

A high-angle photograph of a large orchestra performing in a concert hall. The musicians are seated in rows, playing various instruments including violins, violas, cellos, double basses, and woodwinds. The floor is made of light-colored wood, and the background shows the dark interior of the concert hall.

SEMPRE FORTE SOCIETY

TOGETHER, ALWAYS STRONG

*Transform Lives Through
Legacy Philanthropy*



Create your legacy

and transform our students'
lives now & into the future

The **Sempre Forte Society** (*Always Strong*) recognizes and celebrates our most dedicated supporters who wish to leave their legacy by including Midwest Young Artists Conservatory in their will or estate plan. You can ensure MYAC will always remain always strong in delivering the best musical, educational, and personal growth experiences to our students.

Adding a gift to MYAC in your estate plan is a simple act of generosity with extraordinary results. A bequest is a lasting statement about what matters most to you, and could be the most rewarding and satisfying gift you ever make.

Even more, these gifts can provide significant tax benefits. By taking advantage of existing tax laws, you can create a gift that benefits both MYAC and your financial needs. This may include tax deductions, reduced estate and capital gains taxes, and even provide income for life.

Together we can enable premiere life-defining experiences and values for a lifetime, while providing a healthy, positive, and fun music environment. After all, MYAC is not only about creating great music with kids, but creating great kids with music.

Anyone can make a bequest, and it's easy.

Legacy philanthropy is something anyone can do. You do not have to be wealthy to provide lasting support to MYAC. With strong stewardship, even a modest bequest can grow into a significant gift. We welcome bequests of any amount.

Making a bequest is easy. A short conversation with your estate attorney is all it takes. Simply name MYAC as a beneficiary. We can even help arrange for you to speak to an attorney.

Your impact on MYAC students can even be eternal. By giving to MYAC's Endowment Fund, you ensure our mission will continue long into the future.

Sempre Forte Society Recognition and Benefits

As a member of the Sempre Forte Society, you are one of our most esteemed donors, and you will be honored permanently in the MYAC Center and in our publications.

You will be listed (unless you wish to remain anonymous) on a Sempre Forte Society plaque with a permanent place of distinction in MYAC's historic facility in Fort Sheridan. You will also be recognized annually, in perpetuity, in MYAC's Annual Report and concert program Donor Honor Rolls. Members also receive invites to exclusive special events, concert tickets, and donor newsletters for life.





HOW DO I MAKE A PLANNED GIFT TO MYAC?

Legacy Philanthropy can take a number of forms. You can:

- Leave a **bequest in your will**
- Name MYAC as a beneficiary of your **retirement plan** or **life insurance policy**
- Provide a gift to MYAC while receiving income and ensuring your heirs are cared for through a **charitable remainder trust, lead trust, or gift annuity**

Wills & Estate Plans

To make a bequest through your will or estate plan, simply ask your estate attorney to add MYAC as a beneficiary. You can bequeath a specific amount, or a percentage or remainder of your estate. You always have the flexibility to make changes if life circumstances change. For suggested bequest language, visit mya.org/support/legacyphilanthropy.

IRAs

Retirement plan gifts offer tax benefits for both annual giving and bequests. If you are 70½ or older, you can avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 through an IRA Charitable Rollover. Please also consider naming MYAC as a beneficiary of your retirement account. This often can be done easily on your plan's website.

Other non-cash bequest options include:

- Physical assets such as property, instruments, art, automobiles, etc.
- Financial investments such as stocks, bonds, or certificates of deposit
- Life insurance policies (simply make MYAC a beneficiary)

Charitable Trusts & Gift Annuities

A Charitable Remainder Trust allows you to gain tax benefits now while providing you income for life or a term of years, after which remaining assets are transferred to MYAC. A Charitable Lead Trust distributes income to your charitable fund for a set period of years or for life, then the assets return to you or family members. A Charitable Gift Annuity is another way to make a charitable gift during your lifetime and still receive fixed income. Cash or appreciated property is transferred to MYAC, and we in turn pay you fixed income for the rest of your life.

FOREVER STRONG

When you next review your will, please consider a bequest to Midwest Young Artists Conservatory. Legacy gifts help MYAC today and ensure that our work will be here for generations of students to come. Students who become not only our future artists, but leaders in every field and compassionate, responsible citizens of our society.

For more information or to discuss how a planned gift could meet your philanthropic goals, please contact:

Karen Dennis

847.926.9898, x304 / karendennis@mya.org

Allan Dennis

847.926.9898, x308 / allandennis@mya.org

If you have already included MYAC in your will or trust, please let us know so we can thank you, recognize you in the manner you wish, and ensure your gift is used as you intend. You do not need to share the amount of the bequest. If you do not yet have a will, we can provide referrals to qualified local estate attorneys who can assist you.

LEGACY DONOR PROFILE: **RHONA & RICK REAGEN**



Music educator Rhona Reagen was one of the very first MYAC parents, coaches, and board members, and even worked in the office at one point in the early 1990s. She inspired countless students until her retirement in 2020.

Asked what inspired their bequest to MYAC, Rhona shared: "MYAC has been my passion for over 25 years. What better way, for what little I have when I pass, and what better place to leave it to? What I

tell everybody I encourage to contribute to MYAC is that you will not find a more responsible organization. Every nickel of your donation will be squeezed. I believe that's important to donors.

Excellence is celebrated, but so are many other things. It's the encouragement combined with the dedication to excellence. It's about what is going to be the best experience for growth and learning for the students. It's a place to grow. And every week they come home and they feel good about what they did here."

LEGACY DONOR PROFILE: **MICHAEL SONG ('12, cello)**



Michael Song demonstrates that even a young person can be thinking about their legacy and the impact their giving can have. When Michael embarked on the 2010 MYAC tour to Germany, he found his "second home." He soon returned to Germany, going on to earn a degree in Linguistics and remaining as an English teacher. Recently, he made a major life-change decision, and returned to the U.S. in summer 2020 to begin training to become an elite Army Airborne Ranger.

As part of this noble and brave decision, Michael made a bequest to MYAC through his life insurance policy.

Michael notes the positive effect MYAC had on his life, teaching him strong values and opening doors to his future. "MYAC taught me to face new challenges with confidence, and taught me to constantly improve and progress in all areas of my life, not only in music. I had a desire to give back to those who have given so much to me, and the belief that MYAC can do for others what it's done for me. It's a chance to leave a lasting positive impact in the event I'm no longer here one day."

Reply Form

Leave your legacy and transform lives. Please remember MYAC in your will or estate plan.

I would like more information about:

- Including MYAC in my will, or creating my will.
 - Other planned gift opportunities.
-

- I have included a gift to MYAC in my estate plan.

Sample bequest language to share with your attorney or financial planner:

"I bequeath \$_____ or ____% of my estate to Midwest Young Artists, 878 Lyster Rd, Highwood, IL 60040."

NAME(S) AS YOU WISH TO BE RECOGNIZED

- I wish to remain anonymous.

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

TELEPHONE(S)

EMAIL

MYAC respects your privacy. Any information discussed or shared will be kept strictly confidential.

Mail this form to: Midwest Young Artists Conservatory
878 Lyster Road, Highwood IL 60040

847.926.9898 • mya@mya.org • mya.org/support



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