

Yale

BOSTON

YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF BOSTON

Annual Report 2016



Dear Boston-area Alumni and Friends,

In so many ways, 2016 was a momentous year for YaleBoston and our alumni community. Some of the highlights (many described further in this newsletter) are:

- We were honored to have Yale President Peter Salovey join us for our 150th anniversary celebration on the very same date (January 29th) and in the very same place (the Parker House) as our founding in 1866.
- We became a registered 501(c)(3) in February, so member contributions are now tax-deductible.
- We were honored to have Yale's "First Lady" Marta Moret speak about her "Life in Community Health Promotion" at our annual meeting last May.
- We revised our bylaws so they not only reflect what we actually do but also the framework we'd like to use going forward as we think about how best to strengthen and ensure the sustainability of YaleBoston. The revised bylaws were approved by our members at our annual meeting in May, 2016.
- We were recognized by the AYA as the Outstanding Major City of the Year in November.
- And, last but not least, after a long and painful drought, we won The Game!

But we aren't resting on our laurels. We're working hard to become even more relevant to the Boston-area Yale community. To that end:

- We were delighted to welcome Weili Cheng, '77, the new executive director of the AYA, as our annual meeting (April 3rd) speaker this year.
- We're working on a strategic plan, reflecting member input, to guide our direction in the years to come. We particularly want to ensure that we're delivering programming that appeals to **all** members of the alumni community, attracts new volunteer leaders, *and* puts YaleBoston on a solid financial footing.
- We're working on strengthening and modernizing our infrastructure to make it easier for our members to interact with us and one another.

We couldn't accomplish any of this without your ongoing input, participation, and support. And so, I wish you heartfelt thanks for the role you play in building a strong, vibrant, Boston-area Yale community!

Warmly,

Jennifer Madar SM '88
YaleBoston Board President, 2015 - 2017

The Yale Alumni Association of Boston

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The Yale Alumni Association of Boston [a 501(c)(3) organization] is a venerable institution, its roots dating back 150 years to Boston's post-Civil War recovery in 1866. These first meetings at the Parker House on Tremont street were celebrated last year at our 150th Anniversary Gala.

It has existed continuously since, ultimately serving Yale alumni in Boston and Cambridge and then all of eastern Massachusetts, connecting them with Yale and with each other and providing opportunities and experiences made possible by this Yale community.

We are governed and energized by a board of directors and its officers, committee chairs and members, and a diverse cohort of volunteers. Because we are Yale's third largest alumni chapter, the AYA assigns us a staff member (Johnson Flucker) to keep us abreast of the campus's events and interests and to respond to ours. We attempt periodically to report to our region's alumni by summarizing our activities and initiatives, accounting for the revenues and expenses of our events, reporting our operating expenses, overhead, and the like, as well as acknowledging and celebrating the gifts we receive for the Yale Scholarship Trust and our Yale Community Service Fellowships.

We urge all our alumni to support our efforts by attending many events, sharing in our outreach and other volunteer activities (including interviewing Yale applicants in the face of dauntingly low national acceptance rates), contributing financially to allow us to meet our overhead expenses, and in as many other ways as Yale's highly talented and alarmingly imaginative alumni can invent.

Yale 2016 Event Summary

By Murray Wheeler, '62

As one of the oldest, largest, and most active Yale Clubs in the world, YaleBoston is a true manifestation of what we tell new admits to Yale College who are agonizing through the process of deciding whether or not to accept Yale's invitation to attend: that Yale is truly a lifelong experience. One can join friends, new and old, for a Yale-related event somewhere in Greater Boston at least weekly, virtually year-round.

With over eight thousand Yale degree holders in eastern Massachusetts, nearly any activity one can think of will find an audience. Not to compete with offerings promoted in the public media, we stick largely to happenings with a Yale connection.

As you will have seen elsewhere in this newsletter, we support Yale teams in a dozen sports who come up to combat Harvard. Yale a cappella groups and the Glee Club visit regularly. Yale grads show art, discuss their books, dance, do theater, even teach us how to mix good drinks—and help us drink them! Women of Yale have regular dinners and lectures. The School of Management holds monthly entrepreneurial breakfasts.

YaleBoston hosts a welcome event in the fall for new arrivals. We have a presence at the Head of the Charles regatta. We host a plethora of events around the Yale-Harvard football game. Grads host an annual Holiday party with former Whiffenpoofs and guests navigating Christmas carols. We arrange guided tours of Boston's world class museums. This year, we hosted a unique six-day tour of Revolutionary War sites (with another coming this year). We treated ourselves to an elegant dinner dance at the historic Parker House Hotel on the 150th birthday of our founding, and we continued the tradition of the annual Feb Club party at a downtown night club. Several hundred grads volunteered at a dozen nonprofit sites for the Yale Day of Service. Well over a hundred area grads and visiting undergrads partied at a mid-summer barbecue! We hosted, housed, and feted half a dozen undergrads for the summer while they worked at area nonprofits.

The list goes on. Another great year for YaleBoston with surely many more to come!

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More to Come: Our Very First Boston Revolutionary War Tour

by Karen Bellinger, '91



Most of the Tour Group Together

Over a long weekend last September, YaleBoston debuted “Reconsidering Revolutionary Boston,” a four-day, three-night Yale Educational Travel tour to probe beyond the traditional “top-down” narratives of the transformation of English subjects to Americans in and around colonial-era Boston. And the discussions and companionship among the fourteen alumni from the classes of 1945 to 1991 were as exciting as the learning.

Led by YaleBoston Board Member and historical archaeologist Karen Bellinger (Yale '91) in partnership with [Jake Ruddiman](#) of Wake Forest University (Yale PhD '12), the program combined lectures, group discussions, and visits to historic sites and museums in Lexington, Concord, Boston, and Charlestown.

Yale's Day of Service, 2016

by Julia Travers Rickert
'97, '05 MBA

For almost a decade, Yale alumni in the Boston area and around the world have been gathering in May to serve their communities and connect with each other.



Last May, 146 individuals participated in the Yale Day of Service 2016 at twelve sites across greater Boston. Volunteers pulled mustard weed, catalogued books, painted flower pots, planted vegetables, donated books, conducted mock interviews, registered voters, and provided food to the hungry. For many, it was one day of many volunteering for an organization to which they are deeply connected. For others, it was a first day of service kicking off a longer-term relationship with a local nonprofit. And for all, it was a unique way to connect with friends, old and new, in service to a greater purpose.

Yale Alumna, co-leader of Yale Blue-Green Boston and Volunteer Coordinator at the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, Ellen Arnstein reflects on her experience leading and volunteering with the Yale Day of Service: “The Emerald Necklace Conservancy’s longest relationship with a volunteer group is with Yale alumni! We’ve been together since the very beginning and hope that Yale has been able to see the progress of Olmsted Park. This year we’re starting a new restoration project in coordination with the Department of Conservation and Recreation and YDOS legwork will give us a head start.”



YaleWomen

The seeds for YaleWomen were planted during the 2001 conference co-hosted by AYA and the Women Faculty Forum, “Gender Matters: Women and Yale in its Third Century.” The roots took hold during the 2010 celebration of the 40th anniversary of the coeducation of Yale College and the 140th anniversary of the Graduate & Professional Schools. During the course of our first five years, YaleWomen continues to grow and bring its vision—“Connecting Women, Igniting Ideas, Transforming the World”—to life through:

- *Resources that connect Yale women of all Yale classes and schools*, including our [website](#), quarterly [e-newsletter](#), and social media channels.
- *A robust array of [chapters](#) around the world*. Currently, we have 20+ chapters—from New York and Washington, DC to London, from Los Angeles and Northern California to Hong Kong—that offer alums the opportunity to connect with one another around themes and activities they value.
- *Game-changing conversations that inspire*, including our 2013 inaugural global conference, “[Vision, Values, Voice: Women Changing a Changing World](#),” which won the AYA’s Outstanding SIG Event Award, and our 2014 symposium, co-sponsored with the Yale Women Faculty Forum, “[Gender Rules: Conversations about Access, Outcome, and Equality](#),” which won the AYA’s Outstanding Student Engagement Award.

YaleWomen’s FY16 highlights included:

- The inaugural, “[Confidence When it Counts: Rise Above Self Criticism and Bias](#).”
- The inaugural YaleWomen Award for Excellence presentation, “Women’s Voices on the World Stage.”
- In conjunction with local chapters, our panel discussions, “Women on Corporate Boards” and “Not Just Studies of Mice and Men: Research Advancing Women’s Health,” featuring work of the Women’s Health Research at Yale program.

In Boston, YaleWomen collaborated with partners, including YaleBoston, SOMAA-Boston, YBAA-Boston, and Boston Yale Entrepreneur’s Breakfast in hosting “Authors and Agents: How to Publish Your Book,” and YaleBoston and SOMAA-Boston to host “Women in Charge: Closing the Gender Gap in Leadership.” A sneak preview of FY17 highlights an event that was to have been held in April 2016 but was moved to September 2016—“Women on Corporate Boards” panel discussion. Nearly sixty alums attended, ranging from the class of 1971 (the first class of women to graduate from Yale College) through the recent class of 2016!



Young Alumni

By Caroline Dewing, '12

This past year was another busy one for the YaleBoston’s Young Alumni Committee, engaging the existing community and welcoming new faces. Our events and activities help alumni from the last ten graduating classes to meet each other, try new things, feel the Yale spirit, and get to know the Boston area.

We introduced several new events this year, including a visit to the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site and a series of mixers with alumni of other Ivies. Meanwhile, the Night at Fenway Park, Eli Yale’s Birthday Party, and the Holiday Happy Hour at Yvonne’s have become annual traditions, alongside the full weekend of celebrations for The Game (and what a Game it was!). And there’s just as much, if not more, in store for the coming months!

Want to play a bigger role in our young alumni activities? Have an idea for an event? Or just want to meet other young alumni? Email Caroline Dewing (caroline@dewing5.net) or Brian Hoefling (brian.hoefling@gmail.com) to get involved!



2016 SOMAA Boston Chapter Activities

By Ryck Lent, MBA '90

The year 2016 was an eventful and event-filled year for the Yale School of Management Alumni Association's Boston Chapter. Local alumni with support from SOM in New Haven and YaleBoston together presented twenty-three well-attended events and hosted six bi-monthly Boston Chapter planning meetings—a chapter record!

Our two biggest events were “Boardroom Tales—The Who, What, and How of Corporate Board Membership” on April 26th and the record-breaking October 14th “Old City, New Ideas: Will GE's Move to Boston Catalyze Further Growth?” lunch-and-learn Q&A panel discussion.

“Boardroom Tales” featured four leading local CEO's and directors on a panel moderated by Boston Chapter chair Tom Meyer '98 and hosted by BNY Mellon Wealth Management. The questions, answers and insights shared gave the 40+ Yale alumni and guests attending a first-hand view into the roles and responsibilities of corporate boards and a few cautionary tales about boardroom conflicts.

The “Old City, New Ideas” lunch-and-learn featured SOM's Senior Associate Dean for Leadership Studies Jeffrey Sonnenfeld moderating a panel of Boston leaders: Karen Firestone (Aureus Asset Management), Josh Bekenstein '80 BA (Bain Capital), Michelle Wu (Boston City Council President), Henry McCance '64 BA (Greylock Partners) and Ann Klee, President of the GE Foundation on GE's move to Boston and its impact on the company, the city and the region.

The Chapter also presented eleven monthly Boston Yale Entrepreneur's Breakfasts in Belmont, Somerville, and Cambridge with total attendance of over 125 for the year. Other chapter-supported events included:

- Winter, summer and fall Happy Hours
- SOM Dean Emeritus Jeffery Garten's Boston book tour stop
- SOM Dean David Bach's Master Class on “Management Beyond the Market”
- The Summer Halloween Family Outing (co-sponsored with YaleBoston)
- Community Consulting Team's two Recruiting Nights
- Two Yale vs Harvard Business Case Pitch-Offs in April and November. *NEWS FLASH* Yale teams competing in Cambridge won the 2nd Pitch-Off and a football game the same week
- December's "Libertarian Gun Control & Voluntary Taxation" with Law & SOM Professor Ian Ayres

At year-end, the chapter board also undertook a leadership transition, with Tom Meyer stepping down as chair. Greg Collins '89 took over as chair for 2017 with Stephen Kelleher '99 as co-chair and Ryck Lent '90 continuing as secretary and communications manager.



Tom Meyer introducing Jeff Sonnenfeld



Dean Jeffrey Sonnenfeld putting questions to the panelists



Event leader Tanya Chermak welcoming the audience and the panelists



GE Panel: (l-r) Henry McCance '64 BA, Ann Klee, Michelle Wu, Josh Bekenstein'80 B.A., Karen Firestone

Our 150th Anniversary Gala

By Brian Hoefling, '12

YaleBoston celebrated its 150th Anniversary in 2016 with a full calendar of commemorative events throughout the year. The launching point to this special year, however, was a gala dinner on our actual birthday held at the Parker House where our alumni group was founded. President Salovey joined us for a reception beforehand, addressing a crowd of some 250 alumni.

The spirit of celebration stayed with us throughout the year, infusing all our annual events and inspiring our first-ever historical tour in September—and, we like to think, spurring the Bulldogs to *a sweet, sweet* victory in November.

We'll be enjoying the rich harvest of our anniversary for years to come. The birthday dinner has become an annual tradition, albeit on a smaller scale. We've published YaleBoston's first history (copies of which are available at this year's annual meeting), produced a line of commemorative jewelry, and, at long last, acquired our own toasting cup. All these bear the seal revived for the anniversary and now firmly established as a symbol of our rich history. It can still be seen on our old clubhouse on Derne Street.

With Musical Pleasures Rife

by Linus Travers '58 '59 MAT

YaleBoston sponsors and includes in its events calendar myriad musical events each year—choral, a cappella, instrumental, and theatrical—thanks to a host of graduate and undergraduate musicians who come here to perform and perhaps even stay.

This musical year began in January with a rare Boston performance by the Yale Glee Club at Boston University's Marsh Chapel, joined by a cappella group Redhot & Blue and Boston area singers from the Yale Alumni Chorus who were part of YaleBoston's celebration of its 150th anniversary.

The Whiffenpoofs of 2017 appeared with the Boston Saengerfest Men's Chorus at Wellesley High School a week later, part of an annual focus on men's voice choruses. Redhot & Blue entertained in Woburn, as well. Another premiere a cappella group, Shades, brought their incomparable sound to Brockton's Fuller Museum in February.

August brought Yale's all-cello pop band Low Strung to the Harvard Club, a new sound from what most assume to be a formal, even restrained instrument. Strummed, plucked, and bowed—a dizzying exploration of new wines in old wineskins.



The Whiffenpoofs, 2016

With Musical Pleasures Rife (continued)

The “new” Whiffs of 2017 performed in Wareham and Falmouth before Labor Day, while a group of “Classic Whiffs,” singers mostly from the mid-1960’s and led by Al Rossiter ‘64, brought their annual gathering to the Cape as well, holding a successful fund-raising concert for the Osterville Library. Meanwhile, Sonia (Senkiwsky) Giandomenico '78 and “Sestre,” a group of Yale Slavic Chorus alumnae, performed at the Roslindale Porch Fest for their annual summer’s end celebration.

Harvard-Yale Weekend brought the Yale Glee Club back, this time for their traditional performance with Harvard’s choristers; the Whiffs and Whim ‘n Rhythm joined their Harvard counterparts as well. The Whiffs kicked off the weekend with a concert in Chestnut Hill, and our musical year ended in December with the 12th annual Holiday Sing-Along at the home of Kathy and Glenn Murphy in Chestnut Hill.

A full musical year it has been—and another’s on its way. Vocal music, both choral and a cappella, comprise a large portion of YaleBoston’s offerings. We’d welcome happily more news of instrumental-orchestral performances, as well as jazz, folk, and other musical experiences to share with our YaleBoston constituency. Keep us in *your* loop!



The all-cello pop band, Low Strung

YaleBoston Needs Your Support!

YaleBoston delivers over seventy events a year to eastern Massachusetts Yale alumni, providing educational, career and networking, young alumni, and celebratory events as well support for the college’s area sporting events and singing groups.

We need your help to maintain these opportunities for Yalies to get together and continue their personal growth while enhancing their relationship to Yale. Please consider:

- Volunteering your time (contact Jim Fisher at JEP3052@gmail.com).
- Becoming a contributing member [501(c)(3)] by [joining online](#).
 - Providing a generous [tax free contribution](#).

Please take a moment to consider what you can do to keep our association going—and make it better!

Treasurer's Financial Guidance

by John Pattillo

YaleBoston has been going through a transitional period over the last several years, moving from a traditional "club" with dues paying members to a more open structure that encourages engagement and participation from a broad range of alumni from all schools within Yale University. This has placed a greater reliance on event revenues, contributions, and fundraising to support our activities.

YaleBoston experienced much higher expenditures in 2016 as a result of the 150th anniversary of our founding. Our activities during the year resulted in a deficit of \$6,300 which was funded from reserves. To address this deficit and to avoid future shortfalls, the Board has put in place plans to create a more sustainable financial future. These include event pricing that reflects our overhead costs, educational fundraising events such as the Revolutionary War Tour, appropriate sponsorships, and planning for a capital campaign to establish meaningful reserve funds.

We look forward to sharing this planning process with you over the next year.

Financial Overview Calendar Year 2016

Revenue

Membership Contributions	\$6,560
Event revenues	\$100,065
Miscellaneous Income	\$495

Total Revenues	\$107,120
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Expenses

Club Administration	
Website/Part time staff	\$10,300
Credit card and bank fees	\$2,410
Board Expense	\$1,440
Telephone and postage	\$795
Miscellaneous	\$325

Subtotal	\$15,270
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Cost of Events	\$98,150
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Total Expenses	\$113,420
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Net income	(\$6,300)
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