



Alfred Felton Bequest

Benefactor history - Alfred Felton: 1831 - 1904

“In world terms, Alfred Felton is truly one of the greatest art benefactors of the 20th Century”.

Sir Gustav Nossal

Alfred Felton was born in England and came to Australia in 1853. A partner in a highly successful pharmaceuticals importing and manufacturing firm, he also had several grazing interests in Victoria and NSW. Alfred Felton was very much one of the remarkable group of Melbourne merchants who dominated the economy of the Australian colonies in the decades after the gold rush.

Beneficiaries

As an avid art collector, Alfred Felton established half of his Bequest to purchase artworks for the National Gallery of Victoria. Suddenly the NGV gained acquisition funds greater than those of London’s National and Tate galleries combined.

The Felton Bequest has been responsible for establishing the National Gallery of Victoria as an institution housing a collection of international significance.

The other half of the Bequest distributes income to charitable organisations in Victoria, particularly those that benefit women and children.

Bequest achievements

The Bequest provides annual scholarship awards and a mentoring program to around 50 Koorie secondary students. The Bequest has provided significant support to the Mirabel Foundation which looks after children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use.

The Gallery’s print collection which was largely established by the Bequest features a 15th Century engraving ‘Primo Mobile’, the oldest print to be held in a public collection in Australia.

After 100 years of the Bequest, it is estimated that 80% of the finest artworks of the National Gallery of Victoria, valued at around \$1 billion, have been acquired by the Felton Bequest.

ANZ Trustees

We are specialists in providing full granting advisory services and specialist investment services to the charitable sector, with over 100 years of successfully managing funds for private charitable foundations and not-for-profit organisations. We currently manage over \$1.3 billion on behalf of charitable foundations, trusts and not-for-profits, with funds ranging in size from less than \$50,000 to over \$150 million.

Our focus is on growing funds that can be distributed to charitable organisations and community projects to support lasting positive social change. Whether you're an individual wanting to create a lasting legacy or a not-for-profit with a goal for the future, ANZ Trustees can help you bring your vision to life, through our investment approach, charitable services and unparalleled granting expertise.

ANZ Trustees is the trustee and provides governance, investment, and granting services for The Alfred Felton bequest.

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