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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Important '71 Updates! | Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser](http://go.pardot.com/webmail/885143/41654222/26bb853477989f93ce60c00ea3fedd0f5ecf1dc31b437d60de76d876c50a3e66). | | | |  | | --- | |  | | | |  | | --- | | https://ecp.yusercontent.com/mail?url=http%3A%2F%2Fgo.pardot.com%2Fl%2F885143%2F2021-03-02%2F362pf%2F885143%2F1614701850FzitnkSz%2Fmayalin_neilson_plan.png&t=1616173242&ymreqid=ff41198c-867e-3535-1c80-16000001a900&sig=SGwMumMIc.a2FhWsUv2OmQ--~D | | **Spring 2021 Class Newsletter**  **Message From the Class Presidents**  **TEASER:   What is 329?   What is 478?   What is $803,596 What is June 3-6?**  Before sharing our class news, we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the media spotlight on Smith as the college continues to reckon with pushback by a former employee about its efforts to address issues of systemic racism. The story would not have gained such attention if it were not a microcosm of the tensions in our society at large as we begin to do the difficult work of dismantling a legacy of racial inequity and injustice. If you have not had an opportunity to read President McCartney’s responses to the situation you can read it here - [Reflecting On Recent Events](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/-on-recent-events-march-3-2021/3b343/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE)  Several houses have set up zoom calls to discuss the situation. We are happy to facilitate zoom calls organized by house, major or geographic area, just reach out to us.    Several people have asked about an in person gathering in June 2021 now that we are beginning to get vaccinated. However, in our communications with the College working to facilitate an in-person gathering in 2022, we reached an agreement that the reunion in June 2021 would be virtual only. The College and Alumnae Relations will then work with our class to try to facilitate an in-person gathering subsequent to the virtual reunion. There are many factors beyond our class that need to be considered before anything in person can be planned. Some of the criteria include following Massachusetts rules for in person gatherings; working fairly with all classes celebrating milestone reunions and classes that missed them last year; keeping students on campus and providing the Class of 2021 with a graduation, etc. It’s not just about us.   So please be patient and stay tuned for more information later in the year about in-person gatherings. Based on the data we are getting from the class, not everyone is vaccinated nor will they be this spring. As a supplement to our virtual reunion, we urge you to consider having in person gatherings in your local or regional area where you can meet outside and stay socially distanced if need be. If anyone would like to host a gathering, we can help you with a list of classmates in your “designated” area. Could be to watch the Virtual reunion together. Could be an opportunity to generate enthusiasm beforehand.      Please know that we realize that we can’t please everyone with our Virtual 50th reunion plans. But we can assure you that we have listened to all the suggestions and incorporated as many as we can. Our leadership team has worked very hard on your behalf and on behalf of the College. Please support their work: read your reunion book; come to the virtual reunion; donate to Smith; volunteer to become a class officer or committee chair to carry our class forward to our in person gathering in 2022 (fingers crossed it will happen) and our 55th reunion in 2026.   As we write this in mid-March of 2021, so many things are uncertain but Smith has been a shared experience for us all.   With warm best wishes to you all, [Cheryl](mailto:cheryl.lewy@gmail.com) and [Pinki](mailto:cfontein2@comcast.net" \t "_blank) Class Co-Presidents | | **Reunion Update**  Virtual 50th Reunion June 3 – 6, 2021  Though we’re disappointed that Smith can’t host large physical gatherings until the COVID -19 pandemic is under control, we’ll celebrate nonetheless, from wherever we call home.  The Office of Alumnae Relations says Virtual Reunion will feature a core program schedule of stimulating live and recorded talks by our distinguished faculty, administration, Smith staff and student leaders; a digital parade; and a live class-specific virtual program for every class celebrating a reunion. See [Virtual Reunion 2021](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/s-reunion-virtual-reunion-2021/3b345/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE).  Our dedicated Class of 1971 programming will have opportunities for conversations and live interactions with classmates. Watch for updates about discussion topics and how to register for them. If you’d like to facilitate a small discussion, please let [Sarah Peskin](mailto:smpeskin@aol.com) know!   Also let us know what topics you would like us to cover if we can. We can create our own sessions for sharing before, during or after the official virtual reunion  We’ve also arranged for you to watch a special PBS broadcast of Gloria: A Life, the play by Emily Mann, recorded live on Broadway, and to participate in our own Talking Circle which is Act II of the play, led by Emily herself.   For more information, go to our [50th Reunion](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/smithcms-1971-/3b347/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) page and follow our [Smith ‘71 Facebook](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/groups-1152048401655559/3b349/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) page.  [Sarah Peskin](mailto:smpeskin@aol.com) Reunion Chair | | **50th Reunion Book**  Thanks everyone for submitting your stories for our **50th Reunion Book**, a highlight of our celebration. Your response has been phenomenal and we’ve received 329 individual submissions! These will appear in the book along with your photos and much more. The Book Team is pleased to announce that the publication will be sent to all classmates for whom they have mailing addresses – currently 478 of us – and will include entries from quite a few classmates who left Smith to become the first women undergraduates when a number of peer institutions went coed.  With the book team hard at work proofing stories, selecting photos and laying out pages, our 50th Reunion Book will soon be going to press. Your entries - 329 of them! - coupled with stories of campus events that defined our four years have created a remarkable story of who we were and who we are. Generous funding from a cohort of classmates has supplemented the original budget, making it possible for every classmate for whom we have an address to receive this book as a gift. Watch for yours coming in May!  [Margery Goldman](mailto:margeryjanegoldman@gmail.com)  [Sandy Cate](mailto:scate@ix.netcom.com) 50th Reunion Book | | **Call for Class Notes**  How did the virtual 50th feel to you? Send us your thoughts and updates right after our virtual reunion (June 3 to 6) on June 7, which is an extended deadline. This will appear in the Fall Issue of the *Smith Alumnae Quarterly.*   [Jan Fullgraf Golann](mailto:j.f.golann@gmail.com) [Karen Rohn Osar](mailto:karenosar@gmail.com) Class Co-Secretaries | | **Fundraising Update**  Great news! Our House Fund Reps have been working hard to reach out to all of their housemates, and we are closing in on our $1 million goal for the Class of ’71 Endowed Scholarship! Our total now stands at $803,596. Thanks to all who have made gifts to the scholarship—you are amazing!  Do not miss the spotlight article in the Spring Smith Alumnae Quarterly on the Class of 1971 scholarship: [Milestone class support scholarship](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/n-classes-support-scholarships/3b34c/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE). It captures the spirit of Deb Lans’s foundational gift and our class’s effort to build on that foundation to create a fund that will help send young women to Smith for generations to come.   Our giving participation rate of 42 percent is good, but we still have a way to go.  We need 100 more donors to reach our goal of 71 percent. Those of you who normally give in the spring, now’s the time to act.  Give to the Smith Fund to support current scholarship needs or to our Class Endowed Scholarship to fund future needs at [Make a Gift](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/campaigns-15111-donations-new/3b34f/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) or call 800.241.2056 Option 1. While you are at it, pledge to make the same gift for the next five years, and the total amount of the five-year pledge will count in our 50th Reunion Class gift. Email your pledge commitment to our Milestone Reunion liason Jodi Fallon Fern at [jfallonfern@smith.edu](mailto:jfallonfern@smith.edu).  Looking for tax savvy ways to give or to increase the impact of your gift? Explore creative gift giving at our [Ways to Give](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/g-to-smith-50th-reunion-giving/3b34h/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) page. Your annual required minimum distribution (RMD) from an IRA is a handy resource for making a 50th Reunion gift that is greater than you routinely give. Ask your traditional IRA administrator to send a portion of your RMD to Smith, indicate any designation and avoid income tax on that amount.    On behalf of the whole House Fund Rep Team, thank you for stepping up for Smith students of today and tomorrow.  [Angelica Didier Light](mailto:angelica.light@gmail.com) [Suzy Ross McDowell](mailto:smcdowell@steptoe.com) [Deb Lans](mailto:dlans@cohenlans.com) [Kathy Kelly Spear](mailto:kkspear@gmail.com)   [​​​​​​](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/campaigns-15111-donations-new/3b34f/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) | | **Planned Giving**  As you consider your 50th Reunion giving, don’t forget about planned gifts. There are three frequently used techniques that are all or partly deferred until your death, that may provide significant tax benefits to you or to your estate and beneficiaries, and that will be very meaningful to Smith AND that will “count” toward our Reunion goals.  First, of course, you can make a provision in your Will to benefit Smith, and your estate (depending on size and other terms) will enjoy a charitable deduction. If the intended gift exceeds $10,000, 50% of it will “count” toward our 50th Reunion goals if documented and, in addition, will allow Smith to consider your intentions in its planning.  Second, you can name Smith as beneficiary in whole or part of your retirement plan on your death. Whereas the plan assets will be taxable in your estate if the proceeds are payable to the estate (or likewise to your beneficiaries if directed to them), and therefore might be diminished in value significantly, if you name Smith as beneficiary, the monies pass without tax. **Again, if documented and in excess of $10,000, a designation will be counted to the extent of 50% toward our goals.**  Finally, you can today create a charitable gift annuity with Smith. This can be funded with cash, stock, or even real estate, with different tax benefits. In a nutshell you receive a charitable deduction, Smith receives the amount of your contribution on your death and you receive income – calculated at a favorable rate (currently 4.8% for a 71-year-old) compared to current interest rates – during your lifetime.  The income is partially tax-free. You may also elect to defer the income to a later date, which increases your rate of income. Here too, your CGA gift counts toward our goals.  A Will or retirement plan donation allow you complete flexibility in dealing with your assets during your lifetime, and a CGA provides an income flow during your life – all while helping to assure that the many benefits of a Smith education will continue to be available for future generations. I hope you’ll consider them in making your Reunion giving plans.    [Sam Samuels](mailto:ssamuels@smith.edu) can help you understand these opportunities further and implement them, and he and any of your giving team (Angelica, Suzy, Kathy and I) would be happy to do so as well. You can also read more at [Smith College Planned Giving](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/2021-03-18/3b34k/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE).  [Deb Lans](mailto:dlans@cohenlans.com) Planned Giving Chair ​ | | **Class Spotlight: Elections for Officers 2021-2026 & Neilson Video**  The election of class officers has shifted online encouraging increased participation and making the process more inclusive. Class elections for the 55th reunion cycle will occur in June 2021 following virtual reunion. A call for nominations will then be followed by online voting.   Class officer roles are President, Reunion Chair, Fund Team Coordinator, Secretary, Treasure, and Web Chair/Digital Media Coordinator. [See descriptions for each role here.](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/mith-alumnae-relations-classes/3b34m/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) Feel free to reach out to any of the existing volunteers to learn more.  Please consider volunteering for our wonderful class—it’s a great way to connect with old acquaintances, make new friends, and stay involved with Smith. Interested but concerned about time commitment, consider a co-chairing to share the responsibilities!  If you missed the exciting news about the library please see the New York Times article on Maya Lyn’s renovation of Neilson Library [here](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/smith-college-daniel-wolf-html/3b34p/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE). Be sure to take a [virtual tour](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/watch-v-HLmuKqRBN6M/3b34r/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) of Neilson also! | | **Keep in Touch & Stay Informed**   * + Visit [Stay at Home with Smith](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/-giving-news-staying-connected/3b34t/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) for the latest campus news   + [Alumnae Directory](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/alumnae-login/3b34w/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) (password protected)—find alumnae and update your profile   + [Update your contact information](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/-relations-update-your-address/3b34y/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE)   + Follow Smith on [Twitter](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/smithcollege-lang-en/3b351/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE), [Facebook](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/smithcollege-/3b353/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE" \t "_blank), and [Instagram](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/smithcollege--hl-en/3b355/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE" \t "_blank)   + Access every issue of the [*Smith Alumnae Quarterly*](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/archive--p1-45764/3b357/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE)*,* going back to 1909, on the *SAQ* digital archive   + View past issues of [Notes from Paradise](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/dia-media-notes-from-paradise-/3b359/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE)   + [Be A Friend](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/friends/3b35c/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) (of the Libraries, Botanic Garden, Athletics, or Museum of Art)   + [Volunteer for Admissions](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/unteer-get-involved-admission-/3b35f/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE)   + Join a [Smith Club](http://go.pardot.com/e/885143/-clubs-clubs-groups/3b35h/41654222?h=TiKKNlykrJTkgzWDIJjFvw5gPQ0RMvhBWbXimgt1CCE) in your area | | **Class Volunteers**  Class Co-President: [Carol Pinki Fontein](mailto:cfontein2@comcast.net) Class Co-President: [Cheryl Winter Lewy](mailto:cheryl.lewy@gmail.com) Vice President/Reunion Chair: [Sarah Peskin](mailto:smpeskin@aol.com) Fund Team Co-Chair:  [Angelica Didier Light](mailto:angelica.light@gmail.com) Fund Team Co-Chair: [Suzy Ross McDowell](mailto:smcdowell@steptoe.com) Planned Giving Chair: [Deb Lan](mailto:dlans@cohenlans.com) Special Gifts Chair: [Kathy Kelly Spear](mailto:kkspear@gmail.com) House Representatives Co-Chair: [Susan Brundage](mailto:susan.l.brundage@gmail.com) House Representatives Co-Chair: [Annie Nickel Curtin](mailto:annie5cent@aol.com) Class Co-Secretary: [Karen Osar](mailto:karenosar@gmail.com) Class Co-Secretary: [Jan Fullgraf Golann](mailto:j.f.golann@gmail.com) Treasurer: [Betsy Gardner 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