Bequests and Charitable Designations

The term "bequest" refers to a statement in your will or living trust describing your wishes to make a gift after your lifetime. A bequest is one way to make a charitable gift. Similar charitable designations can be made through a retirement plan or IRA, life insurance, and/or revocable and irrevocable trusts.

Why Should I Consider Making a Gift from My Estate to SFCM?
- Ensure a bright future for SFCM and continue the tradition of giving.
- Establish a fund, scholarship, professorship, etc., that bears your name or the name of someone you wish to honor in perpetuity.
- Maintain flexibility in the lifetime use of both your assets and income.
- Provide tax savings for your estate and heirs.

How Can I Establish a Bequest or Estate Designation for SFCM?
Step 1: Speak to a representative at SFCM regarding your gift intentions. We can assist you in identifying the most attractive and effective designations for your gift.

Step 2: Create a new will or living trust or modify your present will or living trust by adding a codicil.
Sample language is available on the reverse side of this sheet that you can share and personalize with your attorney.

–OR– Designate SFCM as a beneficiary.
Most retirement plans and insurance policies have standard forms for naming SFCM as a beneficiary. These are simple to do and do not require you to change your will or trust.

Step 3: Notify the Office of Gift Planning regarding your intentions.
Your notification affords us the opportunity to welcome you into The Ada Clement Legacy Society, a special group of benefactors who have chosen to include SFCM in their estate plans. You can keep information about your plans entirely confidential and join anonymously.

Step 4: Provide the Director of Legacy Giving with a copy of your will or living trust or beneficiary designation (or the portion that references SFCM).
We strongly believe that your gift should support the areas of the Conservatory that are meaningful to you. We accomplish this by drafting with you a statement of donor intent that

specifies the intended use of the future gift when it is received by the Conservatory. A statement of donor intent is a written record that ensures your wishes will be carried out as intended, and it can be easily modified if your interests change over time.

Sample Bequest and Designation Language

Specific Bequest
"I give to The San Francisco Conservatory of Music, ℅ Director of Legacy Giving, 50 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, the sum of $_____ to be used by the Conservatory [for its general purposes] OR [for a particular campaign, program, or fund within the Conservatory] OR [according to a statement of donor intent previously agreed to by the Conservatory and me]."

Residuary Bequest
"I give to The San Francisco Conservatory of Music, ℅ Director of Legacy Giving, 50 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, _____ percent of the residue of my estate to be used by the Conservatory [for its general purposes] OR [for a particular campaign, program, or fund within the Conservatory] OR [according to a statement of donor intent previously agreed to by the Conservatory and me]."

Contingent Bequest
"In the event that _____ predeceases me, I give to The San Francisco Conservatory of Music, ℅ Director of Legacy Giving, 50 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, [the sum of $_____] OR [_____ percent of the residue of my estate] to be used by the Conservatory for [describe purpose or purposes—for example, the Conservatory's general purposes] OR [for a particular campaign, program, or fund within the Conservatory] OR [according to a statement of donor intent previously agreed to by the Conservatory and me]."