One World. Many Doors. Your Key.

How did Middlebury open your life?
Consider how Middlebury changed you. This is where professors opened your outlook and prepared you to take part in the world; where friends first joined you for a lifetime of shared experiences.

Middlebury continues to guide talented students as they develop awareness, creativity, and analytical skills. These hallmarks of a Middlebury education have never been more important. Thankfully, the bequests of alumni, parents, and friends keep the College experience alive and available.

A bequest is a simple gift in which you maintain control of your assets during your lifetime. Your bequest can help a Middlebury education unlock the world for others as it did for you.
Yes, you can create a Middlebury legacy.
How Your Estate Planning Can Help Middlebury

Many Middlebury alumni, parents, and friends have their greatest impact on the College’s future through an estate gift. Their generosity helps us welcome students to Middlebury based on achievement and promise rather than financial means. Here, engaged with outstanding faculty and extensive academic, international, athletic, and service-learning programs, our students grow into creative, ethical, informed people. Your thoughtful planning can help us provide generations of students with these signature benefits of a liberal arts education.

This brochure explains several simple ways to include Middlebury in your estate plans: bequests, gifts of retirement assets, gifts of life insurance, and gifts of property.

Since the time of Gamaliel Painter, estate gifts have helped shape each Middlebury student’s experience.
And the circle stays unbroken

Robert K. Jones ’48 could never have attended Middlebury without financial aid. He distinguished himself in art, government, and banking, but considered his greatest achievement making scholarships available to others. Through his bequest, the Robert K. Jones ’48 Scholarship Fund supports several students annually.
How to Make a Bequest

It’s easy to include Middlebury in your will or revocable trust. A bequest isn’t payable until death, so your and your family’s assets remain unchanged during your lifetime. Remembering Middlebury in your will or trust is a testament to what this exceptional learning experience means to you—and to your belief that others should share in that experience.

You can bequeath a specific dollar amount or a percentage of the balance remaining in your estate after taxes, expenses, and specific bequests have been paid—what’s known as the residue of your estate. Generally, giving a percentage of the residue allows for more flexibility in your long-term planning.

Because Middlebury is a charitable institution, a bequest or trust distribution reduces the taxable value of your estate for federal tax purposes and is exempt from state inheritance taxes.

Since a bequest to Middlebury will probably not be received until far into the future, its terms should be as general as possible. Please talk with us if you are considering a bequest for a specific purpose, such as support for a particular program or department.
Bequest Language for Insertion into Your Will

I give, bequeath, and devise to The President and Fellows of Middlebury College, a corporation of the State of Vermont, located at Middlebury Vermont, the sum of $______ [or X percent of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate].
The Advantage of Giving Retirement Assets

Whether you have IRAs, a 401(k), or 403(b), your retirement accounts are among the most tax-burdened assets in your estate. Why?

- The IRS considers the balance left in your retirement account to be tax-deferred.
- If you give a tax-deferred asset to your heirs, it will be subject to both income and estate taxes.
- State inheritance taxes and Generation-Skipping Tax (if the balance goes to grandchildren) may also apply.
- The result? Your heirs will receive a smaller percentage of the value of your retirement account because of taxes.

“I’m an educator with a young family, so I can’t make a significant gift right now. But this long-term gift will add up, and it shows my commitment to and appreciation for Middlebury.”

Tom Chambers ’91, now a history professor at Niagara University, has named Middlebury as a beneficiary of his retirement account.
These assets won’t be included in your taxable estate.

Your heirs will receive more of your estate by taking assets not burdened by extra taxes.

You can continue to take withdrawals from your retirement account during your lifetime.

Middlebury will receive the full amount you direct to us, as it is entirely tax free.

You can make a significant gift to Middlebury that costs you nothing during your lifetime.

Just use the “Change of Beneficiary” form provided by your plan.
Ways to Give Life Insurance

- You can donate to Middlebury a paid-up life insurance policy whose coverage you no longer need. Your charitable deduction will be the lesser of the fair market value of the policy (we’ll help you determine this) or your cost basis, which is the total of your net premium payments.

- You can also revocably designate Middlebury as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy (use the “Change of Beneficiary” form). You will still own and control the policy. (You won’t receive an income tax deduction because the designation of Middlebury is revocable.) Middlebury will receive the policy proceeds and use them according to your wishes.

Ways to Give Property

- You can donate real estate to Middlebury and retain use of the property during your lifetime. This type of gift is known as a retained life estate.

- You might also consider bequeathing other property such as stock, artwork, etc.
When you’re ready, our door is open...

You’re always welcome to call on our staff’s professional expertise, at no cost to you. We’ll help you stay connected to Middlebury with a bequest that’s simple and meaningful—to you and the College.

You can also learn more about your gift planning options, and see how particular types of gifts might benefit you and the College, via our website. There you’ll find a gift planning calculator, ideas from fellow alumni about their own gift plans, and other helpful tools.

Have you already included Middlebury in your plans? We’d love to know so we can be sure to follow your wishes, and so we can thank you and welcome you into the Gamaliel Painter’s Cane Society.

Let’s talk.

OFFICE OF GIFT PLANNING: Painter House, 2 Court Street: Middlebury, Vermont 05753
866.496.6433 (toll free): giftplanning@middlebury.edu: www.middlebury.edu/giving/ways/planning
Your bequest can help a Middlebury education unlock the world for others as it did for you.