ounces club soda, chilled
Ice (optional)
Sugar or lemon peel (optional)

COAT the rim of a cocktail glass with sugar and set aside. (Do this a few minutes ahead of time so the sugar can dry and stick to the glass.)

ADD all of the ingredients to a shaker, with ice.

SHAKE until well-chilled and then strain into the prepared glass.

GARNISH with lemon peel.
The University of Rochester has a history of breaking boundaries and making discoveries that have made the world better. Here are just a few points of pride worthy of mention.

**STELLAR SCHOLARSHIP.**
Beauclaire Mbanya Jr. ’20 was named a 2021 Global Rhodes Scholar—one of only two students selected worldwide. The Cameroon native is the third University student or alumnus to receive a Rhodes Scholarship, and the first in 56 years.

**NOTABLE NOBELS.**
The University of Rochester has a total of 13 Nobel laureates. Most recently, Harvey Alter ’56, ’60M (MD) earned the 2020 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for work that led to diagnostic tests and treatments for a life-threatening form of hepatitis.

In 2018, the Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to Donna Strickland ’89 (PhD) and former professor Gérard Mourou. Together, they developed a way to amplify the power of lasers, ushering in applications in medicine, optics, imaging, research, and other areas. Strickland is the third woman ever to receive the Nobel Prize in Physics, and the first woman laureate in University history.

**MUSIC EXCELLENCE.**
2021 marks the Eastman School of Music’s centennial—100 years of music innovation, excellence, and scholarship. Of note, the first African American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for music, George Walker ’56E (DMA), was an Eastman graduate.
A team of Rochester undergraduates used Minecraft to create a virtual version of Rush Rhees Library.

FOR KIDS: COLOR BY NUMBER (ADDITION + SUBTRACTION)

Rochester’s unofficial mascots, the Groundboiz, bring joy to the River Campus whenever they are spotted. Bring Bookboi to life so he is ready for the springtime. Solve the equations in each box to find out which colors to use.

WHICH GROUNDBOI ARE YOU?
TAKE THE QUIZ.
uofr.us/groundboi-alumni

RUSH RHEES LIBRARY: A campus icon.

Designed to serve as the centerpiece of the River Campus when it was opened in 1930, Rush Rhees Library retains its classical ambience while offering today’s researchers, students, and scholars the latest technologies and resources. The River Campus Libraries, which includes Rush Rhees Library, serves as an information gateway, a community hub, and a technology-rich resource.

THEN

1970

The library added a major addition to the original 1930 building—almost doubling its square footage.

NOW

2020

A team of Rochester undergraduates used Minecraft to create a virtual version of Rush Rhees Library.

MORE ABOUT VIRTUAL UR
uofr.us/minecraft
HOW DO YOU THINK ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS BENEFIT FROM THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY?
People are often surprised to learn about all the ways that alumni, parents, and friends can be involved with the University and stay connected throughout the years—no matter where they live. For instance, they can attend intellectual virtual events, mentor a student, and network with like-minded people in one of our regional or affinity networks.

Every experience is an opportunity to broaden their perspectives and knowledge, to expand their networks and communities, and to help each other. So even though someone’s relationship with the University may have started as an undergraduate or graduate student, or as a patient in our Medical Center, I believe that everyone will benefit from a lifelong relationship with the University.

HOW HAVE MENTORS PLAYED A ROLE IN YOUR LIFE AND CAREER?
Mentors—and networks of them—have had a profound influence on me. When I was an assistant professor at the University of Michigan, a number of women there invited me to join a women’s group. We did so much to support each other. We’d read each other’s papers and grant proposals, and we’d ask each other questions and share experiences. They gave me all sorts of wise advice over the years, and we’ve continued to be friends ever since.

Recently, I was thinking about a friend of mine from Evanston, Illinois, who passed away last fall, shortly before her 104th birthday. She was one of the first women to go to Northwestern Medical School. I met her when I was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, where she earned her undergraduate degree. We became fast friends and she’d often say, “What’s next? You’ve been a dean for 10 years and I think it’s time for you to move along.” She kept telling me I’d be a university president someday.

WHAT IS THE UNIVERSITY DOING TO ENSURE GRADUATES ARE CAREER READY GIVEN TODAY’S ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK?
We know that so many students and recent graduates are at a disadvantage right now and we are doing all we can to address this. The University is making career education a central, strategic priority and placing the future of work and life alongside our academic mission.

We’ve expanded our career curriculum, ramped up our online learning programs, and added virtual career courses. We’ve also launched mentorship match programs through The Meliora Collective, our exclusive online networking community. We’re encouraging our alumni and friends to help by hiring Rochester graduates, creating new internship opportunities, and committing to one- or three-month mentorships. Career support has also been a core component of our Together for Rochester one-year campaign. We believe these efforts will make a real difference.

IN THESE STRESSFUL TIMES, WHAT GIVES YOU HOPE FOR THE FUTURE?
Science. Truth. Knowledge. The pursuit of excellence in the form of research, patient care, creativity—all of this gives me great hope. So does the next generation. I’m incredibly inspired by our students’ curiosity, their drive, and their conviction to educate themselves and support issues and causes that matter to them and to the world.

WHAT’S A KEY LESSON YOU’VE LEARNED FROM THE PANDEMIC?
The pandemic underscores that our people—students, faculty, staff, alumni, and our community—are our greatest assets. We are a team of dedicated, resourceful, and committed people who can get it done, even when information is constantly changing, and conditions are challenging. We pull together.
LEARN MORE, VIRTUALLY.

Attend Experience Rochester, a monthly lecture series that features Rochester faculty and alumni who present intellectual topics spanning the economy, American democracy, scientific discovery, music, and the arts. Or join one of our REAL Conversations, featuring authentic discussions focused on issues of equity and access, measurable action, and meaningful change.

FIND UPCOMING TALKS AND ARCHIVED EVENTS
uofr.us/experience-rochester
uofr.us/real-conversations

“ We launched these new lifelong learning opportunities as a way for alumni and friends to learn from Rochester experts and scholars and from each other. The topics and format are especially timely, offering opportunities for personal growth and enrichment to audiences around the world and right here in the Rochester community.”

KAREN CHANCE MERCURIUS
Associate Vice President for Alumni and Constituent Relations