COMMUNICATE YOUR WISHES

Sharing your estate plans ensures that your wishes will be met and allows us to express our gratitude during your lifetime while assisting Court Theatre’s long-term planning efforts. To document your bequest, please provide the following:

- a copy of the relevant section of the will, living trust, or beneficiary designation form;
- a copy of the signature page;
- a copy of the page indicating the date of the document;
- an estimated value of the bequest, if not stated as a dollar amount in the document.

Documenting your bequest does not make it binding or irrevocable—you still have the liberty to revise your estate plan if your circumstances or priorities change.

For more information about supporting Court Theatre, visit courttheatre.org or contact Heather McClean in the Office of Gift Planning at hmcclean@uchicago.edu.

5235 South Harper Court
Chicago, Illinois 60615

giftplanning.uchicago.edu
giftplan@uchicago.edu
866.241.9802

FIND OUT MORE

GIFT PLANNING offers many creative options to support Court Theatre. By planning a gift through your financial and estate plans, you can provide for Court as well as yourself or your loved ones. Explore ways to have a meaningful effect on Court’s future while ensuring the best fit for your philanthropic goals and financial situation.

All donors who support Court Theatre through a planned gift are welcomed into the Phoenix Society, receive a special memento, are invited to exclusive events, and are recognized in an annual honor roll (unless anonymity is requested).

phoenixsociety.uchicago.edu
phoenixsociety@uchicago.edu
866.241.9802

What difference can one idea, one person, one university make?
One of the simplest ways to give to Court is through a bequest, which is a gift from your will, living trust, life insurance policy, or retirement plan. A bequest can be made with cash, securities, real estate, or other assets and be in the form of a dollar amount, specific asset, or percentage of your estate.

**HOW IT WORKS:**
1. You leave a gift to Court in your will or living trust or name Court as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan.
2. Your gift is distributed to Court upon your death.

**BENEFITS:**
- **Flexible**—you can make changes to your bequest at any time
- **Revocable**—you remain in control of your assets during your lifetime
- **Tax deductible**—your bequest is fully deductible for estate tax purposes

You can decide how your bequest benefits Court. Contact us for sample bequest language that will help you, your legal advisor, or your financial planner communicate your wishes.

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With a charitable gift annuity, you can give to Court and receive income at the same time. A charitable gift annuity is a contract with the University in which you make an irrevocable gift of cash or securities to the University in exchange for a fixed annual income for life.

**HOW IT WORKS:**
1. You make a minimum gift of $10,000 in cash or securities to the University.
2. The University makes fixed annual payments to you for life, starting either when the gift is made (immediate-payment annuity) or at a later date (deferred annuity).
3. Your gift benefits Court upon your death.

**BENEFITS:**
- **Life income**—you and/or your spouse, child, or other beneficiary receive income for life
- **Guaranteed payments**—your payments are fixed and backed by the University
- **Tax deductible**—you receive an immediate deduction equal to the present value of the remainder gift to Court, with the potential for other tax savings

To begin receiving payments, annuitants must be at least 55 years old. The annuity rate is determined by the annuitant’s age. Visit tinyurl.com/calcincome to calculate your payments.

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Another way to give to Court and receive income is with a charitable remainder trust. A charitable remainder trust is established by making an Irrevocable transfer of cash, securities, or real estate to a University trust in exchange for fixed or variable annual income for life or a term of years.

**HOW IT WORKS:**
1. You transfer a minimum of $100,000 in cash, securities, or real estate to a University trust.
2. The trust pays you either a fixed percentage of its value (unitrust) or a fixed dollar amount (annuity trust) annually for life or a term of years.
3. Your gift benefits Court upon your death.

**BENEFITS:**
- **Life income**—you and/or your spouse, child, or other beneficiary receive income for life or a term of years
- **Payment preference**—you choose fixed or variable payments
- **Tax deductible**—you receive an immediate deduction equal to the present value of the remainder gift to Court, with the potential for other tax savings

Your payout rate is decided when the charitable remainder trust is established, typically around 5 percent.

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A retained life estate allows you to make a gift of real estate to Court without changing your current living situation. You can donate your primary residence or vacation home to the University and retain the use and responsibilities for life.

**HOW IT WORKS:**
1. You deed your property to the University, but retain the right to use it for life.
2. The University becomes the owner of the property upon your death.
3. The University sells the property and transfers the proceeds to Court.

**BENEFITS:**
- **Continued use of property**—you gift your property and continue to use it for life
- **Avoids probate**—your property passes directly to the University
- **Tax deductible**—you receive an immediate deduction equal to the present value of the remainder interest in the property, with the potential for other tax savings

Gifts of real estate are subject to review and approval in accordance with the University’s real estate acceptance procedures. Donor must provide detailed and specific information about the property.