

April 2018

Yale Alumni Association of the Northwest Newsletter

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SINCE 1883

YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

Apr 3: French Table
Apr 11: Nonprofit Event (T)
Apr 17: CEO Series (T)
Apr 22: Knitting Group
Apr 22: Amvets Post #5 (T)
Apr 28: PSP
May 6: Harper Lecture (T)
May 8: YSPH Dean Sten
Vermund
May 12: Day of Service
May 30: Rhoda Mhiripiri-
Reed

(T): Sponsored by another
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group



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Thoughts from the President

Dear Bulldogs,

As our thoughts turn to Spring and renewal, I wanted to share the news of a few of our upcoming events.

One is the Day of Service which has become a fun way to volunteer, meet fellow Yalies, and enjoy a delicious lunch thanks to Nick Adams Johnson's warm hospitality. Visit <http://bit.ly/YAANW-dos18> to sign up! The non profits that host us are more than grateful for our work, and we strengthen the social compact with those in need.

The other event is the Book Award. Alums show up at high school award ceremonies all over the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota and western Wisconsin to present a book from the Yale Press to a deserving junior. Again, we build bridges to high schools, guidance counselors, parents and kids who may be prospective applicants. [Sign up here.](#)

Both of these quiet acts help to spread the legacy of learning and service that motivates and unites us.

Happy Spring!

Ken Freed '83, MM '87

News and Announcements

Yale Women's Basketball's Big Win: "Tori's Tournament"

We are proud [Yale won the Women's Basketball Invitational \(WBI\) National Championship](#), beating Central Arkansas 54-50 on the road March 29 to win the first ever post-season basketball title by an Ivy League school. YAANW can claim #33, first year Tori Andrew from Wayzata (Orono HS). She recovered from an early season injury to contribute greatly down the final stretch, especially with her 3 point shooting.

After Yale beat Binghamton 70-64 in the tournament quarterfinal, head coach Allison Guth stated: "That kid [Andrew] is a shooter, and when she's on, she's on. We're excited she's finally finding this consistency in the post-season. She had some really key threes when we needed them." Andrew led Yale with 16 points in that game, hitting on 5 of 6 three point shots.

In the semifinal against South Alabama, which Yale won 76-74, she hit five more threes and totaled 18 points, which prompted Coach Guth to remark: "The WBI has turned out to be Tori's tournament, the way she is shooting the ball, with confidence and poise. She's also doing a lot of different things for us defensively."

For the season, Andrew averaged 7.5 points a game, making over 38 percent of her three point shots and 82.8 percent of her free throws. Followers of Minnesota high school sports will recall that Tori led Orono to the Class 3A State Championship last year.

Volunteer to present a Yale Book Award!

YAANW presents approximately 80 book awards every year to high school juniors in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Many schools host awards ceremonies and invite Yale alumni to come and hand out the award. We are asking for both [award donors](#) and [volunteer presenters](#). Contact social@yaanw.org for more information.

Send us your news!

If you know of local events involving Yale alumni, students, or faculty, please feel free to [send us information](#) for inclusion in the newsletter or on social media (like our [Facebook events page](#) or [Twitter](#)). You can also share Yale-related news and events in our [Facebook group](#). If you have any photos of YAANW or Yale events to share, please send them to social@yaanw.org.

Recent Events



Tree tapping and maple syrup cooking at Dodge Nature Center, March 24



Monthly volunteer day at [People Serving People](#)

Upcoming Events

Click on an event to learn more!

- Apr 3: [French Table](#)
- Apr 11: [Nonprofit Event \(T\)](#)
- Apr 17: [CEO Series \(T\)](#)
- Apr 22: [Knitting Group](#)
- Apr 22: [Amvets Post #5 \(T\)](#)
- Apr 28: [PSP](#)
- May 6: [Harper Lecture \(T\)](#)
- May 8: [YSPH Dean Sten Vermund](#)
- May 12: [Day of Service](#)
- May 30: [Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed](#)

(T): Sponsored by another [Twin Cities Alumni Network](#) group

Yale SPH Dean Sten Vermund

May 8
5:00 pm
Minneapolis Club

Spring Lecture: Sten Vermund, Dean of the Yale School of Public Health, on "American Lifestyle: Guns, Pills, and Sofas"

Dean Sten Vermund, a Minnesota native and now the Dean of the Yale School of Public Health, will talk on current crises in American public health: gun violence, opioid addiction, and obesity.

5:00 pm: Cocktail hour with heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar

6:00 pm: Presentation by Dean Vermund

Alumni and friends: \$45

Recent alumni (2008 and later): \$25

Current students (undergraduate and graduate): \$25

Register at <http://bit.ly/YAANW-vermund>



Yale Day of Service

May 12

Registration is now open for the tenth annual Yale Day of Service on Saturday, May 12.

Register at <http://bit.ly/YAANW-dos18>

Give back, meet new people and have fun!!

There are 5 sites (6 tasks) 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. (Children 5 and older welcome, younger children will need adult supervision)
- **Minneapolis: Cedar Lake Park Association** (9am-noon) Clean up and clear out a park so it can be used for recreational and educational purposes. (All ages welcome, younger children will need adult supervision)
- **Minneapolis: People Serving People Homeless Shelter** (10am-12pm) Assist with general upkeep and maintenance of the shelter. (Children 12 and older welcome)
- **Mounds View: Wingspan residential homes** (9-11am) Assist with yardwork for homes for adults with developmental disabilities. (All ages welcome, younger children will need adult supervision)
- **Minneapolis: Open Arms** (10am-12pm) Decorate the brown grocery bags that free meals tailored to meet the needs of people living with serious and life-threatening diseases are delivered in. (All ages welcome, younger children will need adult supervision)
- **Minneapolis: Open Arms** (10am-12pm) Help chefs prepare free delivered meals tailored to meet the needs of people living with serious and life-threatening diseases. Kitchen tasks include chopping veggies, packaging soups, scooping dough and assembling meals. (Children 8 and older welcome, younger children will need adult supervision)

Register here. Bring yourself, family and/or friends and join Yale Alumni around the world in providing service to others in our local communities. There will be a potluck lunch following at the home of one of the YAANW board members for all to join in who can.

Hope to see you May 12th!! For questions, call or text Vicky Stoneman at 507.339.2897 or email her at vstoneman@s-sm.org



Lunchtime Lecture: Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed

May 30
noon
Minneapolis Club

Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed '94, Superintendent of Schools for the Hopkins district, will present "Public Education: An Economic or Moral Imperative?"

Soup and sandwich lunch.

\$25, pay at the door

RSVP to Ken Freed at kenfreed007@gmail.com

Regular Events and Shared Interest Groups

French Table

Apr 3
6:00 pm
Cave Vin

Once a month, fellow Francophiles meet for a fun evening of talk. All levels of French are encouraged and welcome. RSVP to Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com. We usually meet at **Cave Vin**, 5555 Xerxes Ave. S., Minneapolis.

Yale Alumni Knitting Group

Apr 22
2-4 pm
Northfield Yarn

Come join us for great knitting and fun conversation. Bring your current project(s) or start a new one. Get advice, opinions or ask questions. Total beginners through advanced are welcome. Come whenever it works for you or attend on a regular basis!

Contact: Cynthia Gilbertson at cfgilbertson@mac.com or 507-645-4327

The group typically 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

Apr 28
11:30 am
PSP

People Serving People (PSP) is a homeless shelter in downtown Minneapolis that serves children and their families. YAANW has a small group volunteering to serve meals at PSP. We volunteer on the fourth Saturday of every month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com.

Webster Elementary Volunteering

Many opportunities!
425 5th St NE, Mpls

YAANW has developed a volunteer relationship with **Webster Elementary School** in Northeast Minneapolis.

Reading to kids is one of the most important things they need—and WE CAN DO! See [this article](#) in the Star Tribune!

Come join the Webster Elementary (Mpls) volunteer team.

Contact: Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com.

Alumni Interviewing

This year's interviews are done--thanks to all who volunteered! If you are interested in interviewing applicants starting in the fall, please sign up by joining the **Yale Alumni Schools Committee** or contact one of the coordinators below.

Our regional coordinators:

- St. Paul, east metro, outstate, and western Wisconsin: Malcolm McDonald, 651-387-7050, malcolmmcdonald@comcast.net
 - Minneapolis/west metro: Cynthia Lee, cynthiaylee@gmail.com
 - Rochester: Jon Tilburt, Tilburt.Jon@mayo.edu
 - Dakotas: Dominique Fenton, dominique.a.fenton@gmail.com
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Yale Alumni in the Arts and Community

Minnesota-Made Music in the Movies

Robert Elhai ('86 MusM, '88 MusAM, '95 MusAD) and his work as a composer for movies and theater were recently featured on MPR.

See <https://www.classicalmpr.org/story/2018/03/23/orchestrator-robert-elhai-makes-a-splash-in-hollywood-and-beyond-as-that-guy-from-minneso> for the story!

Programs from Yale and AYA

Yale Day of Service

The [Yale Day of Service](#) is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year! Last year, 3500 Yale alumni, students, and friends in 20 countries and 40 states volunteered. [See above](#) for information on 2018 service opportunities in the Twin Cities.

Twin Cities Alumni Network (TCAN)

Join alumni from other local alumni clubs at various events hosted by their clubs. Check the (newly redesigned!) TCAN website for upcoming events:

<http://www.twincitiesalumninetwork.org>

Join the TCAN LinkedIn group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4075580>

Like the TCAN Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/TwinCitiesAlumniNetwork>

Join the Young Alumni Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TCANYA>

Nonprofit Ecosystem Discovery Series #2

Apr 11
5:30 pm
Minneapolis

Sponsored by: Stanford Club

Cost: \$10 at the door

Contact us: derek12772@aol.com

Location: 50 South Sixth Street, 9th Floor, Minneapolis

Join the Stanford Club and fellow TCAN members for the second "Twin Cities Nonprofit Ecosystem Discovery Series" event. Our community boasts one of the most vibrant and philanthropic ecosystems in the country and we want you to meet five organizations doing amazing things...they are truly making a difference. Each will present five-minute value propositions with the hope of making a connection and gaining an new advocate. We hope to see you there!

CEO Series: Best Buy's Hubert Joly

Apr 17

6:00 pm

Dorsey and Whitney

Sponsored by: Harvard Club

RSVP: <http://hcmnnesota.clubs.harvard.edu/article.html?aid=475>

Cost: \$20

Contact us: admin@harvardmn.org

Location: Dorsey & Whitney, 50 South 6th St, Suite 1500, Minneapolis

The Harvard Business School Chapter of the Harvard Club of Minnesota is delighted to present Best Buy Chairman and CEO Hubert Joly as a speaker of the 2018 CEO Series. Signup deadline April 13.

The CEO Series offers a platform for CEOs from high-profile companies to share their visions and thoughts on current and future issues facing their industries, as well as to provide a forum to share personal insights about a wide range of regulatory, technological and socio-economic trends that impact their businesses. Please join us as Hubert shares his strategies for transforming iconic brands and the leadership lessons he learned along the way.

Hubert joined Best Buy, the leading provider of consumer technology products and services, in 2012 and led the company through its much publicized Renew Blue transformation. The customer-focused strategy entailed: taking price off the table by ensuring Best Buy's price competitiveness and matching online prices; investing in the online shopping experience; reinvigorating the customer experience in the stores by investing in the engagement and proficiency of the sales associates; partnering with the world's foremost tech companies to help them showcase their technology; and taking \$1.5 billion of costs out to fund the required investments. The transformation has resulted in improvements in customer satisfaction, market share gains, revenue growth and improved margins.

Now, Hubert is leading Best Buy into its next phase, Best Buy 2020: Building the New Blue. In this next phase, Best Buy is driven by a clear purpose: to help customers pursue their passions and enrich their lives with the help of technology. It aims to address their needs around entertainment, communication, productivity, security, health, etc. in a more holistic fashion. It seeks to evolve from selling products through transactions to providing solutions and building relationships.

Prior to joining Best Buy, Hubert was CEO of Carlson, a global hospitality and travel company. Before that, he led Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Vivendi Universal Games and Electronic Data Systems' business in France. In 2017, Hubert was awarded the Legion of Honor, France's highest civilian distinction.

Amvets Post #5: Photos by Xavier Tavera at the MN History Center

Apr 22

2:00 pm

Minnesota History Center

Sponsored by: UChicago Club

RSVP: <https://tc.uchicagoalumni.org/article.html?aid=250>

Cost: \$10

Contact us: mlnovota@icloud.com

Location: **Minnesota History Center**

Join us for a private closing day gallery talk with Xavier Tavera, hosted by Brian Horrigan, curator of WW1 America and The 1968 Exhibit, currently on show at the History Center.

Xavier Tavera's large-scale portraits tell war and homecoming stories of Mexican-American soldiers returning from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam to live in St. Paul's West Side, where they had to start their own AMVETS post when established veterans' clubs in town did not allow them membership.

Born in Mexico City, Xavier Tavera has lived in the Twin Cities since 1996. His work has been exhibited internationally at curated shows including Lonarte 11 in Madeira, Portugal, Pingyao International Photography Festival in Pingyao, China, and El Otro Americano at the Instituto Chileno Norteamericano de Cultura, Valparaiso, Chile. His portraits are part of the permanent collections of the Weisman Museum, the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and MNHS. He received a McKnight Photography Fellowship in 2003 and several artist residencies, including the Casa Poli Art Residency in Concepción, Chile, the BAR Art Residency in Berlin, Germany, and the Maciel Art Residency in Montevideo, Uruguay. Mr. Tavera holds an MFA from the University of Minnesota and teaches photography at the College of Liberal Arts.

AMVETS Post #5 is on view at the Minnesota History Center until April 22, 2018.

The event fee includes access to all History Center exhibits.

Twin Cities Harper Lecture: An Unsentimental Education

May 6

2:00 pm

The Foshay

Sponsored by: UChicago Club

RSVP: <https://tc.uchicagoalumni.org/article.html?aid=244>

Cost: \$20

Contact us: amyweber@uchicago.edu

Location: W Minneapolis - The Foshay, 821 South Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis

Empathy has been receiving a lot of attention recently, its importance urged not only in national politics but also in the workplace, schools, between friends, and among strangers.

But what if we are wrong? What if empathy isn't what we need, but unsentimentality? This talk by Deborah Nelson describes the ethics and aesthetics of unsentimentality as practiced by some of the late 20th century's most notable women artists and intellectuals: Susan Sontag, AB'51, Diane Arbus, Hannah Arendt, Joan Didion, Mary McCarthy, and Simone Weil. Drawing upon her recent book, *Tough Enough* (University of Chicago Press, 2017), Nelson will consider what it would mean to have an ethics without empathy even in the face of extreme suffering.

Deborah Nelson is a professor of English and chair of the English department at the University of Chicago, where she studies late 20th-century US culture and politics. Her book *Tough Enough: Arbus, Arendt, Didion, McCarthy, Sontag, Weil*, published in 2017 by the University of Chicago Press, focuses on six women whose work coheres in a style and philosophical viewpoint that challenges the preeminence of empathy as the ethical posture from which to examine pain. Nelson's first book, *Pursuing Privacy in Cold War America*, examined the discourse of privacy beginning with its emergence as a topic of intense anxiety in the late 1950s.

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