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Solicitation for Beryl Warner Williams Hall Renovation and Dedication Fund

Joan Ferrini-Mundy

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Renovations for Beryl Warner Williams Hall

1 message

President Ferrini-Mundy <umaineannalfund@maine.edu>

Mon, Jul 19, 2021 at 3:22 PM

Reply-To: umaineannalfund@maine.edu

To:



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Conceptual rendering reflecting some of the proposed updates to Beryl Warner Williams Hall.

Image provided by Facilities Management.

Beryl Warner Williams Hall

Dear -----,

This fall, we will dedicate **Beryl Warner Williams Hall** on our campus. Beryl Warner Williams was born in Bangor, Maine and graduated from Bangor High School. In 1935, Williams was the first Black University of Maine graduate to earn a mathematics degree. Five years later, she also received a master's degree in mathematics from UMaine. When Williams was unable to secure a teaching position in Maine because of the color of her skin, she moved out of state, where

she had a distinguished academic and social improvement career in historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), impacting many lives. UMaine recognized her lifetime achievements with an honorary degree in 1972 and received an Alumni Career Award in 1995.

The decision to name the building after Beryl Warner Williams was approved by the University of Maine System Board of Trustees in April 2021.

The dedication of a UMaine building in her honor recognizes Williams' vision and lifetime of achievement. She was an inspiration and a role model. I am very proud of the many members of the University of Maine community who were involved in the mindful and effective effort to help bring about this kind of a change.

Before we invite you and our other guests to the dedication, we have a bit of paint and polish to complete. Updates to the atrium will focus on making the space more vibrant to encourage a sense of community, in keeping with the spirit of Williams' lifework. We will add furniture, laptop bars, water bottle filling stations and an updated color scheme to enhance the communal environment. Like its namesake, Williams Hall with its view of the Mall will continue to focus on students, hundreds of whom pass through its doors every semester.

Facilities Management is supporting most of the renovation work through its maintenance budget. We have an additional \$75,000 to raise. As a member of the UMaine community, I hope you will consider contributing to the building improvements through the Beryl Warner Williams Hall Renovation and Dedication Fund. Any gift of any size will bring us closer to our fundraising goal.

Thank you for considering your participation in this historic project.

Give to the
Beryl Warner
Williams Hall
Renovation Fund



Joan Ferrini-Mundy
President
University of Maine and
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