Planned Giving
Your Gift to Future Generations
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“Why? So tomorrow’s students can walk through the same doors that we did.”

Stephen H. Case ’68
University Trustee; member, Columbia Law School Dean’s Council
Planned Giving

Through planned gifts, you create a living legacy, forge an enduring partnership with Columbia Law School, and help to shape its future. Whether you memorialize a loved one, support talented students, or underwrite pioneering faculty research, you choose how the Columbia community will benefit from your generosity.

Planned gifts also give back to you. They can provide income for you and your family for life and allow you to take sizeable income, capital gains, and estate tax deductions. Since planned gifts provide financial flexibility, you can make a larger gift and leave a legacy that fits your philanthropic goals.

In the following pages, we invite you to discover the many planned giving strategies that are available to you. You can explore the options and learn how your gift to Columbia Law School can help you achieve your financial, philanthropic, and estate planning goals.
What Are Your Gift Planning Goals?

What kind of gift makes the most sense for you? To help you decide, consider your goals:

**Legacy**  Make a lasting impact on the future of Columbia Law School—and the world.

**Life Income**  Receive guaranteed income for you or a loved one.

**Tax Incentives**  Receive valuable income and estate tax benefits for you and your heirs.

**Reunion Class Gift**  Support your reunion class gift goals.

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**Exciting News About the Columbia Law School Campaign**

Planned gifts are an invaluable component of the funds raised toward the Columbia Law School Campaign. Contact our staff for information on how your planned gift—including bequest intentions—may count toward the Campaign at the time of your gift.
Nathan Leventhal ’66

Director,
Movado Group Inc. and
Dreyfus Mutual Funds

Nathan Leventhal ’66 has experienced a wide-ranging and successful career in public service and the private sector since graduating from Columbia Law School. But one constant during more than four decades has been his support for the Law School, which began the year after he graduated.

“Even though I only practiced law for four years, every job I’ve had has called upon the skills I learned at Columbia Law School,” says Leventhal, a former president of Lincoln Center and former Deputy Mayor of New York City.

He is a current member of numerous prestigious boards, including that of the New York City Planning Commission. “I’m happy to give to the extent that I’m able,” he says.

“The cost of educating a student is not covered by tuition alone, which is why some of my donations have been in the form of targeted scholarships.” In 2011, Leventhal served as a Planned Giving Ambassador for Reunion; he also has a bequest intention to the Law School. “Columbia is at the pinnacle of legal education in America,” he says. “I view my support not so much as a choice, but as an obligation.”

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Bequest Intentions

A bequest intention to Columbia Law School allows you to provide financial support for qualified students, underwrite faculty research, or support one of our world-renowned centers or programs. You become forever linked with the Law School and ensure that the impact of your generosity will be felt on campus for generations to come.

CASH BEQUEST
You can leave a specific dollar amount to Columbia Law School in your will or estate plans for a purpose you designate.

BEQUEST OF ASSETS
You can leave specific assets, such as securities, real estate, or other property, to the Law School. We can answer questions about the most efficient way to make a gift through a bequest of assets.

RESIDUAL BEQUEST
You can designate that Columbia Law School receives all or a percentage of the remainder of your estate (after other beneficiaries are provided for). The Law School shares in the increases or decreases in the value of your estate, eliminating the concern that your gift will reduce the inheritance to family members and other loved ones.

We can provide sample language tailored to your interests. Be sure to consult your attorney when including Columbia Law School in your estate plans.
Barbara Shiers ’80
Partner,
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Barbara Shiers ’80 has made a successful career out of helping people plan gifts to the institutions they care about most. She has been named a “Super Lawyer” for estate planning and probate work by Law and Politics magazine for five consecutive years, and with a son who graduated from the Law School in 2011, it is perhaps no surprise that her own estate plans include a bequest intention to Columbia Law School. “Because my practice is focused on estate planning and charitable organizations, I understand the significance of philanthropy in meeting personal and tax objectives,” says Shiers. “Providing for Columbia Law School is a way to fulfill these goals with the hope that others will enjoy the opportunities that I have had. Throughout my career, I have been a beneficiary of the Law School, both professionally and personally. The benefits of my degree have followed me all these years and have added immeasurably to my success and fulfillment as a lawyer. Hardly a day goes by without a reminder of my connection to Columbia.”

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Life Income Gifts

Life income gifts to Columbia Law School pay you an income stream for life, or for a specified term of years, after which the balance supports the Law School. Life income gifts can offer you and your loved ones other benefits in addition to income, including:

- Meaningful gifts that help ensure Columbia Law School remains at the forefront of legal education.
- The ability to convert low-income producing assets into a gift with an attractive income stream.
- Savings on income, capital gains, gift, and estate taxes, depending upon the gift.
- Professional investment management with no fees.

Charitable Gift Annuities

Creating a charitable gift annuity is a wonderful way to support Columbia Law School in the future and secure a guaranteed income stream for yourself today. Charitable gift annuities also afford donors significant and attractive tax benefits. A charitable gift annuity is a contract with the Law School specifying that, in return for your irrevocable gift of at least $25,000 in cash or securities, the Law School will pay you and/or another beneficiary a fixed income for life, backed by the full faith and credit of Columbia. Rates are based upon the donor’s age. Please contact us at 212-854-2680 for current rates.

If you are younger than 65, a deferred charitable gift annuity may be right for you. This type of gift delays the receipt of income for several years and offers a higher rate of income. When all income beneficiaries pass away, Columbia Law School will use the remainder of your gift for the purpose you request.
Justin K. McCarthy ’53

Attorney,
Law Offices of Justin K. McCarthy

In recent years, Justin K. McCarthy ’53 has set up three charitable remainder trusts (CRT) for the institutions he describes as “nearest and dearest” to his heart: his local hospital, his college, and Columbia Law School. He sees the trusts not just as ways to best support the institutions he loves—but also as good investments. CRTs, he says, “offer a distinct advantage in estate planning.” Last winter, he set up CRTs for Columbia Law School in the names of both himself and his daughter. “Charitable remainder trusts are mutually beneficial to both the donor and to the Law School,” says McCarthy, who maintains a private practice in Bethlehem, Pa., and who has made multiple contributions to the Law School over the past few years in addition to his CRT. “The school is, of course, the primary concern, but CRTs are beneficial to the donor because you’re getting a better return than you’d get in the marketplace today. From an investment perspective, it certainly makes a lot of sense—it beats the money markets and 10-year bonds by several percentage points.”

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CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

Charitable remainder trusts are one of the most popular, versatile, and time-tested planning techniques involving charitable giving. A charitable remainder trust allows you to support Columbia Law School while retaining an income for life, or for a specified term of years. Funded with at least $100,000 in cash, appreciated securities, or gifts of approved real estate, this method of planned giving provides a current tax deduction and a lifetime income stream that will fluctuate based on the value of the trust as it is revalued annually. The Law School can invest these trusts in the Columbia endowment, allowing you to benefit from the same return, and experience the same potential growth, as the University. Contact our staff for more specific information about establishing a trust with Columbia Law School.

Charitable Lead Trusts

A charitable lead trust (CLT) is a flexible gift plan that allows you to transfer assets to future generations at a significantly reduced gift or estate tax cost. The trust provides a stream of income to Columbia Law School for a term of years, after which the remaining principal and growth revert to your designated heirs—essentially the reverse of a charitable remainder trust. CLTs are quite flexible. They can be funded using a variety of sources, the income can be based upon an average or fixed rate, and the term of the trust can be tailored to your financial situation. We can provide you with more information about the variety of CLT options available.

Donor Advised Funds

A donor advised fund is an easy to establish, flexible vehicle for charitable giving that serves as an alternative to direct giving or creating a private foundation. Donor advised funds may be established with an initial gift of at least $1 million—of which at least half is directed to Columbia Law School—and can last for your lifetime, or up to 20 years.
Jeremy Feinberg ’95
Statewide Special Counsel for the Commercial Division, New York State Office of Court Administration

Jeremy Feinberg ’95 grew up a Columbia kid. The son of a Columbia College professor, his earliest memories include childhood visits to the campus. A graduate of both Columbia College and Columbia Law School, Feinberg first started thinking about how to remain engaged with the University during his undergraduate years. “When I was a senior in college, I knew I wanted to continue my and my family’s involvement moving forward,” says Feinberg. “When I graduated from the Law School, I looked for opportunities to stay involved, and now, I’m thrilled to serve as an adjunct professor.” As for making a planned gift, he explains, “I wanted to find some way to show my commitment that made sense for me and my family. And one simple way to do that is to leave a bequest to the Law School.”

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Other Ways to Give

Designation of Retirement Fund Assets
By designating retirement fund assets to Columbia Law School, you can eliminate both the income tax and estate tax (currently up to 70 percent) that would be paid by your estate if you had left these assets to individuals. Under current legislation, donors 70½ years old and older may make outright gifts from an IRA, provided the gift goes directly to a charity. Contact us for more information about whether and how this might apply to you.

Appreciated Securities
Gifts of appreciated stocks and bonds are popular among Columbia Law School alumni and friends. If you are considering a donation of $1,000 or more, there are many tax advantages to giving securities that we would be happy to outline for you.

Personal Property
You may be able to give personal property—artwork, collectibles, or antiques—to Columbia Law School, either as an outright gift or to fund a charitable remainder trust. All gifts of personal property are subject to review and approval by Columbia’s Office of Gift Planning. Our staff is happy to work with you to see if this is an option that would benefit both you and Columbia Law School.
Kent Affiliates of the 1754 Society

Once you include us in your estate plan, please let us know. We would like to recognize your generosity by welcoming you to the Kent Affiliates, the Columbia Law School branch of The 1754 Society. This honorary society is exclusively for alumni and friends who have made future plans for the Law School. Your participation involves no dues, obligations, or solicitations, but it does allow the Law School to thank and recognize you for your plans, and may help inspire generosity in others.

Reunion Celebrants

All planned gifts—including documented bequest intentions—will now count toward your class gift effort. To receive Reunion credit for your planned gift, simply email plannedgiving@law.columbia.edu, or call 212-854-2680.

Learn More

To see how planned giving can best help you support Columbia Law School, please contact us at 212-854-2680, or email plannedgiving@law.columbia.edu.
A Note from Gerry Lenfest ’58
Chair of The 1754 Society

“The greatness of Columbia is known by the whole world. It’s an internationally renowned university. To continue to be, it requires financial support from those who received their education here.

The person who owes his or her education to Columbia can give back as generations before gave back. I serve as chair of The 1754 Society because I truly believe that deferred giving is a deep well of support for Columbia. If people were aware of how they can make a deferred gift—as simple as a bequest in their will or as complex as a charitable trust—they would know this is a powerful way to express appreciation for the education they received at Columbia.”