

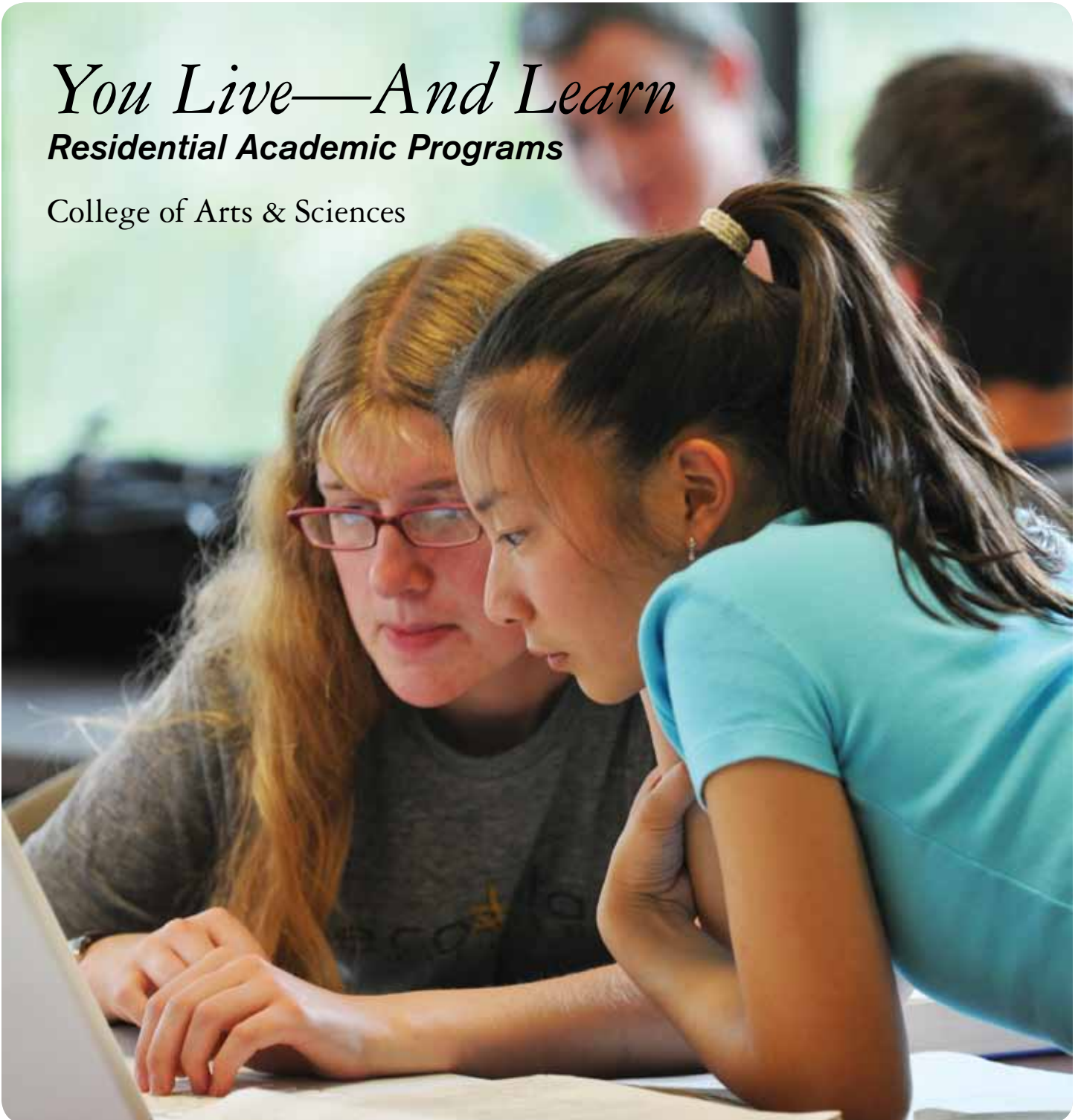
Creating Futures

University of Colorado *Boulder*



You Live—And Learn
Residential Academic Programs

College of Arts & Sciences





Residential Academic Programs Educating Students Where They Live

“I thought I was prepared for such a big adjustment, but nobody can mentally prepare you for college...I made it through the first few weeks of school thanks to the nurturing environment of Sewall.”

Alexia Bouttier
Alumna, Sewall RAP

Imagine new freshmen arriving on campus in Boulder. They are barely out of high school, on their own in a new city, in a sea of thousands of other students from all over the U.S. and around the world. They may never have been in a class bigger than 30 students, but they can start here in classes of 100 or more. Maybe your son’s or daughter’s freshman year was like that. Maybe your own freshman year was like that.

One of the most effective ways CU-Boulder helps ease the transition from high school to college is to meet students where they live, through Residential Academic Programs (RAPs). RAP teachers and staff members know students’ names and faces, and work with housing staff to integrate living and learning. RAPs help students find a sense of place and

community through small classes, taught in the residence halls, and extracurricular activities, all run by hall-based faculty and support staff. And finding this sense of place and community is essential for students to be successful in college and beyond.

Research shows that programs like RAPs are the most effective tools universities have for increasing graduation rates. And CU-Boulder leaders have made expanding the RAPs a flagship strategic initiative. But RAPs cost extra, and students who might benefit from them the most cannot always afford to participate in them. You can help the work we do in the RAPs by contributing to support our programs and helping underrepresented students benefit from the RAP experience.



“Being part of the Libby RAP program has been more than rewarding. Undoubtedly, though, there’s one thing that’s by far my favorite part. When I look at my professor, she looks back. I know that’s uncommon for a first-semester freshman on a campus of 25,000 kids, which makes it that much more exciting. With one glance from her I become a person, a friend, a daughter, and a thriving student all at once.”

Jamie Lowe
Alumna, Libby RAP

Who Are the RAPs?

There are nine RAPs, emphasizing topics from environmental science to the arts. All of these programs offer classes of 18 to 20 students, faculty and staff offices in the residence halls, and extracurricular opportunities ranging from camping trips to theatre to Denver Nuggets games. Most courses in the RAPs satisfy university core curriculum, allowing RAP students to fulfill their requirements in the intimacy of small seminar-style classes. Students can walk down the hall to talk to their faculty, and they can get academic advising and assistance right where they live. They can count on seeing their classmates in the dining hall, and they can arrange late-night study sessions without having to walk home in the dark.

RAPs in the College of Arts and Sciences



› Hall

Arnett
Baker
Buckingham
Farrand
Kittredge West
Libby
Sewall
Smith
Williams Village North

› Theme

Honors Program
Natural Sciences and the Environment
Communication and Society
Humanities and Cultural Studies
Health Professions (opens 2012)
Visual and Performing Arts
History and Culture
Global Studies
Social Entrepreneurship

Essential for Colorado and CU-Boulder

As the state's flagship university, CU-Boulder is increasingly a magnet for Colorado's most talented youth as well as for promising students from around the nation and world—students who often stay in Colorado after graduation and enhance local industry, culture, and civic life. RAPs are one way in which the university can continue to draw top students from Colorado and beyond.

Many of Colorado's own best and brightest look outside the state for college, searching for the intimacy and support of smaller schools. RAPs exist to create that intimacy and support—to give students the community they might look for in a small school without losing the immense opportunities of a Tier 1 research university. RAPs can help keep Colorado students in Colorado, attract students from out of state, and help all students make progress towards graduation.

"I am getting the best grades I have ever achieved, and I have the Sewall community to thank for it."

Garrett Urban
Alumnus, Sewall RAP



“There is something really unique about a learning and living environment. The RAPs provide a connection between the two that, at a university of this size, provides a different kind of educational experience—and a more enriching one.”

Janet Jacobs

Academic Director, Farrand RAP



Paul Strom, associate director of the Honors RAP, teaches a course in Arnett Hall.

To learn about the many ways you can make a gift, contact:

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You Can Help More Students Experience RAPs

While RAPs demonstrably improve retention and student satisfaction, both key to the CU-Boulder educational experience, we struggle to provide these experiences for a wider cross-section of students. The reason is, RAPs are more expensive than dorms, and not all students can afford the \$850 annual RAP fee—particularly first-generation college students, ethnic minorities, local students who otherwise would live off-campus, and rural students who would most benefit from an intimate environment within a large university.

We want to provide RAP opportunities to more, and more diverse, students throughout CU-Boulder. By supporting scholarships, you can make this happen. You can endow the annual RAP fee for a student in a subject area of your choosing, or endow that student’s room and board as well. You also can support faculty fellowships within the RAPs, increasing the mentorship and connections students will experience.

Imagine a future in which all CU-Boulder first-year students feel they have a home away from home, on campus. This future is within reach, with your support.



University of Colorado
Boulder

Thank you for your support!

All gifts should be payable to the University of Colorado Foundation, specifying the appropriate fund.

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