

SMITH COLLEGE ALUMNAE

CHICAGO

Annual Report 2016-2017

Welcome.

In FY2016, the leadership of the Smith Alumnae Club of Chicago (SCAC) created our first annual report to showcase the people, activities, and accomplishments that make SCAC such a wonderful part of “life after Smith.” With one success under our belts, here is our second-ever issue—we hope you enjoy it!

Get in Touch: If you have comments or questions about the annual report or any aspect of SCAC, email the board directly at scac_board@googlegroups.com.

Stay in Touch: Find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and the [website](#).

Our Finances

To widen access and encourage the greatest participation from our alumnae, we stopped requiring membership dues several years ago. Thanks to generous donors, we’ve been able to continue offering engaging programs and events throughout the year—often at no cost to attend. Through this model, SCAC favorites such as the holiday party, care packages, and student teas are accessible to all members.

FY 2016 Year-End Balance: \$9,283

FY 2017 Year-End Balance: \$7,606.76

If you are interested in making a donation of any amount (it’s all appreciated!) to directly support the SCAC, please contact the board at scac_board@googlegroups.com.

www.smithclubchicago.org

July 2016 to June 2017 By the Numbers

200+ Chicagoland members

41 Chicago-area students currently at Smith

101 applicants for the class of 2021

10 New Smithies starting in the fall

5 College Fairs

20+ Alumnae interviews for the entering class

4 Book Award presentations

200 cookies baked (approximately!) as part of Cookies from the Heart at Ronald McDonald House

188 Facebook members and 145 Twitter followers

95 [LinkedIn](#) members

9 Events

A Year in Review

June 24, 2016 - Global Smith Tea in Chicago

On this Friday and June, inspired by fond memories of Smith's Friday teas, alumnae across the world gathered for tea in their home cities. Allegra Biery '84 and Louise Barrett '05 graciously hosted a Chicago SCAC tea at Northern Trust. (If you are on Facebook, be sure to check out the "[Friday Teas in the Cloud](#)" group – a closed page where Smithies from all over the world connect virtually over tea each Friday.)

October 13, 2016 - Gloria Steinem '56 in Chicago

Thanks to Allegra Biery '84, SCAC members had special access to one hot ticket: writer and activist Gloria Steinem '56 in a fascinating conversation with organizer Page May, as part of the Chicago Humanities Festival. Judging from the applause and the hollers, Smith College had great representation in the audience that night!

December 8, 2016 - Holiday Party at South Water Kitchen

Friends old and new gathered at South Water Kitchen in the Loop to celebrate the holiday season in style. It was a great turnout, and much merriment was had as we lifted our glasses to each other.

January 14, 2017 - Prospective Tea

Our thanks to Steffi Garrett for hosting another successful Prospective Tea. Area high school students and their families gathered to learn more about the College from Chicago-based alumnae.

January 21, 2017 - Women's March on Chicago

Smithies joined with an estimated 250,000 others for the [Women's March on Chicago](#) to tell the new administration that we will support each other in protecting and furthering women's rights and civil liberties.

January 27 to February 9, 2017 - Restaurant Week

SCAC members reserved tables across the city for the 2017 Restaurant Week -- with great deals, great food, and great company, this will definitely be a new addition to our annual events calendar.

February 27, 2017 - Music of the Baroque with Seven Sisters

Smithies were invited to join our Seven Sisters for Harmony and Invention, a selection of Baroque orchestral music at the Harris Theater. More of these kinds of gatherings!

April 29, 2017 - Smith in the City and Yield Tea

Alumnae, parents, and Smith students gathered at the Women's Athletic Club of Chicago (thanks to Linda Salisbury '78) to learn from experts who are working to address the complexities of climate change. Amy Rhodes '91, professor of geosciences, and Dano Weisbord, director of campus sustainability and space planning, shared the recommendations of the Smith College Study Group on Climate Change, while Mary Ellen Hannibal '81, an award-winning journalist and author of *Citizen Scientist: Searching for Heroes and Hope in an Age of Extinction*, described how ordinary citizens can facilitate scientific discovery. During lunch, Michael Howard, vice president for finance and administration at Smith, shared special insights from the college, including an update on Neilson Library.

June 20, 2017 - SCAC Annual Meeting @1871

We had a great turnout for our end-of-year meeting in the buzzing 1871 space. In addition to a discussion of upcoming events and club business, attendees enjoyed refreshments, meeting new faces, and gaining special insight into "Chicago's Technology & Entrepreneurship Center" from the 1871 team.

Mark Your Calendars

Official invites will follow, but keep your eyes out for these great opportunities to mix and mingle with Smithies across generations.

Professor Lecture (November 12, 2017): One of our favorite events! We'll sit down with a Smith professor who will share their unique insights into a relevant topic.

Holiday Party (December 2017): Enjoy the company of local Smithies! Guests are always welcome.

Prospective Student Tea (January 13, 2018): Local alumnae share their passion for Smith with high school students who are thinking about applying to the College.

Yield Tea (April 14, 2018): Local alumnae connect with newly admitted students—and give them special insight into life at Smith.

Annual Meeting (June 2018): Required by our club bylaws, all members are encouraged to attend to learn about SCAC activities, finances, and ways to get involved.

Volunteer Days at Ronald McDonald House (January 20, March 18, May 19): Cookies from the Heart takes place starting at 10am at Ronald McDonald House near Lurie Children's. Volunteers prepare cookies for families to enjoy together after a day in the hospital.

And More: In addition to our annual events, SCAC plans numerous events throughout the year and many members host their own—like visits to the theater or book clubs. Have an idea you'd like to get started? Just send the details to scac_board@googlegroups.com and we will help get the word out.

Our New Leadership Committee

President: Kimberly Wong

Vice President: Kate Nardin

Immediate Past President: Kate Later

Treasurer: Louise Barrett

Recruitment Co-Chairs: Dagny Broome & Alex Zelazo-Kessler

Webmaster: Jessie Daubner

Want to lend a hand, but can't commit to a regular role? We have lots of "one off" opportunities to be involved with SCAC throughout the year. **We'll be posting requests on Facebook**, so be sure to join us at www.facebook.com/groups/SmithiesinChicago.

A Special Thank You

To our Chicago representation in Smith College leadership: **Steffi Garrett '88**, who serves on the Smith College Board of Trustees alongside **Neelum Amin '86**; **Pat Gillman '68**, who is currently the Treasurer of the Board of Directors for the Alumnae Association; and **Linda Salisbury '78**, who served on the Board for a number of years and continues to be a wonderful friend to SCAC.

To **Steffi Garrett** for hosting our 2017 Prospective Student Tea.

To **Kathryn Dhillon '11** for your service as Recruitment Chair the past two years! Your expertise and time is greatly appreciated and you will be missed.

And to **Kate Later '11**, Smith Club of Chicago Immediate Past President. We are so grateful for your leadership, humor, and dedication. We all look forward to seeing you often at future SCAC gatherings.