

**OXY**  
Occidental  
College

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**THE  
BARACK OBAMA  
SCHOLARS  
PROGRAM AT  
OCCIDENTAL  
COLLEGE**





“  
THAT IS THE  
PROMISE OF  
EDUCATION IN  
AMERICA...THAT  
EACH OF US  
SHOULD HAVE  
THE CHANCE TO  
ACHIEVE THE  
AMERICAN DREAM.”

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

Perhaps now more than ever, the world needs a new generation of young people dedicated to public service—inspired and emboldened by the legacy of President Barack Obama.

The Barack Obama Scholars Program at Occidental College will empower exceptional students committed to the public good as it honors and continues the principles of civic engagement President Obama advanced during his Presidency.

These principles were shaped by the people and ideas Barack Obama encountered while a student at Occidental College. Now the Obama Scholars Program, with the wholehearted backing of President Obama himself, will open opportunities to students whose life trajectories might otherwise prevent them from realizing their full potential.

As our philanthropic partner, your involvement will provide the foundation for this iconic program, which will nurture the agents of change who seek to realize a stronger society.

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#### **Occidental College: Founded in 1887**

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#### **Los Angeles, California**

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- » Occidental College fully integrates the liberal arts with the cultural and intellectual resources of a global city.
  - » The college is ranked No. 7 for liberal arts colleges and No. 17 for all undergraduate schools on Payscale.com's 2016-17 list of highest-paid graduates.
  - » For 11 consecutive years, Occidental has been one of the country's top producers of student Fulbright Awards.
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creating the next  
generation of changemakers



[illegible]

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

A photograph of Barack Obama and a man standing in the Oval Office. Barack Obama is on the left, wearing a dark suit and a patterned tie, smiling broadly. The man on the right is wearing a dark blazer over a white shirt and a red and blue striped tie, also smiling. They are standing in front of a large wooden desk. Behind them are large windows with gold curtains, and two American flags are visible. A dark car is visible through the window on the left.

*In the White House: President Obama with Professor Roger Boesche  
(January 1948-May 2017)*





IN 2016  
**\$1.3**  
TRILLION STUDENT  
LOAN DEBT IN U.S.

**50%**  
OF STUDENTS FROM  
HIGH-INCOME  
FAMILIES HAVE A  
BACHELOR'S DEGREE  
BY AGE 25.

**10%**  
OF STUDENTS FROM  
LOW-INCOME FAMILIES  
CAN SAY THE SAME.

AVERAGE ANNUAL  
COST OF COLLEGE  
↑↑↑  
**41%**  
(2005-2012)

REAL MEDIAN  
HOUSEHOLD INCOME  
↓↓↓  
**7%**  
(2005-2012)

**\$30.1**  
THOUSAND AVERAGE  
PER STUDENT DEBT  
UPON GRADUATION

EDUCATION IS OUR ONLY POLITICAL SAFETY. OUTSIDE OF THIS ARK ALL IS DELUGE.

HORACE MANN, AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL REFORMER  
(1796-1859)

The Obama Scholars Program at Occidental will provide a diverse group of high-achieving students, regardless of socio-economic background, a singular experience that will equip them for a future in public service.

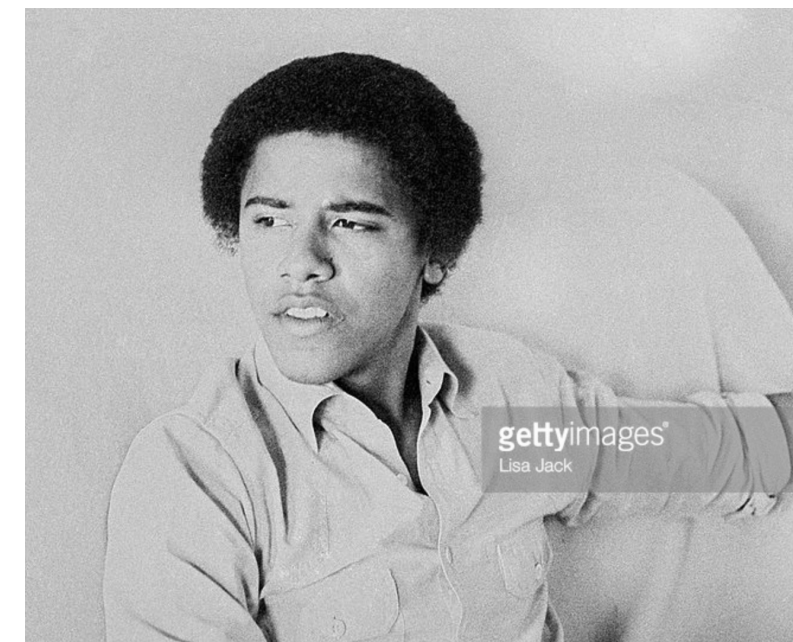
Much the way Occidental sustained Barack Obama on his educational journey, we will sustain new generations of dreamers and leaders. The Obama Scholars Program will provide a robust four-year scholarship, with loan-free funding for 100% of an Occidental education and supplemental enrichment programs—in what will be the undergraduate equivalent of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

Like the program's namesake, Obama Scholars will be steeped in the very best qualities of a liberal arts education: curiosity, inquiry, empathy and a love of language, ideas and

scientific rigor. At Occidental, students are taught to listen carefully, think globally, and ask important questions about freedom and necessity, justice and inequality.

Fueled by the power of a liberal arts education, Obama Scholars will be prepared not just to understand the challenges facing our nation but to impact them as true change agents.

the obama scholars  
program: transformational







“COLLEGES HAVE A CRUCIAL ROLE TO PLAY  
IN SAFEGUARDING UPWARD MOBILITY.  
WITHOUT IT, THE PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES  
OF LEADERSHIP BECOME ENTRENCHED  
IN THE HANDS OF THE FEW.”

JONATHAN VEITCH  
15<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT OF OCCIDENTAL COLLEGE

oxy: an incomparable  
launching point

Occidental College is one of the few leading liberal arts colleges in America in an urban setting. Dedicated to excellence and access, this school also is one of the nation's most economically diverse campuses, according to the *New York Times*. The distinctive interdisciplinary focus of our academic program fosters both personal aspirations and a deep-rooted commitment to the public good.

Buoyed by your involvement, we can deliver upon Barack Obama's post-Presidency call to provide a launching pad for young changemakers. Occidental College's Obama Scholars Program is essential to achieving the principles we envision for our shared future.

**There is no better home for the  
Barack Obama Scholars Program.**

Occidental is among the top 5 liberal arts colleges in enrolling first-generation students, students of color and Pell Grant recipients — an impressive record considering that the remaing top 5 have endowments three to four times the size of ours.

- » 70% of Oxy students receive financial aid
- » 20% Pell Grant recipients  
(majority of grants support students whose total family income falls below \$20,000)
- » 92% of Oxy Pell Grant recipients graduate
- » 15% of the Class of 2020 are the first generation to attend college





# activists dreamers thinkers catalysts advocates visionaries

“WHAT I’VE REALIZED IS THAT LIFE DOESN’T COUNT FOR MUCH  
UNLESS YOU’RE WILLING TO DO YOUR SMALL PART  
TO LEAVE OUR CHILDREN—ALL OF OUR CHILDREN—A BETTER WORLD.”  
PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

With your support for the Obama Scholars Program, you will impact the future of our country. At the same time, you will pay tribute to and extend the legacy of President Obama by propelling subsequent generations to assume the baton of leadership.

Our philanthropic partners will be able to contribute to shaping this unique program, including the possibility of serving on the Advisory Council and as a mentor to an Obama Scholar, if you choose.

Your gift is an investment in the building of a more civil society, one that embraces and encourages diversity among people and viewpoints, and bridges these differences to create a stronger union. The Obama Scholars Program will transform individual lives and our collective whole, with reverberations for decades to come.

your opportunity to  
make a lasting difference







**“CHANGE WILL NOT COME IF WE WAIT  
FOR SOME OTHER PERSON  
OR IF WE WAIT FOR SOME OTHER TIME.  
WE ARE THE ONES WE ARE WAITING FOR.  
WE ARE THE CHANGE THAT WE SEEK.”**

BARACK OBAMA  
44<sup>TH</sup> PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

**how you can fuel  
hope and change**

You are invited to play a critical role in furthering a commitment to civic leadership with your support of the Obama Scholars Program at Occidental College. Giving opportunities include:

**The Obama Scholars Program  
Named Endowments**

Named Endowed Funds can be established to support all dimensions of the Obama Scholars Program student experience, including scholarship, international study, research, internships and post-graduate pursuits.

**Membership in The Boesche Society**

Annual gifts to the Obama Scholars Program provide immediate funding for students, faculty and programs. The Boesche Society, named in honor of the late Professor Roger Boesche, will recognize donors who support core facets of the program.

**Customized giving**

Our giving professionals are available to discuss how your specific philanthropic goals can align with the Obama Scholars Program.

[obamascholars@oxy.edu](mailto:obamascholars@oxy.edu)







“  
The next Michelle Obama  
or Barack Obama  
right now is sitting out there  
and has no idea how  
to make their ideals live...  
(we can) give them resources  
and ways to think about  
social change.”

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

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Obama/Boesche photo: Pete Souza/  
White House Photo Office

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