



Kendall College
CHICAGO • UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SUMMER
2015
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KENDALL COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

//////////////////////////////////// SUMMER 2015



Hello Alumni!

Welcome to another captivating edition of the Alumni Newsletter. In the past few years as we've ramped up our Alumni Association, we've seen tremendous response from alumni across the city of Chicago, state of Illinois, and around the world. We're constantly humbled and impressed by our alumni, whether they are winning a top industry award (see *James Beard Foundation Awards Brunch*, p.4) or making a difference in their local community (see *Class Notes*, p. 5).

It's true that our students and alumni traverse the country and the globe during their studies and careers, and our Chicago campus is nothing short of beloved, but we hear from alumni every day with fond memories of their time at our original campus. Since many of our current alumni base studied at Kendall when we were located in Evanston, we are delighted to be able to celebrate in the town that was our first home during our Homecoming event this August (see *invitation on back cover*, *Evanston article* p. 2).

We enjoy hearing from our alumni whether it's remembrances of your time at Kendall or updates about your life and career. Please feel free to contact us anytime at alumni@kendall.edu. If you want to see what we've been up to, visit [YouTube.com/KendallCollege](https://www.youtube.com/KendallCollege) for everything from "A Day in the Life of a Kendall College Student" to interviews with alumni like you.

Warmly,

Emily Williams Knight
President

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ON THE COVER:
GRADUATION
THEN AND
NOW

ALUMNI BOARD

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Hospitality Management
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Culinary Arts
Vice President

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Francine Harris '92
Early Childhood Education

Heide Hirschtick '06
Professional Cookery Certificate

Cortney Kinzler '99
Business

Jaime Mestan '07
Culinary Arts

Cody New '06
Early Childhood Education

Jamie Walters '12
Hospitality Management



HELLO FELLOW ALUMNI!

The Alumni Association Board has been busy this year planning events to bring together alumni in 2015. This year we are excited to host "Kendall Homecoming" in Evanston, IL. Traditionally, homecoming is a big deal for current students, faculty and staff of the school, but also for alumni. To honor Kendall and our alumni, we are heading back to Evanston where it all began.

Kendall Homecoming will be held on Saturday, August 29th at the Evanston History Center in the Charles Gates Dawes House. We have designed a custom walking tour of Evanston that will begin at 1 p.m. and a reception to follow from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. Space is limited on the walking tour so please RSVP to reserve your spot. An invitation with more information is on the back cover of this newsletter.

I cannot express how important it is to celebrate Kendall's past. In fact, most of Kendall's graduating classes came from Evanston, so it's about time we celebrate how much we value our history!

I hope to see many of you at Kendall Homecoming in August!

Best regards,
Jeff Vicik '11
Hospitality Management
President

LETTER FROM **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD PRESIDENT**



On May 18th, Kendall alumni from a variety of degree backgrounds gathered in Chicago at One North Kitchen & Bar to network and catch up. Alumni were joined by Kendall faculty and staff and enjoyed a special menu of appetizers created by Executive Chef Laura Piper '91.

SPRING ALUMNI NETWORKING RECEPTION

"Each alumni event gets better and better," said Kendall College Director of Career Services Kristen Hodges. "It is wonderful to see the success of recent graduates and the connections they are building with the more seasoned alumni who have been working in the industry for years.



There are familiar faces at every event, but we also see first-time attendees interested in re-connecting or meeting fellow Kendall alums."

NEW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The newest member of the KCAA Board is **Jamie Walters '12**, *Hospitality Management*. Jamie is an Event Producer at Blue Plate in Chicago, IL. She looks forward to using her event management experience and industry insight to help the Board and Kendall College alumni and students.

The Alumni Association Board is looking for new members, and particularly interested in alumni who can represent the '70s and earlier. If you graduated before 1980 and would like to join the board, please email alumni@kendall.edu or contact **312.752.2432**.



The town of Evanston was named.

1857

Evanston Collegiate Institute was founded.

1934



1950

The school's name was changed to Kendall College to reflect the financial generosity of the Kendall family.



EVANSTON, IL: WHERE IS IT NOW?

Okay, so Evanston, IL hasn't actually moved on the map, but where is it compared to when Kendall College lived on Orrington Avenue? How has the city grown and changed, and how has it stayed the same? The Alumni Association, in partnership with the Evanston History Center, aims to find out at the Kendall Homecoming in August.

“Our Homecoming event is exciting on many levels. First, we’re quite literally ‘coming home’ to Evanston, where Kendall was founded and we look forward to hearing from alumni who attended there,” shares Alumni Relations Specialist Marguerite Allegretti. “Second, experiencing the city firsthand and learning about its history will help us continue to build a strong bridge between past and present at Kendall College.”

Connected to Chicago by the CTA Purple Line, Evanston has always celebrated its college ties and public lakefront, but the city now hosts a vibrant arts scene, shopping, popular restaurants for any taste and many cultural events for visitors and its more than 75,000 residents. For example, a free summer concert series brings the community together in parks around the city to enjoy live music and delicacies from local food trucks.



1960

During the '60s the College significantly expanded from one building, Wesley Hall, to include a new four-story classroom building and a new residence hall.

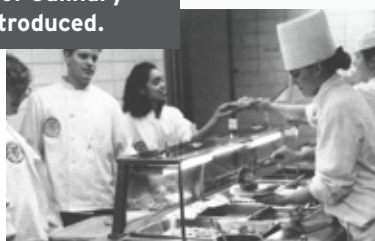
1976

Kendall transitioned from a two-year junior college to a four-year baccalaureate degree-granting institution.



1986

School of Culinary Arts introduced.



Building on the two-year Early Childhood Education curriculum, the Illinois 04 Teacher Training Certification B.A. was launched.

1994



Kendall College moved from Evanston to the Riverworks Campus in Chicago.

2005



2015

Kendall College Alumni Association Board hosts Kendall Homecoming at the Evanston History Center on August 29, 2015.

Evanston has been known for many things in the past: as a dry community for more than 100 years, a haven for families leaving Chicago after the Great Fire in 1871, and boasting vibrant business and shopping districts for a smaller city.

Attendees of the Kendall Homecoming event (invitation on back cover) at the National Historic Landmark Dawes House will gain a fascinating glimpse at what life was like throughout Evanston's rich past. In addition, Kris Hartzell, Director of the Evanston History Center, will host an engrossing walking tour highlighting many aspects of the city from architecture to recounting notable historical events and changes.

Even though the Evanston campus is no longer in existence - it is now Kendall Place, a development of historically-inspired single family homes - memories of campus life, and life in Evanston, remain tangible to the many Kendall alumni who earned their degrees there.

Many alumni own businesses and work in Evanston including:

- > Heather Bublick '10, owner of Feast & Imbibe
- > Vince Dibattista '00, owner of Union Pizzeria
- > Nell Funk '04, owner of Now We're Cookin', Inc.
- > Eric Young '06, owner of The Lucky Platter



KENDALL HONORS ITS JAMES BEARD AWARDS NOMINEES

Kendall College held a brunch on Sunday, May 4, 2015 to honor the 14 alumni recognized by The James Beard Foundation® Awards and to celebrate the Awards being hosted in Kendall's backyard of Chicago.

Alumni were presented with customized plates to be displayed in their restaurants or personal collections to fully commemorate the event.

"Getting a James Beard [Foundation Award] was a culmination of many many years of culinary dedication," shared Shawn McClain '90 at the brunch. "It's still the most important recognition a cook can get."

In addition to the brunch and ceremony recognizing alumni, Chef Rick Bayless and Chicago-based food journalist Steve Dolinsky hosted a lively panel discussion with six chefs - all nominated for or past winners of James Beard Awards - for culinary students and other special guests.

Held in the Skyline Room on the 5th floor of Kendall College's campus, many students from the School of Culinary Arts and the School of Hospitality Management volunteered at the event. First, to be a part of an important industry occasion and also for the chance to meet with esteemed chefs and other notable industry leaders in attendance.

"It was a great opportunity for our students to network and be a part of a fantastic and important event for the City of Chicago," said School of Culinary Arts Chef Dean Dina Altieri.

JAMES BEARD RECOGNIZED ALUMNI

- > Steve Chiappetti '97
- > R.J. Cooper '92
- > Tom Fleming '90
- > Dan Fox '03
- > Jose Garces '96
- > Michelle Gayer '90
- > Beverly Kim '00
- > Bill Kim '92
- > Ryan McCaskey '96
- > Shawn McClain '90
- > Mindy Segal '89
- > Adam Siegel '94
- > David Swanson '92
- > Michael White '93

KENDALL COLLEGE TRUST NEWS

Kendall College Trust is excited to announce a great lineup of fundraiser events for the summer.

IRON GOLF EVENT - Monday, August 17, 2015 - Gale Street Inn is hosting a great day of food, fun and golf to raise scholarship funds for the KCT. The event will be held at the Grove Country Club. For more information or to purchase a foursome, go to irongolf.org.

FRIED CHICKEN & CHAMPAGNE FEST - Saturday, August 22, 2015 - The event involves a roster of 13 of Chicago's award-winning chefs and Kendall alums battling it out for the title of best fried chicken. It will be held in the Kendall College Skyline Room.

RONAYNE & FORREST THOMAS MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER - Sunday, August 23, 2015 - Kendall alums Autym Henderson '03 and Nick Thompson '04 have partnered with Chef Laura Piper '91, for their second annual event to raise scholarship funds in memory of fellow Kendall classmates Ronayne and Forrest Thomas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT KENDALLFOUNDATION.ORG /// 312.752.2352

CLASS NOTES

Submit your update via mail or to alumni@kendall.edu

'10s

Ivette Aguire-Beck '11, *Culinary Arts*, is the Executive Chef at Macy's State St. store in Chicago, IL.

Alexandra Caito-Sipe '10, *Culinary Arts*, is a School Nutrition Specialist at Indiana Department of Education.

Brandon Butkovich '10, *Culinary Arts* and **Aaron Bühler '08**, *Hospitality Management*, opened das!Burger in Weisbaden, Germany.

Shadiya Bellel-Costello '13, *Early Childhood Education*, is a Head Start Teacher at Northwestern University Settlement.

Melissa Calahan '13, **Aldis Stripnieks '09** and **Miranda Kidd '15**, all *Hospitality Management*, have been nominated for awards from Meeting Professionals International.

Melissa Claich '11, *Hospitality Management*, is an Event Producer at Blue Plate Catering and is getting married this summer.

Katharine Ebert '14, *Early Childhood Education*, is a program specialist at KinderCare.

Hope Farrell '12, *Early Childhood Education*, is the Assistant Director and Pre-K Teacher at Little Treasures Learning Center in New Castle, PA.

Renata Fernandes de Castro '13, *Hospitality Management*, works in Guest Relations at Belmont Copacabana Palace in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Braken Foster '11, *Business*, is a Broker with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.

Cece Grade '12, *Baking and Pastry*, is a Pastry Chef at The Cake Lady in Milwaukee, WI.

Nina Kasso '12, *Hospitality Management*, is the Assistant Front Office Manager at Trump International Hotel in Chicago, IL and is earning her MBA at Benedictine University.

Emily Kring '14, *Hospitality Management*, and **Chris Obrist '13**, *Hospitality Management*, were married in December 2014.

Gregory Laketek '10, *Culinary Arts Certificate*, owns West Loop Salumi and was listed in Forbes "2015 30 Under 30: The Food & Drink Masters Changing How We Eat."

Karin Mandigo '12, *Hospitality Management*, is a Night Auditor at Joie de Vivre in Hawaii.

David Robin '11, *Culinary Arts*, opened Hoof & Feather in Morton Grove, IL.

Ida Uddstal '14, *Business*, is the Operations Manager at GCC Chicagoland.

'00s

Matt Andorka '08, *Culinary Arts*, opened Andorka's Sandwich Shop in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood.

Patrick Bertoletti '07, *Culinary Arts*, opened Taco in a Bag in Chicago, IL and made "The Hot List" in the June 2015 issue of *Chicago Magazine*.

Libby Glover '09, *Baking and Pastry*, opened Four and Twenty Blackbird Bake Shop in Columbus, OH in 2013.

Susan Jankowiak '08, *Hospitality Management*, is the Assistant Spa Director at The Peninsula Chicago.

Rosemary Pagtakhan '05, *Culinary Arts*, is the Manager at Sweet Mandy B's Bakery in Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood.

William Sklenik '01, *Hospitality Management*, is the General Manager at Hawthorn Woods Country Club.

Ben Stanley '08, *Culinary Arts*, is the Innovation R&D Manager at Dunkin' Brands.

'90s

Courtney Contos '98, *Culinary Arts*, owns Contos Kitchen & Store in Shelburne, VT, which was chosen as one of the best cooking schools in the world by *Food & Wine Magazine*.

Mary Rosenthal '97, *Baking and Pastry*, is an Associate Research Administrator at Northwestern University.

Michael Washer '90, *Culinary Arts*, joined John Doe Bakery as Senior Chef and Baker.

'80s

Debra Meeks '80, *Art and Photography*, is owner of Debra Meeks Photography in Chicago, IL.

James Palmeri '88, *Culinary Arts*, is the Executive Chef at Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, NY.

KENDALL NEWS

visit kendall.edu for more information

2015 Commencement speaker was **Sam Toia**, President and CEO of the Illinois Restaurant Association.

Kendall Cares volunteers constructed **Fourth of July thank you cards** for active military overseas.

The 9th Annual International Fair brought together Kendall students, faculty and staff from over 15 different countries to share their culture and history with the school community.

In May, Kendall welcomed members of the **SABIT delegation**; a group of hospitality specialists from Eurasia seeking to learn more about Kendall's role in educating students in the industry.

Kendall College announces 45 new faculty, students and staff as **Certified Guest Services Professionals CGSP®** designees.

Chef Dina Altieri has been named the new **Dean of the School of Culinary Arts**.

Already Regional winners, **ACF Knowledge Bowl Team** heads to Orlando for the National Convention in August.

KENDALL COLLEGE

900 N. North Branch Street
Chicago, IL 60642

kendall.edu // 888.90.KENDALL

 facebook.com/KendallCollegeAlumniAssociation

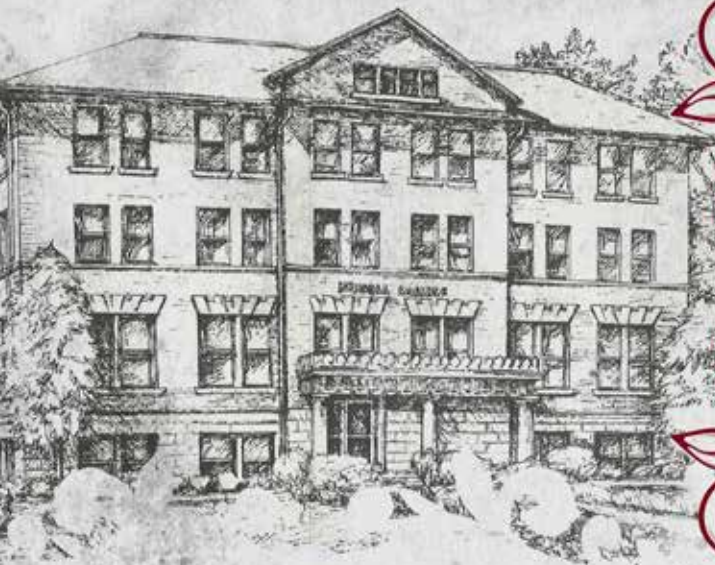
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KENDALL HOMECOMING 2015 {WHERE IT ALL STARTED}

YOU AND A GUEST ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A
CELEBRATION HONORING THE PAST, PRESENT
AND FUTURE OF KENDALL COLLEGE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29
2:30–5:30 P.M.

THE EVANSTON HISTORY CENTER IN THE
CHARLES GATES DAWES HOUSE
225 GREENWOOD STREET • EVANSTON, IL

RSVP
<http://bit.ly/1Gk4Dqc> • 312.752.2432

A WALKING TOUR OF EVANSTON WILL BE HELD AT 1:00 PM.
SPACE IS LIMITED. \$10 PER PERSON. PLEASE RSVP SEPARATELY
TO 312.752.2432 OR MARGUERITE.ALLEGRETTI@KENDALL.EDU