

# PLANNED GIVING



FORT WORTH  
BOTANIC  
GARDEN

## MARY DAGGETT LAKE SOCIETY

Your plans to leave a legacy gift will help create a beautiful future for the Fort Worth Botanic Garden and make you eligible for membership in the Mary Daggett Lake Society. When you include the Garden in your estate plans, you support environmental and horticultural education for all ages, global and regional research and conservation, and the garden you love for generations to come.

## PLANNED GIVING

Numerous approaches to planned giving are available, including bequests by will, life insurance, gifts of publicly traded stock, gifts from retirement plans, charitable remainder trusts, and charitable lead trusts. Each has its own requirements and benefits, which you can read about below.

Planned gifts go toward endowment, where the gifted funds stay intact to provide an enduring legacy of residual support. If the donor does not specify an endowment, the gift goes into the General Endowment to support the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, including the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.

### ENDOWMENT OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- The General Endowment, which supports the Botanical Research Institute of Texas and the Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- The Fort Worth Botanic Garden Endowment, which is restricted to supporting only the Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- The Research Endowment, which is restricted to supporting only the Botanical Research Institute of Texas

We encourage you to discuss your planned giving with your tax advisor or planning professional. For more information, contact Sara Richardson at [srichardson@fwbg.org](mailto:srichardson@fwbg.org) or 817.332.2748.

## GIFTS NOW

### GIFTS OF PUBLICLY TRADED STOCK

#### Let your portfolio profit the community

Shares of appreciated publicly traded stock are an effective way to provide support and avoid taxation on the gain. We can receive stock gifts directly through your brokerage account; you receive a charitable income tax deduction, usually equivalent to fair market value as determined under IRS guidelines. We will sell the stock immediately and apply the net proceeds toward endowment to support our mission.

### CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER

#### Giving that saves on taxes

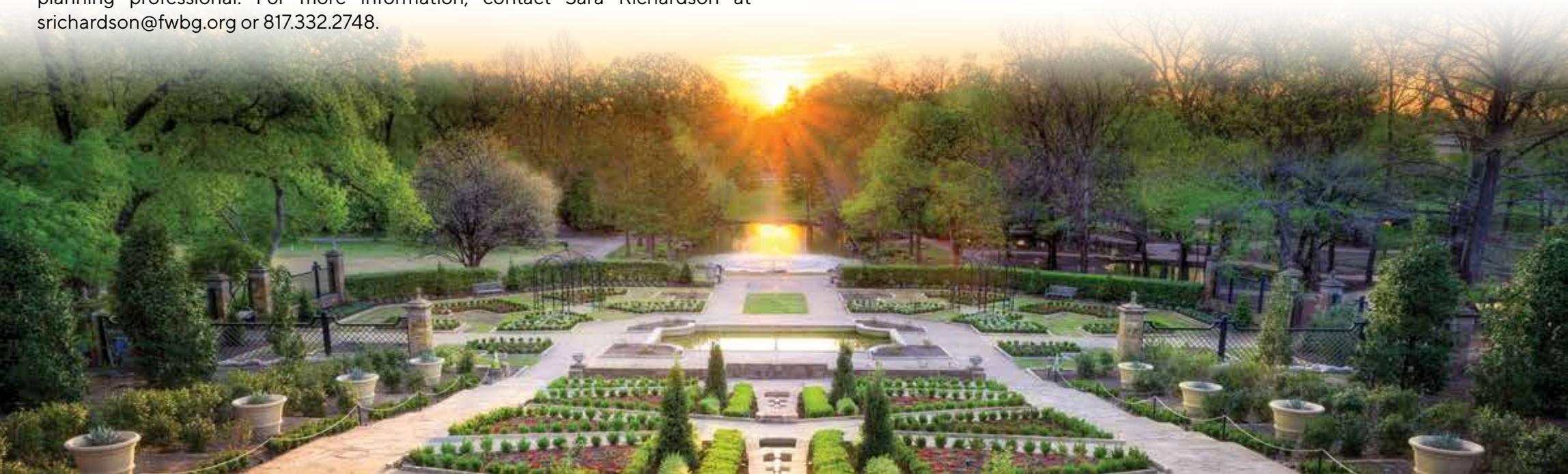
Donors over 70½ years old can apply a distribution from an IRA directly to our organization without the distribution creating a tax liability. Consult your tax advisor to see how this would work for you.

### LIFE INSURANCE

#### A simple way to give a significant gift

Giving through life insurance is one of the simplest ways to make a significant contribution to the Garden and establish your legacy of giving. Two approaches are available: You can designate the organization as the primary or secondary beneficiary of either all or some percentage of the proceeds from the policy, or you can transfer to the Garden ownership of the policy, either paid in full or for which you continue making premium payments.

The transfer of the policy is a present gift for which a charitable tax deduction may be taken, and your continued payment of premiums is considered a charitable contribution, deductible to the full extent of the law.



## GIFTS THAT PAY INCOME

### CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

#### Sustainable income now and a gift for the future

The gift annuity is an irrevocable gift of cash or securities, which provides you with a predictable fixed income for life. At termination, the Garden receives the residual value of the annuity. There are also potential tax benefits, depending upon your situation. You could set this up through your attorney or could arrange through an annuity provider, such as an insurance company.

### CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

#### Planning for the future, for you and your community

Giving through a charitable remainder trust allows you to receive income for the rest of your life or a specified term of years, knowing that whatever remains will benefit the Garden. You transfer assets into a trust and receive an immediate charitable deduction. The trust distributes regular income payments to you or to designated family members. You may choose to receive a fixed payment or one that changes with the value of the trust assets; payments can begin immediately, or you can defer them to increase your charitable income tax deduction. The amount of the payments and the amount of the charitable tax deduction depends on the age of the recipient and the applicable federal rate for determining the present value of an interest for a term of years. Upon the beneficiary's death or after a defined period of years, the remaining assets in the trust will transfer to the Garden. Consult with your tax advisor or financial planning professional.

### CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

#### Giving to our organization and your loved ones

The lead trust's income payments are distributed to the organization for a set period of years, after which the assets are transferred back to the grantor or whomever the grantor has named the beneficiary. Assets selected by you are transferred into a trust, which pays the organization an annual amount to accomplish its mission. During its term, the trust can be managed by experienced professionals, which may help your trust investments grow over time. There is no immediate deduction for the lead trust.



## GIFTS LATER

### BEQUEST BY WILL

#### A legacy of giving

Including a charitable bequest in your will is a simple way to make a lasting gift to the Garden and your community. You can leave a bequest to the organization by adding to an existing will or drafting a new one. Make a gift of a stated dollar amount, specific property, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after distributions to other beneficiaries. In doing so you leave a legacy to the Garden yet preserve and enjoy assets you might need during your lifetime. Plus, the assets distributed to the organization are exempt from estate tax.

### GIFTS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS

#### The perfect gift asset

Retirement plan assets (those in qualified plans and IRAs) are ideal for charitable giving purposes because these assets are often heavily taxed when passed to non-spouse beneficiaries. To make a future gift of retirement plan assets simply requires a designation of the Garden as the beneficiary of the plan. In addition, making a gift of retirement account assets during your lifetime is permitted for certain tax years; check with your tax advisor before making a gift of retirement plan assets.

We hope you will consult with your professional advisors on how a gift would fit into your overall plans. Your planned gift will provide an enduring legacy that will live on in our research and education programs as well as in the beauty of the Garden.





## MARY DAGGETT LAKE

A prominent botanist, author, and historian, Mary Daggett Lake (1880-1955) was instrumental in the garden club movement in Texas and promoted an education of and appreciation for Fort Worth's native plants. After studying botany at the Cottey College in Missouri, she worked as a research assistant in Dr. Albert Ruth's private herbarium, now a part of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT). As the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram's* garden editor, she co-wrote the *Texas Almanac's* "Wildflowers of Texas" column with Eula Whitehouse, an American botanist and botanical illustrator whose collections also now reside at BRIT.

Influential in the community, Lake was a charter member of the Fort Worth Garden Club, served as an officer in the National Council of State Garden Club Federations, and was elected president of the Texas Federation of Garden Clubs (1938) as well as the Fort Worth Park Board (1946). She was made a life member of Texas Garden Clubs, Incorporated, and the National Federation of Garden Clubs.

In addition to her botanical influence, Lake was also a renowned local archivist and historian. From 1926-1938, the *Star-Telegram* ran Lake's article series based on written records and interviews that chronicled Tarrant County's first settlers. As a charter member of The Woman's Club in Fort Worth, she founded its Texana library. She was the historical research chairman of the Texas Centennial Exposition, which celebrated the anniversary of Texas' independence from Mexico in 1936.

As the educational director of the Garden Center of Fort Worth (now the Fort Worth Botanic Garden) from 1933-1955, Lake founded a gardening library and established children's programming that focused on nature, gardening, and botanical education. She also implemented adult education, workshops, conservation efforts, and university conferences. During the war, Lake shifted her focus to promoting victory gardens and prioritizing planting native fruit and nut plants to combat food shortages.

Mary Daggett Lake died on March 1, 1955, and is interred at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Posthumously, the library at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden was renamed after her, and the Texas Historical Commission installed a historical marker in her honor there.

To learn more, contact  
Sara Richardson, CFRE  
Vice President for Advancement  
at (817) 332-2748 or [srichardson@fwbg.org](mailto:srichardson@fwbg.org)



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