



BUILDING THE FUTURE



SUMMER 2025

The 'Empowering' Opportunity of Education

Leidy Perez Hernandez (University of California, Berkeley, 2026; College of Marin, 2024) is committed to “helping people realize the power their voice holds.” This is her story, told in her own words.

“The support from 10,000 Degrees was very meaningful in helping me achieve my A.A.T. in Economics, A.A. in Behavioral Sciences and Applied Accounting Certificate. As a first-generation, low-income, immigrant student, I have faced so many barriers navigating higher education on my own.

Having a 10,000 Degrees mentor constantly checking in with me and offering guidance truly made me feel supported and encouraged me to continue working on my goals. They helped me understand financial aid, apply for scholarships, update my resume and also wrote a letter of recommendation on my behalf for an amazing research program here at UC Berkeley.

Having someone believe in me and remind me that I belonged in college was very empowering. Not to mention that the 10,000 Degrees scholarship I receive every semester is crucial in my ability to afford a school life. Now at UC Berkeley, I continue to receive support from my 10,000 Degrees mentor—the program continues to be part of my journey.

Knowing I still have a support system that genuinely cares about my success keeps me motivated. Anytime I feel overwhelmed, 10,000 Degrees reminds me that I’m not doing this alone. Their support is helping me stay focused on my overall goal of graduating with my degree in Economics and preparing for law school. 10,000 Degrees reminds me of my commitment to give back to my community, like they’ve done for me.”



Leidy Perez Hernandez

Your choice to build a legacy with 10,000 Degrees will impact the lives of students like Leidy. Contact Caroline Silverstein at 415.451.4016 or csilverstein@10000degrees.org today to discover which beneficial giving options are best for you and your loved ones.

#HalfMyDAF Campaign Unlocks \$2.25M for Educational Equity

The #HalfMyDAF movement is back for 2025, offering \$2.25 million in matching funds to encourage donors to direct their donor-advised funds (DAFs) toward active philanthropy. With over \$250 billion currently sitting in DAFs across the country, this initiative aims to mobilize funds for nonprofits, including 10,000 Degrees, which supports low-income students in accessing higher education.

Maximizing Impact for Donors & Nonprofits

The #HalfMyDAF campaign provides a unique opportunity for DAF holders to make a greater impact:

- Those who commit to spending down half of their DAF by September 26, 2025, can have their grants randomly matched up to \$25,000.
- Any grant over \$250 qualifies for matching, making it an accessible giving opportunity.

Additionally, matching rounds will take place on June 27, 2025, and September 26, 2025, with eligible nonprofits receiving dollar-for-dollar matches of up to \$5,000. Four nonprofits will be awarded larger matches of \$25,000.

Supporting Education Equity

For organizations like 10,000 Degrees, which provides college access and success programs, #HalfMyDAF offers a critical funding opportunity.

“The #HalfMyDAF movement is a game-changer,” says Taye Doherty, Director of Philanthropic Giving at 10,000 Degrees. “It allows donors to amplify their impact, turning dormant funds into real opportunities for students who aspire to achieve a college education.”

How You Can Help

Now is the time for DAF holders to take action:

- Direct your giving to 10,000 Degrees and support student success.
- Encourage other DAF holders to participate.
- Learn more at halfmydaf.com.

Together, we can ensure every student has the opportunity to pursue higher education.





Do You Need a Trust?

Should you have a will? Absolutely. Should you also have a trust? Maybe.

A revocable trust, also known as a living trust, offers a more comprehensive approach to managing your assets during your lifetime and distributing them after your passing.

Reasons You May Want a Trust

- 1. Protect your privacy.** A will becomes a public record upon probate, which is a court-supervised process to administer an estate. Assets placed in trust, however, bypass probate. This allows you to keep your matters private.
- 2. Plan for incapacity.** You can appoint a successor trustee to step in and manage the trust on your behalf should you become unable to do so.
- 3. Ensure management of a complicated estate.** If you own complex assets or real estate in more than one state, a trust can help streamline the management and distribution of these assets.

What Should You Transfer Into a Trust?

Essentially, any asset that you want to protect, manage and distribute can be placed into a trust.

This could include real estate, bank or investment accounts, or business interests.

Who Manages the Trust?

A trustee is responsible for managing the trust assets. You can name yourself, a trusted friend or a financial institution as trustee.

Think a trust might be for you? If you would like personalized guidance setting up a trust, a qualified estate planning attorney can help.

Making a Gift to 10,000 Degrees Is Easy

In as little as one sentence, you can include a gift to 10,000 Degrees in your will or trust and make a long-lasting impact. We're happy to answer any questions you may have as you consider this impactful giving option. Contact Caroline Silverstein at 415.451.4016 or csilverstein@10000degrees.org today.

A Perfect Way You Can Honor Someone Special



On your life's journey, who has inspired you? Few of us find success and happiness on our own. We rely on the encouragement of others, including family, friends and mentors. Maybe some of these important people even connected you to the causes you cherish today, like 10,000 Degrees.

If someone in your life inspired your commitment to helping others, what better way to honor them than by attaching their name to something that will celebrate their legacy?

Create a tribute gift to 10,000 Degrees in your special person's name and you will:

1. Publicly honor the important role they played in your life
2. Help students from low-income backgrounds realize their full potential
3. Possibly enjoy tax benefits

You can give 10,000 Degrees a gift in someone's honor today or in the future.

- A gift today could fund our immediate needs or an upcoming project, giving you and your inspiration, if they are still living, a chance to see your generosity in action.
- Through a future gift, like one in your will or through a beneficiary designation, you can honor your inspiration without affecting your finances today.

Start Honoring Your Inspiration

Our guide, *Give From the Heart With a Tribute Gift*, shows you how to put your feelings of gratitude into action, providing details on many gift options you have. The guide even explains a way you can honor your special person forever! Request your FREE guide today to learn more. Simply complete and return the enclosed reply card.



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We are so grateful for your consideration to include 10,000 Degrees in your planned giving.



By making a gift in the name of a special person, you can create a lasting tribute that supports our work.

Why Choose a Legacy Gift?

When you support 10,000 Degrees with a gift in your will or living trust, or through a beneficiary designation, you join a visionary group of donors who have discovered the benefits of this type of giving. These benefits include:

- **Flexibility.** You are free to alter your plans at any time.
- **Versatility.** You can structure your gift in different ways: a specific amount of money, piece of property or percentage of your estate (to ensure that your gift remains proportionate to your estate size).
- **Safety.** You retain control over your assets should you need them during your lifetime. Also, with a gift of your estate residuary (what remains after individual gifts, taxes, debts and final expenses are satisfied), you can be sure that your loved ones receive what you intend before 10,000 Degrees receives a gift.

Getting Started

There are many ways you can remember a loved one. We would be happy to explore the options that can be most beneficial to you—and to discuss how your gift can preserve 10,000 Degrees' future. Please contact us today.



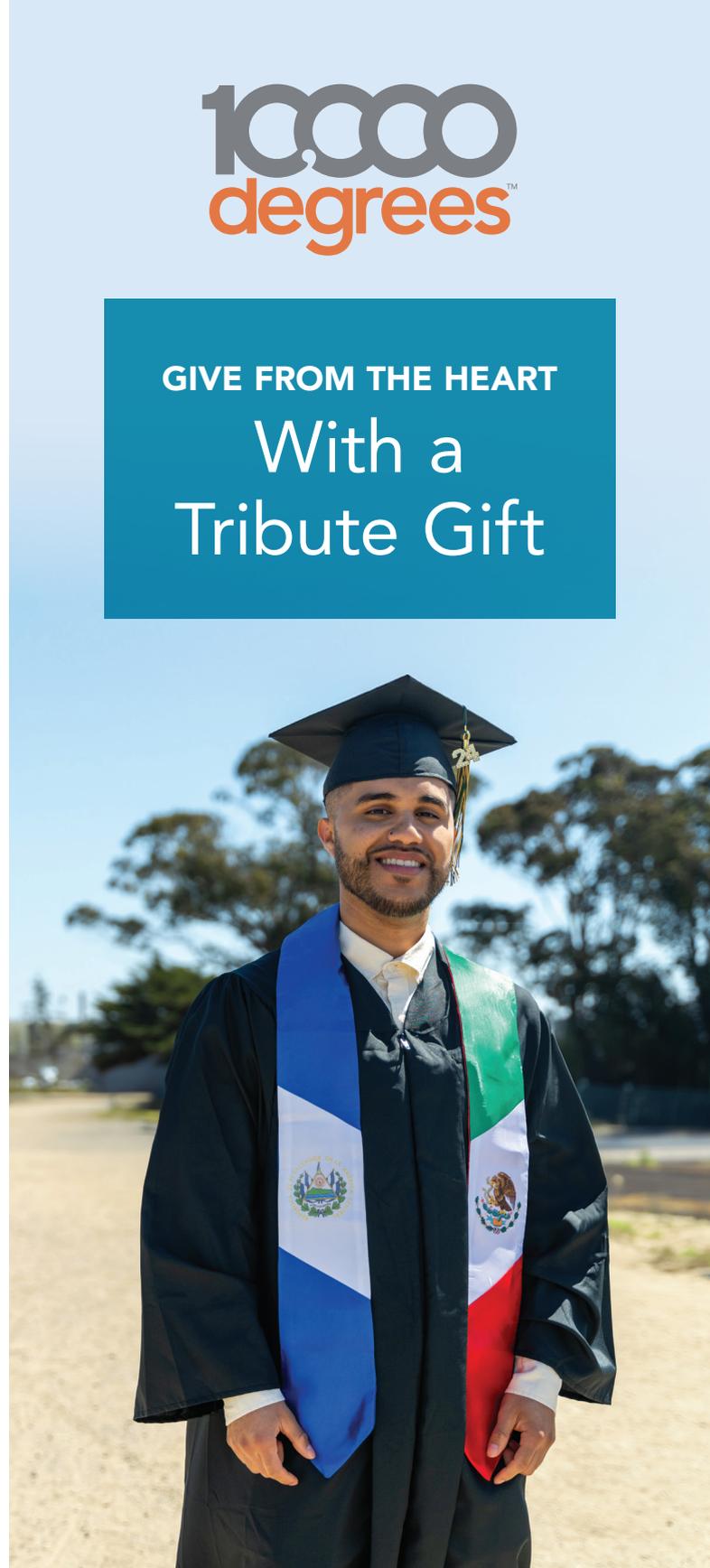
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GIVE FROM THE HEART
With a
Tribute Gift





Pay it Forward Scholarship and Legacy donors Karen Knudson & Terri Tachovsky with 10,000 Degrees student Lizbeth Garcia-Rogel (center)

Tribute Giving

The Perfect Way to Honor Someone Special

When someone extraordinary touches our lives, we look for ways to express the depth of our love, admiration and gratitude. A charitable gift in their honor is a meaningful way to celebrate them.

If an inspiring person whom you have always wanted to honor—such as your mother, father, spouse, mentor or other loved one—values the work of 10,000 Degrees, consider making a gift in their name. When you make a gift in honor or memory of someone, you create a lasting

tribute to that individual as well as a legacy that supports our mission for years to come.

A gift celebrating someone who has made a difference in your life will:

- Honor that special person.
- Support educational equity.
- Possibly provide financial benefits to you.

There are many ways to make a tribute gift that recognizes someone special. Here are the five most common types of gifts.

No matter the size of your gift, you can be certain your support will make a lasting impact.

Current, Outright Gifts

- 1. Cash.** The simplest way to make your gift is to write a check. By doing this you may be entitled to an income tax deduction.
- 2. Appreciated assets.** If you make an outright gift of an appreciated asset that you've owned longer than one year, you may be entitled to an income tax deduction for the full fair market value of the asset, while eliminating the capital gains tax on the asset's appreciation.

Future Gifts

- 3. A gift in your will or trust in honor of your loved one.** Your gift can be a specific amount, a percentage of your estate or the residue of your estate, which will pass to us after your lifetime.
- 4. Beneficiary designations on a variety of assets.** Retirement plan assets, life insurance policies, brokerage accounts and bank accounts are simple and worry-free ways to make a gift. Because retirement plan assets may be taxed heavily after your lifetime, naming 10,000 Degrees as the beneficiary is a popular option.

Gifts That Live On Forever

- 5. Honorary endowments.** With this powerful way to give, you make a gift now or through your estate plan. Endowments are structured so that a small portion of your gift, rather than the whole amount, is used each year to fund a particular purpose, with the balance invested for future growth. This helps ensure that the named fund will create a legacy in perpetuity. This also means that your loved one's name is forever associated with 10,000 Degrees' mission.



We're Here to Help

If you're looking for ideas on how to create the perfect gift, please give us a call. We'll be glad to help you find the best way to recognize your honoree.

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Yes! I Want to Make a Difference and Honor Someone Special.

- Please send me the FREE guide ***Give From the Heart With a Tribute Gift*** to help me create a lasting tribute to someone special.
- I have already chosen to help put higher education within reach for students by including 10,000 Degrees in my estate plan. Please send me the benefits of being welcomed to the Legacy Society.

**Thank you for transforming lives.
EVERY DEGREE matters.**

Name—Please print.

Telephone

Email

Address

City, State ZIP

We respect your privacy. Information collected here will not be shared outside of our organization without your permission.