

Permanent Gift Giving Guide

Stepping Stones Museum for Children

Keep this handy!

As a valued supporter of **Stepping Stones** Museum for Children, your commitment to enriching the lives of children and families in our community is truly inspiring. Here are some exciting and impactful ways to support our mission beyond traditional cash donations. These alternatives not only help us sustain our work but can also be advantageous for you as a donor.

1. Giving Stocks or Appreciated Assets:

If you have stocks, bonds, or other investments that have appreciated in value, donating them directly to the museum can be a highly beneficial option. By doing so, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the appreciated amount and can deduct the full market value of the asset on your tax return (subject to IRS limitations). This means your generosity can go further, allowing us to provide even more engaging educational experiences for children.

2. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):

For those aged 70½ or older, a QCD allows you to donate up to \$100,000 directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a qualified charity, like Stepping Stones Museum for Children, without incurring income tax on the distribution. This method not only satisfies your required minimum distribution (RMD) but also provides a significant tax advantage, making it a win-win for your charitable giving strategy.

3. Grants from Donor Advised Funds (DAFs):

If you have a Donor Advised Fund, you can easily support Stepping Stones Museum for Children by recommending a grant from your fund. DAFs offer a flexible way to manage your charitable giving while maximizing your tax benefits. You can contribute to your fund when it's most advantageous for you and recommend grants to us at any time, ensuring you can support our mission when the moment feels right.

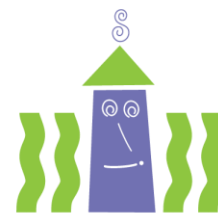
4. Including Charity in Your Will (Bequest):

Legacy gifts are a simple, flexible way to make a meaningful impact and may reduce your estate's taxable value. For instance, by naming **Stepping Stones** Museum for Children as a beneficiary in your estate plans, you help ensure that every child—now and in the future—can grow, explore and thrive in a place built just for them, making magic last a lifetime.

We hope these giving options inspire you as you plan for the future. **Each one supports our mission to inspire lifelong learning through play**—and may offer valuable financial benefits. Thank you for being part of our community. If you have questions or want to explore your options, email or call us at the link or number below. We're here to help you!

Warmest,

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P.S.-- Your support makes a difference! Every contribution, large or small, helps us foster a love of learning in the hearts of young explorers. Thank you for considering these impactful alternatives to cash donations.