

Rethinking Philanthropy and Your Passion to Give



“A philanthropist is anyone who gives anything — time, money, experience, skills, networks — in any amount to create a better world.”

- Laura Arrillaga-Andreessen

- Philanthropy is more than just money.
- Charity provides immediate relief from suffering. Charity is a social palliative.
- As opposed to charity, philanthropy is a proactive attempt to change systems and solve social problems by addressing their root causes. Philanthropy is a social corrective.
- Everyone has something to give.
- The only thing you need to be a philanthropist is generosity.

You have everything you need to start giving now!

Other Philanthropy Definitions

Etymology

From phil- “loving” and anthropos “mankind.”

c. 1600, from Late Latin and Greek philanthropia meaning “kindness, humanity, benevolence, love to mankind” (from gods, men, or things), and from philanthropos (adj.) “loving mankind, useful to man.”¹

From Merriam-Webster:

“The practice of giving money and time to help make life better for other people.”²

From Wikipedia:

“Instances of philanthropy commonly overlap with instances of charity, though not all charity is philanthropy, or vice versa. The difference commonly cited is that charity relieves the pains of social problems, whereas philanthropy attempts to solve these problems at their root causes (the difference between giving a hungry man a fish, and teaching him how to fish for himself).”³

¹“philanthropy.” *Online Etymology Dictionary*. Douglas Harper, Historian. 16 Sept. 2014. <<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/philanthropy>>.

²“Philanthropy.” *Miriam-Webster.com*. Miriam-Webster, n.d. 16 Sept. 2014. <<http://www.miriam-webster.com/dictionary/philanthropy>>.

³“Philanthropy.” *Wikipedia*. 16 Sept. 2014. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philanthropy>>.



reflect on your passion to give

How have you benefited from the generosity of others?

What experiences and values inform your passion to give? Are your motivations religious, familial, political, social, psychological, intellectual or based in something else entirely?

How do you define philanthropy?

What does philanthropic stewardship mean to you?



What are three causes or issues you are most passionate about? Are you currently giving to them?

What moves you in the world? What excites you? What upsets you? How can you take these emotional reactions and transform them into philanthropic action?

Why are you participating in #GivingTuesday?

What impact do you hope to have through your giving on #GivingTuesday? Be as specific as possible. The more specific you are with your goals, the easier it will be to learn from your gift and assess its impact.