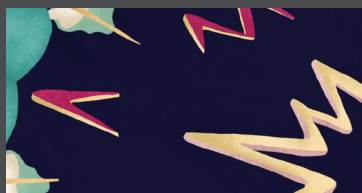
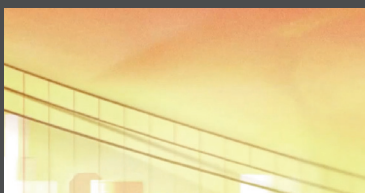


Ringling College of Art + Design



PLANNED GIFT GUIDE

OFFICE FOR ADVANCEMENT



**Ringling College
of Art + Design**

“Your gift underscores our mission to provide the best arts education, as well as to offer Community-based arts appreciation and continuing education.”

LARRY R. THOMPSON

President

Ringling College of Art and Design

PLANNED GIFT GUIDE





WHAT HAPPENS NEXT DEPENDS ON YOU...

Dear Friends of Ringling College:

Ringling College was founded in 1931 and since its creation, has cultivated the creative spirit in students from around the globe while changing the way the world thinks about art and design and creativity. Ringling College is well on its way to becoming the preeminent art and design college in the world. It is already recognized as one of the very best and most innovative visual arts colleges in the United States, as well as a leader in the use of technology in the arts. You can continue this legacy by including Ringling College in your estate plans.

Your gift may be made in a variety of ways. You can make a gift that will meet Ringling College's current needs or a gift which will grow over time. There are even gifts which pay you income and others that may help you reduce your taxes. Ultimately, the goal is to contribute in a way that is most meaningful to you.

As you read about the many ways of giving within this brochure, you may find one or more methods appropriate for you, given your personal and financial circumstances. Planned gifts are an investment with extraordinary returns. They offer an opportunity to build a legacy that's personal and meaningful.

We are happy to offer our expertise in gift planning and work with you and your team of advisors to explore how you can make Ringling College part of your plans for the future. Regardless of how you make your gift or what other benefits it affords, your legacy will have a lasting impact on the future of Ringling College, its students, and the community at large.

Please consider including Ringling College in your estate plans. You will truly be making a difference in the lives of our students, the Sarasota community, and the world! The Office for Advancement can assist you in planning your gift to Ringling College.

Very Truly Yours,

Dr. Larry R. Thompson
President, Ringling College of Art and Design

1

CASH

Simple with immediate impact

Benefits

- Cash is the easiest gift to make, and can be made by a transfer of cash from your banking account, or transfer of cash, mutual funds, or assets from an investment account.
- Cash gifts go straight to work supporting the people and programs that are important to you.
- Cash gifts may be combined with blended gifts, and other techniques described in this guide, to leverage the impact of your gift.

Did You Know?

- Ringling College accepts checks and wired funds. You may also make a gift online using a credit card at <https://giving@ringling.edu>.
- Cash gifts provide the maximum charitable income tax deduction available under federal tax laws. For cash gifts you can claim a deduction up to a percentage of your adjusted gross income (based on current tax law), with any excess balance carried forward for up to five years.
- You may contribute up to \$100,000 of the annual required minimum distribution from your IRA, to be paid directly to Ringling College.

2

APPRECIATED SECURITIES

Minimize tax and maximize gift

Benefits

- Giving appreciated securities – stocks and bonds – can be more tax efficient than giving cash.

HERE'S WHY:

- If you make a gift of securities directly to Ringling College, you will receive an income tax deduction for the full market value, without paying capital gains tax.
- If you were to sell these securities before making the gift, you would have to pay tax on any capital gains.

Did You Know?

- If you own securities in a brokerage account, these shares can be easily transferred electronically to Ringling College. For more information, contact the Office for Advancement at 941.309.4733.
- Closely held stock and other securities (not publicly traded), work best when there is a mechanism for the College to sell the gifted interest to other stakeholders or the corporation itself. For these gifts, the donor must usually obtain a net asset valuation to claim a tax deduction.
- In most cases, Ringling College will value your gift at the average of the stock's high and low price, on the date of the stock transfer, regardless of the timing of the actual stock sale.

3

RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

Avoid double taxation

Benefits

- Retirement accounts, such as IRAs, 401(k) and 403(b) plans, can be subject to double taxation – ordinary income and estate tax – meaning that more than 60 percent can go to taxes if left to your heirs.
- Retirement plan assets left to Ringling College will transfer tax-free.
- In planning your estate, consider giving the College your retirement plan assets and leave more favorably taxed assets to your family.

Did You Know?

- Estate planning is important for your beneficiaries, but it can also be a great way to give to Ringling College.
- Most retirement accounts allow the owner to select beneficiaries to receive the plan assets. To designate Ringling College of Art and Design as a beneficiary, contact your account administrator. Some account administrators require Ringling College's tax ID number to document your gift, and that number is 59-0637903.
- Americans over the age of 70 can use their annual required minimum distribution to distribute up to \$100,000 (tax free), from an IRA to Ringling College. If your spouse has a separate IRA, he or she can also make a distribution, neither of which will be included in your taxable income.
- Whether you choose to designate Ringling College as the charitable beneficiary of your Retirement Plan, Individual Retirement Account, or Will, you can be sure that your assets will be directed according to your intentions.

4

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

A valuable estate planning tool

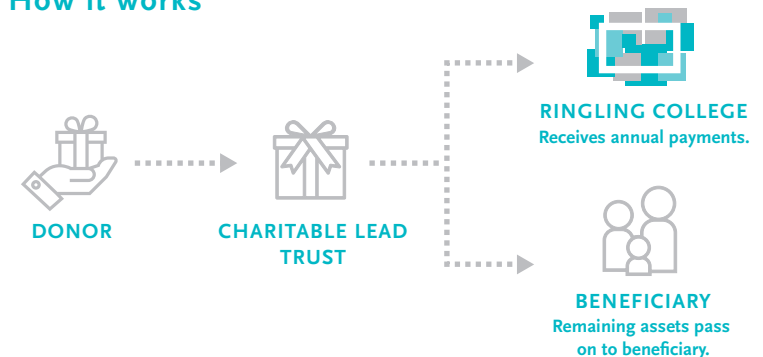
Benefits

- A Charitable Lead Trust may greatly reduce or eliminate gift or estate tax on trust assets passing to family members.
- A Charitable Lead Trust makes annual payment to Ringling College for a period of time set by you, then distributes the remaining assets to your family or other named beneficiaries.
- This structure provides a tax-advantaged method of supporting Ringling College. As with direct estate transfers, it potentially provides benefits such as an income tax deduction and estate or gift tax savings, on assets ultimately distributed to family and other heirs.

Did You Know?

- A Charitable Lead Trust is complex and must be carefully reviewed by the donor's advisors to ensure it is compatible with their entire estate plan.

How it works



5

LIFE INCOME GIFTS: CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Make a gift and receive income

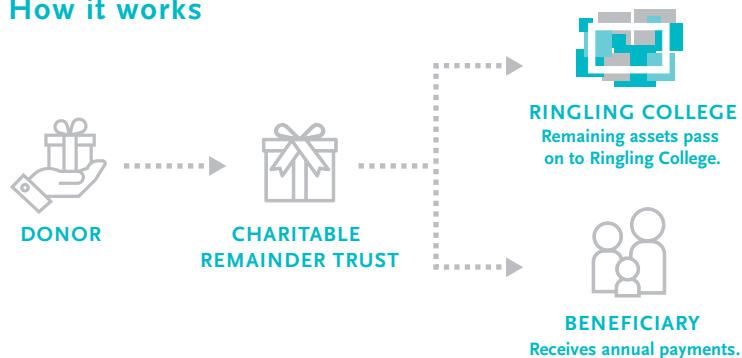
Benefits

- A Charitable Remainder Trust pays individual beneficiaries an annual amount for their lives or a fixed term.
- Donors who create a Charitable Remainder Trust can claim an income tax deduction which represents the present value of the anticipated gift to Ringling College.
- When the Charitable Remainder Trust ends, the remaining assets are distributed to Ringling College.

Did You Know?

- Life income beneficiaries can be you, family members, or others.
- The trust principal is normally invested for a total return and grows tax-free. It can be invested in a variety of diversified portfolios.
- An Annuity Trust makes a fixed annual payment and a Unitrust makes a variable annual payment.
- Unitrusts are revalued annually, and if the principal in the trust appreciates, payments will be correspondingly larger. However, if the principal depreciates, payments will be smaller.

How it works



6

LIFE INCOME GIFTS: CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

(\$25,000 Minimum)

Benefits

- In exchange for your gift, Ringling College promises to make lifetime annuity payments to one or two annuitants.*
- After death of the last annuitant, the balance of the remaining gift will be used by Ringling College for the purpose you've designated.

Did You Know?

- Donors receive an income tax deduction based on the fair market value of the assets contributed, less the present value of the future annuity payments.
- Payments to annuitants are generally partially taxable as ordinary income and capital gains (depending on the gifted asset), and a portion is usually treated as a tax-free return of principal.
- With a deferred annuity, you transfer funds today and receive an income tax deduction this year, but payments to you begin at a date you specify, several years in the future.

How it works



*Charitable Gift Annuities may not be available in all states.

7

REAL ESTATE: GIFTS OF REAL PROPERTY

The greatest gift at the lowest cost

Benefits

- Receive a charitable income tax reduction for the full fair market value of the property.
- Avoid capital gains tax on appreciation.
- Transfer to Ringling College the burden and expense of managing and selling your property.

Did You Know?

- Ringling College's Office for Advancement has the resources and expertise to facilitate most real estate gifts.
- An appraisal is usually required to substantiate the tax deduction for most real estate gifts, and must be obtained by the donor.
- In some cases, Ringling College may be willing to purchase a property for less than its fair value, and the donor is able to claim a tax deduction for the difference.
- Property subject to a mortgage may not be suitable as a gift to Ringling College due to tax and other considerations.

8

REAL ESTATE: RETAINED LIFE ESTATE

A gift you enjoy until no longer needed

Benefits

- Transfer title of your personal residence, farm, or ranch now, while retaining the right to live in it or use it for the rest of your life or another's life. The owner will maintain the property and insurance while living in the home. Upon the conclusion of the donor's use of the property, the title to the property vests to Ringling College, to fund the purpose you designate.
- You receive an immediate income tax deduction based on the fair market value less the present value of the retained life estate.

How it works



9

LIFE INSURANCE

Name Ringling College as the beneficiary

Benefits

- Life insurance allows donors to leverage their resources while providing an extraordinary gift to Ringling College.
- You can gift your existing policy by making Ringling College owner/beneficiary and receive an income tax deduction for the value of the policy.

Did You Know?

- If you prefer, you can maintain ownership of your policy, but name Ringling College as a beneficiary. This way you maintain the flexibility to change beneficiaries if your circumstances change.
- If you have a term policy (often provided as an employment benefit) consider naming Ringling College as a beneficiary.

10

PLANNED GIFT

A gift in your Will or Living Trust

Benefits

- A planned gift is a gift to Ringling College at your passing, generally through a provision in your Will or Living Trust.
- It may be revoked at any time during your lifetime, if your circumstances change.

Did You Know?

- You can complete a Change of Beneficiary form to name Ringling College as a beneficiary of your Retirement Plan, Bank Account, Brokerage Account, or Life Insurance Policy.
- A planned gift might not be received by Ringling College for many years, so there's a delay in funding the gifted purpose. As a result, restrictions placed on the use of your gift should be as minimal as possible, providing Ringling College with maximum flexibility, as priorities and programs change over time.
- For suggested planned gift language, please speak with your attorney or call the Ringling College Office for Advancement at 941.309.4733.

BECOME A MEMBER: CHRIST-JANER LEGACY SOCIETY

*Honoring those who remember
Ringling College in their estate plans*

Donors who make a documented planned gift to Ringling College are eligible for membership in the Christ-Janer Legacy Society.

Who was Dr. Arland Christ-Janer?

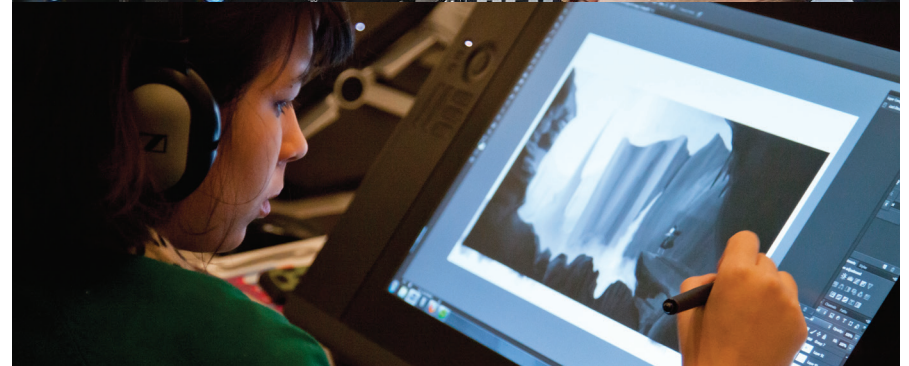
Dr. Christ-Janer served as President of Ringling School of Art from 1984-1996, and as Interim President in 1998-1999. He led Ringling College as it began its journey to excellence, and raised the endowment to over \$1 million. Dr. Christ-Janer believed in the future of Ringling College and created a legacy by being one of the first to establish an irrevocable planned gift to Ringling College.

Benefits include:

- Invitation to attend the annual Christ-Janer Legacy Society Luncheon.
- Receive a special Christ-Janer Legacy Society pin.
- Receive Legacy Society newsletters and invitations to special events during the year.

There are many ways to leave a legacy and to join:

- Please let us know if you have already made plans to leave a legacy to Ringling College. We want to be sure your gift is used according to your wishes.
- Include a Bequest for Ringling College in your Will or Living Trust.
- Name Ringling College as a beneficiary of your Life Insurance Policy or Retirement Account.
- Establish a charitable gift annuity at Ringling College.
- Name Ringling College as a beneficiary of your Charitable Remainder Trust or your Charitable Lead Trust.
- Deed your home or other residential property to Ringling College, while retaining a life estate.





**Ringling College
of Art + Design**

Office for Advancement
2700 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida 34234
email: giving@ringling.edu | 941.309.4733

Ringling College does not offer legal or accounting advice.
Please consult your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor
concerning your estate plan.



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