The Institute for Advanced Study, a private, independent academic institution founded in 1930 and located in Princeton, New Jersey, exists to encourage and support curiosity-driven research in the sciences and humanities. Past Faculty have included Albert Einstein, who worked at the Institute from 1933 until his death in 1955, and distinguished scientists and scholars such as Kurt Gödel, J. Robert Oppenheimer, Erwin Panofsky, Homer A. Thompson, George Kennan, John von Neumann, Albert Hirschman, and Hermann Weyl.

The work of the Institute’s Faculty and Members has had permanent impact, in both intellectual and practical terms. At the beginning of computing, one of the first stored-program computers was designed and built on the Institute’s campus. Its structure (von Neumann architecture) has influenced the development of today’s computers and formed the mathematical basis for computer software.

The foundation of game theory, a powerful tool in economics, was formed in the School of Mathematics at the Institute, as was the basis of modern theoretical meteorology. Research in the School of Natural Sciences has greatly advanced particle physics, including string theory and astrophysics. Research in the School of Social Science has had wide-reaching impact on the field of global development. Books by Faculty in the School of Historical Studies have become key texts in a range of historical disciplines and, in particular, have made essential contributions to the establishment of art history as a discipline in the United States.
Join the Friends

Friends of the Institute for Advanced Study are partners in the advancement of research and scholarship at the highest level and, as such, are encouraged to participate in the intellectual and cultural life of the Institute. By accepting our invitation to become a Friend, you will have the opportunity to interact with Institute Faculty and Members, attend forums, lectures, concerts, family events, and films, receive Institute publications, and access our libraries and Dining Hall.

Our more than 6,000 former Members hold positions of intellectual and scientific leadership throughout the academic world. Thirty-three Nobel Laureates, and forty out of fifty-six Fields Medalists, as well as many winners of the Wolf and MacArthur prizes, have been affiliated with the Institute.

As a Friend, you participate in an exchange of immense value. Friends provide the Institute with significant discretionary income every year, supplying stipends for Members, matching funds necessary to secure grants from other sources, and contributing in many other estimable ways to the sustainability of our mission.

Become a Valued Partner

To become a Friend requires an annual contribution of $1,750 or more. Individuals who wish to become involved in a more substantial way with the intellectual work of the Institute can join the Founders’ Circle, with a gift of $25,000 or more. Friends who engage with the Institute at this level may name a Membership in a School of their choice for one year and will have an opportunity to meet the Member whom they are sponsoring at a personalized special event.

Other levels of participation include the Chairman’s Circle, with a yearly contribution of $10,000 or more; the Director’s Circle, with an annual gift of $5,000 or more; and the 25th Anniversary Circle, with an annual gift of $2,500 or more. Members of the Founders’, Chairman’s, and Director’s Circles are invited to special events hosted by the Director and may use Marquand House, the Institute’s guest house, for a private party. Founders’ and Chairman’s Circle members are also invited to join the Board of Trustees for a dinner with the Faculty in May.

Donors at the Circle level are also awarded a guest membership for a friend or colleague, who will be extended Friend privileges for one year.

“The Institute’s mission—to provide world class scholars with complete freedom to pursue fundamental, curiosity-driven research in science and the humanities—resonates deeply with us. We want to see this unique opportunity for scholars continue into the future, building on the Institute’s phenomenal success since its founding. Access to the Institute enriches our lives in many ways. There are frequent opportunities open to the Friends to participate in the life of the Institute, whether it be at formal lectures about scholarly research, informal lunches with Members in the dining hall, or the numerous social events organized by the Friends. The scholars in this community are very approachable and love to talk about their work, which is always interesting. It’s a terrific opportunity to engage the brightest minds of our generation.”

— Nora and Jack Kerr, Friends since 1998

For further information about the Friends, contact Pamela Hughes at 609.734.8204 or phughes@ias.edu and visit our website, www.ias.edu.