

sciencemuseum

LEAVING A LEGACY TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM



The Science Museum

The Science Museum aims to be the best place in the world for people to enjoy science. This commitment drives everything that we do. Our visitors want to be enlightened by science, not blinded by it. They need the Science Museum to be an approachable and engaging organisation they can trust to speak with authority and independence. The Science Museum functions to open the eyes and minds of visitors to the world around them in an informal and captivating way.

It is essential that we continue to develop exciting ways to encourage our visitors to find out more, to challenge, question and be inspired. Our unrivalled collections show the power of human ingenuity and enterprise. We tell stories not just of science, engineering and medicine, but of the creative industries and businesses they underpin, covering issues relevant now and in the future. The Science Museum helps us to make sense of the science we depend on to live our connected, converging and extraordinary lives.

By realising the aspirations described here, we will harness the potential of our collections, strengthen our role and delight our audiences with truly life-changing experiences. The Science Museum aims to reach a wider audience, encouraging more people to engage with contemporary science and develop a long-term relationship with the Museum.



Frequently asked questions

Below you will find answers to just a few of the questions you might have about leaving a legacy to the Science Museum. We understand that you may have other queries, and invite you to contact Lorna Valarino on 020 7942 4034 if there is anything related to legacies you wish to discuss.

I would like to leave the Science Museum a legacy, but is it a charity?

The Board of Trustees of the Science Museum is an exempt charity under the Second Schedule of the Charities Act 1993 and is recognised as charitable by HM Revenue and Customs. Exempt charity status means that the charity was set up by statute. The Trustees of the Museum are appointed by the Prime Minister and are accountable to government rather than the Charity Commission. The Science Museum is part of a family of museums jointly known as the National Museum of Science & Industry (NMSI). The Trustees of NMSI are legally known as the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum, and govern all of NMSI.

Whilst the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum receives government support to allow the Museum to open its doors to the public, many of our plans for the future can only be realised through additional funding, including legacies.

How should I word my Will to include a legacy for the benefit of the Science Museum?

An appropriate form of wording to be used when you make a Will is provided on page 4, but please do consult a qualified solicitor as this wording is only intended as a guide.

Can I choose what my legacy is spent on?

Yes, you can request how your money is spent; however leaving a legacy for us to use in the way we feel best allows us to target funds where they are most needed at any given time.

I want to add a legacy to my Will but would prefer not to rewrite the whole document. Is there a simple way of adding a legacy?

You should only change your Will by adding a codicil to it or writing a completely new Will. A codicil is a supplement to a Will which makes some alterations but leaves the rest of it intact. A codicil form can be found in this pack, but again we would advise you to consult your solicitor if you wish to amend your Will in this way.

How to include a legacy to the Science Museum in your Will

It is very simple to leave a legacy, and you may find the following form of wording helpful as a guide. However, we would always advise you to consult a solicitor if you are making a Will or changing your wishes to ensure that no technical mistakes are made.

Suggested wording

To leave the whole or part of your estate after specific gifts have been made ('Residuary Legacy')

I give to the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum, the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD [xxx]/[xx%]/all of the residue of my estate for its general purposes.

To leave a specific sum ('Pecuniary Legacy')

I give to the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum, the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD the sum of £xxx for its general purposes.

A gift for a specific purpose

If you wish to state the area you are interested in supporting, we suggest the following wording:

I give to the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum, the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD (state the % residue or the sum of money) and request without obligation that it be used for the purposes of (for example):

- Conservation
- Education
- Exhibitions
- The Science Museum Library and Archive

After you have made your pledge

Anyone making a legacy pledge will be offered the opportunity to receive information about the Science Museum's activities and invitations to special events.

If you are considering pledging a significant sum, we would be delighted to discuss opportunities for recognising your support and creating a lasting memorial in your name or that of a loved one.

Thank you so much for your support – it really does make a huge difference to our work.

How to update your existing Will

You can easily add a legacy to your existing Will using a codicil. Your solicitor will advise you how to do this so that no legal or technical mistakes occur, but an example of the form this is likely to take is shown below for information.

I _____ (name)
Of _____
_____ (address)

Declare this to be a codicil which I make this ____ day of _____
20 ____ to my will dated _____

In addition to any legacies given in my said Will I give to the Board
of Trustees of the Science Museum, the Science Museum,
Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD the sum of £ _____

To be used for the Museum's general purposes (or specific area of
work _____)

I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or duly authorised officer
shall be a full and sufficient discharge.

In all other respects I confirm my said Will and any other codicils
thereto.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand the date and year
first above written:

Signed by the said (name)

as a codicil to (his/her) Will dated in our joint presence and then by us
in (his/her) presence and in the presence of each other

Witness signature _____

Witness name _____

Address _____

Occupation _____

Witness signature _____

Witness name _____

Address _____

Occupation _____

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact Lorna Valarino on 020 7942 4034.

Notifying us of your intended gift

We understand that your Will is completely personal to you, so there is no need to inform us of your pledge unless you wish to do so.

However, if you would like to tell us about your plans we would be very grateful if you could complete this form and return it to:

The Development Department
The Science Museum
Exhibition Road
South Kensington, London
SW7 2DD

This will help us with our forward planning and enable us to provide you with appropriate information and invitations to see our work more closely.

The pledge is not binding and you are free to change the conditions or withdraw it at any time. Please accept our warmest thanks for your generosity and support.

Title _____

First name _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone no. _____

E-mail address _____

Your gift

I plan to leave the Board of Trustees of the Science Museum:

A cash gift With a value of £ _____

A percentage of my residuary estate

With an estimated value of £ _____

The following asset(s) _____

Designating your gift

Please let us know if you are happy for your gift to be used wherever the need is greatest YES NO

If you would prefer your gift to be used for a specific purpose please tell us here: _____

If you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact Lorna Valarino on 020 7942 4034.