

# The Whiffenpoofs of Yale

1909–2009 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BANQUET PROGRAM

> OCTOBER 3, 2009 COMMONS

A special word of thanks for their innumerable contributions to this Centennial Celebration Reunion and Banquet must go to Nancy Krachenfels and her staff at SP Business Services in Hamden, to Brian Wu '86 '88MFA and his associate Vicky Blanco at Inside Out Design in New York, and to the unheralded and underpaid gnomes who do Dennis Cross's bidding unquestioningly.

# Centennial Banquet Program

# Greetings Dennis Cross '65, President, Whiffenpoof Alumni, and the evening's Master of Ceremonies Invocation Warren Rothman'65 Introduction of Guests Introduction of President Rick Levin Alumni Awards and Recognition Passing of the 1909 Cup Honoring those "passed, but not forgotten" and Benediction The Rev. Peter Sipple '62, Pastor, Bryn Mawr, PA The Whiffenpoof Song Sung by "The Whiffenpoofs assembled"

Singing and other highlinks will occur throughout the evening

# Centennial Banquet Guests

#### From the University:

Richard Levin '74 Ph.D.

President, Yale University

Linda Lorimer

Vice President and Secretary of the University

Charles Ellis'59

Investment Consultant and University Trustee

Bruce Alexander

Vice President for New Haven and State Affairs

Chris Alexander

Peter Salovey

Provost

Marta Moret

President, Urban Policy Strategies

Robert Blocker

Dean, Yale School of Music

Serena Blocker

Jeffrey Douma

Associate Professor, Yale School of Music; Director,

Yale Glee Club

Erica Douma

### From the Whiffenpoof Family:

Carol Heath

Peggy Heath Ogilvy Lucy Heath McLellan

Sarah Heath

Family of Fenno Heath '50

Cameron Henning Morgan Henning Stebbins

Duke and Alison Henning's son and daughter

Rachael Oler Franco

Peter Oler

William Oler III

Amy Oler Greenberg

Family of William Oler II

Masaro Miyajima

Masako Miyajima

Kenji Miyajima

Hosts in Japan to generations of Whiffenpoofs

Selena Howard

Wife of James Howard II, son of founder of Whiffs

Eleanor Howard

Daughter of Selena Howard

Rachel Elmer'09

Great-granddaughter of Whiff Founder James

Howard '09

### From Our À Cappella Family:

David Binger

Founder of Harvard's Krokodilos; Honorary Whiff

Wat Stewart

First Princeton Nassoon Alumni President;

Honorary Whiff

#### Linus Travers

While his wife, Margaret, works to bring home the bacon, in his retirement Linus Travers'58 indulges his singular passion, Yale singing. After Yale, he received his early training as the doting father of Jonathan'93 and Julia'97, who, like their father, spent

much of their undergraduate lives in song. Proud father Linus followed them through each step of their undergraduate singing experience and took assignments with the Boards of the Yale Glee Club Associates and the Yale Alumni Chorus before joining the Yale Whiffenpoof Alumni in 2004. Linus serves as our "guy Friday" who is willing to take on, and complete, almost any assignment that



brings him closer to undergraduate singing. For the Reunion, Linus actually volunteered to compose, compile, and produce the Reunion book and the Reunion program you are holding in your hands. In recent years Linus has done more than his share of heavy lifting by singing in such Whiff Alumni pick-up groups as the Nantucket Whiffs, the Florida Peals, and the Impostors on every possible occasion. We expect great things of Linus in the years ahead as he moves up the organizational ladder.

#### Bill Barnard

Bill Barnard'75 was appointed the official Whiff Alumni Haberdasher in 1991 under unfortunate circumstances. His appointment occurred when he excused himself from

a Board meeting to take a telephone call. When he returned after a few minutes, he learned that his fellows had elected him not only Haberdasher, but Haberdasher for Life! Anyone else would have chafed at such a development, but not Bill. He accepted the position and the challenge with great grace and energy, actually coming to love his duties. Charged with making available to Gentlemen

Songsters at all times the accoutrement and items of apparel that

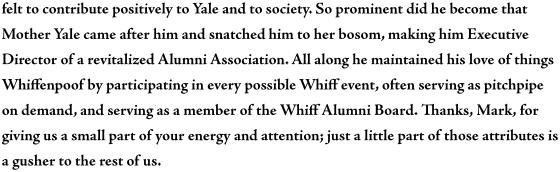


would distinguish them in polite company, and "without any reference to making a profit thereon," Bill has fulfilled this important mission with great success. Thanks to you, Bill, we are all well haberdashed, and we have had the pleasure of sharing your love of ceremony and pageantry. We look forward to years and years of uninterrupted service from you in your perpetual capacity. Simply put, there isn't anyone else who could do what you do. That is what the elders understood when they appointed you in the first place.

#### Mark Dollhopf

No contemporary has done more for Yale singing than Mark Dollhopf '77. He sang in

the Glee Club (serving as its president), the Spizzwinks, and the Whiffenpoofs as an undergraduate, then exploded in his post-Yale years to become conductor of the University Glee Club in New Haven, president of the Yale Glee Club Associates, and the resident genius behind the founding and on-going management of the Yale Alumni Chorus. Through his love of singing, he found new ways to bind alumni to their alma mater by arranging activities that were



### Masaro Miyajima

Masaro Miyajima was an executive producer of a major Japanese television network,

when, in 1981, he heard a recording of the Whiffenpoofs for the first time. As he describes it, it was love at first sound. He produced a two-part documentary special on the Whiffs for Japanese television, and since then, he has helped to arrange the Japan leg of every World Tour, every year. Without fail. That's 28 years, folks, and counting. Almost 400 individual Whiffs have been the beneficiaries



of Miyajima-san's largesse. He has arranged concerts, receptions, transportation, homestays—all, for no other reason than, because he loves it.

Miyajima-san was made an honorary member of the Whiff s in 1988, but, in his words, in his heart, he feels more like a family member.

In 1983, Miyajima-san, inspired by the music, tradition and camaraderie of the Whiffs, founded his own à capella group called "Ali Baba and the Fifteen Thieves." He personally

arranged more than 100 songs in a wide variety of styles for this group, and serves as their pitch-pipe. His wife was also a founding member and the only female. Last year the group celebrated its 25th anniversary. For this, Miyajima-san's second only sojourn outside of Japan in his life (the first was two years ago—also a Whiff pilgrimage), we salute and honor him for his decades of service and friendship to the Whiffenpoofs. Miyajima-sama: Iro iro o sewa ni narimashite, makoto ni arigatou gozaimashita. Thank you.

#### Richard "Dog" Gould

There's no one like "the Dog." Since our last Reunion in 2004, Richard "Dog" Gould '68 stunned the Whiff world with his publication of Twentieth Century—two volumes consisting largely of a pictorial account of life at Yale, and the life of the Whiffenpoofs, during the hundred years of the 20th century. The making of it was a true labor of love; the book is a work of art in every respect. Through it he has given us a greater appreciation for our history and for the remarkable place of the Whiffs throughout an extraordinary period.

any period, while preserving for us thousands of photos and Whiff archive items of every description that, but for him, would never have been remembered. We are deeply indebted to him for preserving our history, and offering it to us in a powerful and stunning work of art. Thank you, Dog.

He has also given us a better understanding of the complexity of

### Barry McMurtrey

Barry McMurtrey '89 just showed up at our first Reunion Steering Committee meeting, introduced himself, and said he was ready to "do something for the Centennial", ready to "give back" as he put it. Thus began his virtual takeover of much of the Reunion planning. We soon found that Barry was really good at almost everything. With an address book that would embarrass Suzie Knickerbocker, Barry always seemed to know personally the one person you needed to know to make anything happen. When the 2009 Whiffs wanted to sing a special concert on the Yale campus for the Centennial, everyone scoffed and said the Whiffs wouldn't get

much of an audience. Don't do it in Woolsey! It's too big to fill, and your audience will look embarrassingly small. Everyone scoffed but Barry. In an almost offhand manner, Barry took charge of the concert, confident that we would fill Woolsey Hall. All one needed was a little humor and a little PR to make it happen. So Barry lined up just the right entertainers, both Yale grads, to serve as Emcees, secured a few alumni groups representing different eras to sing in the concert to provide variety, and started making calls to just the right journalists and public relations gurus to promote the event. The result: a complete sell out of Woolsey Hall and a most enjoyable concert, especially for many Yale undergrads who typically wouldn't attend a Whiff concert.

Then Barry decided that we should organize a display in the Library of Whiff and Yale singing memorabilia for the Centennial. Before long, the display started taking shape, one display case at a time. If you walked by, you couldn't help but stop and look; then once you looked, you started examining his notes and scrutinizing the objects on display. He did all the work himself, in his "spare" time. Each case was captivating, and exquisite, almost a work of art. Then, to ensure that Whiff re-uners would come to the Library and examine their legacy, Barry invented the Sterling reception and cocktail party that you all enjoyed earlier tonight. It didn't hurt that Barry, always in the right place, works in the Library and knows how to coax the librarians, archivists, and scholars to make time for him and give him what he wants.

In the final stretch on the road to the Reunion, Barry seemed to be the guy you'd call for almost anything that needed to happen, from the grandest undertakings to the smallest requirements. He always had a way, a strategy, a necessary contact to recommend, seasoned by a laugh, that would get it done for you.

Barry, we couldn't have done this without you. Since you've "given back" so much in shaping the Reunion, the time has come for all of us to "give back" to you, by saying "thank you for all you've done".

#### Bob Birge, Charlie Buck, Bob Eggers

A crack team of three fine alumni musicians, Bob Birge'68, Chuck Buck'69, and Bob Eggers'73, making up what we call the "Music Committee", worked tirelessly over a

two year period to produce that other tool for making Whiff songs easier to learn, the computer-generated score or "manuscript."

Originally the plan was to produce a Whiffenpoof songbook for the Reunion consisting of the most enduring arrangements representing every period of Whiff musical history. But the songbook project was abandoned when it was realized that the



manuscripts could be posted to a website and downloaded by Whiffs wishing to make their own collections, threatening to make the permanent songbook more a collector's

item than a useful resource. Today over one hundred hand-written Whiff arrangements have been converted by our Music Committee masters to manuscripts that are easy to read and use. However, there is another dimension to making such manuscripts. Musicological research has to be done to compare the notes on the hand-written page, presumably the arranger's original intention, with what is being sung on the numerous recordings of the songs. Out of this variety, and with discussions with the original arrangers, the "real"



arrangement has to be configured. This is the hardest part of the effort. We give profound thanks to Mssrs. Buck, Birge and Eggers for devoting so much time and intelligence to this, to give us a musicologically-sound collection of core arrangements. Fortunately for us, Bob Eggers has agreed to continue on this project past the time of the Reunion, spitting out future manuscripts as he devours

the remaining repertoire like a locust. Only 534 more to go Bob! Manuscripter in Chief for Life!

#### Lisle Leete

Several weeks before our reunion, learning tracks for some of the Whiff's most enduring arrangements made their appearance. They are one of the tools commissioned by the Whiff Alumni to assist Whiffs in learning songs they did know before, hoping to expand

the number of songs that all Whiffs know and can sing together. The learning tracks were made by Lisle Leete '81, in the process recruiting a list of Whiff volunteers who recorded the parts at home, then sent them to Lisle for editing and compiling. It was Lisle's energy, his strong desire for a product of the highest quality, and his entrepreneurial approach to making them that made it possible for us to have them and use them in time for the Reunion. Thank you, Lisle, for taking on this challenging assignment with such enthusiasm and grace.

#### Joel Baden

Joel Baden'99 was determined to make the 100th a great Reunion. As a mere youngster

(Whiff of 1999), he challenged the Whiff elders by offering not only to organize the Reunion but to lead the effort as well. So flabbergasted were they by this single act of "bodaciousness," they decided to give him the reins. The result has been an imaginative and creative event with his fingerprints all over it. The elders were so taken by this fresh upstart that they elected him to the Board



of the Whiff Alumni as punishment. Thanks, Joel, for all your efforts. Now on to 2014! Reunion Chair for Life!

#### Dennis Cross

Through his tireless efforts during a Presidency which has lasted twenty years, Dennis Cross'65 has transformed the Whiffenpoof Alumni from an organization whose focus

was to "protect and preserve" into a happy, expansive organization fostering great music, good will, and fun for all of his "lost sheep". In the process he has given to "life after the Whiffs" a vitality of its own, a right to continue in an enterprise that formerly came to an end upon leaving Yale. As he has pointed out when asked about his motivation for presiding over the Alumni, "Why should the young



guys have all the fun?!" Thanks to you, Dennis, and to your hard-working gnomes for keeping the whole thing going as you have.

#### Kem Edwards—Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup

perpetuating his life as a Whiffenpoof.

Kem Edwards'49 sang in the Whiffs 60 years ago. Add 21 years, and Kem should be, well, 81 years old. But Kem doesn't act or look like a man of that age. Indeed, he looks and thinks and acts as if he's still an undergraduate. He currently lives off campus, is enrolled in a number of Yale courses, can frequently be found in the Library studying, and works out regularly in Payne Whitney: Those who know Kem well are convinced that he has structured this life for one fundamental purpose, so he can continue to indulge his greatest passion, namely

What does Kem, the Whiffenpoof, do? Everything. If there is a Whiff function on or off campus, Kem will be involved one way or another, as a singer or a listener. If you want to know what's happening on campus with the Whiffs, you call Kem. In fact he was recently awarded the Cal Ripkin Award for Continuing Service by the Whiff Alumni, given to that person who consistently and regularly shows up at every Whiff function, defined as two or more Whiffs getting together for any period of time. Over the years Kem has served as Trustee of the Whiffenpoof Alumni, and was appointed editor for life, or "Druckmeister," of the famed Whiff Alumni newsletter, Gentlemen Songsters. In the past decade he has served as the unofficial spokesman and self-appointed organizer of virtually every function involving Whiff alumni of the 40s and 50s. His distinctive bass voice has provided the vocal foundation for all the groups in which he has ever sung. Kem, we thank you for all that you have done to make life after the Whiffs so rich and "Whiff-like." For your lifetime of service to things Whiffenpoof and as your decade's embodiment of what a Whiffenpoof should be, we proudly award you tonight the coveted Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup.

#### David Powell—Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup

He doesn't seek much personal recognition. He's the kind of guy who tackles things that need to get done that wouldn't occur to anyone else to do. Back in the 1980s,

Dave Powell'52 determined that it would be his mission to gather together all known Whiffenpoof arrangements, catalog them, determine the rightful arranger, install a complete set of arrangements in Sterling Memorial Library for preservation and posterity purposes, and make a second complete set available to the undergraduate Whiffenpoofs for their use. Because Dave likes to work behind the scenes, most of us do not know that has been doing this for the past 25 years. If it weren't his bulldog determination not to miss adding new arrangements to his collection, a mission not always shared by undergraduate Whiff pitchpipes, we would not have the collection that we have today. From these efforts he has taken the music a step further by having digital copies of each arrangement made, as well as a system where the current Whiff Pitchpipe can review any past Whiff arangement at his leisure. Dave has concluded that technology is now his successor. He has saved and cataloged our music and he's set up the system for preserving it. It's all digital now, so he can throw away his files . . . and retire. For his efforts in a winning cause, tonight Dave is being awarded the coveted Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup.

### John Burke—Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup

None of the Alumni singing activities could have ever occurred if we hadn't been able to make a call to "the Sarge," a nickname earned as a result of his rehearsal demeanor,

to see if he wouldn't mind pitching the group. When the Alumni first started assembling pick-up groups, John "Sarge" Burke '72 was a little prickly, and one was not sure that he would accept the assignment. But it was just the Sarge putting up a tough front. We subsequently learned that he was a complete softie, whose answer was always "Yes, I'll do it."



Through the years Sarge has developed the uncanny ability to take a hodge-podge of aging voices of varied abilities—the very stuff of each Whiff alumni group—and in a very short time mold them into an acceptable group. He works with the group to find

and then shape the sound that will be most effective. The result has been a run of very successful formal and informal performances over many decades before audiences that always seemed to be charmed. Thanks, Sarge, for always rising to the occasion, when the occasion happens to be alumni singing. For all of your efforts we are awarding you tonight the coveted Whiffenpoof Alumni Cup.



# Arrangers

In this Centennial Year the Whiffenpoofs of all ages celebrate their talented arrangers, without whose imaginative work we would truly be "Without a Song"....

#### Fritz Kinzel '58

If he did nothing else but arrange the classic "Black is the Color of my True Love's Hair" Fritz would be remembered by Whiffs forever. Fortunately for us, he contributed much more than that, leaving an unsurpassed musical legacy. His arrangements include "Black is the Color of my True Love's Hair," "Delia," Johnnie One Note," and "Mountain Greenery." Thank you, Fritz, from all of us.



#### Lewis Girdler '61

In a short four years, between 1957 when he first appeared on the Yale scene and 1961 when he departed, Lewis Girdler effectively transformed the genre of à cappella singing,

not only among the Yale singing groups, but within the larger world of à cappella. We will leave it to the musicologists to explain the nature of that musical transformation. Suffice it to say, he has bequeathed to all Whiffs who followed a treasure of musical arrangements of the highest art. Thank you, Lew, for giving us "Down By the Old Cherry Orchard" (modern version), "When



Sunny Gets Blue," "McNamara's Band," "Gypsy in my Soul," and "Slap That Bass."

#### Bob Birge '68

A musician of the highest caliber, Bob left behind a rich portfolio of classic and vibrant arrangements that have been sung for decades, among them "I Married an Angel," "Just One of Those Things," and "My Kind of Girl." Foremost in Bob's legacy, however, are the two original songs he composed for the Whiffenpoofs, "Haven't We Met" and "Time After Time," with "Time After



Time" probably the single most popular Whiff arrangement of all time, having been sung by every Whiff group since Bob introduced it in 1968. Our thanks to you, Bob, in this Centennial Year, for enriching our musical heritage in such a memorable and substantial way.

#### Bruce Rosenblum '75

Bruce, you successfully integrated many jazz-like elements into the Whiffenpoof repertoire with your arrangements of "Little Pony" and "On Broadway," opening up a new era in Whiffenpoof music. We thank you for leading us successfully in new directions and for your weighty contributions to the Whiffenpoof musical tradition.



#### Chris Beck '91

One of the most accomplished and musically sophisticated Whiff arrangers of all time, Chris Beck contributed these inimitable songs to the Whiff repertoire: "I'll Be Seeing You," "Jeannine," "Whatever Lola Wants," and "When the Sun Comes Out." Thank you, Chris.



#### Allen Murabayashi '94

A man loaded with interests and talents, Allen Murabayashi left behind a memorable collection of great and enduring Whiff arrangements, to wit, "Bye Bye Blackbird," "The Christmas Song," "The Girl from Ipanema," "Up on the Housetop," and "When It's Sleepy Time Down South."



As a relative youngster, Allen has plenty of time and talent left to produce some dazzling new arrangements in his distinctive style for his undergraduate Whiffenpoof brethren. Have you considered that, Allen? We thank you for what you've done, but we don't want you to stop.

### Jeff Klitz '81

Jeff is the consummate musician in New York City: conductor, pianist, arranger, composer. His contributions to the body of Whiff arrangements while an undergraduate were of great significance, particularly his own composition and arrangement of "Home Cookin'". As an alum, however, Jeff has continued to contribute, arranging "The Song is You" for the Whiffs in the '90s and composing the lovely "Too Young to Say Goodbye" a poignant



and composing the lovely "Too Young to Say Goodbye," a poignant ballad for all of us who are recalling our Whiffenpoof experience this weekend. Jeff's musical colleague, Cary Zateslo, Whiffs '91, wrote the lyrics. Thanks, Jeff and Cary, for this touching gift of music in honor of the Whiff's first hundred years.

### A Century of Whiff Arrangers

When one considers that there are over 600 musical arrangements in the Whiffenpoof repertoire, that they are among the finest à capella arrangements extant, and that every one of them was made by members, mostly undergraduate, of the Whiffenpoofs, it is a startling realization. Although we have singled seven of the Whiffs' most distinguished arrangers here tonight, that is not meant to take anything away from the other extraordinary Whiff arrangers who have contributed so much to the Whiff's rich musical heritage. Many are pictured below; if we missed you, please let us know.

Al Atherton'59



John Burke'72



Rob Berman'92



John Cassel'58



Adam Blau'97



Andy Clarke'63



Bob Brush'69



Josh Dodes'95



Rob Buck'59



Gibson Durfee'56



Walt Buhl'67



Ben Eppes'58



Conner Fay '51 Jeff Fortgang'71 Chris Gentile '00 James Glicker '76







Carl Kaestle '62



John Kelley '86





Eric Knutsen '87



Brian Gorelick'74



Mark Kressel '96



Dick Gregory '56



Bob Lindgren'60



Bill Harwood'70



Kevin Mayes '90



Fenno Heath '50



Bill Oler'49



David Payne '83 Bill Porter '55 Wil Pritchard '86

David Tang'88



Oak Thorne '54



Yoshi Waterhouse '95



Jonathan Prestley '77



Rick Westerfield '79



William Pelto '80



Ed Wolff '50



Jay Stevens '68



We would like all those who contributed arrangements to the Whiffenpoofs, whether you are listed here or not, to stand and receive our deep appreciation. You all are truly the source of the Whiff's musical imagination and à cappella innovation. From all of us, bravo!