A Legacy of Learning
Gifts that provide for generations to come
NYU Law gift plans are extremely flexible and can be tailored to fit your circumstances. We can help ensure that your gift is an integral part of your overall asset planning. You may be surprised by the possibilities to combine philanthropy with your own practical, necessary financial planning—to great effect. We would be glad to work with you and your wealth adviser to help explore what might best suit your needs.

We would like to tell you about some of our creative gift-planning arrangements. They can maximize financial advantages for both you and NYU Law, should you decide to establish a gift.

A CHARITABLE GIFT CAN LET YOU:

• Reduce or eliminate your estate tax burden
• Pass more of your wealth on to your family and loved ones
• Earn higher income while avoiding capital gains taxes
• Realize a substantial current-year income tax charitable deduction
• Generate a high and secure income for life
How a Will or Living Trust Can Make a Difference for Posterity

Naming the Law School in a will or trust is a win-win. You can realize substantial tax savings while perpetuating your support for the future of this great institution and the many students who will come here to learn about the justice system after we are all gone.

Among all the types of planned giving, legacies through wills and living trusts have long been the most popular means of improving the lives of future generations of NYU Law students and faculty. Our alumni, who care deeply about social justice and about the standards of the legal profession, have found it simple and appropriate to name NYU Law in their last testaments as a way of safeguarding a truly democratic way of life.

There are different ways to arrange this. You can bequeath a specific dollar amount or a portion of what remains after your obligations to others are fulfilled. You can make an unrestricted gift or establish a named fund for scholarships, program support, professorships, or other purposes.

Please call us for additional draft language to ensure that we will fulfill your wishes as you intend.

You can include the Law School in your will or living trust by using the following language:

“I give, devise, and bequeath [assets/percent share of the residue of my estate] to New York University School of Law, a New York education corporation with its principal office at 40 Washington Square South, New York, New York 10012.”
During his long and illustrious career, Charles Swinger Conley ’55 fought civil rights cases small and large, counseled movement leaders Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph Abernathy, and eventually became Alabama’s first elected black judge.

Ellen Conley, pictured above, was her husband’s chauffeur and protector in the turbulent ’60s, especially when he worked at his office late into the night. “I’d always insist on getting out of the car first,” she says. “If a bullet was coming, it would get me. Chuck had important work to finish.”

To ensure that future graduates of Judge Conley’s alma mater would continue to have the chance to pursue their passions in civil rights and public interest law, the Conleys made provisions for a $1.2 million gift that endowed the Honorable Charles Swinger Conley Scholarship Fund and funded a permanent memorial at the Law School honoring his outstanding legal accomplishments and historic career. Ellen Conley has also named NYU School of Law as a beneficiary of her own estate.

“NYU Law gave my husband a chance to study the law. A chance he never would have had otherwise, and what he learned gave him the tools to fight for change. We both wanted to give back to the community that had really embraced us, in the hopes that others would have similar transformational experiences.”
The founder of the international law firm Fox Horan & Camerini, Donald Fox ’56 credits NYU Law with guiding him in the direction of international law by helping him secure a Ford Foundation Fellowship to participate in a summer seminar in Roman and civil law. After law school, Fox pursued his international interests further as a Fulbright Scholar in Paris and received two degrees in law from the University of Paris.

But even as Fox embarked on an international career, he remained anchored in the NYU Law community. He returned to the Law School both to teach comparative law and to serve on the Board of Trustees for 10 years, overseeing the foreign law institutes. Fox also served as president of the Law Alumni Association and president of NYU’s federation of alumni associations, and he is an Albert Gallatin Fellow of NYU as well as a recipient of the Alumni Meritorious Service Award. Obviously an active alumnus, Fox wants to make sure that future NYU Law students continue to have the opportunity to expand the frontiers of their legal interests. He has established a charitable gift annuity that pays an annual income now and will transfer to the Law School as general support later.

“NYU School of Law gave me the opportunity to increase my understanding of the law and respect for the legal scholars who devoted their lives to research and teaching.”
Make a Gift to NYU Law That Pays You Income for Life

When you make your life-income gift (in the form of either an annuity or a charitable remainder trust), you or your loved ones can receive an agreed-on stream of income for life, after which the Law School will receive the remaining assets to use for the purpose you specify.

An NYU Law life-income gift is particularly effective if you want to support the Law School but need to increase the income you receive from your assets. A large portion of the payments to you from an NYU Law life-income annuity may be tax free. If you contribute appreciated stock, you avoid capital gains tax, which means your entire gift asset will be available to pay you a higher income. And you obtain a substantial income tax charitable deduction when you make your gift.

The flexibility of life-income gifts allows you to tailor an arrangement that best fits your financial needs. You can structure your gift to pay income to you or your loved ones immediately or at a future date, such as your planned retirement. And you can arrange for fixed or variable income payments.

DONORS OF PLANNED GIFTS SUPPORT PROGRAMS SUCH AS:
• The Hauser Global Law School Program
• Public Interest Summer Grants
• Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarships
• The Podell Faculty Research Program
Tax-Wise Handling of Your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b)

Your retirement plan works well for saving for retirement, but if you leave your retirement plan assets to heirs, those assets will be taxed much more heavily than other estate assets. Making a charitable gift to NYU Law from your plan can produce substantial tax savings.

More Wealth to Your Heirs; a Source of Income to NYU Law

Making a gift to the Law School through a charitable lead trust generates substantial estate tax savings and can actually leave more of your wealth to your family and heirs. The lead trust pays income to the school over a number of years, after which the remaining assets—including appreciation—pass to your children or your designated heirs.
Maximize Your Income Tax Deduction—and Provide Income to NYU Law

A charitable lead trust can also be designed to return the remaining trust assets to you after lending it to NYU Law for a specified number of years. You would receive a substantial up-front tax charitable deduction in the year the trust is established, based on the trust’s future income payments to NYU Law. This option could be especially helpful in your tax planning if you desire a large deduction to offset an unusually high taxable income in the current year.

Leveraging Low Premiums into a Major Gift

If you no longer need all the life insurance that you own, you may want to name the Law School as a beneficiary or contingent beneficiary. Any benefit the school receives from your insurance will be excluded from your taxable estate. With this type of donation, you can convert relatively low premium payments into a major gift to the Law School.
Richard Weill ’67 came to NYU Law as a Root-Tilden (now Root-Tilden-Kern, or RTK) Scholar from Nebraska in 1964. He married Judy in his second year at the Law School. “New York City exposed us to a world much larger than the one in which we had been raised,” says Richard. “The city and the Law School community gave us a broader view of life’s possibilities.”

After graduating, the Weills moved back to Nebraska, where Richard became a partner at Kutak Rock. But even in Nebraska, the Weills’ connection to New York City and NYU Law remained strong. The couple returned to New York in 1989 when Richard became general counsel at MBIA Inc. (where he would eventually serve as president).

The Weills recall hosting a Law School alumni event where both were struck by the dedication and intellect of recent RTK graduates. Through the alumni network, Judy became deeply involved in numerous pro bono law organizations. Both of the Weills want to ensure that future generations of RTK Scholars continue to devote their careers to the public interest, and they have named NYU School of Law as a beneficiary of their estate.

“We have always been tremendously impressed with the public interest lawyers that NYU Law has produced. We want to ensure that public interest law continues to be an area in which the Law School excels.”
For Further Information

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations welcomes the opportunity to work with you and your advisers in planning your gift. We can provide sample language to guide you in establishing your gift. We can also offer calculations and illustrations of the tax and income benefits you may enjoy from your gift. Your planned gift or bequest will help ensure that NYU Law will continue as a model of innovative legal education for years to come.

Please contact us to discuss how your gift can best fit your financial circumstances.

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