

Yale

Boston

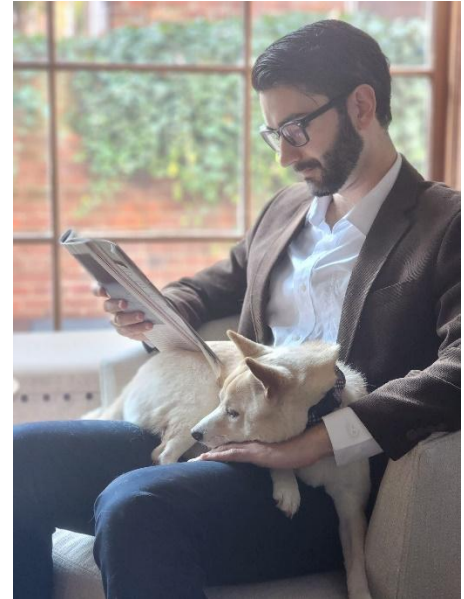


Annual Report | 2022

From the President

Dear friends,

Under any circumstances, it would be appropriate to acknowledge the honor it is to serve as president of this rich and storied club. This last year in particular, however, feels like something of a gift. My predecessor, Brian Hoefling ES'12, stewarded the club for four terms, including during the worst of the pandemic. We all know what it meant to step up and lead a community during those years; how many unprecedented questions one had to try to answer. By contrast, when I took office – timed conveniently after quarantine was collectively declared to be no longer *in vogue* – I was told that doing a good job was about making sure we got back to doing the things that we've always done. And now, before anyone has the chance to raise the bar, I'm declaring Mission Accomplished, throwing on a pair of aviators, stepping down after just one year, and retiring to a warmer climate.



For those who may not know, I've spent the better part of my term as president of YaleBoston...living in DC. Moving south was always part of our family's long-term plan, but fate conspired that it should happen much earlier than anticipated. The leadership of the club was accommodating, with the understanding that I would make the effort to be present in Boston for as many club activities as I could manage. Suffice it to say, this has been a banner year for accumulating frequent flier miles. It turned out to be a less awkward arrangement than one might expect, but certainly not ideal. Much as we might like to think that we are all citizens of an increasingly connected world, when it comes to managing the activities of an alumni club *tied explicitly to a geographic location*, it helps to have one's own boots on the ground, so to speak. And so, it is only fitting that I not seek a second term as club president. This group deserves someone who is as committed to Boston as they are to the Yale community. It is time we finally put to bed the incessant comparisons between the Yale Club of Boston and the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman.

All joking aside, I am proud of what this club has accomplished over the past year despite my remote leadership. We have indeed brought back our calendar of tentpole activities, and we have added over 120 members to our ranks since this time last year. We have affirmed our commitment to providing unique benefits to our members, including discounted pricing on nearly every paid event, and making our Club Anniversary Dinner an elegant, member-centric experience. The club is in such a position of financial strength, we have moved forward with creating an endowment fund in which to invest club dues revenue, so that we can further

ensure our own financial stability and provide future generations of YaleBoston members with even more subsidized benefits.

What the last year has borne out is this: the club has been on an upward trajectory since 2018. The pandemic was but a temporary stifling of that growth. If anything, our membership seems more engaged than ever before, having learned not to take for granted the value of a community they can engage with face-to-face. We are led by an enthusiastic board, representing a diversity of perspectives and professional backgrounds. Our committees are staffed with volunteers eager to contribute to the club's mission of fostering connections, serving the community, and keeping alive the Yale spirit. I owe the success of the past year to the tremendous leaders by whom I am surrounded.

I'll close my first and last letter as president with an anecdote. Following our Anniversary Dinner in January, a few attendees and I ended up sharing a Mory's cup at an informal after-party. I was taken aback when several younger alumni remarked that this was the first cup they'd ever been served. The pandemic has reduced the practice to the stuff of legend for the most recent crop of Yalies. It was painful to reckon with the fact that such a long-standing tradition – a beloved touchstone of my time at Yale – had been absent for a student generation. The seasons come, the seasons go. But this feeling of irretrievable loss was soon replaced by an uplifting observation: here they were, having gone out of their way to attend a YaleBoston event, and not one explicitly geared towards young people at that. The pandemic had not shaken their desire to commune with other Yalies, despite their actual Yale experience having been profoundly restrained. Perhaps like the Long Cheer, the traditions that we all hold dear will eventually become quaint relics, but the need to keep the company of the thoughtful, the intelligent, the driven, the somewhat eccentric – in short, the Yalie – has proved unsuppressable, immune to the vicissitudes of time.

Crisis did not destroy us. We have weathered the storm, and this society of friends sails ever onward. I'm grateful to have served at the helm, even if briefly.

Boola Boola,

Alexander Michaud DC'17

President

2022-2023 Leadership

Officers:

President: Alexander Michaud DC'17 (president@yaleboston.org)

Vice President: Nickolaus Groh SOM'13 (vp@yaleboston.org)

Secretary: Iman Sakkaf BR'11 (secretary@yaleboston.org)

Treasurer: Jessica Miles GRD'17 (treasurer@yaleboston.org)

Directors (by term expiration):

June 30, 2023

Robert Allison MC'67
Thomas Carey TC'69
Frederick Isbell ES'82
Gregory Kennan TD'76
Jessica Miles GRD'17

June 30, 2024

Caroline Dewing SM'12
Nickolaus Groh SOM'13
Brian Hofling ES'12
Iman Sakkaf BR'11
Andrea Zurita SOM'10

June 30, 2025

Yuri Cataldo DRA'08
Alexander Michaud DC'17
Carolyn Yao ENG'88

Committee Chairs:

Events Committee: Brian Hoefling and Fred Isbell, Co-Chairs
(events@yaleboston.org)

Communications Committee: Alexander Michaud, Chair
(communications@yaleboston.org)

Finance and Audit Committee: Jessica Miles, Chair
(treasurer@yaleboston.org)

Leadership Committee: Jessica Miles, Chair
(leadership@yaleboston.org)

Membership Committee: Robert Allison, Chair
(membership@yaleboston.org)

Outreach Committee: Gregory Kennan, Chair
(outreach@yaleboston.org)

Service Committee: Caroline Dewing and Julia Travers, Co-Chairs
(service@yaleboston.org)

Young Alumni Committee: Will Sussman, Chair
(youngalumni@yaleboston.org)

Committee Reports

Events

2022 will be remembered as the year the Yale Club returned fully to a pre-COVID calendar of events, concluding a long period of cautious reemergence into the physical world. The beginning of the year looked similar to 2021, with our main activities being our regular online events: the monthly Second Thursdays happy hours and the weekly French tables. Through the winter and spring, we dipped our toe in the waters of normality with a ticket block for the Boston Modern Orchestra Project's "Pulling Out All the Stops," featuring Yale School of Music alumnus Paul Jacobs; and collaborated with the Boston chapter of Yale Blue Green on a talk by Eric Fine FES'16 about the research of the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication.

The return to form really kicked off in June, with our first in-person annual meeting in three years. The guest of honor was American hero Lt. Col. Enoch "Woody" Woodhouse II BK'52. Woody shared stories from his days with the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, as well as his experience as one of the only African American students at Yale in his day. He expressed his optimism for the future, and encouraged us to be the best versions of whoever we are. After Woody's talk, he was nominated for honorary lifetime membership by the Membership Committee's ranking member present, Jessica Miles GRD'17, and approved by enthusiastic acclamation.

From that point on, we had hit our stride. The summer saw us make our usual pilgrimage to Fenway Park, and triumphantly return the Summer Barbecue, one of the the YaleBoston calendar's traditional seasonal tentpole events, to its rightful place in July (having been held in October the previous year, as we attempted to dodge surges in COVID variants). And although this report concerns events in 2022, I can confirm that this positive trend has continued – with the return of Feb Club Emeritus and the Anniversary Dinner in 2023, we have officially brought back all of our signature annual events from before the pandemic!

We attempted our first in-person happy hour in September. In October, we hosted Lorem Aminathia TD'15 for a conversation

about his work to create a world-class K-12 academy in South Sudan, his home country, which gained independence the same year he arrived at Yale. We also had a very well attended welcome-to-Boston event at the Night Shift Brewing beer garden on the Esplanade. Although this is a normal feature of the Yale Club's annual calendar, it had special significance this year, as we were able to connect – often for the first time – with many people who had graduated or moved to the area during the pandemic and had not yet been fully able to participate in the life of this community.

And in November, The Game came roaring back, and the Yale Club hosted its first tailgate at Harvard Stadium since 2016 (The Game having been at Fenway Park in 2018), as well as our customary night-before get-together (subject to some venue hiccoughs this year) and day-of viewing party in Cambridge. This was a massive undertaking, more substantial even than in ordinary years because of how long it had been since the last one, and how many of the most knowledgeable volunteers had moved on in the meantime. In some respects, we were rebuilding the event from the ground up, and coping with much, much higher costs than in previous years. A great deal of gratitude is due to the volunteers who made it happen; to the alumni who bore with us through price revisions and logistical complications; to the YAA for providing a cash subsidy, staff members from New Haven to assist us, and tables upon tables of merchandise; and to Brookline Bank for coming through with an 11th-hour subsidy (arranged with the help of a Yale parent!) and asking for very little in return. It was a phenomenal event in the end, and we are very much looking forward to having a year off before we host The Game again!

Service

As we eased out of the pandemic, the 2022 Yale Day of Service saw dozens of Yalies volunteering at eight events throughout Massachusetts in April and May. We helped prepare and deliver boxes of supplies to make memorable birthdays for children in need; we put on our boots and gloves to clean up the Emerald Necklace and got into kayaks to remove rubbish from the Charles River; we worked alongside the Red Cross to install smoke detectors and fire alarms in at-risk communities; we worked at Drumlin and Lexington Community Farms; and we prepared meals for individuals and families experiencing illness or nutrition insecurity in Jamaica Plain. Our partnership with the Y2Y Shelter in Harvard Square continued throughout the year, with Yalies taking shifts serving dinner to homeless young adults. It has been a big year for our Service Committee and all Yalies who came together to support and

improve our local communities. Keep an eye out for our 2023 Yale Day of Service events!

Communications

The club continues to be reaping the benefits of our new online system. As of February 2022, all members from our previous platform had cycled through their transition membership tier, and the majority of them were successful in registering for recurring membership plans. Our membership numbers continue to climb as a result – we crossed 250 members just before the end of 2022. We also added a social media-savvy volunteer, whose Instagram campaigns around the Welcome Event and the Tailgate were instrumental in driving attendance with younger alumni.

Outreach

Our primary activities during 2022 were continued operation of the Yale Book Award program and assumption of responsibility for the Community Service Fellowship program.

First and foremost, the Club wishes to commend and thank Greg Rutan [class, year] for his many years of service in charge of the CSF program. Working behind the scenes and without calling attention to himself, Greg for many years maintained our very successful activities. His stewardship has set us up for continued success in the future. Many thanks, Greg!

Largely through the efforts of former President Brian Hoefling ES '12, the Club will offer the fellowships yet again in 2023. Further, we have regularized the process and will be able to continue smoothly in coming years.

In another loss, Yuri Cataldo DRA'08 stepped down as Outreach Committee Chair. Thanks to Yuri and Club Administrator Ruth Bardos, the Book Award kept up its record of past success. As of the end of 2022, some 120 high schools participate. Many thanks to you, too, Yuri!

In 2022, we began a process of recruiting high schools in the former Worcester Club area to join the Book Award program, with much preliminary success. We plan to continue these efforts in 2023.

Profits and Losses 2022

For period running from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Income

Book Awards 2022	2,329.49
Community Service Fellowships	194.57
Total Contributions	1,626.46
Dues	12,210.95
Dues and Contributions	2601.91
Event Receipts	
Annual Meeting 2022	613.43
2021 Graduate Celebration	1,000.00
Conversation with Lorem Aminathia	154.05
Red Sox Game	866.50
Summer BBQ	1,556.67
Tailgate	28,451.15
Welcome Event	2,499.73
Total Events Receipts	35,141.53

Total Income

\$54,104.91

Yale Merchandise

667.50

Gross Profit

\$54,772.41

Expenses

Book Awards 2022	2,429.76
2021 Graduate Celebration	760.80
Red Sox Game	925.00
Summer BBQ	1649.90
Tailgate	33,768.40
Welcome Event	2460.00
Total Events Expense	39,564.10

Office

Bank Service Charges	2,189.16
Bardos	3,742.50
Fees	520.05
Internet	270.00
Telephone	428.42
Total Office	7,150.13

Total Expenses

\$50,133.87

Net Income

\$4,638.54

Other Local Groups Serving Yale Alumni

Association of Asian American Yale Alumni Boston Chapter - aaaya.org/contact

Yale Alumni Nonprofit Alliance New England Chapter -
newengland@yalenonprofitalliance.org

Yale Black Alumni Association - ybaacommunications@gmail.com

Yale Blue Green Boston Chapter - ybgboston@gmail.com

Yale Jewish Alumni Association (Non-Regional) - yjaa18@gmail.com

Yale Veterans Association Boston Chapter - yalevetsboston@gmail.com

YaleWomen Boston Chapter - boston@yalewomen.org

Yale Club of Cape Cod - yaleclubofcapecod@gmail.com

Yale Club of New Hampshire - yaleclubofnh@gmail.com



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