Caroline Hamilton credits her liberal arts education with enabling her to make the leap to The Big Apple, and says what she loves most about her alma mater is how her experience pushed her into a broader world. Now she is giving back.

Caroline supports the College of Arts and Sciences in appreciation for the extraordinary education she received. “I support the Creative Writing Program to show my gratitude for taking aspiring artists seriously, and the Eve Carson scholarship so that [UNC] can continue to attract the best and brightest students from around the country and beyond.”

Caroline came to Carolina from a tiny Massachusetts prep school looking for a broader experience and lots of opportunities. She found them in books, in learning from world-class professors and on the walls of Italian cathedrals.

An English major, she enrolled in UNC’s nationally renowned Creative Writing Program. “I was privileged to study fiction with faculty members Pam Durban, Minrose Gwin and Randall Kenan,” she said. “Professor Kenan would read us the obituaries to show that unbelievable stories can come from everyday life.”

Caroline was also exposed to great writers through the privately funded Morgan Writers-in-Residence program. “That program introduced me to authors like Tim O’Brien, Joan Didion and Robert Hass,” she said. “Early contact with major American authors showed me that a writing career was achievable and gave me the confidence to pursue a master’s in creative writing from the New School in New York.”

Caroline’s art history major also served her well. “As a junior, I spent a semester in Florence, Italy, at the Lorenzo de Medici School living in a 14th-century Tuscan villa,” she said. “In my Renaissance art class, we read about paintings and cathedrals on Tuesdays, and saw them in person on Thursdays. It was amazing to have such a close relationship with such works, and when I returned to Chapel Hill I interned at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, [N.C.]”

Since graduation, Caroline has been living in New York and working in the development office of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. She just became the director of individual giving at the School of American Ballet.
QUICK FACTS ABOUT CAROLINA (FALL 2011*)
- 29,390 total students
- 18,579 undergraduates
- 1,674 instructional faculty
- 14:1 student-faculty ratio

CLASS OF 2015 ENROLLED CLASS PROFILE
- 23,753 applied
- 7,469 admitted (31 percent of those applying)
- 4,025 enrolled (54 percent of admitted)
- 1,945 is the average SAT score

CLASS OF 2015 ENROLLED CLASS STATISTICS
- 81.7 percent in-state students
- 18.3 percent out-of-state students
- 2 percent international
- 76.4 percent Caucasian
- 10.9 percent African American
- 12.1 percent Asian/Asian American
- 6.5 percent Hispanic/Latino/Latina
- 2.2 percent American Indian/Pacific Islander/Other
- 1.5 percent choose not to report
- 12 percent Carolina Covenant Scholars
- 18.3 percent first-generation college student

Source: Office of Undergraduate Admissions

2011-2012 COST OF ATTENDANCE
- $7,008 in-state tuition & fees (total: $20,660)
- $26,834 out-of-state tuition & fees (total: $41,140)

UNIVERSITY NEWS
UNC #1 best value in new ‘Princeton Review’ ranking
Carolina ranks first among the nation’s public universities in “The Princeton Review’s” list of the 2012 “Best Value Colleges.” The ranking was based on institutional data and student opinion surveys collected from fall 2010 through fall 2011, according to “The Princeton Review.” Following UNC among the public universities were the University of Virginia, New College of Florida, State University of New York at Binghamton and the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Completing the top 10 were the universities of Florida, Georgia, Washington and Texas.

“The Princeton Review” said the rankings process included review of data covering academics, cost of attendance and financial aid. According to its website, “...the percentage of graduating seniors who borrowed from any loan program and the average dollar amount of debt those students had at graduation” were also factors.

UNCs and the University of Virginia are the two top public universities that meet 100 percent of the documented need for all undergraduate students.

UNC has protected academics while absorbing more than $230 million in state budget reductions since 2008 by focusing cuts on administrative areas until this year, when course sections and classroom seats declined and class sizes increased.

Alumna to lead American Indian Center
Amy Locklear Hertel, of the Lumbee and Coharie tribes of North Carolina, will become director of UNC’s American Indian Center on May 1.

North Carolina has the largest Native population in the eastern United States. UNC’s American Indian Center is one of the only centers on the East Coast to focus solely on American Indian issues.

Locklear Hertel is currently a project manager at the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., where she is a doctoral candidate at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work. She earned her master of social work and law degrees at Washington University.

A Fayetteville, N.C., native, Locklear Hertel earned a bachelor’s degree at UNC in 1997. At UNC, she was president of the Carolina Indian Circle and a member of the Order of the Golden Fleece.