

PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION

Planning Your Legacy
A Guide to Making a Bequest

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PACIFIC
Opera
VICTORIA

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The Bravo Society is generously supported by

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“A will is simply an expression of love and hope for the future, a gift to the people and causes for which we care most passionately.”

A Legacy for Opera

If you love Opera, if you marvel at Pacific Opera Victoria’s original productions, the inspiring performances, the compelling drama and glorious music – then you understand how important opera is to a vibrant arts community.

If you make an annual gift to support POV, then you also understand that not a moment of this magnificent art form is possible without the passion and commitment of opera lovers like you.

Every success Pacific Opera Victoria has ever had started with the support of our donors. And one of the most meaningful ways to make a real difference to the future of opera is to make a bequest in your will.

A will is the final gift we make to the world – our message to the future. Through our wills, we try to protect the people we love, give joy to those who follow us, and leave the world a better place. Behind all the legal language, a will is simply an expression of love and hope for the future, a gift to the people and causes for which we care most passionately.

Through a bequest to the Pacific Opera Victoria Foundation, you can help keep opera alive and thriving in Victoria for generations to come. Your legacy will contribute to the rich cultural fabric of our community long into the future.

“Wise tax planning can reduce taxes payable and maximize the impact of your estate, allowing you to help your heirs and favourite charities.”

The POV Foundation

The Pacific Opera Victoria Foundation is a registered charitable society established in 1987 solely to support the Pacific Opera Victoria Association in the creation and exploration of outstanding opera and artistic endeavours.

The POV Foundation is governed by seven Trustees selected from the community to oversee these goals:

- Encourage and facilitate charitable giving through bequests and estate giving or other types of future gifts
- Observe and realize our donors' wishes and intentions
- Provide ongoing support for the programs and activities of Pacific Opera Victoria
- Develop endowment funds and other financial assets for Pacific Opera Victoria

The POV Foundation invests funds to provide annual income for POV's artistic needs while preserving and increasing capital for long-term security.

What Your Legacy Can Accomplish

Making an Impact:

If every Canadian made a bequest to charity, millions of additional dollars would be raised each year. Estate planning often allows even people of modest means to make a significant gift and reduce taxes on their estate. Wise tax planning can therefore help your heirs and maximize the impact of your gift.

The POV Foundation accepts bequests of cash, securities, life insurance proceeds, and other planned gifts. Your gifts will help POV to:

- Stage new and original productions and explore the full range of operatic repertoire
- Preserve and expand our educational programs to instill a love of opera and the arts in our children and grandchildren
- Nurture Canadian artists at every stage of their careers



Donor Profile:

Barbara Housser

Music has always been a big part of Barbara Housser's life. She began playing violin at the age of three and eventually became an elementary school music teacher. In her 20s, she studied in Europe and got to see opera performed in every great European opera house. "My love of opera has been there for a long time and has grown as a result of being involved with POV," explains Barbara.



In the early 1980s Barbara was invited to join the POV board. "We struggled so much in the early days." But that challenge led to a sense of ownership as she and other volunteers worked hard to keep POV alive. And that sense of commitment is still with her today. "That is what motivated me to give something to POV in my will," she explains. "I want to make sure that what we as a community worked so hard to create will live on for future generations."

As Chair of POV's Special Events Committee, Barbara was part of a team that initiated effective programs such as the popular Sense of Occasion Opening Night Gala and the Student Dress Rehearsals.

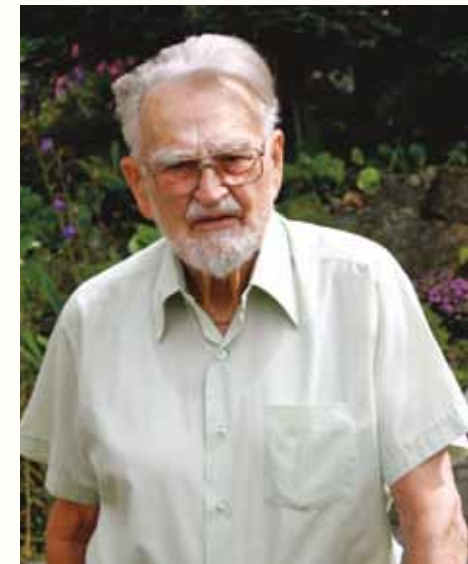
Barbara Housser is well known in Victoria as a highly successful entrepreneur who ran her family business, Sam's Deli, for 28 years. Her professional and volunteer achievements are considerable. Even more remarkable is that she accomplished so much while raising three children and caring for her family. Part of her extensive legacy will live on in a thriving POV.

Donor Profile:

Pendril Brown

Pendril Brown has always been interested in opera. He had been listening to the Met broadcasts for years, and when POV started an opera guild, it was inevitable that he would join. His wife, Betty, didn't share his interest at first, but he persuaded her to attend one POV performance. To his delight, she loved it! That was when they started to volunteer on opera nights at the McPherson Theatre. And when POV moved to the Royal Theatre they were there too, handing out programmes.

Pendril and Betty enjoyed a full and active life, riding their bicycles to work for 25 years, volunteering extensively in the community, and attending operas and concerts at the Conservatory. After Betty died in 2009, Pendril changed his will to include a bequest to several of his favourite charities, including POV. "When I make contributions now, I always send them in memory of Betty."



"I knew exactly what I wanted to do," explains Pendril. "I talked to my lawyer about the technical details. We always had things planned so that our son and daughter would be significant beneficiaries. I also thought about the capital gains tax that would be payable on my estate. A large portion of it will be offset by the bequest to POV." Understanding the tax advantages of a bequest made Pendril even more inclined to leave something to POV. "If you are fond of POV and you want to see it continue into the future, then a bequest is a simple way to make a difference."

Donor Profile:

Barbara Foubister

The first opera Barbara Foubister attended was a performance of Tosca produced by POV: she was hooked! "I've always loved opera because it brings together acting, singing and orchestral music in a way that no other art form can," she says. She got a subscription to POV and there hasn't been one production that she didn't enjoy. "Victoria can be very proud to have POV," she declares. "It is as good as any opera anywhere in the world. Every year it gets better."



When POV advertised for a new Executive Assistant, Barbara knew this would be her dream job, so she applied and got the position. "What a way to end my working career . . . and I loved every part of it," she enthuses. "Everyone at POV has such a shared passion for the art form."

Barbara worked in fundraising most of her professional career. One of her jobs was the administration of estate gifts for a charity, so she knew about bequest giving and about the importance and joy of honouring people who intend to leave a gift in their will. "I was inspired to

leave a bequest so that POV would be around for the young people who are now so obviously interested in opera," she says. "And I would encourage anyone to do the same."

Barbara is single and feels that it makes sense to leave her estate to charity. "And POV is at the top of my list!" she declares. "Some people might think that a small bequest might not matter, but it does. If everyone gave a little, it would add up to a lot. Giving is not just for the wealthier patrons, it's for everyone."

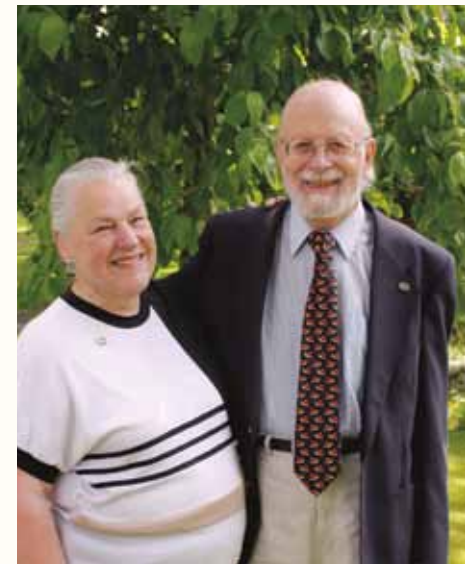
BARBARA FOUBISTER, JACKIE ADAMTHWAITE PHOTOGRAPHY

Donor Profile:

Joe and Linda Harvey

Linda and Joe Harvey wear their Bravo Society pins to every POV event they attend. "It's a wonderful idea to have a society to recognize people who have left a gift in their wills. We love the feeling of belonging to the POV donor family. People often ask about our Bravo Society pins and we are always delighted to share the meaning that they have for us," explains Linda.

Linda's love of opera began in the 40's when she and her Dad used to sit in the kitchen on Saturday afternoons listening to the Texaco Metropolitan Opera broadcasts. "It was such valuable time with my Dad. He loved opera and I began to listen as he listened, though it was years before I actually went to a live opera", she recalls. Joe got interested in opera because of Linda's passion for it and they started to listen to the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts together. Now, as regular POV subscribers, they both look forward to their nights out at the opera.



Joe and Linda met at Dalhousie University in Halifax, where he was a biology professor and plant geneticist and she was a librarian in the science libraries. They both worked full time all their lives. Now retired, they have achieved a modest but comfortable lifestyle. "We have no family to worry about and have never been big spenders, so it made sense to include a bequest to POV in our wills." Joe stresses the importance of their bequest being undesignated because they believe that the funds should go to whatever the organization needs at the time. "We want this wonderful opera company to keep going, so others can enjoy opera as much as we have."

JOE AND LINDA HARVEY, JACKIE ADAMTHWAITE PHOTOGRAPHY

Simple Steps to Making or Updating Your Will

1. Consult a lawyer who specializes in Wills and Estate Planning.
2. Decide who you would like to benefit from your estate – spouse, children, grandchildren, friends, charitable organizations. A charitable bequest can reduce the taxes payable by your estate.
3. Decide whether you would like to leave a specific amount or a percentage of the residue of your estate to each beneficiary.
4. In consultation with your lawyer and financial advisor, decide whether to give cash or other assets, such as property, proceeds of a RRSP, RRIF, or life insurance policy, or publicly-traded securities. These decisions can reduce the tax your estate has to pay. You may also consider making gifts outside your will to avoid the cost and delay of probate or to keep your gift private.
5. Choose an executor whose judgement you trust to make sure your estate is settled according to your wishes. Your executor can be a trusted family member, friend or professional advisor.
6. Talk to your family about your philanthropic intentions so they can understand and help you achieve your charitable goals.
7. If you are leaving a bequest to the POV Foundation, please let us know so we can ensure that your wishes will be fulfilled – and so we can honour and recognize your generosity now.
8. Keep your will in a safe place – in a vault at your lawyer's office, or in a safety deposit box or safe – and tell your executors where it can be found. Make at least one copy for yourself.
9. Review and update your will periodically to ensure it reflects your current wishes and any changes in your life, such as a marriage, divorce, death of a beneficiary, or birth of a child or grandchild, or a material change in your finances.



LA BOHÈME 2011, EMILY COOPER PHOTOGRAPHY



CINDERELLA 2010, EMILY COOPER PHOTOGRAPHY



MADAME BUTTERFLY 2008, EMILY COOPER PHOTOGRAPHY

Sample Bequest Language

The following are sample clauses for a will that you can use when discussing your estate plans with your lawyer.

For gift of all or share of the residue of your estate, for unrestricted use:

To pay the residue (OR _____% of the residue) of my estate to PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION of Victoria, British Columbia, charitable BN 11907 5554 RR0001, to be used for the area of greatest need as the POV Foundation Trustees in their absolute discretion decide.

For gift of all or a share of the residue of your estate, for restricted use:

To pay the residue (OR _____% of the residue) of my estate to PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION of Victoria, British Columbia, charitable BN 11907 5554 RR0001, to be used for the specific purpose of _____. If unforeseen circumstances make the specified use of this gift no longer practical or desirable, in the absolute discretion of the POV Foundation Trustees, this gift may be applied as the POV Foundation Trustees determine.

For gift of a stated amount, for unrestricted use:

To pay the sum of \$_____ in cash or appreciated securities to PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION of Victoria, British Columbia, charitable BN 11907 5554 RR0001, to be used for the area of greatest need as the POV Foundation Trustees in their absolute discretion decide.

For gift of a stated amount, for restricted use:

To pay the sum of \$_____ in cash or appreciated securities to PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION of Victoria, British Columbia, charitable BN 11907 5554 RR0001, to be used for the specific purpose of _____. If unforeseen circumstances make the specified use of this gift no longer practical or desirable, in the absolute discretion of the POV Foundation Trustees, this gift may be applied as the POV Foundation Trustees determine.

Note: Though we encourage donors to make bequests to the POV Foundation, you can also make your bequest directly to the Pacific Opera Victoria Association. Charitable BN: 11907 5547 RR0001



The Bravo Society

The Bravo Society was established to honour and recognize those individuals who have left a charitable gift to the POV Foundation or POV Association in their wills. The goals of the Bravo Society are to:

- Recognize, and celebrate during their lifetimes, the generous people who have left a charitable gift in their wills or who have made arrangements for some other type of future gift, such as life insurance or a trust arrangement.
- Honour the contributions of long-standing friends, supporters, partners, and patrons of Pacific Opera Victoria.

If you have left a gift in your will, or if you are just thinking about a future gift, please ask us about the Bravo Society.

If you would like to join the Bravo Society, please complete the form on the next page. All information is confidential. If you consent, your name will be listed in our house programmes with the Bravo Society Logo – **B**

Or you may choose to remain anonymous.

As a member of the Bravo Society, you will receive a Bravo Society membership pin, and you will be invited to our special Bravo Society celebrations.

Bravo Society Membership Form

Please complete this form and return to the POV office address at the back of this brochure. The information you provide will be held in strictest confidence. Your name will be listed as a Bravo Society member ONLY with your explicit consent, and no other information will be published.

I am pleased to accept membership in the Bravo Society on the following basis:

- I have included the POV Foundation or the POV Association in my will.
- I have included a copy of the portion of my will that pertains to my charitable bequest. (optional)
- I have named the POV Foundation or POV Association as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- I have arranged an annuity, trust or other residual interest gift.
- I am willing for my name to be listed as a member of the Bravo Society.
- My name (our names) should appear as follows:

- I wish to remain anonymous

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____



PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA FOUNDATION

If you have any questions about naming us in your will please contact the Director of Development.

All calls will be treated as confidential.

500 - 1815 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8T 5A4

Phone: (250) 382-1641 Fax: (250) 382- 4944

Email: development@pov.bc.ca

Please visit the following websites for more information.



LEAVE A LEGACY™

www.pov.bc.ca

www.leavealegacy.ca



EUGENE ONEGIN 2005.
DAVID COOPER PHOTOGRAPHY

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