Join Us for Reunion 2017!

Next June might feel like a long time from now, but Reunion 2017 will be here before we know it. I had such an enjoyable time at my first Middlebury reunion last summer, and I’m ready to hear more alumni stories, recollections, insights, and ideas about the future. I love learning how passionately Middlebury alumni feel about the College—and sharing how passionately I’ve come to feel about Middlebury too.

If you’ve attended reunion before, you know what it’s like to celebrate your commonality with more than 70 years of Middlebury graduates. If you haven’t yet come, I hope we can inspire you to make your plans. I’m certain that you and your classmates will be delighted by what’s in store. We’re creating a weekend filled with social, recreational, athletic, cultural, and academic events, and working with volunteers from your class to make sure your time is memorable.

So please learn about what’s to come for Reunion 2017 in these pages, and then connect with your classmates and friends and let them know how much you’d like them to join you next June. We’d love to have a record turnout—and for you to be part of it.

Warmest regards,

Laurie L. Patton, President

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. I haven’t been back in a while. What should I expect?
A. Welcome back! You’re in for a great time. Reunion Weekend is filled with activities—class dinners and panels, golf, a conversation with the president, and open houses—along with time to hang out with friends on Battell Beach. Regardless of what you choose to do, you’ll reconnect with old friends and make new ones. And you’ll enjoy the campus at its most beautiful.

Q. Is there a way to connect with classmates before reunion?
A. Yes, check out your class Facebook page where you can post photos, plan a mini-reunion, and find friends. You can also find contact information for classmates at Middlebury’s online community at go.middlebury.edu/moc.

Q. How should we dress for the weekend?
A. Vermont casual. You’ll find people wearing everything from shorts to sundresses during the day. People tend to dress up a little more for the Saturday evening dinner, but there are no formal events. It does get cool—bring layers!

Q. Does the cost of attending reunion count as a reunion gift?
A. It doesn’t. Middlebury actually subsidizes a good portion of the

Continued inside
The Celebration Starts Now

A number of your classmates have volunteered to help plan a fabulous reunion celebration and they’ve come up with great ideas. But they still need your help! It’s not too late to get involved. Suggest activities and events and volunteer to organize them. Call your classmates and encourage them to attend and to consider making a gift in honor of this reunion. Get the word out: help generate class connections using your class’s Facebook page and your own social media to build buzz. And mark the dates—June 9–11—on your calendar!

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY
- College admissions workshop, information session, and tour
- Open houses, faculty lectures, tours
- Cane Society luncheon (by invitation)
- 1800 Society and volunteer reception (by invitation)
- Class dinner and entertainment

SATURDAY
- 5k alumni fun run
- Class-specific reunion activities planned by class volunteers
- Presentations by Alumni Achievement Award winners
- Conversation with President Laurie L. Patton
- All-class golf scramble
- Children’s games and festivities
- Readings, lectures, open houses, receptions, tours
- Ice cream social
- Reunion parade and Convocation in Mead Chapel
- All-class reception, dinner, dancing, and fireworks

SUNDAY
- Farewell breakfast
- Sunday chapel service with reunion choir
- Hillel breakfast

FAQ CONTINUED

weekend for alumni. The cost of reunion includes housing, events, six meals, open bars on Friday and Saturday nights, and entertainment. Prices will be posted in early spring.

Q. What counts toward our class gift and participation goals?
A. Gifts of any size count toward the class gift totals and the class participation goal. We encourage you to consider stretching your gift this year beyond what you might normally give in a nonreunion year. To learn more, please be in touch with a reunion committee member or your staff liaison.

Q. Can I stay off campus?
A. We encourage you to stay on campus, so you can easily meet up with friends and explore all that the College has to offer. But there are many lodging options in the area. Visit addisoncounty.com and vermontinns.com for more information.

Q. Will there be programming for children?
A. On Saturday afternoon and evening, we will have a robust schedule of child and teen activities, including a bouncy house, face painting, a children’s musician, teen movie night, and other kid-friendly options. We do not have child care for children under five years of age.

Q. What is the 1800 Society?
A. The 1800 Society recognizes donors who support Middlebury at a leadership level, beginning with annual gifts of $2,500. The Panther Society offers specific membership levels for young alumni according to the number of years since graduation. For the 5th reunion class, a gift of $500 qualifies for membership. Members of the 1800 Society are invited to a special reception during Reunion Weekend.
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Young Alumni Reunite!

Reunion 2016 brought more than 2,000 alumni and their families to Middlebury for a fantastic weekend of sharing and making memories. In recent years, more and more of those returning have been members of the 5th and 10th reunion classes.

In fact, the 5th and 10th reunion classes have been setting records for attendance. Last reunion, 44 percent of the Class of 2011 was in attendance, winning the Governor McCullough Reunion Trophy for the class with the highest percentage of classmates returning.

We hope you’ll make the trip back to campus in June. We look forward to welcoming you back and hope to see your class set a new record!

CLASS QUIZ

CLASS OF 2012
1. Middlebury opened two new Schools Abroad in the academic year 2011–2012. Where are they located?
2. What major change in town occurred in the fall of 2010?
3. What new center held its first symposium in January 2012?
4. What Middlebury student group raised more than $1 million for research between 2004 and 2011?
5. What team came in fourth in a national competition in 2011?
6. What popular TV program inspired a resurgence of a cappella singing groups?
7. What song topped the charts in 2012?
8. Which two films won the most Oscars in 2012?

CLASS OF 2007
1. What building opened in 2004 and transformed how we study—and socialize?
2. Who joined the Middlebury family of programs in December 2005?
3. What student organization celebrated 50 years in 2004?
4. What social network was founded in 2006?
5. Walt Disney’s first computer-animated film premiered in 2006. What was it?
6. Who was the speaker at the 2007 Commencement?
7. What 20-time Grammy winner and actress was number one on the charts in 2007?
8. What director won four Academy Awards, including best picture and best director, for The Departed in 2007?

(Answers on other side)
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A Joyful Celebration of Middlebury

When we walk with our class from Old Chapel to Mead Chapel for Convocation on Reunion Weekend, we’ll be part of a living tradition—one that goes back more than 165 years.

In 1850, the year of the College’s 50th anniversary, graduates with a known address received an invitation to what appears to have been the first organized gathering for all alumni. For the next 88 years, alumni joined graduating seniors in marching from Old Chapel to the Congregational Church in Middlebury for Commencement. In 1938 the popular parade changed its destination to Mead.

Even as Commencement moved to the Memorial Field House in 1950, alumni continued to march with the graduates. The first year reunion became a separate event was 1978. Each year since then, alumni have paraded from Old Chapel into Mead, lining up from youngest to oldest, with the 50th reunion class marching in last to wild applause.

“Being part of the parade and Convocation is a fantastic, moving experience,” says Beth Connor P’12, ’12, ’14, director of Alumni and Parent Programs. “During Convocation, classes share memories from their time at Middlebury going back 70, 75, or even 80 years. You see your place in the continuum of time and realize how much has changed and how much has stayed the same. Don’t miss it!”

Rockin’ Out at Reunion

“It’s so special to be back for reunion—the vibe is so jubilant,” says Peter Day ’01. He’s got a great vantage point: Day sings and plays bass in the Grift, the crowd-pleasing band of Middlebury alumni that has played the Saturday night dance at Reunion Weekend since 2004.

Choosing songs for a crowd whose ages range widely is “kind of the fun of it, and I think that comes through,” says Day, whose bandmates include guitarist/vocalist Clint Bierman ’97 and drummer/vocalist Jeff Vallone ’98.5. “We want to play songs that excite us, and we want people dancing all the time.”

A REUNION TOP FIVE

The Grift has been playing the Saturday night dance since 2004. Here are five songs that really get the crowd dancing.

- “Like a Prayer” —Madonna
- “I Saw Her Standing There” —The Beatles
- “Boogie On Reggae Woman” —Stevie Wonder
- “I’m Gonna Be (500 Miles)” —Proclaimers
- “Shout” —Isley Brothers


Share the Middlebury Experience with Today’s Students

Reunion is an opportunity to celebrate your time at Middlebury and its impact on your life. It also provides a chance to make that experience available to the next generation of students through a gift in honor of your reunion.

There are two key ways you can help.

The Annual Fund: Supporting the Middlebury Experience
Year after year the Annual Fund plays an important role in helping not only to sustain Middlebury but also to make it thrive, providing essential funding that supports every aspect of the Middlebury experience.

Funding the Future: Supporting Students through Scholarships
Financial aid ensures that a Middlebury education is accessible to the most qualified students from all backgrounds, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Participate in the Class Gift
Each class sets a reunion fundraising goal. Gifts of every size count toward the goal. It’s easy to make your gift online at go.middlebury.edu/give. Or you can call 888-647-6433 or mail your gift to Office of Advancement, 700 Exchange St., Middlebury, VT 05753.

THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY
Meet a Middlebury Student

ELLIOTT MILLER ’18

Q: Tell us about yourself.
A: I’m from Coventry in the U.K., a political science major, and a student phonathon manager.

Q: What activities are you participating in at Middlebury?
A: I work with Middlebury’s Mac and Choose truck. It’s a student start-up that got seed funding from MiddSTART (the College’s microphilanthropy site). We provide late night mac’n cheese with a choice of toppings. It’s been great to see the business move forward. We’re hoping it continues to expand and offers other students an opportunity to get involved in such an exciting start-up.

Q: Why do you enjoy the phonathon?
A: Alumni and parents have great stories to tell, and it’s always fascinating to hear how Middlebury has changed over the years. As a student receiving significant financial aid, I find it heartwarming to see alumni give back to the College and support the experiences of students like me.

Q: Why Middlebury?
A: I chose Middlebury because I love languages, and I wanted to continue my studies in French while also picking up Chinese. It also seemed like such a beautiful and inviting campus, and that was a big draw for me.

Q: What’s surprised you the most about your experience here?
A: It’s been fantastic to have the opportunity to get to know my professors really well and to sit down with them and talk about the topics that fascinate me—something that I don’t think I’d have gotten elsewhere.

Q: What are your long-term goals?
A: I’m hoping to work in Washington, D.C., for some sort of political organization. I see myself returning to the U.K. to work in politics in the long term, so working for a think tank in the U.S. first is definitely in the cards.

Q: How has Middlebury prepared you for that?
A: Middlebury’s academic rigor has taught me to think critically, to ask searching questions, and not to take everything I read at face value—helpful attributes for a career in politics!
JOIN THE CONVERSATION
Check out Middlebury’s social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

FACEBOOK
• Like MiddAlum, the official alumni page, at facebook.com/middalum.
• Like Middlebury College, the official Midd page, at facebook.com/middleburycollege.
• Reconnect by joining your class Facebook group at go.middlebury.edu/alumnigroups.

TWITTER
• Follow @middalumni and @middleburycollege.

INSTAGRAM
• Follow @middalum and @middleburycollege.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION
Don’t miss out on reunion news. Most information will be provided via email.
You can update your contact information at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/update.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
March: Online registration opens for reunion
Late May: Deadline for reunion registration
June 9–11: Reunion Weekend

REUNION
BY THE NUMBERS
2,116 Alumni and friends who attended in 2016
61 Student reunion hosts
1,500 Cups of lu-lu ice cream served before the reunion parade
350 True Blue Society tattoos distributed
285 Gallons of coffee consumed
81% Alumni attending reunion who made a gift