A Legacy of Liberty

Leaving a legacy of liberty is a goal shared by all of us. The Cato Institute’s Legacy Society is our way to recognize Sponsors who have made Cato part of their estate plans. The Legacy Society confers the same benefits as received by Benefactor Sponsors who make annual contributions of $5,000 or more to Cato. Legacy gifts play a vital role in achieving Cato’s mission, and often provide Sponsors a unique opportunity to effect change in the areas they are most passionate about.

Recently, Cato began working through the closing of a large bequest. A Legacy Society Sponsor appreciated that the Institute’s research and scholars offered the primary defenses of liberty in the local media outlets of his community, which were usually dominated by progressives. This gift will expand Cato’s media presence by supporting our existing operations, which in 2015 reached newspaper, online, and broadcast audiences in the United States and around the world more than 4,000 times, including many people who’ve yet to secure the benefits of political freedom and economic opportunity.

At the same time, Cato has been working with a Sponsor and new Legacy Society member to advance libertarian ideas among students in his area. After several conversations about estate giving vehicles and the anticipated total contribution, we settled on a plan to achieve the goals of that Sponsor. Moving ahead, thanks to the Sponsor’s commitment to helping young people attend Cato events, we’ll be able to add new lovers of liberty to our ranks, and then direct them to educational opportunities including Libertarianism.org, Cato University, a Cato internship, and involvement with other like-minded organizations.

Sponsorship of Cato makes you a partner in our efforts, and we value Sponsors as colleagues in our fight for individual liberty, free markets, and peace. Respecting donor intent is an important part of our commitment to honoring the partnership between Sponsors and the Institute. Your area of interest might be student programs, or foreign policy, or the unsustainable debt burden. Please let us know if you’d like more information about our activities, or if you’d like to discuss directing your support for Cato toward any particular activity. These conversations are common when it’s time for people to discuss including Cato in their estate planning, and we’re always glad to explore ideas and opportunities with current and potential Sponsors who aim to advance the principles of liberty.

Legacy Society gifts are a cornerstone of Cato’s operations, enabling our pursuit to create free, open, and civil societies founded on libertarian principles. Cato’s scholars and staff are honored by support from people committed to joining us in the fight to advance the public’s understanding of the philosophy that is the foundation of the most prosperous society in history. Indeed our greatest challenge today is to continue to extend the promise of liberty to those who are still denied it, in our own country and around the world.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN ADVANCE THE WORK OF CATO, PLEASE CONTACT HARRISON MOAR, CATO’S DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, AT HMOAR@CATO.ORG OR 202-789-5259.