

Hamilton Plans

... to benefit you and the College

Everyone Should Have a Will

Hamilton Plans

Please send me:

Information about the federal estate tax legislation as it becomes available.

The brochure, *Planning Your Will: Charitable Insights and Options*.

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail Address _____



Joel Bristol
Associates
of Hamilton College

Please advise the College if you have included Hamilton in your estate plan or completed a planned gift so you may be honored and recognized as a Joel Bristol Associate.

For more information about planned gifts at Hamilton, please go to www.hamilton.edu/PlanningYourGift, or call Ben Madonia '74 or Joni Chizzonite at 866-729-0317.

Hamilton Plans

The Current State of Affairs – Federal Estate Tax

The federal estate tax has been repealed for 2010. While everyone expects Congress to take action before this year is over, if it does not, there will be no federal estate tax or generation-skipping transfer tax on the estate of any individual who dies in 2010. The federal gift tax remains generally unchanged, although the maximum rate decreases from 45% to 35%.

This period of uncertainty may be the opportune time for you to review your estate planning documents with your legal counsel.

Next Steps:

- › Return the reply card to receive legislative updates.
- › Request the brochure, *Planning Your Will: Charitable Insights and Options*.
- › Check our Web site – Throughout 2010, Hamilton will provide timely legislative updates at www.hamilton.edu/PlanningYourGift.
- › Call Ben Madonia '74, director of planned giving, at 866-729-0317 or e-mail at bmadonia@hamilton.edu for additional information or legislative updates as they become available.
- › Advise us at www.hamilton.edu/WillSurvey if you have included Hamilton in your Will so you can be included in the Joel Bristol Associates.

A Gift for All Ages

“Thank you for the fountain of knowledge that drenched us,” noted Tim Hutchens '60 as he continued the family tradition of including the College in his Will. His father, John K. Hutchens '26, set the example with a bequest to Hamilton. And the legacy doesn't end there; John McCormick '92, Tim's nephew and John's grandson, recently reported that he plans to include Hamilton in his Will. Regardless of size or purpose, bequests to Hamilton — a tradition begun in 1842 by William H. Maynard — reflect gratitude and loyalty to the College as well as concern for its future strength. ■



Left to right, Tim Hutchens '60, John K. Hutchens '26 and John McCormick '92

I Want to Leave a Bequest

If you are having a Will prepared for the first time or revising your existing Will, you can easily add a provision for Hamilton to it. Your attorney can draft a Codicil (a supplement) to your existing Will that is otherwise satisfactory in all ways.

In either case, the suggested language is fairly straightforward:

“I give and bequeath to the Trustees of Hamilton College, an educational corporation established by law at Clinton, New York, (here follows the amount in dollars, the percentage of the residuary estate, or an accurate description of the securities, real estate or other property given), to be used for the general purposes of the College.”

Is it better to leave an amount in dollars or a percentage?

Personal finances change throughout one's lifetime. If you leave a percentage it will remain proportionately the same regardless of the total value of your assets.

What if I want my bequest to be designated for a specific purpose, for example, a scholarship?

You should contact us to discuss your desired purpose so we may provide the appropriate language and documentation.

Four Reasons to Have a Will

1. **Protect your assets for family and loved ones.**
An estate planning attorney can maximize the benefit your family and loved ones derive from your assets.
2. **Provide guidance so that your wishes are carried out.**
Your Will can be written in a manner that makes your specific desires clear, leaving no room for ambiguity.
3. **Appoint appropriate individuals to carry out your wishes.**
You can appoint a guardian for minor children and name an executor to administer your estate.
4. **Help others after your lifetime.**
By including charitable bequests you can help others while leaving a personal or family legacy.