

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Writing is a solitary endeavor. Philosophy is conducted best through dialogue. Writing something philosophical therefore produces an interesting tension: the need to be alone alongside the need for intellectual company. I want to record my thanks to the many people who talked with me about the ideas in this book.

I have had the good fortune to work with some exceptional undergraduate and graduate students on various aspects of this project. I thank Emma Leeds Armstrong, Jess Asperger, Aysha Bagchi, Alyssa Battistoni, Nita Bhat, Marilee Coetsee, Hilary Cohen, Lacey Dorn, Jamie Doucette, Meredith Ely, Josh Freedman, Emily Gerth, Alec Hogan, Wouzbena Jifar, Katie Keller, Yoon Jee Kim, David Louk, Jenna Nicholas, Ramya Parthasarathy, Solveij Praxis, Ranjana Reddy, Priti Sanghani, Jessica Sequiera, Matt Smith, Julia Spiegel, Stefanie Sutton, and Tony Wang.

I am deeply grateful to the many friends and colleagues who discussed this project with me, who entertained and frequently criticized and improved my tentative ideas. The book could not have been written without Danielle Allen, Joanne Bar-kan, Eric Beerbohm, Alexander Berger, Lila Corwin Berman, Corey Brettschneider, Mark Brilliant, Phil Buchanan, David Callahan, Josh Cohen, Chiara Cordelli, Checker Finn, Archon Fung, Julia Galef, Kristin Goss, David Grusky, William Howell, Stanley Katz, Larry Kramer, David Laitin, Gara LaMarche,

Ted Lechterman, Jacob Levy, Steve Macedo, Ray Madoff, Johanna Mair, Alison McQueen, Maribel Morey, Josh Ober, Kieran Oberman, Timothy Ogden, Tomer Perry, Miranda Perry Fleischer, Jeff Raikes, Julie Rose, Jennifer Rubinstein, Debra Satz, Emma Saunders-Hastings, William Schambra, Melissa Schwartzberg, Gary Segura, Seana Shiffrin, Ben Soskis, Robert Taylor, Megan Tompkins-Stange, Susan Verducci, Jeremy Weinstein, and Leif Wenar. Special thanks to John Tomasi, who suggested the title.

Josh Cohen and Deb Chasman at *Boston Review* provided a venue for my early ideas about the role that private foundations play in a democratic society. Their editorial guidance was invaluable, and their assembly of respondents in the magazine's forum discussion stimulated a healthy debate that continues to shape my thinking.

I want particularly to thank my extraordinary colleagues at the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society (PACS), where many portions of this book were presented in draft form, including Woody Powell, Paul Brest, Lucy Bernholz, and Bruce Sievers. Special gratitude to Kim Meredith and Annie Rohan Wickert, whose tireless efforts to support the work of PACS made all of these conversations possible.

I shared an early version of the entire manuscript with Elizabeth Branch Dyson, whose astute comments vastly improved it. Two anonymous reviewers commissioned by Princeton University Press offered excellent suggestions as well.

Larissa MacFarquhar encouraged me to write in a way that would bring the ideas to an audience beyond other scholars and helped me see how I might do that. Henry Timms provided guidance about how to present these ideas to philanthropists and nonprofit leaders. Both read portions of the manuscript in its final stages, giving last-minute advice when I was so buried

in the details that I could no longer see what if anything was interesting about what I'd written.

This is a book that contains no shortage of criticism about philanthropy and the policies that shape it. It may seem surprising, then, for me to express thanks for the various forms of philanthropic support I received while writing this book. First and foremost, I am grateful to Stanford University, whose resources are provided in no small measure through generations of philanthropic gifts, for the intellectual setting in which all of the ideas expressed here were first born and sent out on toddler legs. Second, I am grateful for the support of various foundations and individuals whose gifts to the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society offered me a no-strings-attached opportunity to write about philanthropy, to present these ideas before audiences of nonprofit and philanthropic leaders, and funded our vibrant interdisciplinary community.

Rob Tempio at Princeton University Press was a model editor, and Joseph Dahm was an excellent copy editor.

My family has lived with this project for nearly a decade and heard me discuss the ideas more times than they care to admit. They have been my deepest source of support and confidence that I had something worth saying.

My grandmother, Marie Olszewski, was born in Germany in 1917, arrived in the United States in 1938 without the ability to speak a word of English. Her fierce and critical mind—as lively today as it ever has been—is the wellspring of my own questioning spirit. I dedicate this book to her with gratitude, admiration, and boundless love.

Portions of this book have appeared elsewhere, though I have significantly revised much of the older material. Thanks to the following for permissions. “A Failure of Philanthropy: American Charity Shortchanges the Poor, and Public Policy

Is Partly to Blame,” *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, Winter 2005, 24–33; “Philanthropy and Its Uneasy Relation to Equality,” in *Taking Philanthropy Seriously: Beyond Noble Intentions to Responsible Giving*, ed. William Damon and Susan Verducci (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006), 27–49; “Toward a Political Theory of Philanthropy,” in *Giving Well: The Ethics of Philanthropy*, ed. Patricia Illingworth, Thomas Pogge, and Leif Wenar (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011), 177–195; “Philanthropy and Caring for the Needs of Strangers,” *Social Research* 80 (2013): 517–538; “Repugnant to the Whole Idea of Democracy: On the Role of Foundations in Democratic Societies,” *PS: Political Science and Politics* 49 (2016): 466–471; “On the Role of Foundations in Democracies,” in *Philanthropy in Democratic Societies: History, Institutions, Values*, ed. Rob Reich, Chiara Cordelli, and Lucy Bernholz (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016), 64–81; “Philanthropy and Inter-generational Justice,” with Chiara Cordelli, in *Institutions for Future Generations*, ed. Iñigo González-Ricoy and Axel Gosseries (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 228–244.

JUST GIVING

