

Donor Bill of Rights

Lowell Observatory & Lowell Observatory Foundation

Since the dawn of time, human beings have looked into the heavens and questioned how the universe was formed and our relationship to it. For over 120 years, Lowell Observatory has endeavored to discover the answers and communicate that knowledge to the public.

Philanthropy to Lowell Observatory is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primarily intended to benefit our astronomical discoveries, outreach and education. To assure that philanthropy to Lowell Observatory and the Lowell Observatory Foundation merits the respect and the trust of the general public, and that donors can have full confidence in how their dollars are invested in the mission of Lowell Observatory, we declare that all donors have these rights:

- I. To be informed of Lowell Observatory's mission, of the way we intend to use donated resources, and of both Lowell Observatory's and Lowell Observatory Foundation's capacity to manage donations effectively for their intended purpose.
- II. To be informed of the identity of those serving on Lowell Observatory Foundation's Board of Trustees, and to expect the Observatory's Trustee and the Foundation Trustees to exercise prudent judgment in their stewardship responsibilities.
- III. To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt, truthful, and forthright answers.
- IV. To have access to Lowell Observatory's and Lowell Observatory Foundation's most recent financial statements
- V. To be assured that gifts to Lowell Observatory and the Lowell Observatory Foundation will be used for the purpose for which they were given.
- VI. To receive appropriate acknowledgement and recognition for their gifts.
- VII. To be assured that information about their donation is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by the law.
- VIII. To expect that all relationships with individuals representing the donor will be professional in nature.
- IX. To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of the observatory, or hired solicitors.
- X. To have the opportunity for their names to be deleted from any lists that Lowell Observatory or the Foundation may publish.




W. Lowell Putnam, Sole Trustee, Lowell Observatory

15 March 2016
Date




W. David Connell, Chair, Lowell Observatory Foundation

March 15, 2016
Date