I already pay tuition. Why should I give to the Annual Fund?
Tuition covers only 89.5% of the cost of student-centered education at USN. Gifts to the Annual Fund are tax deductible and support everything that sets a USN education apart, including talented and dedicated faculty, small classes, exceptional offerings in academics, the arts, and athletics. Like every other independent school, USN relies on fundraising.

When and how much should I give?
Solicitations are made in the fall, and we encourage gifts or pledges by Dec. 31, 2019. We ask all families, as well as grandparents, alumni, parents of alumni, and friends, to participate with a donation that is meaningful to them. Gifts given between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020 will be recognized in the “Report on Philanthropy” for the 2019-2020 school year.

May I make a monthly recurring gift or does it have to be all at once?
Monthly recurring gifts are a great way to support USN. Many parents and alumni choose to make a modest gift once a month to have a big impact throughout the year. Starting in September, gifts from $10 a month ($100), $25 a month ($250), $50 a month ($500), $191.50 a month ($1,915) and higher can be arranged at usn.org/giving or by contacting the Development Office at 615-329-4423.

What is considered a leadership gift?
Annual Fund gifts of $1,915 (the year of USN’s founding as Peabody Demonstration School) and above are recognized in our 1915 Leadership Society, on our website, and in our “Report on Philanthropy.” Donors at this level are also invited to a philanthropic leadership dinner with USN Director Vince Durnan and Trustees in the fall the following year.

What is capital giving?
Periodically, USN will undertake a capital/comprehensive campaign for special projects or initiatives outside the annual operating budget that may be supported by philanthropy, such as a construction project, the endowment, or another long-term project to ensure the future stability of the school.

Campaign commitments are generally more substantial and fulfilled over two to five years. While USN is not in a formal capital campaign, our most recent campaign concluded in 2017 and made significant improvements to our school possible. Our Board of Trustees continues to discuss the next phase of potential projects.