

# New Orleans opera

New Orleans Opera staff and advisors are prepared to help philanthropic individuals like you find the perfect option for your planned giving:

- OUTRIGHT CHARITABLE GIFTS
- GIFTS OF APPRECIATED PROPERTY: STOCKS, BONDS, REAL ESTATE AND TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY
- BEQUESTS
- REVOCABLE TRUSTS
- LIFE INSURANCE
- RETIREMENT BENEFITS
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS
- CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS

## Ranney & Emel Mize



*“We are delighted to have joined the Legacy Society of the New Orleans Opera Association. We love our opera, which has been one of the more important parts of our lives in New Orleans. We believe our legacy gift helps assure the success of the company for many future generations.”*

## New Orleans Opera Association’s **Legacy Society**

Visionary leadership deserves extraordinary recognition. Help build the future of opera in our community through a planned gift and you will become a part of the Legacy Society! Enjoy the annual meeting and special listing in New Orleans Opera Association programs while knowing that you have played a significant role in the continued success of top-quality opera and opera education for generations to come.

**For more information,  
please contact:**

New Orleans Opera Association  
at (504) 529-2278  
and ask to speak with the  
Development office at extension 232.

# New Orleans opera

# Planned Gifts

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New Orleans, LA 70130  
(504) 529-2278  
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[www.NewOrleansOpera.org](http://www.NewOrleansOpera.org)

## Ways to Support New Orleans Opera

The New Orleans Opera Association depends for its existence on the support of contributors, primarily individuals. Ticket sales account for less than 40% of the Opera's revenue. We need your help! In this brochure we describe various ways that you can contribute in order to assure that grand opera continues to flourish in New Orleans, and how you can become a member of the Opera's Legacy Society, through a "planned gift."

Your gift can not only support the Opera but also provide benefits to you. A deduction on your income-tax return for an outright gift is the most well-known benefit, but some ways of giving can provide additional tax benefits and even improve your own cash flow.

We will be happy to answer any questions you may have about your giving options. Just call (504) 529-2278, and speak with the Development office at extension 232.

## Which Gift Option Best Fits You?

### ~GIFTS FOR TODAY~

#### **Outright Gift of Cash**

You can make an outright gift of cash quickly and easily by simply writing a check to the New Orleans Opera Association! You receive an immediate income tax deduction and the donation is removed from the taxable assets of your estate.

#### **Outright Gift of Securities**

By donating publicly-traded stocks or other securities that have increased in value and that you have held for at least a year, you not only receive an immediate charitable income-tax deduction for the value of the stock, but also avoid being taxed on the gain!

#### **Outright Gift of Other Assets**

In some circumstances you can contribute real estate or valuable personal items, getting the same tax benefits as for gifts of securities. If you wish to consider such a gift, please discuss it with the Development staff at the Opera, to determine if it is the type of gift that the Opera can receive.

### ~LEGACY SOCIETY~

There are many ways you can plan to provide benefits for the Opera after you are gone, by Will or by any of the other "planned gifts." If you provide for the Opera to receive a legacy or some other planned gift, you qualify as a member of the Legacy Society. We will acknowledge your membership in program materials. You do not need to tell us how much you are providing, just simply that you have made an arrangement. Some of the most common planned gift options are listed here.

#### **Gift by Will**

We welcome your naming the "New Orleans Opera Association" in your Will as legatee of a specified amount or of a share of the residue. Such a gift is exempt from estate tax, and of course you have access to that amount during your life.

#### **Revocable Trust**

You can put property in trust with a provision for the Opera while still retaining control of the trust during your lifetime! Not only will you have the ability to change the arrangement during the remainder of your life, the gift for the Opera will be exempt from gift and estate taxes.

#### **Gift of Life Insurance**

You can make the Opera the beneficiary of an insurance policy on your life. The proceeds will be excluded from your taxable estate. If you take the further step of giving the policy to the Opera during life, you can also gain a present income-tax deduction.

#### **Gift of Retirement Assets**

Any individual retirement account (IRA) that you have will generally trigger income tax when paid to beneficiaries after your death, and will also be included in your taxable estate. Naming the Opera as beneficiary avoids both income and estate tax. If you wish to divide your estate between the Opera and individuals, the best overall tax planning could be to select an IRA as the benefit for the Opera. Other retirement benefits (such as 401(k) and 403(b) plans) may also permit you to name the Opera as beneficiary, thus avoiding the same taxes.

#### **Charitable Remainder Trust**

A charitable remainder trust (CRT) pays income to you for life or a period of years, and at the end, delivers the trust's assets to the Opera. You continue to get the benefit of the property during your lifetime, while avoiding estate tax at death, and obtaining an immediate income-tax deduction for the value of the Opera's remainder interest. By donating low-income assets to the trust that are worth more than you paid for them, you can substantially increase your annual income without triggering an immediate tax on the gain. There are two types of CRTs:

1) *A Charitable Remainder Unitrust* which pays a percentage of the assets as revalued annually, so that, if the trust's assets increase in value, your benefit increases;

2) *A Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust* which pays a fixed amount, assuring no decrease if assets should decrease in value.

#### **Charitable Lead Trust**

The reverse of the charitable remainder trust is the charitable lead trust, which pays a benefit to the Opera for a period of years, and at the end the assets go to individuals. In large estates this can provide a substantial saving in estate taxes for your family.

## Explore Your Options

We're pleased to offer free additional information about the gift plans discussed in this brochure. Simply indicate which gifts you are interested in exploring and return the information below. A representative from the Opera will then contact you to help you make your dream a reality.

*All inquiries will be held confidential*

I am interested in finding out more information about the following gifts:

- Cash
- Securities
- Other Assets
- My Will
- Revocable Trust
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Assets
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts

I am considering a planned gift to New Orleans Opera. Please call me.

I have already included New Orleans Opera in my estate plan through:

- My will
- A trust arrangement
- An insurance policy
- My retirement plan assets
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

The information provided in this brochure is intended to be summary in nature and not intended to replace legal counsel. You should seek your own tax counsel before making a planned gift.