



ROYAL
COLLEGE
OF MUSIC

London

LEAVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC

YOUR GUIDE TO LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL



YOUR LEGACY IS THE FUTURE OF MUSIC



Opposite

John Wilson conducting the RCM Symphony Orchestra

*2016 – 2021
QS World University Rankings

As a lover of music, you will recognise its power in your own life, its infinite capacity to inspire and energise, to soothe and console. You will appreciate that music has a broad, life-enhancing impact on us all. You will understand its centrality to being human. You will probably agree that a life without music is almost impossible to imagine.

Since 1882 the Royal College of Music (RCM) has nurtured generations of performers, composers and conductors who have, in their different ways, changed people's lives through their music. From our inception, students have been supported by generous benefactors, to whom we are deeply grateful. This longstanding tradition of philanthropy has helped to position the RCM as an institution that attracts the most supremely gifted young musicians of each generation.

This is why we value legacy donors and their gifts so much. Professional music is changing – in how it is created, performed and shared – and we want to lead the change, not follow. Gifts in Wills are particularly helpful to us when planning for the future. This could be your opportunity to make the greatest and most transformational gift of your life.

The RCM is a special place. We believe that our culture fuels creativity, encouraging personal growth as well as musical development. Students from more than 60 nations form a diverse musical ecosystem: cross-fertilisation of ideas and collaborative endeavour are part of our institutional DNA. There can be no finer preparation for living a life dedicated to music in a challenging profession and an ever-changing world.

For the sixth consecutive year, the RCM is ranked as the **top institution in the UK for performing arts** in the prestigious **QS World University Rankings**, and **top in Europe for the second year running**.* Through our legacy giving programme, you could play your part in securing the future of music – as we are – by leaving a gift in your Will to the Royal College of Music. We would love to share our plans with you and discuss what leaving a gift to the RCM might mean to us, and to you.

Professor Colin Lawson CBE FRCM
Director
Royal College of Music

Lord Black of Brentwood
Chairman
Royal College of Music

OUR WORK

The Royal College of Music provides specialist musical education and professional training at the highest international level for the most gifted performers, conductors and composers, regardless of their financial means. A degree from the Royal College of Music is recognised worldwide as a hallmark of excellence.

ALL RCM STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM:

- individual lessons in a principal study from world-class professors
- a dynamic and rigorous academic curriculum
- a high-quality programme of performance opportunities
- use of a world-leading Library with its outstanding collection of manuscripts and early printed music, and the Royal College of Music Museum
- a world-leading roster of inspirational visiting musicians
- professional advice and opportunities from the Creative Careers Centre
- a thriving alumni network

Our musical environment is modelled on the profession itself, mirroring its standards, practices and expectations. Our internationally acclaimed Opera Studio, for example, is led and staffed by experienced industry practitioners. From their first day, our students work under professional conditions, preparing them for their lives ahead.

Meanwhile the RCM Junior Department caters for talented 8- to 18-year-olds on Saturdays and our innovative RCM Sparks programme reaches out far and wide into the community, working closely with partner organisations, including the BBC Proms and the Royal Albert Hall. This aspect of our work is as important as our core mission: these are the musicians of the future.

The RCM offers a wealth of possibilities. We provide a stimulating environment rich with promise for all who study with us. We delight as talented musicians blossom into mature professionals, knowing that wherever they go in the years ahead they will light up lives with their music.

With your help, we can ensure that this life-changing vision continues to evolve, as it has done since 1882. All gifts make a positive difference, no matter the size. By making a gift to the RCM in your Will, however large or small, you will be part of a truly transformational process – helping to leave the world with the precious gift of music.



Right

RCM Sparks
Photo © Sheila Burnett

WHY LEGACIES MATTER



Elif Cansever,
(BMus4, violin)
Ian Evans Lombe Scholar

'I have the privilege of being awarded not only a generous scholarship, part funded by Ian Evans Lombe's legacy, which has enabled me to study at the RCM, but I also have on loan the valuable Joseph Rocca violin from the RCM collections, which was part of Joan Weller's bequest in 1987. These two legacies have given me a life-changing experience and have transformed my development as a violinist. I'm so grateful.'

Right

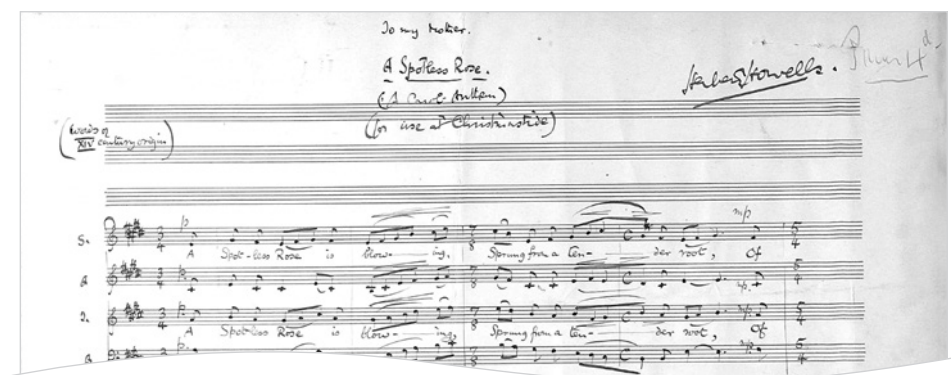
Herbert Howells left his manuscripts to the RCM Library, including *A Spotless Rose*

Nurturing world-class musicians is a delicate, detailed and extended process. It's a lifelong commitment as each individual requires a personal approach. Tuition fees and the government's Higher Education budget fund some of the basics, but we can only continue to deliver world-class education and life-changing opportunities with the help of our generous supporters.

Over the years, the RCM has thrived on numerous legacy gifts pledged by supporters in their Wills. Legacies have enabled us to achieve what might not otherwise have been possible: to provide modern facilities and performance spaces; undertake research; fund performances, creative projects and fellowships; provide career support; and facilitate many more enriching musical activities for the benefit of our students as well as the wider public. Valuable legacies have also reached us in the form of fine instruments, portraits and sculpture, and collections of manuscripts.

Legacy gifts have contributed over a third of our *More Music: Reimagining the Royal College of Music* Campaign total, which has transformed the RCM estate, enlarged our flagship scholarships provision and improved access, helping us offer more music to more people. A legacy from the late William Mealings, for example, has allowed us to endow a scholarship and create a new Piano Room, both bearing his name. Legacies for endowed scholarships from the late Emma Rose and Christopher Hogwood CBE HonDMus, awarded in perpetuity, have also offered exceptionally talented students the chance to fulfil their potential through study at the RCM, regardless of their financial means. Currently over 1 in 3 of our talented scholars are studying at the RCM all thanks to gifts in Wills.

Most importantly, legacies provide us with the confidence to plan ahead ambitiously.





THE
COTES-BURGAN
ATRIUM

LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

A gift in your Will is a particularly effective way to support a charity such as the Royal College of Music.



**James Douglass,
son of Celia (née Cotes)
and Frederick Burgan**

in a letter to Professor
Colin Lawson

**'In terms of [my mother
and step-father's] legacy
the RCM has proved a
worthy recipient. From our
first conversations...
all the RCM staff have
been so kind. Your
generous invitations to my
mother gave her such joy
in her twilight years and
your continuing to keep
us involved has been very
much appreciated.'**

Opposite

The Cotes-Burgan Atrium,
named after RCM alumna
Celia (née Cotes) and
Frederick Burgan, who left
a transformational legacy to
the RCM

WHAT COULD A GIFT IN MY WILL SUPPORT AT THE RCM?

- Investment in facilities, including named teaching rooms and performance spaces
- Scholarships for gifted students
- Masterclasses, residencies and visits from internationally acclaimed musicians
- Research, innovative musical projects and digital technology
- Work with young people from pre-school to 18, through our lively community programme RCM Sparks and the RCM Junior Department

WHAT SORT OF GIFT COULD I LEAVE IN MY WILL?

An **unrestricted gift** is a gift with no conditions attached. This allows us to make the most of your generosity according to the area of greatest need at the time, as our plans develop and priorities change. Your solicitor should make it clear that your gift is without restriction.

A **restricted gift** is to be used only for the purpose specified, for example the building development or a scholarship. If you'd like to leave a restricted gift, please contact us so we can ensure your wishes can be met.

We are very happy to discuss your thoughts in confidence and advise on how best to carry them out. Please contact our in-house legacy specialist **Emma McCormack** on +44 (0)20 7591 4761 or Emma.McCormack@rcm.ac.uk

WHERE SHOULD I START?

First, you should engage a solicitor to help draft your Will, and choose someone to be an executor to administer your wishes. The next step is to estimate the approximate size of your estate. You can do this by listing everything you own (assets) including money, property, cars and other valuables, and everything you owe (liabilities) including mortgages and other loans. This simple process will help you ensure that your family, friends and others can be provided for in line with your wishes.

WHAT SORT OF LEGACY WOULD WORK BEST FOR ME?

There are four main types of legacy gift that you can make: residuary, pecuniary, specific or reversionary. Please see the Glossary insert at the back of this brochure for full explanations of these terms.





Professor Vanessa Latache FRCM

Chair of International Keyboard Studies & Head of Keyboard

‘It’s a privilege to head a faculty at the RCM. All RCM professors share a collective responsibility: to match the aspirations of our amazing students, whose determination and curiosity is inspiring – and often humbling.

Once a student myself at the RCM, I reflect on how the musical landscape has changed and how we have evolved in response. This is a demanding profession, and those who choose it need – and deserve – to emerge as the very best artists they can be. The support of our generous benefactors quite simply makes all the difference.’

MAKING OR UPDATING YOUR WILL

It’s essential to have a Will, not least to avoid the difficulties that would follow for family members and friends if you were to die intestate (without having made a Will). If you have not yet made your Will, it’s easier and more affordable than you may think, though it is always advisable to consult a solicitor. You are also welcome to make use of our free Wills service.

If you have already made a Will, it’s simple to add a legacy to the RCM by means of a codicil. You will find the relevant form at the back of this brochure. You will also find a pledge form which you can use to notify us of your intentions. *Please note this pledge form is not legally binding; it merely helps us to understand your wishes.*

WHAT DETAILS MUST MY WILL CONTAIN?

As a minimum you must state the sort of the gift you wish to leave (see page 7), and the name, address and Registered Charity No. of your proposed beneficiary.

SUGGESTED WORDING FOR A LEGACY TO THE RCM IN YOUR WILL

‘I give to the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BS UK (Registered Charity No. 309268) (‘the Charity’)

a XX % share of / the residue of my estate

OR the sum of £___ (specify value)

OR /AND my (insert full description of item and location)

to be used for the general purposes of the Charity, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised officer for the time being of the Charity shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my Executors.’

Please note that this wording applies to an **unrestricted** gift. If you wish to specify which aspect of our work you would like your gift to support (i.e. a **restricted** gift), please contact **Emma McCormack** on **+44 (0)20 7591 4761** or **Emma.McCormack@rcm.ac.uk**

Opposite

First-year undergraduate and Victoria Robey Scholar, Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, on stage at the Southbank Centre with Chineke! Orchestra
Photo © Mark Allan



TAX MATTERS

Gifts to charities are taken out of your estate before tax is calculated and are 100% free from tax. This may mean that leaving a gift to a charity such as the RCM reduces your Inheritance Tax liability.



Hugh Cutting (Artist Diploma in Opera)

Aldama Scholar supported by the Basil Coleman Opera Award
Kathleen Ferrier Award
first prize winner 2021

Photo © Emma Brown Photography

‘It’s a real privilege to study at the RCM, supported by a generous scholarship from the late Basil Coleman, a legacy gift. The RCM Vocal Faculty and Opera Studio provide excellent opportunities for growing singers’ performing personalities and preparing us for the profession, and I have always felt thoroughly supported by both staff and fellow students.’

At the time of printing, the Inheritance Tax threshold is £325,000. Estates worth more than this are liable to pay Inheritance Tax at 40% over this amount. Since the 2012 budget, however, gifts to charities of 10% or more of your estate reduce the rate of Inheritance Tax to 36%, thus meaning that many can leave a transformational gift to a favourite charity whilst the net cost to your loved ones is substantially reduced. Everyone’s tax situation is different so you should contact your solicitor or independent tax adviser for more advice. Please visit the HMRC website for more details and up-to-date information.

DEED OF VARIATION

If you find yourself a beneficiary of a Will it is possible to transfer the whole or part of your inheritance to the Royal College of Music using a Deed of Variation. Gifts that have been transferred to a charity become free of Inheritance Tax. This can be an effective way to support the RCM in your lifetime.



Opposite

Scholars Julien Van Mellaerts and Harriet Eyley in Poulenc’s *Les mamelles de Tirésias*

Above

RCM musicians rehearsing in the new Performance Hall





Chris Christodoulou HonRCM
Photographer, Royal College
of Music and BBC Proms

Photo © John Millar

'The RCM is so close to my heart. As the College's photographer for more years than I care to remember, I have photographed Juniors lugging round cellos bigger than they are – only to snap them again years later at their graduation! But the greatest thrill is when RCM musicians appear on stage at the Proms.

Deciding early to leave a gift to the RCM in my Will is a great feeling. Every time I visit or hear about the RCM I am proud to think that I have made the most sensible and satisfying decision I have ever made!

Thank you to everyone at the RCM for making me feel so welcome over the years, especially the students for the joy and happiness you bring to our hearts with your music.'

THANK YOU

We are immensely grateful for the many legacies that, over the years, have allowed us to build on the visionary aims of our founders in 1882. We would be honoured indeed to have you join our distinguished community of supporters.

The RCM Legacy Ensemble was launched in 2019 to acknowledge the generosity of those who pledge a gift to the Royal College of Music in their Wills. It recognises the growing number of legacy supporters who share our vision of securing the future of the Royal College of Music, and celebrates the life-changing impact their gifts will have. It is also an opportunity for like-minded people to learn about the ongoing work of the RCM.

As a member of the RCM Legacy Ensemble you will be acknowledged in a variety of ways. You will receive information about our work as well as invitations to special events and exclusive access to behind-the-scenes work. We look forward to sharing more details with you.

Unless you instruct us otherwise, you will automatically become a member of the RCM Legacy Ensemble once you have pledged a legacy gift. When you have made or updated your Will with your solicitor, please complete and return the legacy pledge form at the back of this brochure. Please note that this pledge form is not legally binding and you can change your mind at any time. If you wish your pledge to remain confidential, simply let us know.



Opposite

ABRSM Scholar Hyun-Gi
Lee in the Amaryllis Fleming
Concert Hall

Above

RCM Legacy Ensemble
lunch, February 2019

OUR PROMISE TO YOU



Jane Barker CBE FRCM
Leadership Supporter
and Deputy Chairman,
RCM Council

Photo © Simon Bleasdale, Marsh Ltd

'As Deputy Chairman of the RCM Council since 2007, I have witnessed the outstanding work of the Royal College of Music at close hand, both on stage and behind the scenes. Pledging a gift to the RCM in my Will is the most efficient way for me to support this remarkable institution, and the best possible way of ensuring that I continue to play my part for generations to come.'

Right

RCM President HRH The Prince of Wales officially opening the new facilities created by the *More Music* redevelopment, December 2021

The Royal College of Music is signed up to the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice and is a signatory of its Fundraising Promise.

- We understand that family and friends are important and come first when writing your Will
- You and your family will always be treated with courtesy, sensitivity and respect
- You can change your mind at any time about leaving a gift to the RCM in your Will and we will respect your decision
- We will use your gift wisely and cost-effectively so that it has the greatest possible impact and are happy to discuss any preferences you have for how your gift could be used
- We respect your right to privacy – you don't have to tell us if you've left a legacy (but we would love the opportunity to thank you if you do!)
- Any personal data that you choose to share with us will be handled securely and confidentially. You can choose how we contact you (please see our privacy policy at www.rcm.ac.uk/privacy).



All photos © Chris Christodoulou unless otherwise specified





For more information, please contact our legacy specialist:

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Main image © Phil Rowley

To find out more, visit
www.rcm.ac.uk/support/legacies

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Patron

Her Majesty The Queen

President and Patron of the Campaign

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

Chairman

Lord Black of Brentwood

Director

Professor Colin Lawson CBE FRCM

Chairman, More Music Campaign

Geoffrey Richards HonRCM

Director of Development

Lily Harriss HonRCM

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