



A recent \$9 million donation to Georgia College State University from the late Gertrude Ehrlich's estate is the largest in the school's 136-year history, the university announced Friday morning.

Credit: Georgia College State University

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Orlando Montoya: A late alumna of Georgia College and State University in Middle Georgia's Milledgeville has given the college its largest-ever gift. The college says the \$9 million bequest announced last week will support financially vulnerable students. As GPB's Grant Blankenship explains, the woman who made the donation came to the school as a refugee.

Grant Blankenship: Gertrude Ehrlich was a college-tenured Ph.D. mathematician with advanced degrees from the University of Tennessee and from Chapel Hill. She taught for 37 years at the University Of Maryland. That was after fleeing Nazi-occupied Vienna with her family as a child in 1939, and after her undergraduate studies at Georgia College and State University, which she told an interviewer in 2017, were made possible by a special refugee scholarship.

Gertrude Ehrlich: And I was the second refugee scholar. They were so kind to me. I mean, you know, I didn't pay a penny.

Grant Blankenship: Ehrlich's gift of \$9 million will go to Pell-eligible students at Georgia College starting fall of next year. Ehrlich passed away this year at the age of 102. For GPB News, I'm Grant Blankenship.