

AlmaMatters

THE CLASS OF 1999 NEWSLETTER



JEFF BROKOWSKI '99 (PICTURED LEFT) WITH DOG MADDOX, WHO HE TRAINED ON BEHALF OF GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND. MADDOX NOW GUIDES ANA (PICTURED ABOVE).

CLASS OF 1999 HONORS JEFF BORKOWSKI with SPIRIT OF SERVICE AWARD

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee is proud to present Jeff Borkowski with the Class of 1999's Spirit of Service Award. The Award recognizes members of the Class who have shown a passion and commitment for bettering the world around them. Helping others is a difficult and often thankless task: this Award honors the compassionate and energetic individuals who commit to such work.

Jeff received this year's award for his involvement with Guiding Eyes for the Blind (Guiding Eyes). Guiding Eyes, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was founded in 1954 to enrich the lives of the blind and visually impaired by providing them with the freedom to travel safely, thereby assuring greater independence, dignity and expanded horizons of opportunity. Since that time, Guiding Eyes has become one of the foremost guide dog schools in the world, graduating more than 7,000 guide dog teams. It provides superbly bred guide dogs, professional training and follow-up support services to students at no cost to them, and depends on contributions to fulfill its mission. To find out more about the organization, visit www.guidingeyes.org.

Jeff's efforts on behalf of Guiding Eyes began in 2008 when he and his wife Cara Antonacci began the training process to become volunteer puppy raisers. That dog, Maddox, graduated as a working guide dog and is now guiding a woman named Ana who lives in Portugal. Jeff's involvement with Guiding Eyes has increased in the past 3 or 4 years to teaching orientation classes for new volunteer raisers, and assisting with volunteer recruitment and fund raising. As his friend, Jeff Brabham, stated in his nomination letter, "Jeff's work with Guiding Eyes is a great inspiration to all those who know him."

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee would like to congratulate Jeff on this award, and would also like to wish him luck in his future efforts with Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

FALL 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This weekend I had the opportunity to attend Class Officers Weekend in Hanover with Jackie Rioux Gladstone, 15th Reunion Chair. In my 13 years as a class officer, this was the tenth class officers weekend I have attended. Every year I attend, I leave with a renewed energy and commitment to the work we do as a class. I was struck by the energy of being in Hanover on a beautiful fall weekend (it rained the whole weekend but yes, Hanover is beautiful even in the rain!) and seeing the <gulp> '16s on campus. I was inspired by the ideas and enthusiasm of officers of other classes. And I was comforted by being home - eating a donut (or three) from Lou's and walking across the Green in the shadow of Baker Library.

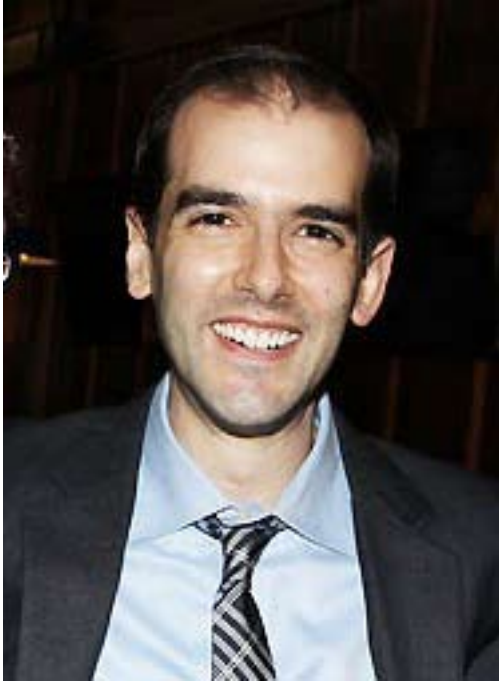
The weekend took on practical importance as well, as we approach our 15th reunion in June. The abstract notion of Reunion became much more tangible as Jackie and I stood in the Kemeny Courtyard, which will be the site of our Saturday Class Dinner. (Kemeny sits where Kiewitt used to. Yup, Kiewett and Bradley were finally torn down.) As we walked through the courtyard, we envisioned where our 400 classmates and guests will sit and what areas we will use for the proceeding cocktail hour. As we met with the chairs of the 97 and 98 classes, we brainstormed an all class BBQ for Saturday lunch with kid's activities. As we met with caterers, we were inspired by creative meal choices, and reassured they can accommodate all of our classmates' dietary needs. I was also struck by engineering genius and cutting edge technology that pumps cold beer from a warm keg. Who knew!

Reunion is expensive. It is expensive to the class, which ultimately means it is more expensive than any of us would like. The class seeks to break even from Reunion. We add up the estimated costs and divide by estimated attendance, and that's how we determine the registration fee. We seek to keep costs down, while at the same time planning a high quality weekend. Every table, chair, bag of ice, tent, Dartmouth student helping work a registration table, etc. has a cost that the class pays (in addition to the costs of food, alcohol, souvenirs, DJs, etc.). Those costs ultimately are your registration fee. Jackie, me, and the entire Reunion Committee are committed to being honest about our costs. We are currently in the budgeting phase, and you can expect that the next column from me will have more specifics about what is included in your registration fee.

Reunion is now less than eight months away!! Check out the tentative schedule on Page 6. It is going to be a great weekend to connect with classmates and old friends, show your kids where you used to study, show your girlfriend where you used to hang out, and eat EBAs breadsticks at 2 am. Less than eight months until we return to Hanover and celebrate our connections with each other and the special place that is Dartmouth.



AlmaMatters SPOTLIGHT:



Interview with Marc Bruni '99, Off Broadway Director

Marc Bruni recently directed the currently running Off-Broadway hit *OLD JEWS TELLING JOKES*, a revue that pays tribute to and reinvents classic jokes of the past and present. Marc started his theater career in 1999 as an assistant to director Jerry Zaks '67. Since then he has been the associate director on numerous Broadway shows, including *Nice Work if You Can Get It*, *Anything Goes*, *Legally Blonde*, *Grease* and Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Marc has also directed many regional productions and was nominated for Kevin Kline Awards for his direction of *The Music Man* and *Sound of Music* at the St. Louis MUNY. Marc sat down with *AlmaMatters* to discuss his life in the theater.

AM: Congrats on all your success up until now! Could you tell us more about your current show, and how you got involved? At this point in your career do producers approach you to direct a show, or do you hear about an opening and put your name out there?

MB: Thanks so much! *OLD JEWS TELLING JOKES* began as a web site of the same name featuring videos of non-actors over 60 years old telling their favorite jokes. Dan Okrent (former Public Editor of the New York Times) and Peter Gethers (President of Random House Films) bought the rights to the web site and wanted to turn the material into a theatrical piece, and upon a recommendation from their producing partners, they brought me onboard to direct and shape the piece. As I'm an Italian gentile, it seemed the logical choice. We did a reading last November for a small audience, it seemed to make people laugh, so we opened at the Westside theatre in April for an open-ended run. There are now some future plans for productions in other cities. In this case, they came to me. If there's a project that has been put out in the open in some way, it generally has a director attached already.

AM: You have been a part of so many productions, do any stand out as favorites? Any particular moments stand out to you as real highlights?

MB: I'd say the current show I'm working on is usually my favorite. During the rehearsal process, there's that sense of possibility and the collaboration of so many talented people in the same room. Opening night sometimes feels like a bit of a letdown because it's the moment when as a director you have to step away and give the show over to the people who will be telling the story every night. I directed a new musical called *ORDINARY DAYS* at the Roundabout Underground a few years ago, and I'd say that experience was a highlight if I had to pick a show.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

CLASS NEWS

Jennifer (Blair) Eaton and her husband, Sam Eaton, welcomed their daughter, Blake Olivia Eaton, into the world on March 31st, 2012. Jennifer says that Blake is smiling and chatting a lot. The family lives in Chicago and Jennifer is finishing up her last year of a reproductive endocrinology and infertility fellowship at Northwestern.

Sheryl (Koval) Garko and her husband, Michael Garko (Notre Dame '00), welcomed their first child, Charlotte Ann, on February 19th, 2012. According to Sheryl, she is absolutely amazing. Each day with her is a new adventure, and she sings her the alma mater each night before bed! Sheryl and Michael are lucky to have Charlotte's "Auntie" **Liz Castellani** living in the building next door in Boston. They get to see her all the time!

Brian Salazar writes in to say that in January, his company, Entegra, closed on its first major real estate acquisition with three strategic partners. The deal encompasses four buildings in Massachusetts totalling 1.15 million square feet of office and industrial space. Brian's company plans a "green as we go" strategy; looking for ways to improve energy efficiency as well as rental income. Entegra is looking for additional real estate to invest in, as well as other sources of equity! Brian was recently recognized by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) as one of 13 "Developing Leaders" for 2012. He will be in Washington, DC at the end of October to accept his award. Outside of work, Brian and his wife, Courtney, are doing well. Daughters Erin (5) and Audrey (3) are making the transition to Kindergarten and Preschool, respectively. Brian also reports that he and **Kyle Marchesseault** are abusing their bodies yet again this Fall by running in the Boston Half-Marathon on October 7th. Next up for Brian and Kyle is their third consecutive C.R.A.S.H-B indoor rowing competition, which is typically held at BU in February and involves months of training for less than 7 minutes of physical torture and a t-shirt. (Ah, to be 18 again!). Brian urges any interested '99s who care to join in the fun to e-mail him at bsalazar@entegra-re.com, and he will add you to the "Triple Green Rowing Club" team shirts.

"Hey, I just met you, and this is crazy, but here's my number, so Rex and Amy!" **Dave Rapson** writes in to say "I attended **Rex Morey's** wedding on July 14 in Big Canoe, Georgia. Rex married Amy Hylton (Virginia Tech '00), and the Big Green was well represented at the Carly Rae Jepson-style celebration. On hand were '99s **David Sussman**, **Kyle Roderick**, **Case Dorkey**, and **Damali Rhett**, along with Rex's sister Jessica Morey '01, Andrea Arata '98, and Uriel Barrera '98. Rex got his MBA from Duke in 2011, and is currently a consultant for Deloitte in Atlanta. He and Amy aren't wasting any time, and already have a baby on the way! I'm enjoying life in sunny California as a professor of Economics at UC Davis. Dave Sussman is studying International Relations at Tufts, and is seizing any opportunity to dance salsa. Kyle is settling down into a suburban life of drug peddling (aka pharma sales), and will soon be a baby-

SAVE the DATE

June 14-16, 2013

The Class of 1999 will return home to Hanover that week-end for our 15th* Reunion!

***Because we cluster with the classes of 1997 and 1998, our 15th reunion is held our 14th year out of school.**

See page 6 for a tentative schedule!

daddy with his lovely wife, Monica. Case Dorkey is jet-setting and empire building as Director of Business Development for an exciting Dartmouth-run (not-so) startup called Panjiva, and generally continues to captivate all with his endless stream of unique and delicious stories. Damali got her MBA from Tuck (T'06) and was one of a large contingent of Deloitte consultants that were on hand. Rumor has it that Rex has nearly convinced Deloitte leadership to create a new Chief Executive Social Chair position, which will catapult him instantaneously to the top of the corporate hierarchy and ensure Deloitte's position at the pinnacle of "Best Places to Work" in the world. The reception was adorned with green, Rex's "favorite color", and dance-off after dance-off between Rex's undergrad friends and Duke Fuqua b-school friends...tilted in favor of the older and wiser."

SEND YOUR CLASS NEWS TO CATHERINE PIERONI AT CATHERINE.PIERONI@YAHOO.COM, OR MAIL THE ENCLOSED GREEN CARD!

TUCKER FELLOW UPDATE

The Class of 1999 supports a current Dartmouth student doing overseas volunteer work through the Tucker Foundation with our Tucker Foundation Class Project. Money the Executive Committee raises through dues payments is used by the Tucker Foundation to fund a student who is chosen by our Executive Committee. This year's Tucker Fellow was Edgar Sandoval (pictured below), who spent a term in Lima, Peru this past spring. Below, *AlmaMatters* prints excerpts from a piece Edgar wrote reflecting on his time in Peru.



“After a long day of flying from Boston to Lima, Peru, I had no idea what was in store for me in the upcoming months. I stumbled my way out of customs and found Mariel, my secure escort from the airport to Huaycán, a shantytown on the outskirts of the capital. Driving towards my new home, I was nervous about whether I was emotionally and intellectually prepared for my upcoming experience as a volunteer teacher. Would the students listen and pay attention to me at my young age? Would my limited understanding of Peruvian culture impede my attempts at connecting with the locals? Would my own fears and recent tragedies force me to remain within my comfort zone? Thoughts racing through my head, I arrived at my new home and was about to find out firsthand about my future.

As a teacher with the Light and Leadership Initiative (LLI), I had various interactions with children and adults who I was teaching...I taught English and physical education to the three most under served locations in the town. My role as a teacher was important because after a month with the NGO, volunteer numbers were low. Furthermore, I helped the women empowerment program with organizing and planning workshops each week. These workshops provided important information about agriculture, health care, and education that made the lives of the women easier.

I feel like there's always that moment when you face those challenges you were sure you had overcome. I truly believed that since I had traveled abroad before, I would become better at handling issues usually associated with being far from home, from the “ordinary.” My ordinary.

But I missed home, I missed friends, and I missed having my ‘ordinary’ surrounding me.... I realized, however, that my experience would not be what it could be if I kept myself from meeting people from Huaycán. [T]he first time I came to realize I became friends with the locals was the third week of my fellowship. After a long day of teaching children, I saw two of my friends and had a conversation about daily life in Peru. They asked me whether I wanted to play volleyball with them, and after agreeing, I headed to the court. Communication might not have been my first and best method for making friends, but playing volleyball had me laughing and joking with my friends.

After playing volleyball, my friends and I walked towards the front of my house and began listening to some music. After all, music helps create strong bonds between two different groups of people, a feat two groups of individuals from opposing cultures sometimes fail to achieve during their intercultural interactions....I sat down with my two friends in front of their porch and spoke to them about cultural differences between Peru and the United States. I can't quite remember how we came upon this topic, but they were surprised as to how I was able to notice differences between my life in the US and my then current life in Peru. The conversation I had with them framed the context of future conversations I would have with many of the locals.

Looking back at my experience, I would say that I grew more than I can clearly imagine now. I have come to understand the issue of education in under served communities and how even a small gesture from someone outside of their own world can make a difference. Education brings about a certain level of confidence in a person's demeanor.... Although I did not come out with any conclusions from the experience, I learned more about my interactions with other people and my perspective on life. I appreciate the opportunity I have, and I want to thank those who helped make my experience a reality.”

DAVE WAGNER '99 AWARDED 2012-2013 YOUNG ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

THE DARTMOUTH ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESENTS THE DARTMOUTH COLLEGE YOUNG ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO TWO OR THREE ALUMNI EACH YEAR THAT HAVE DEMONSTRATED EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE. THE FIRST AWARD HONORING THOSE WHO HAVE GRADUATED WITHIN THE PAST 15 YEARS WAS PRESENTED IN 1990, AND SINCE THEN, 50 YOUNG ALUMNI (INCLUDING FELLOW '99S JEFF FINE AND MICHELLE SWEETSER) HAVE BEEN HONORED. THIS YEAR, THE ALUMNI COUNCIL HAS HONORED OUR CLASSMATE DAVE WAGNER WITH THIS IMPORTANT AWARD.

DAVE HAS SERVED DARTMOUTH IN SEVERAL CAPACITIES SINCE GRADUATION. HE HAS BEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE DARTMOUTH CLUB OF DALLAS, A MEMBER OF THE CLUB OFFICERS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AN ALUMNI COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, A MEMBER OF THE CLASS OF 1999 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING FOR OUR 5TH AND 10TH CLASS REUNIONS. "MY EXPERIENCE AT DARTMOUTH WAS FANTASTIC AND INFLUENCED WHO I AM TODAY," WAGNER SAYS. "VOLUNTEERING GIVES ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE BACK TO THE COLLEGE."

THE CLASS OF 1999 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CONGRATULATES DAVE ON RECEIVING THIS AWARD, AND THANKS HIM FOR HIS SERVICE BOTH TO DARTMOUTH AND TO THE CLASS OF 1999!

TENTATIVE REUNION SCHEDULE

JUNE 14th-16th, 2013

Class Headquarters: Brace Commons
Class Tent: Alumni Gym Lawn

FRIDAY, June 14th

8:45AM-5 PM: Mt. Moosilauke day hike

12-7PM: Registration at Class Tent

6-7PM: 1999 Reception in Class Tent

7-9PM: Class of 1999 Dinner

9PM-midnight: Socializing with the classes of 1997 and 1998 in Class Tents

SATURDAY, June 15th

8-10AM: Class of 1999 Breakfast

10-10:30AM: Memorial Service in Rollins Chapel

10:30AM-noon: Presidential Reunion Address in Spaulding

noon-2PM: Lunch with Classes of 1997 and 1998 in Leverone (with games for kids!)

2-3:30PM: Spirit of '99 Reception

6-7PM: Class of '99 cocktail hour at Kemeny Patio

7-9PM: Class of '99 dinner at Kemeny Patio

9:30-10:30PM: On the Green: A Dartmouth Alumni Celebration

10:30-midnight: Socializing with the classes of 1997 and 1998 in Class Tents

SUNDAY, June 16th

9-11AM: Class of 1999 Farewell Breakfast

Registration will begin in March of 2013- register early to save money!!!

AM: What is your dream job? Is there a particular show or shows that you are dying to direct?

MB: I've worked on a number of revivals- in those cases, there's that template of how it was done before- what's "traditionally" done. The task is always to try to deliver the spirit of the show while making it as entertaining and relevant to a contemporary audience. There are a few classic musicals like this that I'd like to tackle because good writing makes the job exponentially easier. On the other side of the coin, new work has a different kind of excitement because of the possibility of making it whatever you want. It's simultaneously freeing and more scary because there's no road map, and no guarantee that you are heading in the right direction.

AM: To the audience, a Broadway show typically comes off so effortlessly. But a ton of work obviously goes on behind the scenes to make it appear that way. Could you discuss the process a bit, meaning the time involved, what it's like to do casting, rehearsals, etc.? Leading up to opening night have you had all-nighters, last minute script or choreography changes? Give us the scoop!

MB: The funny thing is, on Broadway or in the Bentley black box at Dartmouth, it's pretty much the same process. You have a script, the actors rehearse in a rehearsal room, you design and build the set, rehearse in the theatre to figure out how the actors interact with the technical elements, light the show, and put it in front of an audience. Now, of course, there are more toys on Broadway, and the budgets are much bigger. This allows for about two months of rehearsals and tech prior to a first performance. Casting probably happened a few months before that. On a new piece, getting the story right could take years, and generally the rule of thumb for a new Broadway musical is 5-8 years from having the idea to opening night. But get ready, those scribbles on a cocktail napkin are ready to take the 2021 Broadway season by storm.

AM: At Dartmouth you were a member of the Aires and also performed in various musical productions, do you ever miss performing when you are working behind the scenes?

MB: Sometimes I like to think that directing is getting to play all the parts because you have to think of a show through the eyes of all the characters, rather than just one. Plus, during rehearsals sometimes, I'll have to step in and read a part from time to time, and that's actually fun for me. Less fun for the others in the room who have to deal with my bad acting.

AM: Did any of your Dartmouth experiences prepare you for your current career? Was there any class or professor in particular that influenced you or how you approach your directing, or is it mostly on-the-job training?

MB: Absolutely- my directing professor at Dartmouth was Annabelle Melzer, and she was able to codify the somewhat nebulous concept of "directing" into a toolbox of skills I use all the time. She was a great fan of the work of Dennis Potter, and I often utilize the devices he employed in his television and film work. Since Dartmouth, I've had a series of generous mentors who have provided invaluable guidance through on-the-job osmosis.

AM: Thank you so much for your time!

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AGNIESZKA (BORKOWSKA) PINETTE SHARES QUALITY TIME WITH HER DAUGHTER, NATALIA, IN SANBORN LIBRARY DURING THE CLASS OF 1999'S 10TH REUNION.

**THE CLASS OF 1999's
15th Reunion
June 14-16, 2013**

**Come home to your
favorite places, and
share them with
your family!**

[HTTP://WWW.DARTMOUTH.ORG/CLASSES/99](http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99)