

The Stamford Symphony aspires to build a lifelong appreciation and enjoyment of classical music among all populations of Stamford and its neighboring communities. It fulfills this mission through passionate, professional performances of the highest caliber, diverse and innovative programming and inspiring educational initiatives.

This booklet will introduce you to a variety of gift options as you consider the Stamford Symphony in your financial, gift and estate plans. Its contents do not represent either legal or tax advice.



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Encore *Legacy* Society



CREATIVE GIFT PLANS

Implementing a creative gift plan can both improve your financial and tax situation, and help the Stamford Symphony meet its financial challenges.

There are many opportunities available for philanthropic giving to the Stamford Symphony. We recommend that you consult with an attorney who specializes in estate planning to develop a gift plan that will fit both your needs and help you achieve the maximum benefits from your charitable gifts.

Potential benefits include:

- ~ Reduction of estate and gift taxes
- ~ Receipt of current income tax charitable deductions
- ~ Increased income and rates of return
- ~ Avoidance of capital gains taxes on appreciated assets
- ~ Leaving a legacy while preserving assets for your lifetime

A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

A simple way to provide support to the Stamford Symphony is to include a charitable bequest in your will or trust. A bequest may be structured in a variety of ways, letting you pass any amount to the Stamford Symphony free of estate tax. It also enables you to leave a charitable legacy without relinquishing any assets today.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

Charitable remainder trusts ("CRTs") offer diverse opportunities for your philanthropic giving while achieving both your tax-planning strategies and meeting your financial needs. Potential benefits include a reduction of income taxes with a sizeable charitable income tax deduction; an increase in lifetime disposable income; and the elimination of capital gains taxes on the sale of appreciated assets.

Charitable Remainder Unitrusts ("CRUTs")

The most flexible type of life income plan is a charitable remainder unitrust. You transfer assets to a trust and are paid a variable income for life or a term of years. The amount of income you receive is a set percentage of the value of the trust assets and is recomputed annually. When

the trust terminates, the remaining assets are transferred to the Stamford Symphony. This is an excellent gift option if you are seeking a specific percentage return.

Charitable Lead Trusts ("CLTs")

The charitable lead trust is a powerful instrument for donors who anticipate high estate and gift taxes when transferring assets to their heirs and who desire to make a charitable gift. You fund a trust which will pay the Stamford Symphony income for a specified term and at the end of the term the remaining balance goes to your family, with estate and gift taxes reduced or eliminated. If you are willing to forego investment income, this form of gift enables you to



transfer property to your family at a minimal tax cost while making a gift designed to support the Stamford Symphony's mission with annual income payments.

LIFE INSURANCE

You may own a life insurance policy which furnishes coverage that you no longer need and want to gift it for the benefit of the Stamford Symphony. Or, perhaps you want to purchase a new policy. If you make the Stamford Symphony the owner and beneficiary of your life insurance policy, you will receive a charitable income tax deduction and your estate will not pay estate taxes on the policy proceeds paid to the Stamford

Symphony. And, should you continue to pay premiums after you name us as owner, you will receive future income tax deductions. If you name us as a beneficiary but retain ownership of the policy, you will not obtain this current benefit but your estate will still not pay estate taxes on the insurance proceeds.

RETIREMENT ASSETS

A gift of retirement assets to the Stamford Symphony allows you to transfer less taxed assets to your family. When retirement assets are left to your family, income taxes must be paid and your estate must also pay taxes. A charitable gift of your retirement assets is a better option for you and your family, when there are other less taxed assets available for your loved ones.

THE ENCORE LEGACY SOCIETY

The Encore Legacy Society was established to assist the Stamford Symphony in fulfilling its mission by recognizing those individuals who include the Stamford Symphony in their estate plans. We recognize this philanthropy with a lifetime membership in our Encore Legacy Society.

We can work with you and your professional advisors to help you plan for tomorrow and receive maximum benefits today. For more information on the Stamford Symphony and our Encore Legacy Society, please contact Barbara J. Smith-Soroca, CEO and President, at 203 325 1407 x15 or at bjSOROCA@stamfordsymphony.org