

## A Brief History of El Rancho de las Golondrinas

People have lived in this idyllic little valley from prehistoric times until today, drawn by the presence of natural springs which formed the marshlands or cienegas, from which the region derives its name. Ancient inhabitants farmed the fertile valley, planted corn, beans and squash and hunted in the mountains and eastern plains. This life was irrevocably changed when the Spanish came to the region, led by Don Juan de Onate in 1598, and followed by the founding of Santa Fe by Don Pedro de Peralta.

In 1680, the Pueblo People successfully drove the Spanish from New Mexico. It was not until Don Diego de Vargas returned in the early 1690s that Spanish settlements were reestablished with permanent success in the Cienega valley.

El Rancho de las Golondrinas was an independent enterprise where the inhabitants raised or created almost all of the things they would need to survive. They harvested both corn and wheat that the mills would turn into flour. From their sheep they obtained the wool for cloth and clothing as well as meat. The fields were watered by the acequias (irrigation ditches) which are the same waterways seen throughout the Ranch today.

El Rancho de las Golondrinas was strategically located on the Camino Real, the Royal Road that extended from Mexico City to Santa Fe. The Ranch provided goods for trade and was a place where the caravans that plied the road would stop on their journey coming from or going to Santa Fe.

By 1821, the Santa Fe Trail was open for trade and more goods were carried down the Camino Real to the markets in Mexico. Again, El Rancho de las Golondrinas was important to this newly opened trade route. By the time the American Army of the West took possession of New Mexico in 1846, this area was enjoying relative prosperity. Eventually, the Ranch was forgotten, the land divided up and its history largely lost to time until a few visionaries saw it as a special place to explain a significant part of the past — that of Spanish life in Northern New Mexico.

Leonora Curtin Paloheimo, known for founding Santa Fe's Native Market, bought the Ranch property with her mother in 1932. After their marriage in 1946, Leonora and her Finnish husband, Yrjo Alfred (Y.A.) Paloheimo, saw the potential in the old Ranch as a site for an outdoor living history museum.

Both Leonora and Y.A. devoted themselves to transforming the property into a place where visitors could physically engage with the rich culture of the region and become immersed in the history of New Mexico. Existing historic buildings were restored, period structures were erected and historic buildings were brought in from other sites around New Mexico. The museum officially opened its doors in the spring of 1972 and since then has grown into New Mexico's premier living history museum. Today the museum promotes and preserves the Hispano heritage of Northern New Mexico, while at the same time building a better understanding of the lasting influence of Hispanics in the Southwest and the rest of the country.



 EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS

334 Los Pinos Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87507  
[www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org)



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Other credits needed?

# Plan Your Gift to El Rancho de las Golondrinas



 EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS



## Planned Giving to El Rancho de las Golondrinas

The mission of El Rancho de las Golondrinas is to “inspire learning and preserve the legacy of the land through encounters with the traditions and culture of New Mexico’s Hispano past.”

The goals of El Rancho de las Golondrinas are:

- To improve authenticity and quality of programming and education
- To assure stewardship of our site, buildings, collections and other natural and cultural resources
- To develop marketing and outreach that increases the museum’s audience at mission-centered events, supports fund development, and improves community engagement
- To strengthen governance and management to assure unity and operational excellence
- To increase funding to support our mission

### OUTRIGHT GIFTS

#### Gifts of Cash

A cash gift is an easy way to make a donation and can be made in a few different ways:

- *On-Line Donation:* A secure credit card donation can be made on-line by going to El Rancho de las Golondrinas home page at [www.golondrinas.org](http://www.golondrinas.org) then to the Support Section of the site and click on Planned Giving.
- *Send a Check:* If you prefer to send a cash donation, please mail your check, payable to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

#### Honorary or Memorial Gifts

A wonderful way of honoring a special person, loved one or organization is with a gift that allows you to publicly recognize them by having their name published in our newsletter. Our e-newsletter is published monthly and distributed to our Board members, staff, Los Amigos del Museo members and other donors. An acknowledgement of your gift can be sent both to you and the honoree or family of a deceased loved one.

Whichever method you choose to make your gift, you will receive a written acknowledgement for your donation. You are entitled to an income tax deduction for the gift in the year in which it is made. Please consult your financial advisor as to how the rules apply to you.

### CREATE A NAMED ENDOWMENT

You can create an endowment for children’s educational opportunities for grades K–8 by making a donation of cash or property.

### GIFTS OF SECURITIES AND OTHER APPRECIATED ASSETS

With a gift to El Rancho de las Golondrinas of stock, securities, or other appreciated assets, you may be able to gain additional tax advantages. You can avoid the potential capital gains tax liability that would result from the sale and be entitled to an income tax deduction for your gift.

With securities or other assets that have declined in value, it may be advantageous to sell them and donate the proceeds to El Rancho de las Golondrinas. The loss could be used to offset other capital gains and some ordinary income, thereby avoiding tax.

If you wish to transfer stock to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, we can provide you with a Stock Donation Form in advance of the transfer. Simply give your broker the form and tell him/her that you would like to make a stock gift to El Rancho de las Golondrinas.

Your gift will be acknowledged for income tax purposes. Of course, you should consult with your financial advisor as to how the above applies to your personal tax situation.

### PLANNED GIVING

A meaningful gift to El Rancho de las Golondrinas can be made with a planned or deferred gift that El Rancho de las Golondrinas would receive after your death. This type of gift is made through your will or trust instrument and includes gifts of life insurance proceeds, charitable gift annuities or charitable trusts.

The benefits of planned giving can include estate tax savings, income tax deductions and capital gains tax



consideration. Gifts of this type can protect your assets, while providing benefits to your heirs and possibly increasing your annual income. Your attorney or financial advisor can advise you which type of gift is the most beneficial for your personal situation.

### BEQUESTS

Another way to make a gift to El Rancho de las Golondrinas is by including a bequest in your will or trust instrument. The following is an example of the language you could add to your will or trust:

*I hereby give, devise and bequeath to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of New Mexico, located at 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) to be used for the general purposes of the organization.*

A bequest can help reduce the size of your taxable estate and also qualify for an estate tax charitable deduction as well as assisting El Rancho de las Golondrinas.

### LIFE INSURANCE

There are several benefits to donating a life insurance policy:

- Donate a paid-up policy. You may find you no longer need your life insurance policy because your financial circumstances have changed or you no longer have dependents. By naming El Rancho de las Golondrinas

as the beneficiary and/or transferring ownership of the policy to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, you can claim a charitable income tax deduction that is almost equal to the policy’s cash value.

- Donate a policy on which you are still paying premiums. Your charitable deduction is about equal to the cash value and future premium payments on the policy.
- Assign the dividends to El Rancho de las Golondrinas. By assigning the policy dividends, the value of the dividends becomes an annual donation, which is also tax deductible.

### CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Creating a Charitable Remainder Trust (“CRT”) can give you or a beneficiary an income either for life or a set number of years. The remainder or principal of the trust would go to El Rancho de las Golondrinas at the end of the trust term.

Selling assets that have appreciated significantly can create serious capital gains tax obligations, but a CRT may be able to eliminate them entirely. You can also claim an income tax deduction for the present value of the gift, thereby reducing your current income tax obligations. In addition, a CRT can provide an income for you or another beneficiary for life and can eliminate or reduce some probate expenses for the administration of your estate after your death.

### IRA ROLLOVERS

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows for tax-free distributions to non-profit charitable organizations from Individual Retirement Accounts (“IRA”). An IRA participant, aged 70½, can donate \$100,000 for each calendar year from an IRA account tax-free to qualifying charitable organizations. El Rancho de las Golondrinas is a qualifying non-profit organization and would welcome your IRA distribution.

Of course, you should consult with your financial advisor to review your IRA rollover options and what is most prudent for your personal situation.

For more information on gifts to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, please contact Kathryn Carey at 505-471-2261 or [kathryn@golondrinas.org](mailto:kathryn@golondrinas.org).