

## *The Willows Society: Frequently Asked Questions*

---

### **What Is the Willows Society?**

Willow twigs were originally planted on Colby's old campus along the Kennebec River in memory of George Dana Boardman in 1823 by his classmates. These twigs grew into trees and became known as the Boardman Willows. With the campus move to Mayflower Hill, the Boardman Willows were transplanted to the shores of Johnson Pond. Today, the Willows Society honors Colby alumni, parents, and friends who have made special gifts to the College.

### **How Do I Join the Willows Society?**

All alumni, parents, and friends of the College can become members of the Willows Society by making a testamentary, or planned, gift.

#### Testamentary Gifts Include

- Bequests—Will, Estate, Living Trust, Codicil Provisions
- Beneficiary Designations
  - » Life Insurance
  - » Retirement Accounts—IRA, 401(k), 403(b), etc.
- P.O.D. Designations (payable on death)
  - » Savings Accounts
  - » Brokerage Accounts

#### Planned Gifts Include

- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Trusts
- Retained Life Estate (real estate)

### **What Else Do I Need to Know to Join?**

The College's legal name is:

The President and Trustees of Colby College. (We suggest including "in Waterville, Maine" to avoid confusion with other institutions.)

Tax ID # is:

01-0211497

### **Would It Be Helpful to Notify Colby About My Testamentary Provisions?**

Yes, it would be very helpful if you could provide documentation of your gift so the College can recognize your gift today and ensure that your intentions are honored in the future.

---

---

## **Does Colby Need a Copy of My Will, Estate Plan, or Beneficiary Designation?**

You can help ensure that your gift intentions are understood and can be fulfilled by providing the College with relevant portions of the provisions naming Colby in your testamentary documents. The College does not need a full copy of your will or trust, only a copy of the first page, signature page, and the language relating to your provision for Colby. Providing information about your life insurance or retirement account beneficiary designation ensures that the College will be prepared to receive your gift.

## **Will My Gift Count Toward Class or Overall Colby Goals?**

If you are 70 years old or older, or will be before the conclusion of your class's 50th anniversary program, your Willows Society gift will be recognized and counted toward class goals. If you have designated a portion of your residuary estate, your good faith estimate of the current value of the percentage is sufficient for counting purposes.

## **Can I Be an Anonymous Member of the Willows Society?**

Yes. Just let us know that you wish to be anonymous by checking the box on the documentation form.

## **How Do I Make a Current Planned Gift Such as a Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Trust, or Retained Life Estate?**

Contact Colby's gift planning officers to assist you. Based on your gift plans, we can prepare an illustration for you to consider for your financial and philanthropic planning.

## **Will Colby Work With My Advisors?**

Yes. Colby's gift planning officers are delighted to work with your advisors to fashion a gift plan that is tailored to your unique circumstances.

## **Whom Do I Contact Gift Planning at Colby?**

Colby College  
Office of Gift Planning  
4370 Mayflower Hill  
Waterville, ME 04901-8843

Telephone: 207-859-4370  
E-mail: [giftplanning@colby.edu](mailto:giftplanning@colby.edu)  
Fax: 207-859-4305

---