

Share what you love about the Barbican: Leave a legacy to the Barbican Centre Trust

Ensure future generations can enjoy what you love about the Barbican

Legacies are one of the most important and personal gifts that one can make. By leaving a legacy to the Barbican, you will help to ensure future generations can enjoy what you love about the arts.

Legacies can be made in favour of the Barbican Centre Trust, a registered charity. We are very grateful for every bequest we receive.

We would like to thank you for thinking of us and show you what you'll be helping us to achieve. So please get in touch, knowing your plans will be kept in confidence. We will then be able to offer you the opportunity to experience the Barbican behind-the-scenes, speak to our arts and learning experts about their work and enjoy a closer relationship with the Centre.

We will ask if you would like to be acknowledged, as your plans may inspire others to do the same. But we also appreciate that leaving a legacy is a very personal gesture and that some prefer to keep this private so you may, of course, choose to remain anonymous.

Types of bequests and suggested language

There are several types of legacy that you may wish to consider. Gifts can be a specified sum of money, a proportion of your residuary estate or an item or asset. Your solicitor can advise you on the different ways in which your assets can be distributed and ensure your intentions are expressed in the correct legal terms. As bequests to a charity can also be an effective way to reduce the total amount of tax liable on your estate, you should also discuss ways to ensure your plans are the most tax effective.

Amending an existing will is straightforward: a codicil is added to reflect the change in your wishes. Your solicitor can advise you on the correct way in which to do this to ensure that the amendment is legally valid.

We hope you find the guidelines and wording below useful. If you have any questions or would like a confidential discussion about leaving a bequest to the Barbican Centre Trust, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Leave a portion of your estate – a residuary legacy

After making adequate provision for family and friends, you may wish to choose to leave the remainder (or 'residue') of your estate to the Barbican Centre Trust. After all taxes, charges and other specified gifts have been paid, the Trust will receive the balance of your estate. An advantage of this type of legacy is that its value will not be eroded by inflation.

Leave a specific gift of money – a pecuniary legacy

A pecuniary legacy is the gift of a stated amount of money. To preserve the value of your gift against inflation it may be best to index-link your gift; your solicitor can advise you about this issue.

Leave an item or asset – a specific legacy

This type of legacy allows you to leave particular items or assets such as property or stocks and shares to a named beneficiary. The Barbican Centre Trust may then sell such gifts and utilise the proceeds as appropriate; if you are considering a specific non-money legacy, we encourage you to speak with us to ensure that your intentions are understood.

Possible wording for bequests

If you would like to consider making a bequest, you may find the wording below helpful in preparing for your discussion with your solicitor.

Residuary legacy

"I give to the Barbican Centre Trust _____ % of my residuary estate. This gift may be used for general purposes. OR It is my wish without creating a binding obligation on the Barbican Centre Trust that this gift be used to support _____ (art programme / learning programme and / or specific purpose). I direct that the receipt of the Secretary or other proper officer of the Barbican Centre Trust shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors and Trustees."

Pecuniary legacy

"I give to the Barbican Centre Trust the sum of £_____ (or by linking to inflation, such larger sum as my Trustees calculate to have the same value at my death) as £_____ had at the date of my Will (or codicil). This gift may be used for general purposes. OR It is my wish without creating a binding obligation on Barbican Centre Trust that this gift be used to support _____ (art programme / learning programme and / or specific purpose). I direct that the receipt of the Secretary or other proper officer of the Barbican Centre Trust shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors and Trustees."

Specific legacy

"I give to the Barbican Centre Trust my _____ (full description of item and location). I direct that the receipt of the Secretary or other proper officer of the Barbican Centre Trust shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors and Trustees."

Get in touch

For a confidential discussion about your plans, please contact:

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