



## \$2 million gift for Hollins

Frank Batten, retired chairman and CEO of Landmark Communications, and his wife, Jane Parke Batten '58, have presented Hollins with a gift of \$2 million to endow the program that bears their family's name, the [Batten Leadership Institute](#).

The Battens' gift will allow Hollins to build upon this signature program, which is centered on the philosophy that each woman's leadership gifts start with developing a strong sense of self, combined with skill development, mentoring, and real world leadership projects, both on campus and off.

The [Batten family's](#) close relationship and tremendous generosity with Hollins go back more than 80 years. Frank Batten's mother, Dorothy Martin, attended Hollins in the early 1920s, and daughter, Dorothy, graduated in 1985. Frank served three terms on the Hollins Board of Trustees between 1969 and 1991. In 1995, Frank and Jane gave \$2 million to Hollins to fund the [Batten Scholars](#) program, and in 2003, they presented the university with a gift of over \$2.2 million to endow a chair in the history of women and leadership.

Receiving this latest gift is a great honor for Hollins. We thank the Battens for their incredible support and look forward to taking the [Batten Leadership Institute](#) to new levels of success.

## [Women's Leadership and Social Change Conference](#) March 10-11

In this spirit of promoting leadership and in celebration of Women's History Month, Hollins is hosting its first-ever [Women's Leadership and Social Change Conference](#) March 10-11 in the [Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center](#). Hollins students, faculty, and alumnae, along with speakers from the Roanoke area, will share their leadership experience. The conference fee is \$10 for Hollins alumnae and the general public. For more information or to register, call (540) 362-6393 or e-mail [rsvp@hollins.edu](mailto:rsvp@hollins.edu), or click [here](#) for a registration form (pdf).

### Conference Highlights

- Keynote panel (see below) features four Hollins alumnae who have made significant contributions to social change locally, nationally and internationally.
- Special pre-conference session on the Hollins Outdoor Leadership Training Program (limited to 20 participants).
- Two conference sessions devoted to the topic of activism at Hollins.
- Workshops will provide attendees with knowledge and training in areas related to women's leadership.
- A networking reception will allow attendees to make contacts with women of all ages, interests, backgrounds, and professions.

### Keynote Panel



Jane Aiken '77 is the William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law at Washington University, St. Louis, where she regularly mentors law students in the Civil Justice Clinic. Her legal work has embraced a number of social justice issues including the role of sex and gender in the law, violence against women, AIDS, mediation, and human rights.



Mary E. Hatten '71 earned her Ph.D. at Princeton in 1975, and then embarked on a career as a neurobiologist. She is currently the Frederick P. Rose Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Developmental Neurobiology at Rockefeller University. Her internationally recognized work on the migration of neurons during the brain's development is shedding new light on a number of neurological conditions.



Lori Maddox '84 works for the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (E-LAW) where she directs the U.S. Latin America Program. She has traveled to Russia, Mongolia, Asia and the Pacific, the Middle East, and Central and South America on E-LAW's behalf to reach out to new advocates and help build their organizations.



Mildred E. Persinger '39 has for the past 30 years served as the World YWCA's main representative to the United Nations, coordinating work on human rights, women's advancement, sustainable development and peace and disarmament. She is also a member of the national board of the YWCA and worked with the National Council of Negro Women on racial justice issues including passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voter Registration Act of 1965.

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