

A Brief History

The College Club of Cincinnati (CCC) was first envisioned in 1892 as an intellectually stimulating women's club for play-acting, helping charitable causes and continuing education. Its founders included Miss Susan Peabody, the first President, and seven others. By 1900, there were 50 members who met at various locations downtown, including the Y, the historic Burnet House where President Lincoln visited, and also Arch Street.

From its earliest beginning, the objective of the group was *"to preserve that elusive fraternal spirit which the members had learned to love at college and to keep the intellectual fires burning by the writing and reading of scholarly papers."* Today, we may not be writing and reading scholarly papers, but we still gather, with like-minded friends, to learn something new and "extend the blessing of education to others."

The Club's first significant civic project was Cincinnati's "Social Settlement" in cooperation with a number of teachers, writers and social workers. The Settlement initiated many "social and educational experiments" that are now accepted as matters of course. The Settlement House was maintained from 1894-1901 at several downtown locations. Public theater parties and special productions, even plays written by members themselves, were held to support this cause.

The College Club of Cincinnati



Applicant Information



What is The College Club of Cincinnati?

The College Club of Cincinnati (CCC) is a group of college-educated women whose mission is “to promote a continuing interest and participation in philanthropy, the arts, education, social welfare and civic improvement.” It is proud of its tradition in granting college scholarships to qualified young women in the geographic area. This philanthropic endeavor is rewarding to the members and recipients alike, and is a major focus of the Club.

The annual Yearbook lists over 200 members in College Club which is run by a volunteer *Board of Governors* and dedicated members on various committees. It includes the calendar along with the membership directory.

From late September to mid-May, approximately **10 Saturday luncheon meetings** are held in the Lecture Room of the *Cincinnati Woman's Club* in Clifton, not far from the University of Cincinnati. The program committee creates a mix of thought-provoking and amusing **speakers** and/or **entertainers**, who follow the meal.

Operations and Membership Benefits

The President, Board of Governors and committee chairmen are elected each Spring, and meet as a Board regularly throughout the year. They manage the business of the Club around three main areas: *Scholarship*, *Operating Fund* and *Endowment Fund*. The majority of members tend to retain membership throughout their lifetimes. In fact, there is a cadre of Honorary Members who joined 50+

years ago which adds great depth to the organization.

Equally important benefits of **College Club** membership are the opportunities for life-long learning on a variety of contemporary and historical topics; ongoing networking; and the forging of great friendships.

For more information about **The College Club of Cincinnati**, please contact the membership chairman,

The Membership Process

Members nominate interested applicants to **The College Club** at any time during the year. It is recommended that one attends several meetings, prior to completing the application. This helps the candidate get a feel for the Club and meet as many members as possible.

Requirements include the following:

- A **Sponsor** is someone you know fairly well who has invited you to join the **College Club**. She nominates you and helps guide you through the application process. In addition, **two members**, add their endorsements to the application;
- The candidate completes the application form provided by her Sponsor, with an attached copy of her college diploma;
- Shortly after the application is received by the Membership Committee, the candidate meets the Board at a board meeting, and is then voted on afterwards.

Once approved:

The “new member” is formally introduced at an upcoming membership meeting. Shortly thereafter, an invoice is sent for the initiation fee of \$75, and membership dues, \$70, that may be pro-rated depending on when one joins. New **College Club** members also fill out a form indicating how they might wish to serve. Getting involved on committees is a great way to get to meet others and learn how the Club works.