Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am proud [alum/student/faculty/staff/supporter/friend] of Goddard College, a long-standing leader of progressive education, with a rich legacy of producing some of the finest artists, activists, social entrepreneurs, educators, psychologists, and academic minds that have shaped the culture of the 20th and 21st Century.

Goddard offers a compelling alternative to the traditional college model – a learner-driven, low-residency, experiential education that serves a post-traditional student base, and that is more affordable and accessible than almost any other college of its caliber. Our notable alumni include author and director David Mamet, jazz musician Archie Shepp, former White House correspondent Ellen Ratner, and Olympian and activist Tommie Smith, to name just a few.

Goddard continues to offer a meaningful purpose and mission in the world and has a strategic vision for the future. Goddard is currently looking ahead to equip the College to enter a new era of innovation grounded in our progressive education values.

However, this distinct community that has impacted so many lives is now being challenged. As you may know, Goddard was placed on academic probation in September 2018 by our regional accreditor, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), due to a lack of financial resources. Over the past year, the College has made significant gains to stabilize the institution and position it for growth; including reducing expenses, operating on a balanced budget, and a record fundraising year more than doubling the funds raised in any other year over the past decade.

Now Goddard is launching **Together For Goddard**, a campaign to **raise $4 million by June 2020**, to transcend the current challenges facing higher education and realize a future for the College as a thriving and financially durable institution.

The campaign will support six key priorities that will advance the College’s mission: financial strength and stability; academic partnerships; experiments and new initiatives; new campus-based learning opportunities; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and increased scholarship funding. Reaching financial stability will enable Goddard College to once again become a visionary and leader for innovation in higher education, and to solidify Goddard’s essential and unique contribution to the academic landscape.

I believe that Goddard College is needed today more than ever, and that a deep hole would be left in the educational landscape if it were to cease to exist. Goddard is an important alternative to the dominant structures in higher education, creating a vibrant community and support system for life-long learners, first-generation college students, radical thinkers, multidisciplinary artists. As one of our current students said, “Goddard gives you permission to be outlandish, creative, disruptive. It gives you permission to be yourself. When you are surrounded by the Goddard community you feel better about yourself. You feel more creative. You take risks. You feel supported.”

I will do what I can to ensure Goddard’s future. I hope I can count on you to support Goddard College and help us meet our $4 million goal. You can donate in the following ways:

* Go to [www.goddard.edu/alumni/give](http://www.goddard.edu/alumni/give)
* Mail a check to Goddard College, Development Office, 123 Pitkin Road, Plainfield, VT 05667

Contact the Development Office at 802-322-1724 with any questions, or to set up an inquiry meeting with President Bernard Bull to learn more about the campaign.

Please join me in standing #Together4Goddard. We need your financial support, and your positive thoughts and messages online and in-person to help us spread the word about the value of Goddard and this important moment in our history. Together we can make so much possible.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CC: Dr. Bernard Bull, President of Goddard College