

## CAAC Endowment Funds can provide support for:

- Observatory operations
- Education outreach
- College scholarships
- Guest lecturers
- Meeting expenses
- Strategic initiatives



### A PROUD HISTORY

Established in 1954, the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club is the oldest, all volunteer, science oriented non-profit organization in the Greater Charlotte community.

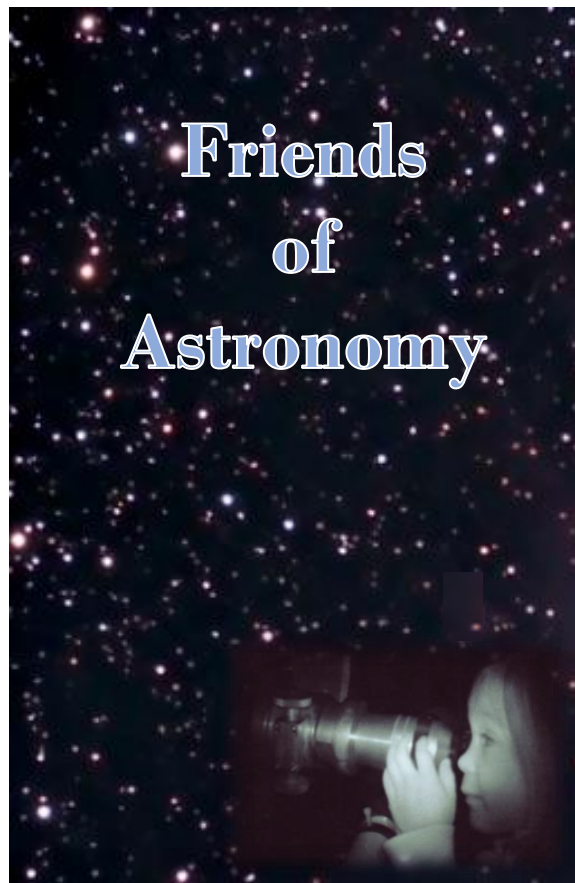
### AN IMPORTANT MISSION

The mission of the Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club is to share our passion for amateur astronomy with the community through education and public outreach while providing the highest value astronomy experience for our members.

It is through this sharing process that we will work to build a greater appreciation of the dark night sky that will help protect its natural beauty from the encroachment of artificial lighting.

*CAAC Stewardship Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina.*

*The Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club is a registered 501(c)(3), non-profit organization, incorporated in the State of North Carolina.*



*Astronomy compels the soul to look upwards  
and leads us from this world to another.  
~ Plato*

## What will be your Legacy ?



## Our Invitation to You

The Charlotte Amateur Astronomers Club members have a shared love of astronomy and the night sky.

Together we have a rich heritage of giving – our time, our talent, and our treasure – to support our shared pursuits and the greater community in which we live. Over our long history, your generosity has allowed us to continually improve the way we explore the heavens and share the visceral experience of stargazing with others.

We would like to ask you to thoughtfully consider becoming a part of the Friends of Astronomy and join the growing number of people who have made gifts to the **CAAC Endowment.**

*These statements are not intended to provide legal or financial advice. Please consult with your legal or financial advisor to find the most suitable gift arrangements for you.*

## The Work of the Endowment

The CAAC Endowment serves as an enduring source of funding for immediate and future needs of our club. Through the careful guidance of the **CAAC Stewardship Foundation**, these funds will grow over time to create a legacy of astronomical inquiry that extends the impact of your generosity beyond a lifetime.

The CAAC Stewardship Foundation is responsible for the management of the CAAC Endowment. It is a charitable, non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Any gift you make is tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. The Foundation's tax ID number is 83-1397476.

## Making A Contribution Is Simple

There are many different ways to make both immediate or future gifts to the CAAC Endowment. Your contributions not only support astronomy, but can also reduce your taxes.

## Gifts for the Present

### Cash

A gift of cash is simple, has immediate impact, and provides tax savings due to the charitable deduction that you can receive. The easiest way to make an outright gift is to write a check to the **CAAC Stewardship Foundation**.

### Matching Gifts

Matching gifts from your employer can double and sometimes triple the value of your gift to the CAAC Endowment and your support of the astronomical programs important to you. To find out whether your employer offers a matching charitable gift program, please contact your human resources officer.

### Qualified Charitable Distributions

If you are 70½ or older, you may make a tax-free gift directly from your IRA. That gift does **not** count as taxable income, but does count toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). This is a great way to direct your RMD to a good cause and to avoid the income tax normally incurred.

## Appreciated Assets

You can give appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds and receive an income tax deduction. In fact, there is a double tax benefit because neither you nor the CAAC Endowment is taxed on the capital gains of your appreciated assets.

## Gifts for Tomorrow

### Bequests

A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make. The following is sample language that can be used to include a planned gift to the CAAC Stewardship Foundation in your estate plan.

Always consult your attorney before executing a new will or other estate planning document.



*"Mother was thrilled and shared with her many friends her excitement of having the observatory dedicated to her. I was glad we were able to do this while she was still living." ~ Laurinda Queen Burlison  
CAAC Donor*

### Bequest of a Specific Dollar Amount

I hereby give, devise and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_ and <sup>No</sup>/<sub>100</sub> dollars (\$Dollars) to the CAAC Stewardship Foundation, a non-profit organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina and located in Charlotte, NC, Federal Tax ID #83-1397476, for CAAC Stewardship Foundation's general use and purpose.

### Contingent Bequest

If (primary beneficiary) does not survive me, then I hereby give, devise and bequeath to the CAAC Stewardship Foundation a non-profit organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina and located in Charlotte, NC, Federal Tax ID #83-1397476, for CAAC Stewardship Foundation's general use and purpose.

## Percentage Bequest

I hereby give, devise and bequeath \_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_\_%) of my total estate, determined as of the date of my death, to the CAAC Stewardship Foundation, a non-profit organized under the laws of the State of North Carolina and located in Charlotte, NC, Federal Tax ID #83-1397476, for CAAC Stewardship Foundation's general use and purpose.

## Retirement Plan Assets

Naming the CAAC Stewardship Foundation as a primary or contingent beneficiary of a retirement plan means income and estate taxes are not imposed when plan assets are distributed to the CAAC Endowment. If left to an heir, the assets can be subject to income tax.

## Life Insurance

If you retain any control over the policy, no income tax deduction is allowed; however, if the CAAC Stewardship Foundation is named both the sole owner and beneficiary of a policy, you may receive an immediate charitable deduction for the lesser of the policy's fair market value or the net premiums paid. Additional premiums that you pay may also be tax deductible.

For more information, visit:  
**[charlotteastronomers.org](http://charlotteastronomers.org)**  
and click on: **Endowment**