

BENNINGTON COLLEGE



The President and the Board of Trustees

cordially invite

to membership in the

ASSOCIATES OF BENNINGTON COLLEGE

an informal organization of parents and friends who
support the aims of the College and help to promote its
continued development.

FROM THE PRESIDENT - -

The Associates organization was started in the spring of 1948 by a group of parents and others interested in Bennington College. The Associates have proved to be of great value to the college, uniting our friends in a simple and workable plan of action. I do not hesitate to commend the plan to you and ask you to give it your serious consideration.

Frederick Burkhardt, *President*

FROM THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ASSOCIATES - -

The College

If Bennington were just one of several hundred institutions offering the usual type of college education it might not seem important to maintain its stability and effectiveness. But you who know Bennington are aware that our program is distinctive and that our service to the students entrusted to us is of far more than ordinary value. The girls themselves are an exceptional group and the same is true of their teachers. Moreover, ours is a college which has made and continues to make a valuable contribution in the area of educational experiment.

Liberal Scholarship Policy

It has always been the policy of Bennington to have a liberal allotment for scholarships so that no fine girl should be kept from entering because of insufficient means. To insure adequate scholarship grants, however, it is necessary to have resources beyond those of current income derived from tuition. Funds must be raised annually for this purpose by contributions to the College.

Endowment

You perhaps do not realize that when Bennington was opened in 1932, it was impossible to raise a backlog of endowment such as most colleges have. Actually, Bennington's total endowment amounts to only about \$150,000. Under present circumstances, few people are able to donate the sums necessary for an endowment which would yield sizable annual income. But many can contribute annual sums equivalent to income on endowments.

The Associates of Bennington College

The formation of the Associates was an attempt to create such an annual income, especially for scholarships, which will be fairly dependable. Anyone who joins the Associates and makes a contribution will receive a reminder at the end of the year; there is no pledge to repeat the contribution, but it is hoped that Associates will continue their help according to their abilities on an annual basis. People give according to their means and small donations are as welcome as the large.

What Membership Means

Associates naturally become a part of the college "family". They are kept up-to-date about college developments and plans. In this way they become a body of informed supporters who help not only financially but by acting as ambassadors of good will. The aid which Associates give by disseminating accurate information about Bennington and its program is as valuable as their financial support.

You Are Invited to Join

You who have received this invitation will be welcomed as members of the Associates by filling out and sending the enclosed form to the College. We look with confidence to our friends to give us their support. The alumnae are helping generously, and many of their parents and those of present students are joining them. We ask you to consider the facts and then to do what you can to help.

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