Museum founders John and Eleanor Mitchell were passionate about art and believed in the impact it makes on all ages. They knew it was a necessity to ensure the quality of education and quality of life for people in southern Illinois.

In 1965 a Trust document was created by the Mitchells that provided a lasting gift to the residents and visitors of southern Illinois: their collection of late 19th and early 20th century American paintings and decorative arts, as well as finances to build a museum that bears their name on the then-85 acre estate called Cedarhurst.

Their gesture is the finest example of planned giving, not because of the amount left, but because they made a plan during their lifetime that was implemented after their passing. Their art collection and the $3 million they put into an endowment provided the creation of the Mitchell Museum and programs that continue today, ensuring their legacy and belief in the arts will live on.

You, too, can make a lasting impact on our community. Named in honor of our museum founders, the Mitchell Society offers a way for you to leave your legacy at Cedarhurst and inspire future generations through the arts.


For questions, to arrange planned giving, or other support inquiries contact:

Hillary Esser
Cedarhurst Executive Director
618.242.1236 ext. 228 • hillary@cedarhurst.org

Scan this code to easily reach our website and learn more about supporting Cedarhurst
Join the Mitchell Society!

You can become a member of the Mitchell Society with a gift or pledge of $100,000 designated toward museum sustainability. Such contributions include:

- Endowment gifts
- Unrestricted planned gifts
- Gifts of artwork (approved by the Board of Trustees and in line with the Cedarhurst Collections Policy)

How you join the Society:

By meeting the guidelines listed above during one's lifetime, or by signing a letter of intent to leave a planned gift to Cedarhurst. A letter of intent should include:

- Value or estimated value of the gift
- Giving method (bequest, charitable trust, etc.)
- Gift purpose (unrestricted, endowment fund, etc.)
- Recognition preference (anonymous, gift made in someone's honor, etc.)

Benefits:

- Exclusive Society lapel pin
- Invitation to annual Society luncheon, and other special Society events
- Invitation to Strategic Planning sessions
- Recognition, with donor’s approval, on the Cedarhurst website, in the Biennial report, and at the annual Chairman’s Dinner
- The ability to honor a loved one with your gift
- Recognition on the Donor Tribute plaque at the annual Chairman’s Dinner
- A shared vision with others who support the power of the Arts

We’re here to help!

If you have already arranged for a bequest or planned gift, we want to honor your support. If you are considering such a gift, let us know so we can help you maximize your financial benefits and make clear your intention to benefit Cedarhurst.

Contact Executive Director Hillary Esser at 618-242-1236 Ext 228 or hillary@cedarhurst.org.

What is a Planned Gift?

A charitable planned gift is the contribution of estate assets to a non-profit like Cedarhurst, and it takes many forms, some of which are simple and some more complex. Most planned gifts are deferred, which means you coordinate the details now, even though they may take effect later. Cedarhurst may receive the gift now or in the future. Planning ensures your money is used where you want and you receive the appropriate tax benefit. You may designate how your gift will be used and ensure the impact of Cedarhurst for future generations. While a will or a bequest are the easiest ways to give, there are many ways to make a planned gift to ensure Cedarhurst Center for Arts is here for future generations.

Please consult with your Attorney, CPA, or Financial Advisor for further details.

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  - Universal wisdom says that every adult should have a will and should review it periodically to keep up with changes to state and federal laws and changed family circumstances. No single document has greater control over how the assets of your life’s efforts will be handled after your passing. If you have already arranged for a bequest or planned gift, we want to honor your support. If you are considering such a gift, let us know so we can help you maximize your financial benefits and make clear your intention to benefit Cedarhurst.
  - Contact Hillary Esser at 618-242-1236 Ext 228 or hillary@cedarhurst.org. |
| Bequest |
  - The most common form of planned giving is a bequest. Donors can designate Cedarhurst as the beneficiary of cash, personal property, real estate, stocks, etc. in their will. |
| Annuities |
  - Also known as a charitable gift annuity, this type of gift provides the donor with guaranteed income and allows them to receive a charitable deduction for the value of their future gift. Annuities require a simple contract between the donor and Cedarhurst, and they allow donors to enjoy financial benefits now, while leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit Cedarhurst for generations to come. |
| Life Insurance Policy |
  - Many individuals have older life insurance policies with paid up premiums and a face value that might seem insignificant as compared to today’s new policies; however, life insurance policies are an ideal gift to Cedarhurst. Upon death of the insured, Cedarhurst receives the proceeds. |
| Endowments |
  - In its most simple form, an endowment is a fund set up to provide long term support to a non-profit organization. Cedarhurst welcomes unrestricted gifts for the original endowment fund created by John and Eleanor Mitchell. With the help of special donors, Cedarhurst has also established several friends endowment funds based around core program areas: Beck Family Center, Education, Performing Arts, and Visual Arts. |
| Gifts of Stock or Security |
  - Many people make gifts of stock for both annual gifts and planned gifts. There is a tax deduction on the current market value and avoidance of capital gains tax. |
| Trusts |
  - There are two types of trusts: 1) a charitable remainder trust is created to reduce an individual’s taxable income by dispersing their earnings to the beneficiaries of the trust over time. The remainder of the trust can then be designated for Cedarhurst; and 2) a charitable lead trust, provides immediate financial support to Cedarhurst over a specified period of time. The remainder of the trust then passes on to the other beneficiaries (family members, friends, etc.) |

Other ways to support Cedarhurst

- Annual Program gifts - support annual programs
- Capital gifts - support physical facilities and equipment
- Major gifts - support special projects