



THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

GUIDE TO GIFT PLANNING

ALA American
Library
Association

GENERATION AS PRESENTS TO

THE POWER OF PLANNED GIVING

Gift planning or “planned giving” is a strategic and meaningful way to support and prioritize your loved ones and demonstrate your commitment to the American Library Association’s mission. By including ALA in your estate plans, you will be able to make a more significant impact than you thought possible ensuring that future generations enjoy the freedom to read, have unfettered access to knowledge, and the libraries they love remain an integral part of their communities.

The American Library Association is fortunate to receive tremendous support from people like you – members and friends who partner with us in our vital work.



THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

Your support of ALA is an investment in our shared belief that libraries and library work make a positive difference in the world through:

- Equitable access to information and library services
- Intellectual freedom
- Literacy of all kinds
- Advocacy for libraries and the profession
- Connecting the library network
- Transforming libraries to meet the needs of every generation

Whether designating your planned gift broadly to ALA, or directing your gift to one ALA's Divisions, Offices, Roundtables, Scholarships, or Special Programs, your gift will have a positive impact.



BENEFITS TO CONSIDER

Planned giving offers flexible, tax-wise ways to support the future of libraries while aligning with your philanthropic and financial goals. Here are just a handful of benefits to consider:

- Allows you to take advantage of income and estate tax benefits now and in the future
- Plans are flexible, which means you can provide long-term support while maintaining your current assets and adjusting your plans as needed
- You can maximize your impact by combining future gifts with current giving, strengthening your legacy, and making a greater difference over time
- Certain planned gifts, like charitable gift annuities, offer financial benefits by providing you or your loved ones with a steady income stream
- You can direct your gift to specific programs, initiatives, or campaigns that align with your passions and values

"Around the world, ALA is known for its leadership and advocacy to ensure individuals have access to information. ALA works with global partners to uplift information literacy, democracy, the impact of libraries, and the joy of learning. My legacy gift will support ALA international activities."

— **Barbara J. Ford**

ALA Legacy Society,

*Director Emeritus, Mortenson Center for
International Library Programs, University of Illinois,*

ALA President, 1997-1998



ALA GIVING CIRCLES

To honor and celebrate individuals who have made planned gifts to ALA, giving circles were established. In addition to acknowledging the generosity of ALA's donors, these giving circles offer opportunities for in-person connection for those who share a desire to ensure that their support continues beyond their lifetimes. All individuals who document a planned gift to ALA are welcomed into The Legacy Society. The 1876 Club, which recognizes planned gifts documented by young library leaders under the age of 50 years is an example of an inner giving circle.

ALA LEGACY SOCIETY

Who can join? All individuals who include and document ALA in their estate plans become part of the ALA Legacy Society. There is no minimum gift size or gift type to join the Legacy Society.

Benefits

- A personalized certificate
- Commemorative ribbon to wear at ALA conferences
- Invitations to events like the Legacy Society Breakfast and Library Champions Reception offered at ALA Annual Conferences
- Invitations to virtual get-togethers
- A commemorative pin we encourage you to wear at library events
- Inclusion in the official ALA Legacy Society honor roll (with your permission)
- Complimentary ALA Annual Conference registration for gifts of a certain value

**“The 1876 Club gave me the opportunity to think differently about how I su
to give to ALA annually and also to my retirement account, directing part
me peace of mind to know that I’m still providing for the future of the prof
Plus, the benefits for club members are quite generous if you’re already p**

— Steven Yates, PhD

*Associate Dean, University of Alabama, Undergraduate and Graduate Studies,
College of Communication and Information Sciences*

ALA 150th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign Co-chair

ALA Executive Board Member

1876 CLUB – GROW THE FUTURE OF ALA

Since the association's founding, ALA has invested, encouraged and supported library leaders. Founding members of the 1876 Club were younger leaders inspired to demonstrate their philanthropy through the creation of this inner giving circle. Individuals aged 50 or younger who include and document ALA in their estate plans are invited to join the 1876 Club. We are occasionally asked, "...do I age out?" Once you join, you remain part of this giving circle – there is no "aging-out."

Benefits

- Commemorative ribbon to wear at ALA conferences
- Invitations to special events at ALA conferences including the Legacy Society Breakfast, Library Champions Reception, and the 1876 Club Happy Hour
- Engagement with like-minded donors investing in ALA's future
- Inclusion in the 1876 Club giving circle honor roll (with your permission)
- Complimentary ALA Annual Conference registration for gifts valued above a certain level.

Support ALA. While I do not always have the capacity of my retirement account to ALA after I'm gone gives a legacy while giving my time through volunteering now. Planning to attend ALA Annual Conference."



GETTING STARTED

INCLUDING ALA IN **YOUR** ESTATE PLANS

1. Explore your options by connecting with an ALA Development team member to discuss a gift that aligns with your values and financial goals.
2. Decide how you would like to give, whether through a bequest, beneficiary designation, or another planned gift option that suits your financial situation.
3. Work with your advisors to document your plans in your estate documents. We encourage you to discuss your plans with those closest to you, including family, your attorney, and your financial advisor.
4. Tell us! By letting us know you remembered ALA, you ensure your intentions are honored and that you receive recognition for your generosity.
5. Make time to celebrate. As a member of the ALA Legacy Society and possibly the 1876 Club, you will become part of a community of dedicated philanthropists who, like you, support the future of libraries.



MOST COMMON PLANNED GIFTS

Planned gifts come in many forms, allowing you to choose the options that best fit your financial and philanthropic goals. Here are some of the easiest and most common gifts we receive:

- The simplest and most common way to leave a legacy is by naming ALA in your will, trust, or as a beneficiary of a retirement plan
- Consider naming ALA as a beneficiary, or partial beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- We also accept gifts of appreciated stock, real estate, and personal property, which can offer additional tax advantages
- Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs) and Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs) can provide financial benefits to you or your loved ones while supporting ALA's future

ALA's Planned Gift Intention Form guides you through options to consider and if you choose, helps you document your plans and share with the American Library Association Development team. We are here to help – reach out as needed!

GIVING TODAY WHILE YOU PLAN FOR TOMORROW

As you develop your plans for a legacy gift, consider options for sharing assets today, some of which offer tax benefits. For individuals at or above an age who are required to take distributions (RMDs) from IRAs, consider the tax benefits of a charitable gift to ALA, a 501(C)(3) organization.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Gifts received through Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) to ALA are on the rise, and we understand why donors choose this route. DAFs can streamline your charitable giving process and simplify the tax benefits. You are welcome to share the information below with your fund advisor, and please keep in mind you don't have to wait until year-end to give to ALA and enjoy the associated tax benefits.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

We welcome your questions about gifts you are contemplating or planning. The ALA Development team is here to assist you as you explore options or share gift intentions, in confidence, and with no obligation. We are here to help every step of the way.

ALA DEVELOPMENT TEAM

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GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ALA

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Legal Name: American Library Association

Tax ID: 36-2166947

The American Library Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization. Contributions to ALA are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

“I launched the Libraries Transform Communities Engagement Grant program to encourage librarians to step forward and engage more deeply with their communities. The interest and quality of the grant applicants have exceeded my expectations. I’m particularly grateful for the outstanding proposals that will benefit not only local communities but also other libraries and the broader profession as we reimagine the civic role of our libraries. I can’t imagine a better way to leave a legacy to my commitment to librarianship. I got involved with ALA early in my career, which empowered me to become a voice for the profession. Thanks to the ALA Legacy Society, I can continue to champion my passions and commitment to advancing librarianship.”

— Nancy Kranich, MLS

ALA Legacy Society member

Faculty member, Rutgers University School of Communication and Information

ALA Past President, 2000 to 2001





FOR OUR LIBRARIES. FOR 150 YEARS MORE.

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