



## SMITH COLLEGE CLASS OF 1994

[Closer to Reunion 30](#), [Closer to Fine!](#)

What were you doing in 1994? Were you playing Tetris on **Anne Kierzkowski's '94** very boxy Apple computer (one of the lucky few to have a computer in her own room)? Were you at Smith in the Computer Lab when you sent your first email? Did you watch the Academy Awards hosted by Whoopi Goldberg, or follow the news that South Africa was having its first fully multiracial elections? Drinking mudslides at Davis Center while listening to The Indigo Girls?

Well, it's been a long (and short!) 30 years since then, and we hope to see you at Reunion, coming 'round the corner this May 23 - 26! We will reminisce about all that once was, all that is, and our hopes for the future! How "Closer to Fine" are you now?

**The Early Bird Reunion registration deadline is April 18!** After that, prices go up, and registering later rather than sooner also makes it harder for Reunion Team '94 to plan. Please read our **All You Want to Know About Reunion 30** below for registration and other details, like what to pack!

Have you [made your gift](#) to Smith this year? As **Jon Beachell '94** writes in our **fundraising update**, we are at just over 21% participation in donations to the college for this fiscal year (which ends on June 30). At our 25th Reunion, we had 40% class participation, so we know we can do better! This year we are bringing back our **Mt. Holyoke Participation Challenge**, where we will compete for the highest percentage participation for giving – for glory!

We look forward to catching up with you soon!

Love,  
*Liz and Holly, Co-Class Presidents*

PS: Please share your photos (old and new!) to our [Class Photo Album](#). We will feature a slideshow at one of our Reunion class dinners.

### Reunion Year Gifts to Smith

Our class giving totals will be announced at the All-Alumnae Meeting just after the Alumnae Parade. The college announces our cumulative 5-year giving total on the lawn, but right now we are focused on achieving our goals for this FY 2024. Based on past donations in a 30th Reunion alumnae year, our class goal is \$275,000 with at least a 26% participation rate:

**Our Total Class Donations to the College So Far this Year:** \$71,150  
**Total Class Participation:** 21%

By comparison, during the year of our 25th Reunion, we had 40% of our classmates make a donation to Smith, and we raised \$150,000.

The college has made many strides to ensure our support goes directly to students. For example, Smith now has a "no-loan" financial aid policy and is working hard to achieve needs-blind admission. Your gifts are doing good work! Make a gift before our Reunion in celebration of this year by donating \$300, \$1994, \$3,000 or an amount that fits your budget and shows your support. And please believe that every gift matters! Gifts of \$100 or less across all classes typically total over \$500,000 each year for the Smith Fund.

AND (drumroll please....) this Reunion we are in a healthy competition with **Mount Holyoke** for highest class participation. The MHC '94 participation rates are impressive and typically are in the 50% range. Don't miss out on being part of this honorable "race-to-participate."

So, if you have not done so already, please [make your gift to Smith](#). Align your passions with your pocketbook and choose how you'd like to designate your gift (e.g., Equity & Inclusion, Study Away, Sustainability). If you decide not to designate your donation, Smith will use the funds where it needs them most, and the greatest area of need is Student Financial Aid.

**Another Easy Way to Make a Gift**  
[Socks for Scholarships!](#) Want to support financial aid at Smith and get a new pair of Smith socks? [Give to the Smith Fund!](#) Give \$70 or more for scholarship when you register for Reunion or via [this link](#). You'll receive a pair of special socks after Reunion.

[GIVE TO SMITH](#)

### All You Want to Know About Reunion 30!

First, our amazing Web Chair **Chris Acas '94** has posted a Reunion FAQ on our [Class of 1994 website](#). Please check this and our [30th Reunion page](#) for updates. [Smith's Reunion webpages](#) have a ton of information as well. For example, [Housing & Meals](#) and [Schedules & Checking In](#).

We are excited that the college will be using the **Smith College Reunion Program App** for all things Reunion 2024. You can [download it today](#) on either the Google Play Store or the Apple Store! It will be a one-stop shop for the Reunion schedule, class-specific events, speaker information, FAQ and more. It will populate as things become finalized, and you can use it on your phone during Reunion to keep track of what's going on.

### Registration Deadlines

Check your mail or email for a unique registration link, and register by April 18th for best room & board rates. Final registration deadline is May 10th; class and college registration fees are non-refundable, meal fees are nonrefundable after the May 10 registration deadline. Housing fees are always refundable no matter when the person cancels. Requests for Registration Help should be directed to Reunion Registration by phone at 800-526-2023 (option 9) or 413-585-2150, or by email at [reunionregistration@smith.edu](mailto:reunionregistration@smith.edu). If you need to make changes to your registration after you sign up, call or email those kind folks as well.

### Class Events/General Schedule

We will not know the final event schedule until probably May, and event times can be subject to change, but this is where things stand now to help you plan.

Check out some of the college programming highlights [here!](#)

**Thursday, May 23rd.** No one can check into their room until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. Initial check-in will be in Seelye Hall, where alums receive housing assignments, building access key card, etc. There will be an All-Class Cookout Dinner on Chapin Lawn (if you have registered for that meal). **Our class will be housed in King, Scales, and Gardiner.**

**Friday, May 24th.** Expect lots of college programming: faculty lectures, affinity gatherings, tours, etc.

- Friday afternoon, our class will host a screening of the award winning film, *Where I Became by Tandiwe Njobe '94* and Jane Shang '82, which is about 16 Smith College scholarship recipients from South Africa. Hopefully, we can also feature a discussion with the filmmaker! **Lori Tharps '94** details the story of this film [here](#).
- Friday evening is our class cocktail/mocktail party followed by our class dinner, which are both included in the price of the Friday dinner. To be clear, if you want to attend the class dinner/cocktail party, you must pay and register for the Friday dinner meal in advance when you sign up for Reunion!

**Saturday, May 25th.** Expect lots of college programming: faculty lectures, affinity gatherings, tours, etc.

- 7:00 a.m.: Bones for Life® movement class led by **Rachel Day '94**. Bones for Life is a Feldenkrais Method®-inspired somatic movement method, focusing on increasing balance and ease of walking. Bring a towel as we explore ease of movement in the head and shoulders.
- In the morning, we will have the Alum Parade!
- Saturday afternoon, our class will host a tea!
- Saturday afternoon, there will be an all-Reunion Service of Remembrance honoring those who are no longer with us. Our class will not be hosting a separate memorial service.
- Saturday evening is our second class cocktail/mocktail party followed by our class dinner, which are both included in the price of the Saturday dinner. To be clear, if you want to attend the class dinner/cocktail party, you must pay and register for the Saturday dinner meal in advance when you sign up for Reunion!
- Illumination Night and an All-Class Dance Party

**Sunday, May 26th.** Things definitely wind down on this day, there will be little, if any, formal programming other than breakfast! In fact, our Class Headquarters must be dismantled no later than 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.

### Packing List

- **Bring a reusable water bottle!** There are no plastic water bottles on campus. There will be water bottle fill stations at our Class Headquarters.
- **White outfit** for the Alumnae Parade. It can be a dress, jeans, whatever. Shoes have been a mixture of white, light neutral, black – whatever makes you comfortable.
- **Red accessory!** Please bring a red accessory to wear during our Alumnae Parade, so we can amplify our class color (we will have red sashes). A red pair of earrings, red bandana, red feather boa, this is up to you! The point is to be festive and fun!

### Virtual Programming

Reunion at Smith is an in-person experience. In the past, the college has tried interactive hybrid programming, but from alum feedback, those experiences were not satisfying or successful for alums at home. With that being said, the college will be livestreaming select college programs on the Smith website. Check the [Reunion homepage](#) for the most up-to-date information on our virtual offerings.

### Honoring Our Classmates Who Are No Longer With Us

We will have a listing and photos of our classmates who have passed. If you happen to have an obituary for a '94 loved one, we would appreciate your sending a copy to our class In Memoriam Chair, **Karla Baldikoski Long '94** at [karlablong@gmail.com](mailto:karlablong@gmail.com).

### News from Smith

Sip, sip, hooray! First introduced during the inauguration of President Sarah Willie-LeBreton, Smith's two custom tea blends are [now available for sale online](#). Whether you're looking for a bold, energizing morning cuppa to jump-start your day, or a soothing, mellow tea to unwind with, connect with Smith and create your own tea rituals—anytime, anywhere.



The new [Smith Office for the Arts \(SOFA\) newsletter](#) – SOFA Notes launched in the October – and it's never too late to sign up! This new monthly email aims to connect the Smith community to the arts activities, resources, and opportunities on campus and will include information about arts events, exhibitions, workshops, calls for proposals, alumni features, faculty profiles, and more.

### Connections

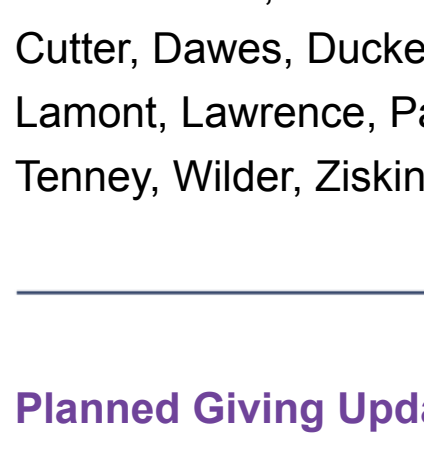
#### Reach Out and Call Someone

Are you willing to Call your Housemates and tell them about Reunion, or just catch up? Please help contact your friends and housemates and tell them about Reunion! Contact **Rachel Day '94**, our House Connector Chair, if you are interested! [day.rachelann@gmail.com](mailto:day.rachelann@gmail.com). All we ask is a quick personal email to your fellow house-mates. [rachel.ann@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.ann@gmail.com) will help you with verbiage!!

#### We have no house reps for the following houses/programs

JYA: Geneva, Hamburg, Paris; Capen, Chapin, Chase, Comstock, Cushing, Cutter, Dawes, Duckett, Emerson, Gardiner, Hopkins, Hopkins A&B, Jordan, Lamont, Lawrence, Parsons House & Annex, Sessions House & Annex, Tenney, Wilder, Ziskind.

### Planned Giving Update with a Reunion Bonus



Founded in 1994, the Grécourt Society honors alumnae and friends who leave Smith bequests and other forms of planned and estate gifts. **Reunion Year Bonus:** All alums who include Smith in their planned giving strategy, will get an exclusive invitation to the Grécourt Society Ice Cream Stand on Friday during Reunion!

Three key options to consider for Planned Giving to Smith:

1. **Bequests:** If you are creating a will, consider adding Smith as a beneficiary.
2. **An IRA Beneficiary Designation:** A great, tax efficient way to leave a legacy gift to Smith. If you have an IRA or some other form of qualified retirement plan from employment such as a 401k or 403b, consider adding Smith as an additional, split or contingent beneficiary. Smith would receive 100% of the designated funds, as opposed to high tax rates for other designation types.
3. **Life Insurance:** Adding Smith as a beneficiary to a life insurance policy is a relatively simple and inexpensive way to give Smith a large gift as the premiums will currently be lower. These modest annual premium payments will yield a great benefit to Smith over time.

Please also visit the [Grécourt Society web page](#) for more information about including Smith in your estate planning.

[MORE INFO](#)

### Keep in Touch & Stay Informed

- [Follow President Sarah Willie-LeBreton on Instagram](#) as she explores her new home.
- Visit [Stay Connected to Smith](#) for the latest campus news
- [The Network](#) (password protected)—find alumnae and update your profile
- [Update your contact information](#)
- Follow Smith on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#)
- Access every issue of the [Smith Alumnae Quarterly](#), going back to 1909, on the SAQ digital archive
- View past issues of [Notes from Paradise](#)
- [Be A Friend](#) (of the Libraries, Botanic Garden, Athletics, or Museum of Art)
- [Volunteer for Admissions](#)
- Join a [Smith Club](#) in your area

### Class Volunteer Team

All class volunteers can be reached at [smithclassof94@gmail.com](mailto:smithclassof94@gmail.com).

- Christine Acas, Web Chair
- Karla Baldikoski Long, Memorial Chair
- Jennifer Beachell, Fund Team Coordinator
- Rachel Ann Day, Reunion House Connectors Chair
- Elizabeth Foley, Planned Giving Chair
- Alessandra Hawthorne, Class Fund Agent
- Anne Horton, Mini-Reunion Chair Ex Officio
- [Alexandra Kontes](#), Secretary
- Kirse May, Reunion Alumnae Parade Chair
- Erin McGurn, Class Fund Agent
- Jen Pollock-McNally, Reunion Chair
- Kira Mellups, Reunion Headquarters Co-Chair
- Holly Nydegger, Co-President
- Vigie Ramos-Rios, Treasurer
- Elizabeth Wohliken Rugaber, Co-President & Class Fund Agent
- Brooke Teller, Reunion Headquarters Co-Chair
- Katha Washburn, Class Fund Agent

### Connect With Us

Smith College Class of 1994

[Email](#) | [Website](#) | [Facebook](#)

SMITH COLLEGE ALUMNAE RELATIONS GIVE TO SMITH THE NETWORK APP



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