Announcing the Cato Legacy Society

Over the past few years, planned gifts—such as bequests and beneficiary designations of retirement assets—have become an important and increasing component of Cato’s support. Without such gifts, Cato’s defense of liberty would be less robust. Therefore, in an effort to recognize and encourage planned gifts, we are pleased to announce the creation of the Cato Legacy Society. All Sponsors who have made Cato part of their estate plans are welcome as members.

If you have included Cato in your plans but have not yet let us know, please do so and we will gladly include you as a Cato Legacy Society member. You can simply contact Cato’s director of planned giving, Gayllis Ward, at gward@cato.org or 202-218-4631. Please be assured that we are sensitive to privacy issues and will not publish any list of Legacy Society members.

As a gesture of appreciation, Cato Legacy Society members will receive a complimentary book, DVD, or other publication at least once a year. You will also be invited to attend Cato’s annual Benefactor Summit. While normally this invitation-only event is restricted to those who make annual contributions of $5,000 or more, Legacy Society members are also welcome to attend this wonderful three-day weekend retreat. Of course, all attendees are responsible for their own travel and conference expenses (meals, hotel etc.).

If you have any questions about how to best structure your planned gift to Cato, please feel free to contact Gayllis Ward, our planned giving officer. For example, you may want to chat about pending tax-law changes or you may want to discuss how to craft a gift that would benefit a particular area at Cato. Your area of interest might be student programs or foreign policy or curbing our runaway spending. The important thing to remember is that Cato welcomes both unrestricted and restricted bequests: an unrestricted bequest allows Cato to determine the best use for your gift, whereas a restricted bequest lets you make the choice.

Let me close by thanking you, our Sponsors, for your generous support which makes it possible for Cato to speak on behalf of freedom, civil society, and the rule of law. Because these principles are under brutal siege, support for Cato has never been more important. Moreover, special thanks go to those Sponsors who have decided to leave a lasting legacy of freedom—by making a planned gift to Cato. Planned gifts, literally, “touch” the future and help ensure that generations yet to come will know the prosperity and peace bestowed by a civil society.

If you would like more information about planned giving at Cato or if you would like to join the Cato Legacy Society, please contact Gayllis Ward, director of planned giving, at gward@cato.org or 202-218-4631.