



## The Founding Grant Society

Honoring those extraordinary people who remember Stanford through bequests, charitable remainder trusts, and other life income gifts

THE  
STANFORD  
CHALLENGE

*Seeking Solutions, Educating Leaders*

“ . . .that each individual act of support reaffirms the Stanfords’ promise to children of the future. . . that it will be better, that they are needed to make it better, and that a legacy of education will serve them more than any other.”

From the Founding Grant Society Charter

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## THE FOUNDING GRANT SOCIETY

The first bequest to the university was the Stanfords’ own. In the years since, thousands of alumni and friends with a desire to help sustain the university have included Stanford in their estate plans or provided support through life income gifts. Through the major earthquakes that have twice shaken the campus, decreases in government funding, and economic downturns, such gifts have helped the university endure.

These gifts are motivated by an affection for the university combined with a desire to make a difference and to help ensure that the teaching, learning, and research objectives of the university will be achieved at the highest levels. Equally important is the donor’s confidence that Stanford will honor the gift, invest it wisely, and use it as it was intended. Simply put, a bequest or life income gift is an act of faith in the university and in its future.

The Founding Grant Society recognizes and honors those extraordinary individuals whose estate and life income gifts will provide future support for Stanford, including the School of Medicine, Stanford Hospital & Clinics, and the Hoover Institution. According to its charter, the society “is intended to convey to those whom it honors that in so acting, the Stanfords’ university also becomes their university, and that each individual act of support reaffirms the Stanfords’ promise to children of the future . . . that it will be better, that they are needed to make it better, and that a legacy of education will serve them more than any other.”

The society’s members include all those who provide support for Stanford in their estate plans, through wills, trusts, life income gifts, IRAs, retirement plans, life insurance policies, and other vehicles. Membership involves no dues or obligations of any kind, and membership information is never shared with other organizations.

The university holds special events for Founding Grant Society members, including student performances and lectures delivered by the university’s top scholars. Members who have given permission to list their names are also recognized from time to time in *Remember Stanford*, a publication of the Office of Planned Giving, as well as in other publications. More than 1,500 members have allowed their names to be published; others wish to remain anonymous. The university is committed to honoring donors’ requests.



Founding Grant Society logo

Photo Credit: L.A. Cicero/Stanford News Service



An aerial view of campus

## THE STANFORD CHALLENGE

In 1891, Jane and Leland Stanford created Stanford University in memory of their son, Leland Stanford, Jr. Only 15 years old when he died of typhoid, his short life inspired his parents to establish a great place of learning, “in behalf of humanity and civilization.” More than 100 years later, Stanford University has developed into a hub of innovative research and education whose world-renowned faculty and exceptional students are poised to play a critical role in seeking solutions to some of the world’s most important issues.

Universities have always played a part in solving problems. As global challenges have become more complex, however, faculty members and students need to work across disciplines to achieve real breakthroughs. To make this happen, Stanford has launched The Stanford Challenge, a five-year, \$4.3 billion campaign aimed at seeking solutions to complex, global problems and educating the next generation of leaders. At the heart of the campaign are three major themes—human health, the environment and sustainability, and international peace and security. Whether the aim is curing cancer, preserving the health of the world’s oceans, or understanding the root causes of terrorism, the opportunities created by The Stanford Challenge have the potential to make a real difference in people’s lives all over the world.

Jane and Leland Stanford realized their dream through their own generous gifts and bequests, founding the university that bears their beloved son’s name. Today, the work of the university continues thanks in large part to the bequests and gifts of alumni and friends. When you provide for the university in your estate plans by means of a bequest, a life income gift, or a charitable trust, you are not only creating a legacy for the well-being of a great university, but also contributing to the greater good.

[thestanfordchallenge.stanford.edu](http://thestanfordchallenge.stanford.edu)

THE  
STANFORD  
CHALLENGE

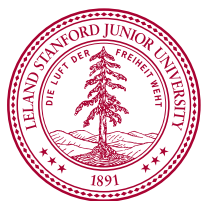
*Seeking Solutions, Educating Leaders*

## JOIN THE FOUNDING GRANT SOCIETY

If you have already included Stanford in your estate plans, please complete the attached remit form and return it to us. We would like to thank you for your generosity, make sure the purpose of your gift is understood by the university, and include you as a member of the Founding Grant Society.



MEET THE EXPERTS IN THE OFFICE OF PLANNED GIVING AT STANFORD: (BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT) STEPHEN W. PLAYER, '63; CAROL KERSTEN, JD '82; CAROLYN SWANSON; CHRIS YATES, '81; ELLEN LUSSIER; AND KARA D. WERTHEIMER. (SEATED, LEFT TO RIGHT) JONRIE DÁVILA, '81; JENNIFER ROWE; AND ANGELA KALAYJIAN.



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### CONTACT THE OFFICE OF PLANNED GIVING

Stanford's planned giving staff is ready to assist you in making the best philanthropic decisions for your financial needs. We are all experts in charitable gift planning, with considerable experience relating to charitable trusts, bequests, and other types of planned gift instruments. We enjoy making sure that donors make smart use of their assets for themselves and for Stanford. Please contact us for more information.