



Dr. Robbert Dijkgraaf Director and Leon Levy Professor

October 1, 2015

FPO Only

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Institute for Advanced Study provides the gift of time for the brightest minds to ask the hardest questions. Breakthrough ideas are fragile and those who work toward them require the Institute's finely tuned environment—independent, curiosity driven, residential, and without restrictions.

*“For fostering new contacts across fields and institutions around the globe, for facilitating interdisciplinary conversations, and for providing ideal working conditions for the difficult, slow, and often solitary work of conceptualizing, researching, and writing a book in the humanities and/or social sciences, the Institute is an unparalleled place.”—Sophia Rosenfeld, Member (2014–15), School of Social Science*

All of this takes great care and substantial resources—from the stipends we provide to nearly 200 Members each year, along with their offices, housing, and administrative and research support, to the many opportunities for formal and informal interaction where Faculty and Members share their ideas, struggles, and successes.

Since the Institute's establishment in 1930, its independence and excellence have been almost fully reliant on philanthropy. Unlike universities, IAS has neither tuition nor intellectual property income. Because our independence and the unrestricted thinking of our scholars is so critical to our nature, we are engaging a growing and committed community of donors to support our annual operating costs.

IAS is always moving forward, supporting projects like physicist Nima Arkani-Hamed's efforts to build the next particle collider to push forward the frontiers of physics; art historian Yve-Alain Bois's stunning catalogue raisonné on American artist Ellsworth Kelly; social anthropologist Didier Fassin's summer program to convene emerging scholars from Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America, regions of the world traditionally not well represented in the social sciences; and mathematician Rafe Mazzeo's leadership, as Director of the IAS/Park City Mathematics Institute, to deepen and strengthen the field of mathematics through education.

This year, I hope you will continue your dedication by giving to the IAS Fund, which provides the Institute with unrestricted annual operating support, our second largest source of revenue after endowment income. Please give to the Institute today as an essential contributor to the unlimited possibilities that humanity's best minds can deliver.

Very best wishes,

P.S. For me, the Institute is a Platonic image of what a research environment should be, and one of the most exciting places in the landscape of new ideas and education. Every IAS dollar received has a tremendous multiplier effect, influencing universities, programs, and fields of study and inquiry around the world.