The Society for Encouraging Endowment

This society recognizes those individuals who ensure Bascom Palmer Eye Institute’s legacy by making the Institute a beneficiary of their estate or financial plans. Please let us know if you have included Bascom Palmer in your estate plans so we may recognize your investment in our future.

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*Irs Apfel may have just celebrated her 95th birthday, but the style icon shows no sign of slowing down. Whether it’s the recent launch of a new fashion line, starring in a documentary, or designing a unique line of eye frames, Iris is a force to be reckoned with. Along with the tremendous impact she has made in the fashion industry, Iris is also a champion for philanthropy. Iris and her late husband, Carl, along with Iris’s late mother, Sadie Barrel, have been supporters and special friends of Bascom Palmer Eye Institute for more than four decades. In 1993, the family established The Barrel/Apfel Annuity Trust Fund to benefit Bascom Palmer Eye Institute.

The generosity of Iris Apfel enables Bascom Palmer physicians and scientists to continue their work in assuring that more people continue to see and witness the beauty around them. Her support is a tribute to her family’s lifelong work in the appreciation of beauty and a shining example of their generous wish to share it with others.

Dr. Eduardo Alfonso with Iris and Carl Apfel at Bascom Palmer’s Evening of Vision Gala, 2013.