Issue V
Fall 2019

The newsletter of the Yale Glee Club Associates
Greetings Glee Clubbers past and present! As fall semester midterm season wanes, the 159th Glee Club remains hard at work (and play!). Cold, wintry weather has already begun slowly but surely to settle into the New Haven streets. This second half of the fall semester is always an exciting time for the Glee Club, with our joint concerts with the Princeton and Harvard Glee Clubs and our Yale Club concert. These past few months have been very full (and fun), so we have much to recap. Toward the end of August, returning members reunited in Woolsey Hall to welcome the Yale College Class of 2023 at the Opening Assemblies.

The first weekend of the semester, we auditioned and welcomed new members of the 159th Glee Club. A week later, we embarked on our annual retreat to the Silver Lake Conference Center in bucolic Sharon, CT where we spent the weekend learning our repertoire, square dancing, and getting to know each other.

Upon getting back from retreat, Cambridge’s renowned Trinity College Choir—with whom the Glee Club sang on tour to the UK this past spring—gave a concert at the Trinity Church on the New Haven Green, which many Glee Clubbers attended and enjoyed. Later in September, social chairs Jonathan Jalbert ’21 and Angela Zhao ’21 took advantage of the lovely New England fall weather to organize a well-attended Glee Club apple-picking trip. In early October, we gave our first performance of the year at our joint family weekend concert with the Yale Symphony Orchestra and the Yale Concert Band. Just recently, we travelled to New Jersey for our annual concert with the Princeton Glee Club. This year, we were also joined by the Rutgers University Glee Club, celebrating the 150th anniversary of the first ever collegiate football game, which the two New Jersey schools played in 1869.

Looking ahead, we are excited for our joint concert with Harvard and our annual Yale Club concert on Friday, December 6th as well as upcoming tours to Middlebury, VT, Montreal, Florida, and Puerto Rico! We’re all very much looking forward to the rest of this gleeful school year!
Save the Date: April 4, 2020

The Yale Glee Club will hold a gala celebrating 50 years of Coeducation! This day-long celebration will include fascinating panel discussions, a Glee Club documentary screening, and of course, plenty of beautiful music. At the end of the day, we will gather for a festive Singing Dinner! See below for a schedule of the day’s exciting events.

1:00 PM: Panel Discussion on contemporary issues in Gender and Choral Singing with visiting scholars Andrew Clark (Harvard University), Stephanie Council (Mount Holyoke College), Matthew Garrett (Case Western Reserve University), and Hannah Goodwillie (Yale School of Music, Class of 2019).

2:30 pm: Screening and Panel Discussion on “A Home in Hendrie Hall,” a brand new documentary film about the Glee Club’s transformation to a coed mixed chorus produced by Glee Club alumni Miriam Lewin '80 and Naomi Lewin '74.

4:30 pm: Workshop on a special new Yale song commissioned for the Coeducation Anniversary with conductor and composer Arianne Abela YSM '10. Poetry by Ruthie Prillaman '16.

Evening: Annual Yale Glee Club Singing Dinner.

Plan your trip to New Haven, and don’t miss this unique, celebratory, musical weekend! Alums of the early coeducation years, see what you can find in your attics for our memorabilia displays, and let us know.
Serving as Glee president this year has been wonderful and a bit strange, because I remember thinking that the senior officers were very old and wise when I was a first-year. Now I know that it’s really the first-years who have everything figured out! If only I had known!

It’s been so much fun to make music and share traditions with them, and I can’t wait to see how they shape the Glee Club in years to come. We’ve done so many exciting things this semester, but my favorite memory so far is of our drive to and from Princeton, because it made me think of being on tour! Only YGC could make me look forward to a 6+ hour bus ride from Montreal this winter.

-Sofia Laguarda ‘20

The new members of the 159th Glee Club at Tap Night this past September.
Member Biographies

Hannah Morrison

Class: 2023
College: Saybrook
Voice Part: Soprano II
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
Major: Undeclared, possibly Linguistics

Interests: tap-dancing, opera, foreign languages, traveling.

Will Suzuki

Class: 2022
College: Morse
Voice Part: Bass I
Hometown: New Haven, CT
Major: Architecture

Interests: intramural soccer, Stevie Wonder, gardening, jazz guitar.
Member Biographies

Chloe Benzan-Duval

Class: 2023
College: Pauli Murray
Voice Part: Alto I
Hometown: Cambridge, MA
Major: Undeclared

Interests: running, intramural flag football, Urban Improvement Corps, ice cream.

Alex Whittington

Class: 2022
College: Pierson
Voice Part: Tenor II
Hometown: New York, New York
Major: Music; Theater Studies

Interests: ballet, dogs, new music, cooking, hiking.
A Glee Club “family” poses for a quick photo before the Princeton Football Concert.

Glee Clubbers joke and study by the lake during the Glee Club’s annual retreat to Silver Lake Conference Center.
This September, the Yale Glee Club was thrilled to host the Kaleidoscope Vocal Ensemble, a new professional, racially diverse vocal octet, for a wonderful evening of song and collaborative learning. Following a rousing inaugural concert with the Amherst College Choir in Amherst, MA, Kaleidoscope concluded their launch week with a hands-on workshop and demonstration with members of the Morse Chorale, a choir of New Haven middle and high school students directed by Stephanie Tubiolo Fistonich BA ’14, YSM ’16. Led by Artistic Director and former YGC Graduate Assistant Conductor Arianne Abela YSM ’10, Kaleidoscope plans to continue to expand their outreach programming to other young musicians around the country to demonstrate that “success comes in all shades.” We look forward to seeing what the future holds for this incredible new ensemble!
Spotlight on Recent Alumni

This fall, recent Glee Club alumni far and near are pursuing new musical opportunities around the world. Check out updates from Glee Clubbers from the classes of 2017, 2018, and 2019 as they expand the YGC family to novel locales, universities, and choirs!

Magda Andrews-Hoke ‘19 is living in Northampton, Massachusetts and singing with the Pioneer Valley Symphony Chorus, conducted by former YGC Graduate Assistant Conductor Sarah Paquet YSM ‘16. Join Magda, Sarah, and the PVSC December 14th for their annual Holiday Pops Concert!

Erika Lynn-Green ‘18, former YGC president, and Daniel Packard ‘18 are engaged after meeting five years ago during the first week of Glee Club rehearsals. They look forward to attending medical school together next year and getting married sometime after that. They continue to credit Jeff for their relationship.
Greetings from the Editors!

Hi all! Our names are Ryan Howzell ’20 and Jack McAuliffe ’20 and we are the editors of the Fol-de-Rol newsletter for the 2019-2020 school year. We hope you have enjoyed this year’s inaugural issue! Special Thanks to YGCA President Sarah Heath ’73, Amy Dunagin ’07, and Jeff Douma for their guidance and support.

Us enjoying Annapolis Harbor on Winter Tour last January!

Looking Ahead

Keep an eye out for the Holiday 2019 Issue of Fol-de-Rol in your inbox next month! The Holiday Issue will contain information about the historic Harvard-Yale-Radcliffe Concert, the December Yale Club Concert, and the annual Messiah Sing-a-Long as well as a few new exciting alumni features.

Fol-de-Rol is the newsletter for YOU, members of the Yale Glee Club community, so please reach out with any suggestions for future content. Please send emails, photos, tales of old, and recommendations to ryan.howzell@yale.edu and jack.mcauliffe@yale.edu. We are so excited to continue this wonderful tradition of connecting Glee Clubbers past and present!