

YALE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

105 WALL STREET, PO BOX 208229
NEW HAVEN CT 06520-8229

October 3, 2009

To the Whiffenpoofs:

It is with great pleasure and warmest best wishes that I applaud you on the occasion of your 100th birthday! I am pleased to offer my own and the University's congratulations and tribute to you on this special day.

This is a splendid celebration that marks a unique milestone. You are excellent ambassadors for Yale and have brought special recognition and honor to the University.

With every good wish and continued success for the next 100 years,

Sincerely yours,



Richard C. Levin



GENTLEMEN SONGSTERS:

Happy Birthday!

Commendations for the Yale Whiffenpoofs

PROCLAMATION Of The City Of New Haven

CONGRATULATING
HISTORIC CENTENNIAL
WHIFFENPOOFS OF YALE UNIVERSITY
1909 ~ 2009

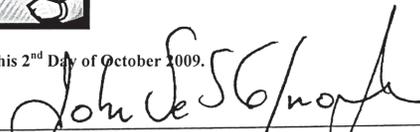
- WHEREAS, The Whiffenpoofs of Yale University were formed at the old Mory's Bar on Temple Street in New Haven, one hundred years ago in the winter of 1909 by Denton Fowler, James Merriam Howard, Carl Lohmann, Meade Minnigerode & George Pomeroy for song, fellowship, and good cheer; and
- WHEREAS, The Whiffenpoofs are now the oldest continuous collegiate a cappella singing group in America; and
- WHEREAS, The Whiffenpoof Song became a favorite American tune in the 20th Century, being recorded by some of American's greatest artists including; Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong and Elvis Presley; and
- WHEREAS, The Whiffenpoofs make an international tour each year to U.S Embassies, foreign capitals, palaces, churches and the tiniest of villages on every continent serving as ambassadors of song and goodwill on behalf of Yale University, college students and the United States itself to diverse people all over the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, do I, as Mayor of the City of New Haven, in recognition of the Centennial Celebration of the Whiffenpoofs of Yale University, I hereby declare October 2nd thru October 4th, 2009 as *WHIFFENPOOFS DAY IN NEW HAVEN*:

CONGRATULATIONS:
WHIFFENPOOFS OF YALE UNIVERSITY
KEEP SINGING FOR ANOTHER 100 YEARS!



Dated at New Haven, Connecticut, this 2nd Day of October 2009.


John DeStefano, Jr. Mayor

GEORGE BUSH

September 25, 2009

Dear Dennis,

As the one member of the Bush family that cannot carry a tune, I was very pleased to be invited to the Whiffenpoofs pilgrimage. Unfortunately, I cannot be there, but I simply wanted to congratulate everyone attending on 100 years of great music and great fellowship.

The Whiffs have been in and out of my life for many years, with recent groups coming to Kennebunkport and Houston to sing at some of our events.

Put it this way: I have great respect and admiration for the Whiffs; and, P.S., I only wish I could carry a tune!

With warmest regards,



Mr. Dennis Cross
President
Yale Whiffenpoof Alumni, Inc.
Post Office Box 209024
New Haven, CT 06520-9024



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

September 16, 2009

Warm greetings to all those gathered in New Haven, Connecticut, for the centennial reunion of the Yale Whiffenpoofs.

For the past century, the Whiffenpoofs have earned a reputation as one of the world's foremost collegiate a cappella groups, delighting music fans across America and around the world. Equally important, the Whiffs have served as goodwill ambassadors on behalf of both the university and the country. In the smallest villages and the grandest palaces, the Whiffs have offered listeners on six continents the opportunity not only to enjoy a beautiful performance, but also to better understand and appreciate each other's culture through the common language of music.

I have been fortunate to be among those who have had the pleasure of hearing the Whiffs sing, and I am glad to have this opportunity to send best wishes for a memorable anniversary celebration and for another hundred years of success.

Bill Clinton



U.S House of Representatives
111th Congress, 1st Session

**THE HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO
OF CONNECTICUT
HONORS THE YALE WHIFFENPOOFS OF YALE UNIVERSITY
ON THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY**

Madame Speaker: It gives me great pleasure to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Yale Whiffenpoofs - - the oldest continuous collegiate a cappella singing group in America - - as they celebrate their centennial anniversary.

The Whiffenpoofs of Yale University were first formed at the old Mory's Bar on Temple Street in New Haven, Connecticut one hundred years ago by 5 men, Denton Fowler, James Merriam Howard, Carl Lohmann, Meade Minnigerode, and George Pomeroy, where they performed weekly concerts. Thus began one of Yale University's most celebrated and hallowed traditions.

Each year, fourteen men are selected to participate in this time honored institution and are asked to make an international tour to U.S. Embassies, foreign capitals, palaces, churches, and the smallest of villages on every continent. These outstanding songsters serve as ambassadors of song and goodwill on behalf of Yale University, college students, and the United States. The Whiffenpoofs also stand as a model for a cappella singing groups formed at colleges and universities across America.

The Whiffenpoofs are perhaps best known for the "Whiffenpoof Song" - - an unpublished setting of Rudyard Kipling's "Gentlemen-Rankers." The "Whiffenpoof Song" was the adopted theme song of the brave men of the Black Sheep Squadron of the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II and, over the years, has been recorded by some of America's greatest artists including Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, and Elvis Presley. We could not be more proud of all that this wonderful singing group has accomplished over its 100-year history.

For their many contributions to our community and for all the joy they have brought to audiences around the world, I am very proud to stand today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Yale Whiffenpoofs as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary. I wish them all the best for another century of song, tradition, fellowship, and friendship.

CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
CONNECTICUT

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0702

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
448 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2923
TDD (202) 224-5464

STATE OFFICE:
30 LEWIS STREET, SUITE 101
HARTFORD, CT 06103
(860) 258-6940
TDD (860) 529-7498

HOME PAGE: <http://dodd.senate.gov>
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September 28, 2009

Mr. President, one hundred years ago this winter, history was made at the old Mory's Bar on Temple Street in New Haven, Connecticut, as Denton Fowler, James Merriam Howard, Carl Lohmann, Meade Minnigerode, and George Pomeroy formed an a cappella singing group known as the Whiffenpoofs of Yale University.

The Whiffenpoofs, as every Yalie knows, are unsurpassed in talent and tradition. They are now the oldest continuously functioning collegiate a cappella singing group in the United States.

Their history is rich and vibrant. During World War II, the brave men of the U.S. Army Air Force's Black Sheep Squadron adopted *The Whiffenpoof Song* as their theme song. And over the course of the 20th century, that famous tune has been recorded by such legendary artists as Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, and Elvis Presley.

The Whiffenpoofs have inspired a cappella singing groups at colleges and secondary schools across America – in fact, there are now more than 1,200 such groups entertaining audiences.

But their influence is not limited by our borders. Each year, the Whiffenpoofs embark on an international tour, visiting foreign capitals and tiny villages, great palaces and humble churches, and U.S. embassies around the world, spreading song and good will on behalf of Yale University and America's college students.

Next month, Whiffenpoofs alumni from around the world will descend upon Yale to convene with the current group in celebration of the Whiffenpoofs' Centennial. It is sure to be an occasion filled with good cheer, great music, and tremendous fellowship – the trademarks of this beloved Connecticut institution.

Mr. President, I congratulate the Whiffenpoofs of Yale University on their Centennial, I thank them for their many contributions to our nation, and I look forward to another century of song and friendship.

I yield the floor.

Sincerely,



CHRISTOPHER J. DODD
United States Senator



GEORGE W. BUSH

September 29, 2009

I send greetings to my fellow Yale Alumni and to all those gathered in New Haven for the Whiffenpoof Centennial Celebration.

Since its founding by a small group of students at Mory's Temple Bar in 1909, the Yale Whiffenpoofs have sustained a proud tradition of close harmony and good cheer. From Woolsey Hall to the halls of the White House, the Whiff repertoire has lifted spirits and inspired audiences for decades. Today, a cappella singing remains an artful expression of joy and camaraderie at colleges and universities around the world. This special reunion is an occasion to reflect on a century of perfect pitch and to look toward a bright future of continued song and friendship.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a wonderful celebration. Congratulations on 100 years of success, and here's to 100 more.

