The Art and Science of Donor Development
A Virtual and Distance Learning Experience

Connect your donors to the heart of philanthropy through the researched-based techniques you will discover at The Art and Science of Donor Development. This workshop will infuse your work with deeper meaning—both for you and your donors—as you explore the facets of a truly donor-centric approach to major gift fundraising. During this experience, you will learn how to facilitate engagement with your donors that leads to greater commitment to your organization’s priorities.

As a global leader in professional development education, Advancement Resources uses our research-based findings to uncover the threads that are woven into the art of major gift fundraising. Then, we translate those findings into the science of proven process concepts to bolster your important work.

Experience this dynamic, highly interactive virtual training from the comfort of your own home or the privacy of your office. Benefit from both the knowledge shared by our accomplished facilitators and the invigorating conversations with your fellow participants. And walk away with a toolkit for success in major gifts fundraising.

Who should attend:
• Major gifts professionals
• Development leaders
• Planned giving officers
• Other development professionals interested in expanding their major gifts mindset

What You Will Gain
After this workshop, you will be able to:
• Use the Donor Commitment Continuum and the Donor Development Chart to identify and grow the level of commitment donors have to your organization’s priorities, projects, and programs.
• Describe and implement the seven steps of the donor-centered Process for Facilitating Donor Development.
• Recognize the two primary motivators for contributions most meaningful to donors.
• Move donors beyond loyalty giving to drive larger and more meaningful, passion-based philanthropic investments (meaningful major gifts).
• Prioritize your donor portfolios based on the Priority Grid to determine who you should spend your time with, what to do with that time, and what questions to ask.
• Utilize a variety of methods to secure meetings with donors and potential major donors, including using value propositions and leveraging referrals/introductions.
• Describe a five-phase donor meeting process that leads to action.
• Craft and deliver an Organizational Update within a donor meeting that leads naturally to a philanthropic conversation.
• Conduct the Process for Locating Philanthropic Passion™ with donors to uncover deep-seated philanthropic passions related to the organization's priorities, projects, and programs.
• Work with colleagues to apply your learning to plan a strategy to advance donor relationships with the organization.
• Prepare for and invite financial commitment using a six-point outline.
• Recognize the three components of meaningful return on philanthropic investment from the donor’s perspective.

The Details
Designed to accommodate your schedule, this workshop is divided into five 2.5-hour sessions over a one-week period. Unlike other virtual training, this is not a pre-recorded webinar that you simply watch on-demand. Instead, our facilitators will actively engage you from start to finish through lively large- and small-group discussions, video case studies, activities based on scenarios commonly encountered by development professionals, and opportunities to plan strategy for achieving success in your important work. Our streamlined pre- and post-session assignments are designed to help you identify donors from your portfolio and optimize your time both in and out of our virtual classroom.

Our workshops are best experienced using the most recent Zoom™ app on a strong, consistent internet connection. Because of the interactive nature of the training, please plan to use a headset or earbuds with a microphone and/or speakers, and a keyboard.

Ongoing, On Demand Resources
Participation in The Art and Science of Donor Development includes a one-year subscription to myAR Plus—our premium online platform that provides resources for practicing and applying the concepts you will learn in the workshop. During your subscription, you will receive regular communications exploring myAR Plus topics and resources that are specifically designed for major gift professionals.

CFRE Credits
Completion of The Art and Science of Donor Development is applicable for 12.5 CFRE credits. Additional credits are available by requesting and completing a personalized program on the myAR Plus platform.