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# YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

yaanw.org

yaanw@yaanw.org

April 2016

a member-supported organization

## Thoughts from the President

### Ron Goldser '75

I am proud this month to announce that Rohan Preston, ('89) has also joined our Board of Directors.

A leading supporter of imaginative and innovative work, Rohan has been the marquee performing arts critic at the Star Tribune since March 1998. He deftly manages the beat in the dynamic cultural mecca, reviewing and writing news and

instrumental in its governance and the strategic planning process. He also has served on panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and the MacArthur Foundation. He was part of a Star Tribune team that won an Emmy for a documentary on the 2008 presidential election. He served on the 2007 and 2012 juries for the Pulitzer Prize for

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feature stories on many of the 50-plus professional theater companies that call the Twin Cities home. He also writes on literature, opera, music and dance, from modern and jazz to ballet, hip-hop and tap. He has served on the board of Graywolf Press, where he was

drama, was a 1998 Fellow at the National Critics Institute at the Eugene O'Neill American Theatre Center and has won numerous accolades.

Ro will contribute significantly to our club's arts and theatre programs. We are thrilled to have his able assistance.

**President: Ron Goldser, '75**

**Secretary: Rudy Hokanson, '74 M.Div., '81 MBA**

**Treasurer: Nick Johnson, '74**

## Upcoming Events

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May 20: [Inside the Classics](#)

June 29: [The Arts in the Twin Cities with Rohan Preston](#)

## Message from Peter Salovey

Be sure to read the transcript of a conference call with President Salovey about the status of current issues at Yale at [yaanw.org](http://yaanw.org)

## American Craft Council Show

April 8 6:00 pm St. Paul River Centre

Jim Hackney, a member of the American Craft Council board, a Yale Divinity School graduate and YDS Senior Director of Development, has offered to give a background tour of the annual American Craft Council show. It is held at the St. Paul River Centre. Click [here](#) for more information.

It's a craft show like no other! A three-day celebration of all things handmade, where more than 225 top contemporary jewelry, clothing, furniture, and home décor artists from across the country gather under one roof. It's your chance to touch, feel, and explore high-quality American craft and meet the makers behind the fabulous work. This is the American Craft Council's only Midwest show – a must-attend for craft lovers!  
**SPECIAL FRIDAY EVENING ADMISSION**

Get into the show for just \$5 after 5 p.m. on April 8. Sorry, no other discounts apply. Details for the show and all the times and ticket prices are in the link above. There will be food and drink available to purchase. To make a reservation for the group background tour, contact Rudy Hokanson at [rhokanson@gmail.com](mailto:rhokanson@gmail.com)

## David Dodson

April 12 5:00 pm St. Paul College

Yalie David Dodson (BA '77, MDiv '81, MPPM '81), President of MDC (Manpower Development Corp) since 1987, has directed major projects to increase student success in public schools and community colleges, address regional economic decline, strengthen community philanthropy, and build multiracial leadership across the South and the nation. David frequently speaks around the country on the imperative of advancing equity and opportunity for low-wealth and marginalized communities and has advised major philanthropic foundations.

**Where:** Saint Paul College, 235 Marshall Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55102

**RSVP:** [http://interfaithaction.org/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC={8F155D6B-2B4B-4708-86D0-16375517A9E9}&tdurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww3.thedatabank.com%2Fdpg%2F198%2Fmtglistproc.asp%3Fformid%3Dmeet13%26caleventid%3D26226](http://interfaithaction.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={8F155D6B-2B4B-4708-86D0-16375517A9E9}&tdurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww3.thedatabank.com%2Fdpg%2F198%2Fmtglistproc.asp%3Fformid%3Dmeet13%26caleventid%3D26226)

## Environmental Sustainability Event

April 24 5:00 pm Doubletree by Hilton Minneapolis

**Where:** *The Summer Room*, Doubletree by Hilton Minneapolis - Park Place 1500 Park Place Blvd Minneapolis, MN 55416

**When:** Sunday, April 24 Registration at 5:00 p.m. Meal Service will be 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Program 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$45 per person. There are two meals that may be chosen from: Sage Seared Chicken or Vegetarian Stuffed Peppers. You can indicate your preference when you register.

**RSVP:** <http://alumninet.yale.edu/clubs/mn01/sustainapr2016.html>

**Registration with payment** is required no later than Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This will determine the meals that will be ordered as well as the seating. Late registrations or cancelations unfortunately cannot be honored.

**Program:** In 2015 the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University were granted official observer status by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). An interdisciplinary team of faculty and students traveled to Paris for the COP 21 conference in December where headlines were generated on a daily basis, most promising a coordinated and sustained global effort to address climate change. Three CSB/SJU faculty-- an environmental historian, a geographer, and a political scientist --will share their observations on the Paris conference, the policy and politics of climate change, and the importance of citizen participation in framing the response at all levels.

- **Dr. Derek Larson** is Professor of Environmental Studies and History at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University. He earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in history from Indiana University, M.A. in Religion from Yale Divinity School, and B.A. in history and religious studies from Lewis and Clark College. He has written a monthly opinion column for the St. Cloud Times since 2002 and his latest academic work includes a book titled Keeping Oregon Green: Livability, Stewardship, and the Challenges of Growth, 1960-1980, to be published by Oregon State University Press later in 2016.
- **Dr. Jean Lavigne** is an associate professor of Environmental Studies at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John's University, with degrees in Geography from Macalester College, Penn State University, and the University of Kentucky. She has published on environmental politics in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and is currently conducting research on the causes and consequences of Europe's refusal to adopt GMOs in agriculture.
- **Dr. Matt Lindstrom** is the Edward L. Henry professor of political science at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University where he also directs the Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from Northern Arizona University and a B.A. in government from St. John's University. He has edited and authored two books and one encyclopedia including Encyclopedia of the U.S. Government and the Environment; The National Environmental Policy Act: Judicial Misconstruction, Legislative Indifference, and Executive Neglect; and Suburban Sprawl: Culture, Theory, and Politics.

Questions: Rudy Hokanson, [rhokanson@gmail.com](mailto:rhokanson@gmail.com)

## Day of Service May 7

Coming to a location near you, the annual Yale Day of Service!

**8th Annual Yale Day of Service on Saturday, May 7, 2016.**

Bring yourself, family and/or friends and join Yale Alumni around the world in providing service to others in our local communities. Projects involve a commitment of 2-3 hours, and there will be a potluck lunch following at the home of one of the YAANW board members for all to join in who can.

There are 5 sites to choose from to volunteer. They are, briefly:

- **Eagan: Feed My Starving Children** (9-11am)  
Hand-pack meals designed especially for undernourished children in developing countries.
- **Minneapolis: Cedar Lake Park Association** (9am-noon)  
Clean up and clear out a park so it can be used for recreational and educational purposes.
- **Minneapolis: People Serving People Homeless Shelter** (10am-12pm)  
Assist with general upkeep and maintenance of the shelter.
- **Minneapolis: Open Arms** (9:30-11:30am)  
Drive and deliver free meals tailored to meet the needs of people living with serious and life-threatening diseases.

- **Roseville/Shoreview: Wingspan residential homes** (9am-noon)

Assist with yardwork for homes for adults with developmental disabilities.

Come give back, meet new people and have fun!!

Hope to see you May 7th!!

Many thanks, Vicky Stoneman 507.339.2897 or vstoneman@s-sm.org

Register at: <http://yaledayofservice.org/find-site->

[results?keys=&field\\_service\\_type\\_tid=All&field\\_state\\_value=MN&field\\_country\\_value=All&=Go](http://yaledayofservice.org/find-site-results?keys=&field_service_type_tid=All&field_state_value=MN&field_country_value=All&=Go)

## Dr. Peter Schulam

May 12 5:00 – 7:00 pm Minneapolis Club

Dr. Peter Schulam, who was recently appointed Interim Director, Smilow Cancer Center at Yale New Haven Hospital <https://medicine.yale.edu/cancer/about/director.aspx> will be visiting our club. Dr. Schulam plans to discuss the Yale Cancer Center and provide an update on accomplishments of the last year and how things have gone through the transition. He will also talk about their initiatives and goals for the coming year.

We will have a reception at 5:00 (light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar) and presentation at 6:00 pm at the Minneapolis Club, Minneapolis. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at <http://alumninet.yale.edu/clubs/mn01/schulam.html>. For more information, contact Malcolm McDonald at [malcolmmcdonald@comcast.net](mailto:malcolmmcdonald@comcast.net) or 651.387.7050.

This event will also be our annual fund raiser, so please consider your contribution to YAANW for this year.

## Rohan Preston, "The Arts in the Twin Cities"

June 29 noon Minneapolis Club

Our own Ro Preston ('89), theatre critic for the Star Tribune, will give you a verbal tour of the arts in our fair cities. Join us at the Minneapolis Club for lunch. Tickets are \$40 Questions or reservations to Larry Schuster, at [SchusterClinic@aol.com](mailto:SchusterClinic@aol.com) or 952.920.8386.

## French Table

April 5 6:00 pm St. Genevieve

**When:** April 5 at 6:00 pm (St. Genevieve, 50<sup>th</sup> and Bryant, Minneapolis)

**NOTE THE LOCATION AND TIME!!** We will be trying different locations in the Twin Cities for French table throughout 2016, so if you have suggestions, please make them!

All levels of French are encouraged and welcome. RSVP to Ron Goldser at [rgoldser@gmail.com](mailto:rgoldser@gmail.com).

## FOODIES!!!!!!

April 9 (NEW DATE) 6:30 pm

If you missed the last FOODIES!!! event, don't miss this one.

**Where:** Rabbit Hole, 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis <http://www.eatdrinkrabbit.com/>

**RSVP:** Hari Osofsky, [hosofsky@umn.edu](mailto:hosofsky@umn.edu) Please make your reservation by April 2!

Please join us for the Yale Foodies group. We are meeting monthly to explore the Twin Cities' wide variety of interesting restaurants featuring food from around the world. We will focus on restaurants at which people will pay no more than \$20-\$30 per person--and sometimes less! --and rotate around different parts of the Twin Cities.

## Yale Alumni Knitting Group

Sunday, April 17

2-4 pm

Northfield Yarn

**When:** Sunday, April 17, 2-4 pm

**Where:** Northfield Yarn, 314 Division St., Northfield, MN 55057

Preferred but Optional RSVP to: Cynthia Gilbertson at [cfgilbertson@mac.com](mailto:cfgilbertson@mac.com) or 507.645.4327

The group meets at the creative fiber-crafts store of Yale alumna Cynthia Gilbertson, called Northfield Yarn, in Northfield, MN. Join other alumni and friends, experienced or otherwise, who share an interest in fiber-crafts. Interested persons are welcome at any time.

## People Serving People

April 23

11:30 am

The next day of service at People Serving People (PSP) is **April 23 at 11:30 am**. YAANW has a small group volunteering to serve meals at PSP (11:30 to 1:00). If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ron Goldser at [rgoldser@gmail.com](mailto:rgoldser@gmail.com).

PSP is a homeless shelter in downtown Minneapolis, serving children and their families.

## Yale Alums in the Arts

**April 15 – May 1, 2016**

**“Lasso of Truth” by playwright Carson Kreitzer ‘90**

Directed by Leah Cooper at The Playwrights’ Center for Workhaus Collective, in association with Walking Shadow Theatre Company. The play “explores the real-life story of William Marston, creator of Wonder Woman and inventor of the first lie-detector machine. Marston lived in a polyamorous relationship with two women, who in the early 1940s influenced the creation of the first widely-recognized female superhero. In a parallel storyline, a modern-day guy and girl spar over a rare comic and Wonder Woman’s legacy.”

Stephen Yoakam stars as The Inventor, with Annie Enneking, Meghan Kreidler, McKenna Kelly-Eiding and John Riedlinger.

**TICKETS:** All tickets are \$25 or pay-what-you-can

**RESERVATIONS:** Brown Paper Tickets, <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2497736>

**Sunday, April 17, 3 pm**

**Mankato Symphony with Kenneth Freed (BK ‘83), Conductor**

Mankato West High School

Haydn Sinfonia Concertante (Soloists: Tony Ross, Celine Leathead, Julie Gremolini, Chris Marshall)

Stravinsky Firebird Suite

Tickets: [mankatosymphony.com](http://mankatosymphony.com)

**Sunday, May 8, 2016 - 1:00 p.m.**

**Saint Paul Civic Symphony**

Jeffrey Stirling, Music Director (MC, ‘81)

Annual Mother’s Day Concert

Landmark Center, downtown St. Paul

**“A Slavic Bouquet”**

Chabrier - Slavic Dance

Suk - A Fairy Tale

Tchaikovsky - Violin Concerto

featuring Helen Chang Haertzen of the Minnesota Orchestra, guest violin soloist

Free Admission - Families Welcome!

(Take Mom to brunch at the St. Paul Hotel then come across the street for the free concert!)

## Yale Alumni NonProfit Alliance (YANA)

April 18 5:30 P.M. Bachelor Farmer

Several members of our alumni community are interested in starting a chapter of the Yale Alumni Nonprofit Alliance (YANA) in Minnesota. The initial organizing meet is to be held in the Afghan room of the Bachelor Farmer at 5:30 on Monday, April 18th. Appetizers will be served gratis, with drinks available from a cash bar. The meeting should end no later than 7:00.

YANA is a SIG (Special Interest Group) of the AYA focused on bringing alumni together who volunteer or work in the non-profit and public sector. <http://yalenonprofitalliance.org/> Based on the experience of YANA chapters elsewhere, YANA creates value for alumni in a variety of capacities:

1. Seasoned alums: informally mentoring and advising younger alums working in or managing non-profits.
2. Alums working in the field, a forum for discussing best practices and current issues
3. Younger alums, networking and community
4. Social Venture or Entrepreneurial non-profits: Idea sharing and community.
5. Public Service alums: Sharing information and community.
6. Alums serving as volunteers on boards of directors

The purpose of this initial meeting is to see if there is sufficient interest in starting a YANA chapter and, if so, identify and discuss areas of interest for future meetings and activities. We think this a great opportunity for our many alums involved in the non-profit and public world to learn from each other and have even greater impact on our community.

Please RSVP to Ron Goldser, at [yaanw@yaanw.org](mailto:yaanw@yaanw.org). If you are unable to attend and would like to participate in future meetings or receive e-mails regarding YANA, please so indicate in your reply.

YANA organizing committee (in formation):

David Griffith, Ken Freed, Malcolm McDonald, Bob Weisenfeld, Bill Messinger

## Yale Divinity School (YDS) Alums

The focus of the group is networking and sharing. The group is open to spouses and friends and other Yale alums that have interest in YDS and the subjects we focus on. Any questions can be directed to [Rudy Hokanson](#).

## Calling All Lawyers

Note the Environmental Sustainability event described above.

We hold meetings quarterly. Please send suggestions for topics and venues to Dorothy Whelan at [whelan@fr.com](mailto:whelan@fr.com)

## Young Alumni

**We will be teaming up for Yale Day of Service!** If you are interested in serving with other recent-ish Yale grads on May 7, email Denise at [denise.levitan@aya.yale.edu](mailto:denise.levitan@aya.yale.edu).

YAANW has a special focus on the needs and interests of young alumni in our territory. Whether this is simply social, networking, or about meeting other Yalies when you are new in town, we hope to reach out and connect with younger Yale grads (college or any professional school) and them with each other.

Join the Twin Cities Alumni Network Young Alumni Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TCANYA>

If you are interested in participating in another gathering or event, or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Max Musicant, [max.musicant@gmail.com](mailto:max.musicant@gmail.com) or Denise Levitan,

[denise.levitan@gmail.com](mailto:denise.levitan@gmail.com)

## Forestry School Alums and Environmental Scientists!

If you are an FES grad, have an environmental degree, or are otherwise interested or engaged in work connected with those fields, keep your eyes on this page for the next gathering of the FES Midwest Alums Group! If you have an entrepreneurial idea in the energy or environmental arena, this is the place to come. Questions or comments to Victoria Thompson [victoria.thompson@outlook.com](mailto:victoria.thompson@outlook.com)

### *Coming this summer and fall...*

- We hope to volunteer on one or more occasions with the Hmong farmers in Dakota through the Hmong American Farmers Association, headed by Pakou Hang (Yale, '99) <http://www.hmongfarmers.com/>
- We are working on an outing with Habitat for Humanity to help build houses in October
- The annual summer outing will be at Woodhill Country Club in August

## Twin Cities Alumni Network (TCAN)

Join alumni from other local alumni clubs at various events hosted by their clubs. (Amherst, Brown, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Michigan, MIT, Northwestern, NYU, Penn, Princeton, Smith, Stanford, Virginia, Wharton, Williams, Yale, Interclub and IvyLife.)

Check the TCAN website for upcoming events.

<http://www.twincitiesalumninetwork.org/>

**Event:** Fred Kiel - Return on Character

**Date:** Thursday, April 7, 2016

**Time:** 6:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Bell State Bank and Trust, The Colonnade

5500 Wayzata Blvd Suite 300

Minneapolis, MN 55416 USA

**Sponsored by:** Harvard Club of MN

**Cost:** \$20

**RSVP:** [http://www.harvardmn.org/store.html?event\\_id=290](http://www.harvardmn.org/store.html?event_id=290)

**Contact us:** Eric Pirius at 612-275-2136 or Ann Hortillosa at 501-412-9144 for more details.

**Details:** In a seven-year study of executive teams at Fortune 500 companies, Kiel's book shows how CEO and leadership teams' character impacts the bottom line, reduces risk, and engages the workforce. The research study found that CEOs whose employees gave them high marks for character had a better return on assets, nearly five times as much as what those with low character ratings had.

**Event:** Inside the Classics

**When:** May 20, 8:00 pm

**Where:** Orchestra Hall

**Tickets:** \$17

**RSVP:** Call the Orchestra Hall Box Office (612-371-5656) and ask for the Yale Club block of tickets

Details: The Evolution of Opera. Here's the whole history in one delightful evening: how opera began centuries ago as an entertainment for a few royals, using just a handful singers and players, and how we arrived at today—when huge opera houses are packed with rabid fans from across the social spectrum, aficionados who can't get enough of this dramatic combination of singers, players, stage and story.

<http://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/buy/tickets/browse-calendar/eventdetail/596/-/#.Vv1Hc0dV3M9>

**Pre or post event gathering:** details on this will be forthcoming