

## { It's all about relationships. }



(Above): Joanne Snead Jones ('59) left and Dr. Mary Latimer portraits from the 1958 Madison College *Schoolma'am*. Jones shared a gift with JMU in honor of Professor Latimer because she says "Professors in all walks of life go with you."

### HONORING DR. LATIMER

I graduated from Madison College in 1959. I realize that college has changed a lot. Men were only allowed as "day" students before I graduated. Docs was the famous off-campus get together place across Main Street. Women had to have special permission to leave campus and to go downtown. Dr. Mary Latimer was the drama teacher and directed all of the plays. I was a member of the Stratford Players and performed in nearly all of the productions. One of the plays was *Mary Queen of Scots*, in which I portrayed Mary Stuart. We were selected to perform at the Mosque Theater in Richmond.

I remember how overwhelmed I was with the "bigness" of everything. I came from a small county, lived on a farm and worked a lot to save up for my college education. Dr. Latimer taught me about theater and performing. I wanted to be an actress when I graduated, but she convinced me that acting was a very difficult way to make a living. I finally decided to be a classroom teacher. As a teacher, I wrote and directed plays and taught for 50 years. I owe that to Dr. Latimer. I know that she is not living now, but I just wanted the college to know that professors in all walks of life go with you. The things you learn in college stay with you. I am honored to make a gift in Dr. Latimer's memory.

JOANNE SNEAD JONES ('59)  
Fork Union, Va.

## KEEP THOSE LETTERS AND STORY IDEAS COMING!

*Madison* welcomes letters in response to magazine content. The staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, length and style. Anonymous letters will not be published. Send to "22807" *Madison*, 127 West Bruce St., MSC 3610, JMU, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, or email [madisonmag@jmu.edu](mailto:madisonmag@jmu.edu).

### {Editor's Note}

## Opportunities and challenges

**S**ome issues of this fall edition of *Madison* magazine are packaged with the university's new strategic plan. "The Madison Plan" commenced July 1 and positions the university well going forward through 2020. Keep an eye out for phase two of President Jonathan Alger's tour to meet with alumni to discuss the future direction of James Madison University. He heard what you had to say during the Why Madison? Presidential Listening Tour, and much of your input is clearly reflected in the new plan. If your magazine didn't come with a copy of *The Madison Plan*, it's online at [www.jmu.edu/jmuplans](http://www.jmu.edu/jmuplans).

Over the summer you may have seen, read or heard JMU mentioned in the media related to a case of sexual assault that happened during spring break in Florida in 2013. If the media's depiction of how the case was handled seemed out of character for JMU, there is a good reason: a federal privacy law protecting student records forbids the university from commenting on any specific case. So you are not hearing all sides of the issue in the media. We can say, however, that JMU takes the issue very seriously and devotes substantial effort and resources to raising awareness, prevention, response, adjudication and support (Read about a few examples on Page 10).

As the public discussion of sexual assault on campuses across the country continues, understanding what should happen next is rather simple: sexual assault has to stop. Resolving how to deal with cases of sexual assault in a process outside the legal system is a far more complicated proposition. As students and faculty members return to campus for the fall semester, sexual assault will most certainly continue to be a topic of discussion. And so it should be. A campus as closely-knit as Madison is well suited to confront the issue openly, compassionately and with level heads.

— ANDREW D PERRINE ('86), *executive editor*