

Legacy Gifts at Work

Legacy gifts to Golden Gate Audubon have helped us win significant conservation victories in the Bay Area. In the early 1970s, a \$100,000 legacy gift helped acquire Point Pinole for public use. Today this beautiful spot on the Richmond shoreline is part of the East Bay Regional Park District. It is home to over 100 bird species, and serves as an outdoor nature classroom for low-income students in our award-winning Eco-Education program.



Eco-Ed students at Point Pinole by Eva Guralnick

OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS, LEGACY GIFTS HAVE ALSO HELPED US:

- Reduce raptor mortality from dangerous, outmoded, and poorly-placed wind turbines in the Altamont Pass.
- Protect shorebirds at the Emeryville mudflats.
- Create a permanent wildlife reserve at Alameda Point, site of a crucial breeding colony of endangered California Least Terns as well as many other species.
- Protect more than 1,400 acres of habitat in Orinda’s Gateway Valley for Golden Eagles, federally threatened California Red-legged Frogs, and other birds and wildlife.
- Introduce over 16,000 low-income children and their families to the wildlife and habitats of their urban communities through our Eco-Education program.
- Transform a former dump site into thriving wetlands at Pier 94 in San Francisco. Since we began restoration work there in 2002, the number of bird species has risen from 87 to over 135, including nesting native shorebird species such as American Avocets and Black-necked Stilts.

With continued pressure for development and climate change, the need for conservation action will only grow in future decades. Your legacy gift will ensure that Golden Gate Audubon remains the strong and effective voice for Bay Area birds and wildlife. Future generations will be deeply grateful for the visionary legacy of your thoughtful estate planning.

The Rara Avis Society

When you include Golden Gate Audubon in your estate planning, you become a member of the Rara Avis (Rare Bird) Society. Rara Avis Society members can be acknowledged in our newsletter, The Gull, given a handsome certificate, and receive invitations to special Rara Avis Society events.

If you include Golden Gate Audubon in your estate planning, we hope you will let us know. We value the opportunity to thank our supporters who are dedicated to the future of Bay Area wildlife. Your generous example also inspires others to consider Golden Gate Audubon in their estate planning.

Even if you prefer to keep your intentions private, please know that future generations of people and wildlife will greatly appreciate your generous forethought.



Clark’s Grebes by Bob Lewis

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Legacy gifts are an important resource for Golden Gate Audubon. Because we mobilize thousands of volunteers each year, we are able to maximize the impact of each gift. By including Golden Gate Audubon in your estate planning, you help ensure that GGAS will continue to lead in protecting Bay Area birds, wildlife and their habitats far into the future.



Eco-Ed students by Anthony DeCicco

Planned gifts to charitable organizations like Golden Gate Audubon can be an integral part of your estate planning. There are often many tax benefits associated with giving to charitable organizations. **Most of all, such contributions are an opportunity for you to envision and secure a lasting legacy for the values you cherish.**

If you decide to name Golden Gate Audubon in your estate planning, please designate “Golden Gate Audubon Society, a California non-profit corporation.” It is very important that “Golden Gate Audubon Society” is clearly named in the designation. **Golden Gate Audubon Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation** with a tax ID# of 94-6086896, is currently headquartered at 2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite G, Berkeley, CA 94702.

Thank you for considering Golden Gate Audubon in your estate planning.

Leaving a Legacy of Conservation

How you can support Bay Area birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for future generations



GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Black-necked Stilt chick by Peter Seubert



100 Years of Golden Gate Audubon

Do you love Bay Area birds, wildlife, and open spaces? Do you believe wildlife populations should be sustained for future generations? If so, consider leaving a legacy of conservation by including Golden Gate Audubon Society in your estate planning.

Founded in 1917, Golden Gate Audubon is dedicated to engaging people to protect Bay Area birds, wildlife, and their habitats. For over a century we have successfully conserved at-risk wildlife. We’ve fulfilled this mission by restoring habitat, connecting people of all ages and backgrounds with the natural world, and leading Bay Area residents in discovery, science, and preservation of our local environment.

Many people who share this unwavering commitment to wildlife protection have named Golden Gate Audubon as a beneficiary when planning their estate. Your gift will provide critical resources to help achieve our mission in years to come.

Allen’s Hummingbird by Jerry Ting

Types of Planned Gifts

There are many options for planned giving. You can name Golden Gate Audubon to receive a specific amount of money or property, a percentage of your estate, all or a portion of the residual of your estate, or to be the contingent beneficiary succeeding your named beneficiaries. We recommend you consult with your financial advisor and attorney to structure a gift that fulfills your goals.

DIRECT BEQUESTS

In a bequest, Golden Gate Audubon can be named as a beneficiary of all or a portion of your estate. Your bequest may specify a program area, or it may be used for general support of Golden Gate Audubon’s many conservation and education projects. When you make an unrestricted bequest, Golden Gate Audubon’s staff and Board of Directors take great care to ensure that your gift will efficiently and effectively be put to work as you envisioned. We strongly encourage you to consider an unrestricted gift, as it provides us with maximum flexibility in responding to new and emerging threats to Bay Area birds and wildlife.

Pied-billed Grebes by Allen Hirsch



GIFTS OF RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS OR QUALIFIED PENSION PLANS

The funds you have saved for retirement can end up being double-taxed if inherited, thus reducing their benefit to your heirs. One alternative is to pass retirement funds to Golden Gate Audubon at their full face value, while designating other tax-free assets for your beneficiaries.

DESIGNATION OF LIFE INSURANCE

You can name Golden Gate Audubon as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy. Additionally, designating Golden Gate Audubon as owner as well as beneficiary may offer you tax advantages. A bequest of insurance allows you to assure a large future gift to Golden Gate Audubon – at a small cost now.

Burrowing Owls by Pamela Rose Hawken



LIFE INCOME GIFTS

Life income gifts, such as charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts, provide an income stream for you while also benefiting Golden Gate Audubon. If you are interested in making a life income gift to Golden Gate Audubon, please contact us for further details.

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED ASSETS

You can donate appreciated assets such as securities or real estate to Golden Gate Audubon. If you are considering a gift of land or property, please talk with us before you make your estate plans so we can ensure that your gift meets our acceptance criteria and we can best fulfill your future wishes.

RESERVE FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

Golden Gate Audubon also offers you the option to contribute directly to our reserve fund, which provides critical support for our conservation, education, and birding programs. For gifts of \$10,000 or more, you may consider a named gift honoring or memorializing your (or another person’s) commitment to Bay Area birds and wildlife. Please contact us to discuss your options.

Western Bluebirds by Allen Hirsch



Shorebirds in flight by Rick Lewis

For More Information

Because of the complexity of estate planning, we recommend that you consult with your attorney and/or financial advisor when writing your will and planning your legacy gifts. If you need assistance finding an attorney or executor, we can offer suggestions.

It is through the generosity and thoughtfulness of individuals like you that Golden Gate Audubon is able to persevere in championing the conservation of Bay Area birds, wildlife, and their habitats. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Your inquiry will remain confidential.



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