



SINCE 1883

YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

May 1: French Table

May 5: Knitting

May 6: Harper Lecture (T)

May 8: YSPH Dean Sten
Vermund on Public Health

May 12: Day of Service

May 23: James Dayton on
Architecture

May 26: PSP

May 30: Rhoda Mhiripiri-
Reed on Education

Jun 8: Andrew Towne on
Everest

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Thoughts from the President

Dear Bulldogs,

The Mother Ship has sent us a signal. The Association of Yale Alumni based in New Haven has begun a study of who we are and how we think and behave in relation to our Yale ties. The quants are still sifting through the data but here are some key findings so far....

1. One out of three of you wants **greater engagement with Yale**. This number jumps to almost half for those under 45 years old.

2. Your **top programming interests** are lifelong learning, social connections with other alumni, and career and professional development, in that order.

3. One of the most compelling takeaways from the Yale College data — we are still reviewing the data from each of the graduate and professional schools — is that **age is the biggest differentiator**, with the generational shift occurring at age 45. The differences are most notable in interests, affiliation with Yale, and preferred ways of communicating:

- Yale College alumni under 45 are more interested in career and professional development and social connections than their 45-plus counterparts. These 45-and-unders affiliate with Yale based on personal relationships with individuals, and rely on more electronic means of communications (e.g., social media).
- In contrast, those of you 45 and older have a greater interest in lifelong learning, affiliate with Yale more as an institution, and communicate in more traditional ways (e.g., email).

4. There is an opportunity to increase **the feeling of**

inclusivity in our expanding alumni community — a community that is increasingly global and more diverse.

This is very helpful for us at the YAANW as we think about future programming. Any ideas?

Happy Spring!
Ken Freed '83, MM '87

News and Announcements

Spring Faculty Lecture

Special Event: Dean of the Yale School of Public Health, Sten Vermund, will be speaking on Guns, Pills and Sofas: Current Public Health Crises. Tuesday, May 8 at 5:00 pm at the Minneapolis Club. RSVP at <http://bit.ly/YAANW-vermund> or to Ron Goldser at rgoldser@gmail.com or 612.590.6323.

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



FOODIES!!! dinner at Rincón 38 in Minneapolis

Upcoming Events

Click on an event to learn more!

May 1: [French Table](#)

May 5: [Knitting](#)

May 6: [Harper Lecture \(T\)](#)

May 8: [YSPH Dean Sten Vermund on Public Health](#)

May 12: [Day of Service](#)

May 23: [James Dayton on Architecture](#)

May 26: [PSP](#)

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

Special Events

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 4 sites (5 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)
- **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@sm.org



Lunchtime Lecture: James Dayton

May 23
noon
Minneapolis Club

Architect **James Dayton '87** will speak on "Current Minneapolis Architectural Projects."

Pay at door: \$40, plus \$7 for parking if needed.
Reservations required by May 18; contact the office of Dr. Larry Schuster, 952-920-8386 or yale@schusterclinic.com.

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

Andrew Towne Climbs Everest

June 8
5:30 pm
UMN West Bank

Grand Forks native Andrew Towne '05 will talk about conquering his fear of heights through climbing the tallest mountain on every continent, surviving the 2015 Nepal earthquake and avalanche at Everest basecamp, and **finally summiting Mount Everest** last spring. Final details to be announced soon; contact social@yaanw.org with questions.

Regular Events and Shared Interest Groups

French Table

May 1
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

TBD
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

May 26
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

Youth for Understanding

Andrew Towne '05 is a trustee of [Youth for Understanding USA](#), a non-profit intercultural exchange program. An alum of YFU himself, Andrew climbed Mount Everest in 2017 to raise money for YFU scholarships for teens in the Upper Midwest. [Come hear him speak](#) more about his adventures on June 8!

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 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>

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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