

# A Guide to Philanthropy at ECFS



Ethical Culture  
Fieldston School®





# Your philanthropy matters

At the Ethical Culture Fieldston School, giving back comes in many forms. Our community's gifts of time, talent, and treasure are essential to ensuring that every student can thrive.

Everyone is asked to help advance the mission of ECFS — parents/guardians, alumni, grandparents, faculty, staff, and friends. Your gifts provide crucial, unrestricted support for each program and opportunity we offer.

## The Orange Fund sustains the ECFS experience

To fully realize the vision of our School, we depend on philanthropic support from the people most committed to ECFS: parents/guardians, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends. With your partnership, we can offer all ECFS students a world-class progressive education that our community expects and our children deserve. Each gift made to the Orange Fund enriches the ECFS experience and builds a stronger School.

## What your philanthropy supports

- 2 campuses on 18 acres serving 4 divisions
- 1,650+ Pre-K–12th Grade students who thrive from an enriching progressive curriculum, robust co-curricular offerings, and a whole-student approach
- 450+ faculty and staff who inspire our students and benefit from professional development opportunities
- A strong financial aid program that impacts 1 in 4 families
- 10,000+ alumni who engage with our community and remain dedicated to their alma mater

# Frequently asked questions

## **What is the Orange Fund?**

The Orange Fund is our annual, community-wide fundraising drive that supports the pedagogy and programming that make ECFS a leader in progressive education. The support given to the Orange Fund is at the core of our day-to-day operations, and your 100% tax-deductible gift makes an ECFS education possible for our students. Donations to the Orange Fund support our dynamic faculty and challenging curriculum, enhance our co-curricular offerings, and fund our robust financial aid program — all of which allow our students to thrive.

## **Why does my participation matter?**

For our School to succeed, each member of our community must participate in sustaining the mission. We encourage everyone — from current families to alumni to grandparents — to support the Orange Fund. Gifts of all amounts strengthen our community and demonstrate your support of the ECFS mission and the School's future. Each and every gift makes a difference.

## **How will my gift be used?**

Your donation touches every aspect of the student experience. A gift to the Orange Fund will impact academics across all divisions; our robust co-curricular offerings including athletics, the arts, and community service; technology; safety and sustainability; health and wellness; faculty development; and our strong financial aid program, which impacts one out of four students.

As with all independent schools, tuition alone does not cover the full cost of educating each student at ECFS. The remaining costs are covered by annual philanthropic support and income from our institutional investment portfolio. All gifts to the Orange Fund help bridge this gap so that we can offer every student an outstanding education across our two vibrant campuses.

## **How much should I give?**

We ask you to invest in ECFS with a gift that is meaningful to you. Contributions to the Orange Fund range in size from \$5 to \$100,000 or more. All gifts to ECFS have an impact.



## When can I make a gift to the Orange Fund?

The Orange Fund runs from July 1 to June 30 each year.

## Are gifts tax-deductible?

Yes. ECFS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions to the Orange Fund and other giving programs are fully tax-deductible. Donations are also eligible to be matched by corporations. Please contact your company's representative to find out more and multiply your impact.

## How do I make my gift?

You can make your gift online at **[ecfs.org/philanthropy](https://ecfs.org/philanthropy)** or by emailing **[advancement@ecfs.org](mailto:advancement@ecfs.org)**.

You can also send a check payable to ECFS to:

Ethical Culture Fieldston School  
33 Central Park West  
New York, NY 10023

If you would like to make a gift to the Orange Fund over the phone, please call the Office of Advancement at **212-712-6260**.

You can also visit **[philanthropy.ecfs.org](https://philanthropy.ecfs.org)** to learn about other ways to make a contribution, meet our team of professionals who are here to support you, and read more about the impact of your philanthropy.



# There are many ways to support ECFS

## A glossary of giving

**Capital campaign:** A major fundraising campaign conducted over several years. A capital campaign raises substantial funds to finance major initiatives and endeavors.

**Commemorative gifts:** Gifts to ECFS can be made in memory of or in tribute to another person. Notification of these gifts can be sent to the individual or family being recognized.

**Endowment:** A permanent fund that is invested to produce income. An endowed gift supports academic programs or financial aid in perpetuity. The principle of each endowed gift is preserved while the earnings benefit current students, faculty, staff, and programming.

**Form VI Gift:** Traditionally given to ECFS by parents/guardians in honor of their children in the graduating class, these gifts are split between the annual fund and a selected fund, such as financial aid.

**Gifts in kind:** Non-monetary gifts that would otherwise have to be purchased by the School. These donations must be pre-approved by the division heads or by the Advancement Office.

**Matching gifts:** Matching gifts help multiply the impact of money raised by matching the donation with an equal gift made by corporations, foundations, or individuals. Please check with your employer to see if your company participates.

**Named funds:** Donors who give at or above a certain level may establish named funds to express their support of ECFS's academic excellence or in support of a specific department, program, or purchase.

**Orange Fund:** The Orange Fund is ECFS's annual fundraising drive and supports the current year's budget. It helps fund every aspect of ECFS's operations and benefits every student.

**Participation:** A measure — usually expressed in percentages — of how many donors in a specific group have made gifts. At ECFS, we strive for 100% participation in the Orange Fund.

**Philanthropy:** The donation of time, skill, or resources to support an institution or cause. ECFS is grateful for all the ways people give their time, talent, and treasure to support our School.

**Planned gifts:** A vehicle for making gifts to ECFS as part of estate planning. Naming our School as a beneficiary in your will, retirement plan, IRA, or life insurance policy creates a legacy for you and your loved ones while impacting our students now and into the future.

**Programmatic gifts:** Gifts directed to support programs essential to ECFS, including enrichment programs, arts programs, community services, tutoring, and financial aid.

**Volunteering:** ECFS depends on the time, skill, and dedication of our many volunteers who give back and volunteer with the Orange Fund, the P+T, the Admissions Office, the Fieldston Alumni Network, the Board of Trustees, and more.

# Orange Fund gift categories

<b>Founder</b>	\$50,000 and above
<b>Leader</b>	\$35,000–\$49,999
<b>Benefactor</b>	\$25,000–\$34,999
<b>Ambassador</b>	\$15,000–\$24,999
<b>Director</b>	\$10,000–\$14,999
<b>Patron</b>	\$5,000–\$9,999
<b>Pacesetter</b>	\$2,500–\$4,999
<b>1878 Club</b>	\$1,878–\$2,499
<b>Member</b>	\$1,000–\$1,877
<b>Donor</b>	up to \$999





**Ethical Culture campus**

33 Central Park West  
New York, NY 10023

**Fieldston campus**

3901 Fieldston Road  
Bronx, NY 10471