The Legacy Fund

Carrying forward the gifts of courage, action and commitment to the values of JAWS.

Sharing support and friendship across the generations is central to the power of JAWS. We have always known deep in mind and heart that when we share power, the power grows.

The Legacy Fund shares the power created in the past with the power we need to generate now. It underwrites special JAWS projects, speakers and events that advance inclusive journalism, education and leadership.
Honor a JAWS woman.

The foundational resources of the Legacy Fund build on the work of three committed women who acted on their beliefs.

Joan Cook was a New York Times reporter, Newspaper Guild leader, social justice champion and named plaintiff in Boylan et al v. the New York Times, the touchstone sex discrimination lawsuit against the Times.

Eileen Shanahan, a pioneering economics and women’s movement reporter, was also part of that New York Times suit. Her storied career as a reporter and editor was capped as founding editor of Governing magazine.

Kay Mills, a trailblazer in the generation after Cook and Shanahan, was the second woman on the Los Angeles Times editorial board, a teacher and scholar, and author of important books on civil rights, journalism and feminism.

They did not stand alone as exceptional JAWS leaders.

All JAWS members, our allies and friends have a JAWS woman—or more than one—whose work and life we would honor through the Legacy Fund. Think of making a gift to recognize her—for a milestone birthday, a professional anniversary, a major accomplishment or just because you want to honor her. JAWS will make your recognition public and put your gift to work.
Make the power of JAWS grow.

The Legacy Fund was launched by combining the Joan Cook endowment, which funded JAWS fellowships; the Eileen Shanahan Fund for exemplary JAWS conference speakers, and a bequest from Kay Mills. All three women were founding directors of JAWS.

Donations to the Legacy Fund honor women who led the way toward the JAWS goals of professional empowerment, personal growth and journalism that more accurately portrays the whole society. Legacy Fund projects will enable us to bring this message beyond JAWS CAMP to create new generations of journalists and leaders.

Donate to the Legacy Fund to honor a past or present member—or through a planned gift from your estate. If friends are donating in your honor, ask them to choose the Legacy Fund.

Share your power across the generations of JAWS with a Legacy gift.* The fund is dedicated. Its proceeds go for special projects, not toward general JAWS operations. Combined resources give your donation maximum impact.

JAWS women know that when we share power, the power grows.

To share yours through the Legacy Fund, make a designated donation by check or credit card. Online, go to www.jaws.org and click on Support JAWS.

*JAWS is a 501(c) (3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.