



SINCE 1883

# YALE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHWEST

MINNESOTA, WESTERN WISCONSIN, NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA

Feb 5: French Table  
 Feb 7: Feb Club  
 Feb 9: Knitting  
 Feb 9: African American  
 Heritage Museum Tour (T)  
 Feb 13: CEO Series (T)  
 Feb 21: Ian Shapiro  
 Feb 23: PSP  
 Mar 2: "Egypt's Sunken  
 Cities" Tour (T)  
 Mar 16: Habitat for Humanity  
 May 11: Day of Service

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

 [yaanw.org](http://yaanw.org)

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## Notes from the President: Ken's Community Corner

Over the next year I will yield my monthly message real estate to feature the extraordinary work that Yalies are doing in the non-profit world to make Minnesota a great place to live. If you run or work for or with a non-profit, please contact me at [president@yaanw.org](mailto:president@yaanw.org).

Best wishes,  
 Ken Freed '83, '87 MM

Six years ago, on Yale's annual Day of Service, we connected with **People Serving People** to do housekeeping work. PSP was wonderfully welcoming and, after we completed our work, they gave us a tour of the property. Built in an old car garage, PSP has seven floors of apartments available to the homeless (as certified through Hennepin County). The focus is on children and their parents. Most residents are entitled to stay for thirty days, although there are some apartments available for longer duration. PSP offers a wide range of services to residents, including day care, bus transportation to the schools attended by the children residents, medical care, employment and other similar social services.

YAANW alumni (and friends) serve lunch in the cafeteria. We work the **fourth Saturday of every month**. In particular, this gives us the opportunity of serving the weekend of both the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We provide meal service in the cafeteria line, clean up in the kitchen washing dishes and trays, and clean up in the room after the meal is over. (We don't cook!) PSP kindly allows us to eat lunch that day—and the food is quite good! We don't have the opportunity to interact with the residents at great length, but they are always grateful for our service. What we do allows PSP to use its resources to provide services to the residents—rather than having to hire kitchen staff. PSP has meal service volunteer opportunities throughout the month, so if you want to serve, but can't make the fourth Saturday, it is

possible to connect another time. To volunteer or get other information, contact Ron Goldser at [rgoldser@gmail.com](mailto:rgoldser@gmail.com)

**Ron Goldser '75, YAANW Past President and dedicated PSP volunteer**



## News and Announcements

### 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 [news@yaanw.org](mailto:news@yaanw.org).

## Recent Events

Dan Schmechel '82, CFO of Ecolab, spoke about his company's sustainability efforts as part of YAANW's Environmental Sustainability Series. The event was held on January 22 at the University of St. Thomas.



## Upcoming Events

Click on an event to learn more!

Feb 5: [French Table](#)

Feb 7: [Feb Club](#)

Feb 9: [Knitting](#)

Feb 9: [African American Heritage Museum Tour \(T\)](#)

Feb 13: [CEO Series \(T\)](#)

Feb 21: [Ian Shapiro](#)

Feb 23: [PSP](#)

Mar 2: ["Egypt's Sunken Cities" Tour \(T\)](#)

Mar 16: [Habitat for Humanity](#)

May 11: [Day of Service](#)

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

## Special Events

Miss New Haven's coal-fired pizza? Come join us in

## Feb Club

Feb 7

6:00 pm

Black Sheep Pizza, North Loop

Minneapolis for our annual **Feb Club Emeritus** happy hour event! All alumni are welcome, whether you were a Feb Club Allstar or have never even heard of Feb Club until now (it's a party that happens somewhere at Yale every night in February, and alumni have taken it worldwide).

We'll be meeting at **Black Sheep Pizza** in **North Loop** (600 Washington Ave N.) February 7th at 6pm.

RSVP at: <https://goo.gl/forms/UtMW1HsVGVIPGbV33>

Last year's Feb Club at Black Sheep:



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## Prof. Ian Shapiro on “Responsible Parties: Saving Democracy from Itself”

Feb 21

5:30 pm

Minneapolis Club

YAANW will welcome Yale professor **Ian Shapiro**, Sterling Professor of Political Science, professor of management, professor (adjunct) at the Yale Law School, and Henry R. Luce Director of the **MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies**.

\$15 for recent graduates (last 5 years)

\$25 for all others

Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres

Pay at the door

RSVP to Ken Freed at ([kenfreed007@gmail.com](mailto:kenfreed007@gmail.com))

Prof. Shapiro will talk about his newest book, **“Responsible Parties: Saving Democracy from Itself”** (2018, with Frances Rosenbluth), which describes how popular democracy has paradoxically eroded trust in political systems worldwide, and how to restore confidence in democratic politics. In recent decades, democracies across the world have adopted measures to increase popular involvement in political decisions. Parties have turned to primaries and local caucuses to select candidates; ballot initiatives and referenda allow citizens to enact laws directly; many places now use

proportional representation, encouraging smaller, more specific parties rather than two dominant ones. Yet voters keep getting angrier. There is a steady erosion of trust in politicians, parties, and democratic institutions, culminating most recently in major populist victories in the United States, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere.

Frances Rosenbluth and Ian Shapiro argue that devolving power to the grass roots is part of the problem. Efforts to decentralize political decision-making have made governments and especially political parties less effective and less able to address constituents' long-term interests. They argue that to restore confidence in governance, we must restructure our political systems to restore power to the core institution of representative democracy: the political party.

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## **Habitat for Humanity**

**Mar 16**  
**8:30 am-4:00 pm**  
**St. Paul**

Come help rehab a house for a family that needs a home! We are looking for 10-13 volunteers on Saturday, March 16th, to work from 8:30am to 4pm. We will be working on a home in St. Paul and may be indoors or outdoors depending on need and weather. We will be helping to rehab a home Habitat has purchased to make it livable for a family by late summer!! This is YAANW's 5th **Habitat for Humanity** event, and the first 4 were really fun and productive. We got a lot of work done on the houses, as well as enjoyed our terrific Habitat site supervisor and the camaraderie among the volunteers. Some of us even picked up a few building skills!! Email RSVP to Vicky Stoneman at [vstoneman@s-sm.org](mailto:vstoneman@s-sm.org) is required. Upon confirmation of your participation, she will send you more information including the location. Hope to see you there!

The crew from our last event:



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## Day of Service

May 11

SAVE THE DATE FOR THIS YEAR'S YALE DAY OF SERVICE

Our 11th on the 11th!

We will be having our 11th **Yale Day of Service** on Saturday, May 11th. Please join us in one of our community service efforts on that day. More details to come in the March newsletter.

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## Regular Events and Shared Interest Groups

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### French Table

Feb 5  
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](mailto:rgoldser@gmail.com).

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### Yale Alumni Knitting Group

Feb 9  
2:00-4:00 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](mailto: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.

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## People Serving People

Feb 23  
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](mailto:rgoldser@gmail.com).

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## Webster Elementary Volunteering

Many opportunities!  
425 5th St NE, Mpls

Come read! Dr. Seuss! Elephant and Piggy! Make a difference in a child's life. Really—your time matters. One (or more) days per week, from 8 am to 9 am at [Webster Elementary School](#), northeast Minneapolis. Contact [Ron Goldser](#) for further information.

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## Alumni Interviewing

If you are interested in interviewing applicants to Yale College, please sign up by joining the [Yale Alumni Schools Committee](#) or contact one of the coordinators below.

- St. Paul, east metro, outstate, and western Wisconsin: Cynthia Lee and Malcolm McDonald, [YaleASC6206@gmail.com](mailto:YaleASC6206@gmail.com)
- Minneapolis and west metro: Tony Leung, [TNLeung@mnd.uscourts.gov](mailto:TNLeung@mnd.uscourts.gov)
- Rochester: Jon Tilburt, [Tilburt.Jon@mayo.edu](mailto:Tilburt.Jon@mayo.edu)
- Dakotas: Dominique Fenton, [dominique.a.fenton@gmail.com](mailto:dominique.a.fenton@gmail.com)

## Yale for Life

**Yale for Life** brings alumni “back to Yale” for an intellectual experience characterized by depth, challenge, excellence, and joy. Alumni profoundly reconnect with the University by engaging in Yale’s core mission of learning – at the “Yale level” – and thus leave a Yale for Life program with a new, stronger bond – with the University, and with each other. Learn more at [yaleforlife.org](http://yaleforlife.org).

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## Twin Cities Alumni Network (TCAN)

Join alumni from other local alumni clubs at various events hosted by their clubs. Alumni from all TCAN schools (including Yale) are welcome at these events!

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>

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### Introduction to the MN African American Heritage Museum & Gallery

Feb 9  
1:00-3:00 pm  
MAAHMG

Sponsored by: StanfordClub

RSVP: [Jeffrey.rainey@alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:Jeffrey.rainey@alumni.stanford.edu), 612-240-1656

Cost: \$25 (suggested adult donation to benefit MAAHMG); free for children 18 and under; pay upon arrival

Contact us: [Jeffrey.rainey@alumni.stanford.edu](mailto:Jeffrey.rainey@alumni.stanford.edu)

Location: 1256 Penn Avenue North, Fourth Floor, Minneapolis

As we celebrate Black History Month, please join us for a “behind the scenes” tour of The Minnesota African American Heritage Museum & Gallery (MAAHMG). The co-founders, Tina Burnside and Coventry Cowens will provide insights about the legacy, history and story of Minnesota’s “Black History”.

Light snacks and drinks will be served. Free parking located in ramp behind building.

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### CEO Series: Becky Roloff and Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed on

Sponsored by: Harvard Club

RSVP: <http://hcminnesota.clubs.harvard.edu/article.html?aid=522>

Cost: \$20

## Educational Leadership

Feb 13  
6:00-8:00 pm  
Dorsey & Whitney office

Contact us: [admin@harvardmn.org](mailto:admin@harvardmn.org)

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

Join us for a conversation with Becky Roloff, President of St. Catherine University, and Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed (Yale '94), Superintendent of the Hopkins school district. These two leaders will address topics such as persistent challenges in education, experiences at their own organizations, and advice for leaders in education.

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## Tour of "Egypt's Sunken Cities" Exhibition at Mia

Mar 2  
1:30-2:30 pm  
Minneapolis Institute of Art

Sponsored by: Harvard Club

RSVP: <http://hcmnnesota.clubs.harvard.edu/article.html?aid=525>

Cost: \$20

Contact us: [admin@harvardmn.org](mailto:admin@harvardmn.org)

Location: [Minneapolis Institute of Art](#), 2400 Third Avenue S, Minneapolis

Jan-Lodewijk Grootaers, Curator of African Art, will lead a tour of this exhibition of recently-recovered artifacts from cities important to Egyptian commerce and religion. Limited to 15.

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