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YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

<http://yaanw.org>
yaanw@yaanw.org

YAANW is a member-supported organization

March 2016

President: Ron Goldser, '75

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

Treasurer: Nick Johnson, '74

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Thoughts from the President

I am pleased to announce that Kent Pekel, '90, has been elected to join the YAANW Board of Directors. Kent is joining our board to help facilitate YAANW's growing endeavors in education in the communities we serve.

Kent is an educator and administrator who has worked at the school, district, state, federal and university levels. In 2012, he became President and CEO of Search Institute, a non-profit organization that conducts applied research in the fields of education and youth development and partners with schools, youth programs, and communities to use data and research to put all young people on the path to becoming thriving, contributing adults.

Under Kent's leadership, Search Institute's current priorities include studying and working to strengthen the developmental relationships with peers and adults through which young people acquire Developmental Assets, and understanding the characteristics of developmental communities in which the wellbeing and success of all young people is considered everyone's most important responsibility.

Much of his work prior to joining Search Institute focused on providing all young people in his home state of Minnesota with a world-class education and on closing the gaping achievement gaps that exist between Minnesota's low-income students of color and their more affluent Caucasian peers. From 2006-2012, Pekel served as the founding

Executive Director of the University of Minnesota's College Readiness Consortium, whose mission is to leverage the resources of the university to increase the number and diversity of Minnesota students who graduate from high school with the knowledge, skills, and habits for postsecondary success. In that capacity, he played coordinated the work of the Minnesota P-20 Education Partnership, which brings together twenty-three statewide organizations to align and improve Minnesota's educational systems from early childhood through higher education. He also led the design and implementation of the Minnesota Principals Academy, a year-long executive development program that to date has engaged more than 300 Minnesota school leaders in the study and replication of high performing schools and systems.

We are excited that Kent is joining us!

Ron Goldser, '75
President, YAANW

YAANW people

Judge Wilhelmina Wright has been confirmed by the United States Senate as the newest addition to the United States District Court for the District of Minnesota! Judge Wright has a B.A. from Yale in 1986 and received her law degree from Harvard. She has had an illustrious legal career. Judge Wright served as a law clerk for Judge Damon Keith. She worked at the law firm of Hogan & Hartson, LLP, in Washington, D.C. before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minnesota. She was appointed to the Ramsey County District Court in 2000 and to the Minnesota Court of Appeals in 2002. She was then appointed to the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2012 by Governor Mark Dayton, and was most recently appointed to the Federal bench by President Obama. Congratulations Judge Wright!

Upcoming Events

March 16, noon: Luncheon with Kent Pekel, President and CEO of Search Institute, talking about "Education: Beyond the Tests." Minneapolis Club, tickets are \$40. Questions or reservations to Larry Schuster, at SchusterClinic@aol.com or 952.920.8386.

March 26, 7:30 pm: Love and Honor vs. Power: Puccini's Tosca

Enjoy high drama set to beautiful music!

The Minnesota Opera again offers significant discounts to members of the Yale and Harvard Clubs and other TCAN organizations.

A fiery prima donna, an idealistic artist and a manipulative chief of police find themselves entangled in a web of drama in this spellbinding classic. Tosca's allegiance to her lover, Cavaradossi, is put to the ultimate test by the obsessive Scarpia who will

stop at nothing to possess her. This magnificent tale of deceit, love and honor brims with sumptuous music and unforgettable arias.

Sung in Italian with English translations projected above the stage.

The Minnesota Opera has reserved blocks of tickets for us at generous discounts: \$60 (Sec B, normally \$125), \$50 (Sec C, normally \$100) and \$40 (Sec D, normally \$85). Call the Minnesota Opera ticket office at 612-333-6669 by Friday, March 18 and mention the Yale-Harvard event.

Join us for dinner first at Pazzaluna, in St. Paul at 5:15 pm. No prix-fixe, just order off the menu. The Opera's General Director, Nina Archabal (Harvard) will be there, and we will also have a short presentation on Tosca from a member of the company. Please RSVP for the dinner to Cynthia Lee at cynthialee@gmail.com

Alternatively, you may wish to attend Opera Insights at 6:30 in Ordway Music Theater's Marzitelli Foyer, hosted by Rob Ainsley, the Minnesota Opera's Head of Music. Enjoy a free, fun and informative half-hour session which includes an overview of the characters and music, historical and cultural context for the opera and highlights to watch for during the show.

March 30 6:30 pm FOODIES!!!!!!

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 Please make your reservation by March 23!

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.

April 8, 6:00 pm American Craft Council show. 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

April 24 5:00 pm Environmental Sustainability Event

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

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 19th 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

May 7 Day of Service

Coming to a location near you, is 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: 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

May 12, 5:00 – 7:00 pm (RESCHEDULED!!) 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 or 651.387.7050

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

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

Yale Alums in the Arts

Mar 6 5:00 pm Nightingale Trio, Icehouse, 2528 Nicollet Ave S., Minneapolis
 The Nightingale Trio are birdsongs in the spring, new buds blooming, and dancers with flowers in their hair. The Nightingale Trio is returning to Minneapolis, bringing their exuberant interpretations of Eastern European folksongs with them.

This is The Nightingale Trio's first appearance at Icehouse; please arrive early to ensure a good seat!

\$8 in advance/\$10 at the door

March 13, 2016 - 3:00pm

Saint Paul Civic Symphony

Jeffrey Stirling ('81) Music Director

Free Concert

Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave W., Roseville, MN

"And Music at the Close ... "

Famous composers' "last words" for the orchestra

Works by Wagner, Britten and Shostakovich

www.spcsmusic.org

Feb Club

A good time was had by all!!



Yale Alumni Knitting Group

When: **Next date TBD**

Where: Northfield Yarn, 314 Division St., Northfield, MN 55057
Preferred but Optional RSVP to: Cynthia Gilbertson at 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.

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.

Young Alumni Happy Hour

Wine tasting!! (See below under TCAN)

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.

KEEP UP WITH THE YOUNG ALUMS ON FACEBOOK!!

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

If you are interested in participating in another gathering or event, or have any questions, please contact Max Musicant, max.musicant@gmail.com or Denise Levitan denise.levitan@gmail.com

People Serving People

The next day of service at People Serving People (PSP) is **March 26 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.

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

Congrats to YAANW!



French Table

**When: March 8 at 6:00 pm (Barbette, Lake St., Minneapolis)
April 5 at 6:00 pm (St. Genevieve, 50th 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.

Calling All Lawyers

March 3, 3:30 University of Minnesota Law School
Robert W. Gordon, Professor of Law, Stanford University; Chancellor Kent Professor Emeritus of Law and Legal History and Adjunct Professor of Law, Yale Law School. Speaking on "Morals, Markets and Lawyers" We will gather nearby afterwards to discuss law, history, politics or even Twins baseball!

Note also the Environmental Sustainability event described above.

We hold meetings quarterly. Please send suggestions for topics and venues to Dorothy Whelan at whelan@fr.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

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/groups.php?m=3&y=2014>

Event: Wine Tasting

Date: **Monday, March 7, 2016**

Time: 5:30 – 7:30

Location: Henry & Son

Sponsored by: Columbia and Penn Clubs

Cost: \$20

RSVP: to Whitney.Windmiller@ml.com (952) 404-5923

Details: The Columbia and Penn Clubs of MN invite you to an evening of wine tasting and fabulous conversation at Henry & Son. The wine tastings will be facilitated by Bill Summerville. Bill was the longtime sommelier at La Belle Vie and most recently the general manager of Spoon and Stable, prior to taking on his new position with New France Wine Co. We are excited to host the event at Henry & Son liquor store, alongside owner and Columbia grad, Gretchen Skedsvold. We will be tasting and learning about Italian wines, guided by the knowledge of Bill Summerville. Light fare will be provided by the Columbia and Penn clubs, which will include various meats, cheeses, breads, pickles, and the like, from Clancey's Meats & Fish in Linden Hills.

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

Contact us: Eric Pirus 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.