Leave a Legacy of Creativity

A gift in your will to the Barbican

barbican

Barbican facade

Ranjani Shettar in the Conservatory

The Barbican Centre has always been more than a building—it's a living, breathing space where art, music, theatre, film, and ideas come together to inspire generations. By leaving a gift in your will, you can help ensure that this iconic cultural institution continues to thrive, innovate, and welcome everyone for years to come.

Your legacy could support:

- Emerging artists and performers
- Free and accessible community programmes
- Groundbreaking exhibitions and performances
- Education initiatives that spark creativity in young minds

A gift of any size can make a lasting difference. It's a powerful way to reflect your love of the arts and your belief in their power to transform lives. We understand that leaving a gift in your will is a deeply personal decision. If you choose to include the Barbican, we would be honoured to celebrate your generosity and keep your passion for the arts alive for future generations.

Let your love of the arts live on.

To find out more about leaving a gift in your will, please contact our Philanthropy team in confidence at **legacies@barbican.org.uk**.

Ways a gift in your will can make a difference

Legacies are one of the most important and personal gifts that one can make. By choosing the Barbican, you will ensure future generations can enjoy the very things you love about the arts.

Giving an international platform to the best artists from around the globe

Since we opened our doors in 1982, we have commissioned thousands of artists to make new work across the visual arts, music and theatre, which not only responds to our iconic building but reflects the world we live in. Our programme amplifies some of the most followed and celebrated voices alongside emerging and mid-career artists. It is often at the Barbican where an artist will experience their breakthrough moment, setting them on a path to shape the future of the arts in the UK and beyond.

Kickstarting young people's creative careers

We provide talent development opportunities that give young people the skills and confidence needed to progress in today's creative industries. Through creative partnerships with local schools, inspiring work experience days that raise much needed awareness of careers in the arts, or our long-running Young Poets programme—encouraging young voices since 2009—we've helped thousands of young people discover their path and build prosperous futures. Your gift could help us foster yet another generation of artists and creatives who move and inspire us all.

Supporting renewal of the iconic Barbican building

Our Grade II listed Brutalist icon, recognised as one of the UK's architectural treasures needs conservation and upgrades that will unlock its true potential and deliver a place that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient. In the next few years, we will restore and refurbish key public areas: foyers, lakeside terrace, and conservatory. Once renewed, these celebrated spaces will house a new major programme of creative community and learning activities. Your gift could be the cornerstone that helps these plans take shape.

Barbican Dance Workshop with Boy Blue 2024 © Jesse Olu Ogubanjo

Image: Ann Kenrick and her daughter in the Barbican Conservatory. Image courtesy of Ann.

Ann's Story

"The Barbican Centre has played a significant role throughout my life. I remember visiting with friends since my youth, going on dates with my husband while my daughters surprised me with a Mother's Day treat of a visit to the extraordinary Conservatory – a unique green retreat in the depths of the city. More recently I have enjoyed walks with my dog Jago around the Lakeside where he loves chasing the ducks and people watching. But all these memories would simply be just casual stopovers if it were not for the extraordinary artistic programme that fills this place with joy and reflection. Particular favourites of mine have included the uplifting staging of *Anything Goes*, the moving *Perfect Show for Rachel* created for the Barbican stage with access at its core, concerts by The Fisherman's Friends with the audience dancing in the aisles and the breathtaking power of Handel's Messiah; by the time you are reading this I'm sure I will have added more to the list. And one of the greatest pleasures for me has been to be able to drop in to the gallery and enjoy exceptional art from around the world.

My love for the Barbican culminated when I became a Trustee and Patron and it has been such a pleasure to welcome our supporters, friends and family to enjoy the extraordinary range of arts the Barbican has to offer - from the visual arts, to music, fashion and theatre - one of the few places in the UK where you can enjoy so much surrounded by such spectacular spaces.

Knowing that your life's work will have a lasting impact can provide a deep sense of purpose and fulfilment. Having been engaged with the Barbican across the decades I am certain that leaving a gift in will to this organisation can go a long way, echoing through its walls for as long as it stands—welcoming us all to its breathtaking venues. I look forward with eager anticipation to the renewal of the buildings and to many more decades of enjoying London's best Art Centre."

Ann Kenrick OBE, End of Life Planning Coach and Barbican Trustee

How to leave a gift in your will and why it matters

Writing a will not only ensures that your wishes will be honoured but also protects your loved ones from legal proceedings and having to make difficult decisions when they are mourning. After you have taken care of your loved ones it also gives you an opportunity to support a cause that's close to your heart, creating a lasting impact and a way to remember your name through generations.

In most cases, the process is simple and doesn't require a lot of your time or effort. You can either engage a solicitor and choose an Executor (a person who will administer your estate) or use one of the popular online will writing services.

Making changes to an existing will is also a relatively straightforward process. You can do this by adding a codicil, which is a legal document used to amend your will. Your solicitor can guide you through the proper steps to ensure the changes are legally valid and accurately reflect your updated wishes.

If you decide to leave at least 10% of your estate to charity, the Inheritance Tax rate on the rest of your estate may reduce from 40% to 36%. We recommend that you seek advice from your financial or legal adviser.

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

|Barbican Young Takeover Festival, Foyer, 2025. Image by Alice Denny

Ways to give

Leaving a portion of your estate

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. Residuary legacies are protected against inflation.

Suggested language

"I give to the Barbican Centre Trust (charity no. 294282) _____ % 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 (charity no. 294282) 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."

Leaving a specific gift of money

A pecuniary legacy is the gift of a stated fixed amount of money. To preserve the value of your gift against inflation it may be best to index-link your gift.

Suggested language

"I give to the Barbican Centre Trust (charity no. 294282) 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 (charity no. 294282) 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."

Leaving an item or an asset

This 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.

Suggested language

Specific legacy "I give to the Barbican Centre Trust (charity no. 294282) 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."

Image: Barbican Centre and Estate. Photo © Dion Barrett.

Reduce your Inheritance Tax

Charitable donations in your will are exempted from Inheritance Tax, which means that you could make a transformational gift to the Barbican, while significantly reducing the financial impact on your loved ones.

Estates worth more than the current threshold (£325k) are liable to pay Inheritance Tax (IHT) at 40% over this amount. However, gifts of 10% or more to charity reduce the Inheritance Tax rate to 36%.

If you are named as a beneficiary in someone else's Will, you can also choose to redirect the whole or part of your inheritance to the Barbican Centre Trust using a Deed of Variation. Such gift will then become IHT-free, making this an effective way to support the Barbican during your lifetime.

Because everyone's situation is different, we recommend you seeking a professional advice from a solicitor or an independent financial advisor. They are best placed to assist with finding an optimal solution tailored to your own circumstances. The most up-to-date information on leaving a gift in will is also available on the HMRC website.

Gift in will pledge form

The form below is not legally binding, and you can change your mind at any time. You also don't have to notify us if you are thinking of leaving a gift in your will to the Barbican. However, if you're considering or already decided on building your legacy with us, we would love to hear from you so we can thank you and learn how we can make your gift even more meaningful for you and your loved ones.

- ☐ I'm proud to have included a gift in my will to the Barbican Centre Trust
- ☐ I intend to leave a gift to the Barbican Centre Trust but have not yet updated my will
- ☐ I would consider leaving a gift to the Barbican Centre Trust

My details

Title

Name

Address

Telephone

Email

If you have expressed an interest in leaving a gift in your will to the Barbican Centre Trust, we will use the details supplied on this form to contact you.

Please email this form to **legacies@barbican.org.uk**

Contact our Legacy team

If you have any questions about leaving a gift in will to the Barbican, the impact it could create or talk about legacies to a member of our team, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact

Eleni Markopoulioti, Senior Philanthropy Manager,
eleni.markopoulioti@barbican.org.uk or **+44 20 3834 1432**
or email us on **legacies@barbican.org.uk**
or call us on **+44 (0) 20 7382 6185**

For more information visit:
barbican.org.uk/join-support/support-us/for-individuals/leave-a-legacy

You can opt out of communications about legacy giving at any time by emailing **legacies@barbican.org.uk** or phoning **+44 20 3834 1432**.

Please see our privacy notice at **www.barbican.org.uk/privacy**

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Image: Ibrahim Mahama © Dion Barrett

The City of London Corporation is the founder and principal funder of the Barbican Centre