A gift to help students “live the life”

In an appreciation for international experiences, confidence in the direction of Loyola University Chicago, and a passion for Italian culture inspired Ruthellyn (BA ’75) and Ron Musil to visit the John Felice Rome Center for the first time in 2008. Since then, the Musils have developed a strong relationship with the JFRC and decided to support its future with a bequest in their estate plans. “Although we did not study at the JFRC, we know it changes lives,” says Ruthellyn.

The Musils designated a substantial portion of their estate to fund student scholarships. That will allow students otherwise unable to attend the JFRC to have this rich experience by offsetting the cost of housing, tuition, and other expenses. In addition, the Musils’ gift will provide stipends for students to engage in experiential learning.

“In today’s world, true cultural understanding requires more than just visiting a foreign country; it requires ‘living the life,’” says Ruthellyn. “This means attempting to speak the language, being open to different political opinions, and learning about civilizations that predate American history by thousands of years.”

Ron and Ruthellyn own a home in Tuscany, where they spend several months each year and occasionally host students. They support and helped create a “Tuscan Weekend,” an immersion opportunity for students to learn Tuscan history while also sampling its savory delicacies.

Ready to help

When you have questions about making a gift to the John Felice Rome Center, the Gift Planning team is ready to answer them. Please call or write us. For more information, return the attached reply card to receive a complimentary copy of Loyola’s Planning Your Legacy, A Guide to Wills and Trusts.

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If we do encourages other people to do similar things... then we will have accomplished what we set out to do.”

–Ruthellyn (BA ’75) and Ron Musil

Generazione del Domani is published by the Office of Gift Planning at Loyola University Chicago on a periodic basis. This publication illustrates general concepts and ideas in tax and estate planning. The articles are not intended as legal services or advice. You should consult with competent tax and legal professionals as to the applicability of any items to your personal situation.

Generazione del Domani ... continued from cover

“Our hope is that the participants will experience and understand the richness of a simple culture that has endured for thousands of years,” says Ron.

The Musils hope other friends of the JFRC will consider making a similar gift, whether to support scholarships or the current renovation of the JFRC campus—all part of the Insieme per il futuro campaign.

In 2007, Ruthellyn retired after 36 years at the Tribune Company in Chicago. She serves on Loyola’s board of trustees and an advisory committee for the School of Communication. Ron retired as president of the Banta Book Group in 2003.

In retirement, Ron and Ruthellyn are enjoying the opportunity to give back. “If what we do encourages other people to do similar things, or to realize it’s even a possibility, then we will have accomplished what we set out to do.”

“The Musils created their legacy to support tomorrow’s Rome Center students. Contact us today to learn how you can create your own legacy of giving.
Your future gift can make a difference today

With a little planning and expert advice, you can maximize your gift to the JFRC and the Insieme campaign while also providing for your family and your financial well-being. Planned gifts can provide inheritances with tax savings for your loved ones, reduce your income tax, or allow you to avoid capital gains tax.

All planned gifts help the JFRC build a solid financial foundation for its future. Thoughtful planning allows you, your loved ones, and thousands of students at the John Felice Rome Center to get the most benefit from your generosity. Since planned gifts represent half of the Insieme campaign goal, you can make a significant difference with your future planned gift.

Making a memorial gift

Pay tribute to an important person in your life by making a memorial gift in his or her honor. By giving such a gift in your will or living trust, you can continue the legacy of a loved one and make a difference in the lives of people supported by a favorite charity receiving your gift.

Your memorial bequest can be made in the following ways:

- Make a cash gift in any amount
- Give a specific asset from your estate
- Make a gift of a percentage of your estate or trust
- Give from the residue of your estate or trust

Memorial gifts are a great way to let your loved ones know how important they are to you. The John Felice Rome Center is grateful to all who have chosen to remember a special person in this way.

Keep in mind the following points:

- A will can be drafted to reduce taxes for your family.
- A will can provide important assistance for your heirs, if they need help managing money, by setting up a trust in your will.
- A will lets you nominate an executor to manage your estate or a guardian for minors under your care.
- A will also empowers you to assist organizations that have enriched your life, like the Rome Center. You can leave a cash amount or a percentage of your estate to benefit future students.

Other options include:

- Residuary bequests. You can leave the Rome Center part or all of any amount remaining in your estate after all other bequests have been satisfied.
- "Tax-cursed" assets. You can leave bonds or retirement accounts to the Rome Center that would otherwise require income and estate taxes for other beneficiaries.
- Disclaimers. You can give an heir the right to "disclaim" (turn down) part or all of a bequest, which would then pass to the Rome Center.

Our Office of Gift Planning has many more creative ideas for establishing your legacy at the Rome Center. Just give us a call at 800.424.1513.

A recent survey* indicated that less than half of adult Americans have a will. For many alumni and friends, including a charitable bequest in a will is the simplest and best way to make a gift to the John Felice Rome Center. The lasting impact of bequests—both large and small—has helped shape what the Rome Center is today.

Here are some common misconceptions about making a will and the responses of estate planning professionals:

**MYTH:** I don’t own enough assets to justify having a will.

**FACT:** A will helps you avoid “intestacy”—state laws that divide up assets of people who pass without wills. A will lets you decide who gets what from your estate.

**MYTH:** Most of my important assets will pass under joint ownership.

**FACT:** Consider what would happen to your joint property if you and your co-owner passed within a short time of each other and neither had a will. A will allows you to plan for unexpected circumstances.

*This survey was conducted by telephone within the United States by Harris Interactive on behalf of lawyers.com (Martindale-Hubbell® lawyers.comSM from LexisNexis®) in March 2007.