

# Two private schools to split gift from estate

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**SHAKER HTS.** — Two private schools will benefit from the estate of Victor M. and Georgia Cannon.

The couple bequeathed \$6.6 million, to be split evenly between **Hathaway Brown**, on North Park Boulevard in Shaker Heights, and **University School**, with campuses in Hunting Valley and Shaker Heights.

Heads of both schools expressed gratitude for the joint gift and said the monies will be added to the schools' respective endowments.

"The histories and missions of Hathaway Brown and University School are very closely intertwined," said Bill Christ, head of school at HB. "We are so pleased that the Cannons decided to honor both schools with this substantial bequest."

US Headmaster Steve Murray said the school will use the money for faculty enhancement and professional development.

"We are extremely grateful for this extraordinary gift to our school," Murray said.

"Honoring our faculty by giving them the teaching tools to do their best work was the primary goal behind our new academic wing in Hunting Valley. These endowments will ensure that our faculty continue to be supported in their work and receive ongoing professional development."

At the time of his death in 1970, Victor M. Cannon, a 1919 graduate of University School, was an executive at The Reynolds Co. Inc., as well as a longtime volunteer and adviser at the Seaman's Service Center, where he served as president and was a member of the board of trustees.

A graduate of Dartmouth College, Cannon was an executive at Premier Vacuum Cleaner Co. before it was sold to General Electric Co. Cannon was associated with the Brown Fence & Wire Co. prior to joining the Reynolds Co. He was the son of well-known Cleveland lawyer and businessman Austin Victor Cannon, who served as the chairman of the Cuyahoga County Relief Commission during the Great Depression.

Victor Cannon married

Georgia Gary, a 1924 graduate of Hathaway Brown and 1928 graduate of Rollins College. Georgia served as vice president and treasurer for her senior class at HB.

She spent many years as a volunteer at the Cleveland Society for the Blind, where she read to sight-impaired law students. She also was a member of several community organizations, including the Cleveland Skating Club, The Country Club, and Colony Garden Club. She died in 1995 at the age of 88.

The couple had two children, Victor M. Jr. and Patsy, both of whom are now deceased. Victor Jr. was an alumnus of University School, graduating in 1949. The estate was settled following the deaths of the Cannon heirs.

The \$3.3 million bequest is the third-largest gift in Hathaway Brown's history.

"We're especially excited to have received news of this generous donation from the estate of Georgia Cannon at this time," Christ said. "Hathaway Brown and its board of directors are now engaged in an in-depth strategic planning process for mapping out our academic and experiential programming, facilities, faculty and student recruitment, and research and community engagement initiatives, well into the future. At the same time, gifts like this allow us to maintain, refine, and expand the outstanding education we provide for girls across Northeast Ohio."

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