Legacy Giving Options

GIFTS FROM YOUR ESTATE

Bequest in your Will or Trust
- Give a percentage of your estate, the remainder of your estate, or a specific dollar amount
- The estate may receive a tax deduction in the amount of the charitable bequest
- If you already have a will or trust, an attorney can help with a simple codicil or trust amendment

Sample Bequest Language
“I give, devise and bequeath ____________ (state a percentage or dollar amount, or specific property or other asset) to the Savannah Music Festival Inc.”

Retirement Plan 401(k) or IRA Designation
- Name one or more charities as a beneficiary or a percentage of a retirement plan
- Retirement plan distributions to beneficiaries can be taxed at high rates (exceeding 70% in some cases); retirement plan distributions to charity incur no taxes
- You can specify a percentage, a specific amount, or the remainder of the account
- Contact your plan administrator for a form

GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE NOW

In addition to cash, you can give:

Appreciated, Marketable Securities
- Incur no capital gains tax
- Provides a tax deduction for the fair market value

Life Insurance
- A new policy or a policy that is no longer needed
- Provides a tax deduction for the value of the policy
- If the Savannah Music Festival is the owner and beneficiary of the policy, instead of paying premiums to the insurance company, you make tax-deductible gifts to SMF and SMF pays the premium
- Upon the death of the insured, the proceeds will fund your legacy gift to Savannah Music Festival

IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)
- Individuals aged 70 ½ and older can donate up to $100,000 of their RMDs each year to charity tax-free; couples aged 70 ½ and older can donate up to $200,000 of their RMDs to charity each year tax-free
- Amount transferred does not count as income to be taxed; may reduce exposure to Alternative Minimum Tax
- Funds must be transferred directly from the IRA by the IRA Trustee to a qualified charity in order to qualify for the tax break

Charitable Lead Trust
- Tax-smart method of giving to both family and charity
- Established with real estate or other income-generating property
- Makes charitable payments regularly
- At the end of the term, transfers property to children with reduced gift and/or estate taxes, and no taxes on appreciation

GIFTS THAT PROVIDE INCOME

Charitable Remainder Trust
- Enables you to make a gift that produces income for you or for loved ones
- Take a pro-rated tax deduction now and leave the remainder to charity
- May reduce estate taxes
- Can make fixed payments, or payments that change with the size of the trust
- Upon the end of the term, the remainder of the trust becomes your legacy gift to Savannah Music Festival

Please note that these descriptions are informational only, and do not constitute legal or tax advice. Please consult with a financial or estate planning professional to understand the implications of a gift for your particular circumstances and goals.