CLASS OF 2009
5TH
REUNION
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

5TH REUNION
Dear Members of the Class of 2009,

I look forward to welcoming you back to campus for your 5th Reunion. Whether you are returning for the first time since your Commencement or have visited us often over the years, I am delighted to count you among the members of our family who will gather here in June.

I extend my deep gratitude to the committee that has worked so diligently to plan this celebration; your Reunion is a significant milestone for you and for Brandeis, and we have organized an exciting program of events. From the moment you arrive on Friday through the Farewell Champagne and Jazz Brunch on Sunday, you will be honored guests of your alma mater. There will be plenty of time to catch up with your classmates, reminisce about the old days, and acquaint yourself with the Brandeis of today.

We hope that you will take note of the many exciting changes on our ever-evolving campus. The spectacular Carl J. Shapiro Science Center provides the teaching labs, classrooms, and research facilities necessary to attract and retain top science students and faculty. Our newest building, the Mandel Center for the Humanities, opened only four years ago and reflects the University's enduring commitment to the humanities and social sciences. And finally, a beautiful new Admissions Center allows us to accommodate high school students' steadily-growing interest in Brandeis.

Despite these developments, the values that brought each of you to Brandeis have remained constant. While our grounds might look different, the bedrock principles that underlie the special spirit of our community - a shared commitment to scholarship, teaching, and social justice - live on through our students, faculty, and alumni.

My thanks to the Committee and to our alumni staff for organizing what promises to be a wonderful weekend. Welcome home!

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Lawrence
Special Thanks

On behalf of the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, we would like to thank the members of the Class of 2009 Reunion Committee

Gabriela B. Lupatkin, Co-chair
Daniel S. Rueven, Co-chair
Sarah M. Rueven, Co-chair

Julia I. Sokolyansky, Yearbook Coordinator
Justin J. Sulsky, Yearbook Coordinator

James L. Ansorge
Arthur J. Attal
Jacob F. Bockelmann
Aurelie M. Cao
Cassidy J. Dadaos
Adam C. Eisenberg
Gail B. Goldspiel
Maurice A. Goldstein
Ronya H. L. Gordon
Elias R. Harrington
Naomi L. Hyman
Jamie E. Jick
Jacob H. Kann
Noah W. Kaplan
Jessica R. Kent
Ilana R. Levine
Michelle D. Liberman
Graham Miller
David F. G. Packard
Nathan A. Porteshawver
Azra S. Qizilbash
Samantha L. Reid
Jessica M. Reisner
Jordan I. Rothman
Ashley D. Sauerhof
Desiree Schwartz
Jennifer R. Sheehan
Samuel B. Shoolman
Mollie A. Warshaw
**Class of 2009**

**Timeline**

**News**
- Winter Olympics are held in Turin, Italy
- Saddam Hussein goes on trial, is found guilty of crimes against humanity and is sentenced to death by hanging
- Two major E-Coli breakouts, caused by fresh spinach and lettuce, affect 500 people in the U.S.
- Barry Bonds, of the San Francisco Giants, breaks the record held by Babe Ruth and hits his 715th home run
- Pluto’s scientific classification is changed and it is no longer a planet

**Pop Culture**
- Academy Award, Best Picture: *Crash*
- The one billionth song is purchased from iTunes
- Nintendo releases the Wii
- Google purchases YouTube for $1.65 billion in stock

**Movies**
- *Pirates of the Caribbean 2*
- *Final Destination 3*
- *Underworld: Evolution*
- *Failure to Launch*
- *V for Vendetta*
- *Date Movie*
- *Miami Vice*
- *Big Momma’s House 2*
- *Superman Returns*
- *Thank You For Smoking*

**TV Shows**
- *The O.C.*
- *24*
- *Smallville*
- *Arrested Development*
- *Las Vegas*
- *Desperate Housewives*
- *House*
- *Lost*
- *The Office*
- *Deal or No Deal*

**Died this Year**
- James Brown
- Steve Irwin
- Robert Altman
- Gerald R. Ford

**2006**
### Pop Culture

- Academy Award, Best Picture: *The Departed*; Best Documentary: *An Inconvenient Truth*
- Apple introduces The iPhone
- Apple introduces the new iTouch
- The Final Harry Potter book is released: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

### Movies

- *Spider-Man 3*
- *Transformers*
- *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End*
- *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*
- *The Bourne Ultimatum*
- *300*
- *I Am Legend*
- *Live Free or Die Hard*
- *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer*
- *American Gangster*
- *Ocean’s Thirteen*
- *Saw IV*
- *Resident Evil: Extinction*
- *The Hills Have Eyes 2*

### News

- One of the largest and deadliest fires in U.S. history rages in Southern California destroying 400,000 acres and 2,000 homes
- The U.S. housing bubble bursts
- Nancy Pelosi is elected as the first female Speaker of the US Congress

### Economy

- Average cost of new house: $313,600
- Average income per year: $40,406
- Cost of a gallon of gas: $3.38
- The minimum wage increases to $5.85/hour

### Died this Year

- Liz Claiborne
- Anna Nicole Smith

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2007
**News**

- Summer Olympics are held in Beijing, China
- Estimates come out, which put the current cost for the war in Iraq at close to $3 trillion
- Fidel Castro steps down as president of Cuba after almost 50 years in power
- President Bush signs the $700 billion bailout package bill into law
- Voters in California narrowly pass Proposition 8, which overturns the California Supreme Court decision that said same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry

**Pop Culture**

- Academy Award, Best Picture: *No Country for Old Men*
- Apple releases the MacBook Air
- Europe’s space laboratory, Columbus, docks with the International Space Station
- Honda begins selling its zero-emission, hydrogen fuel-cell powered vehicle The Honda FCX Clarity

**Books**

- Elizabeth Gilbert - *Eat, Pray, Love*
- Greg Mortenson - *Three Cups of Tea*
- Stephanie Meyer - *The Twilight series*

**Economy**

- Average cost of new house: $238,880
- Average income per year: $41,335
- Average cost of a new car: $27,958
- Cost of a gallon of gas: $3.39
- US Postage Stamp: 42 cents

**Died this Year**

- Heath Ledger
- Bernie Mac
- Paul Newman

**2008**
News

The World Health Organization declares H1N1 influenza strain ("Swine Flu"), as a global pandemic

Barack Obama is inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States

Unemployment reaches 8.1%, the highest rate since 1983

The federal government announces it will no longer prosecute those who use or sell marijuana for medical reasons, if they are complying with state law

Pop Culture

Academy Award, Best Picture: *Slumdog Millionaire*

The death of “the king of pop”, Michael Jackson, brings worldwide outpourings of grief

Movies

*Avatar*

*Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*

*Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

*New Moon*

*The Hangover*

*The Blind Side*

*Sherlock Holmes*

Economy

Average cost of new house: $232,880
Average income per year: $40,711
Average monthly rent: $675.00
Cost of a gallon of gas: $2.73
U.S. postage stamp: 44 cents
Minimum wage increases to $7.25 per hour

Died this Year

Farrah Fawcett
Walter Cronkite
Patrick Swayze
Edward Kennedy
Brittany Murphy
Eunice Kennedy Shriver

2009
### Top 10 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist/Track</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D4L, “Laffy Taffy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nelly feat. Paul Wall, Ali and Gipp, “Grillz”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Paul, “Temperature”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Powter, “Bad Day”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rihanna, “SOS”</td>
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<td>Chamillionaire feat. Krayzie Bone, “Ridin’”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shakira feat. Wyclef Jean, “Hips Don’t Lie”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nelly Furtado feat. Timbaland, “Promiscuous”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justin Timberlake, “Sexy Back”</td>
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<td>Ludacris feat. Pharrell, “Money Maker”</td>
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### Top 10 2009

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<tr>
<th>Artist/Track</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beyonce, “Irreplaceable”</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIMS, “This Is Why I’m Hot”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fergie feat. Ludacris, “Glamorous”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avril Lavigne, “Girlfriend”</td>
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<td>Maroon 5, “Makes Me Wonder”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rihanna feat. Jay-Z, “Umbrella”</td>
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<td>Plain White T’s, “Hey There Delilah”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Kingston, “Beautiful Girls”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kanye West, “Stronger”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soulja Boy, “Crank That (Soulja Boy)”</td>
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### Top 10 2008

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<tr>
<th>Artist/Track</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flo Rida feat. T-Pain, “Low”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usher feat. Young Jeezy, “Love in This Club”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariah Carey, “Touch My Body”</td>
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<td>Leona Lewis, “Bleeding Love”</td>
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<td>Coldplay, “Viva la Vida”</td>
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<td>Katy Perry, “I Kissed a Girl”</td>
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<td>Rihanna, “Disturbia”</td>
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<td>Pink, “So What”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Britney Spears, “Womanizer”</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.I., “Whatever You Like”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Top 10 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist/Track</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beyonce, “Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lady Gaga feat. Colby O’Donis, “Just Dance”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Clarkson, “My Life Would Suck Without You”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flo Rida, “Right Round”</td>
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<td>Lady Gaga, “Poker Face”</td>
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<td>Black Eyed Peas, “I Gotta Feeling”</td>
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<td>Jay Sean feat. Lil Wayne, “Down”</td>
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<td>Owl City, “Fireflies”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason DeRulo, “Whatcha Say”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay-Z and Alicia Keys, “Empire State of Mind”</td>
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Students to offer ideas for budget

Pachanga tickets will be restricted to pre-sales only

DeisBikes are now available

Basketball teams make NCAA Tournament

Student Union and Waltham Group team up to launch new community service initiative

Bottled water sales will be restricted

The legend of Pachanga

A look into one of the most talked about events on campus
Students protest against closure of Rose

By Sara Ross

A group of students gathered in front of the Rose Museum on Thursday night to protest the possible closure of the museum. "We are here tonight to show our support for the Rose Museum," said One World Director of Operations, David Applefeld. "We believe that the Rose Museum is an important part of the Harvard community and we are here to voice our support for it." 

The protest was organized by a group of Harvard students who are concerned about the possible closure of the Rose Museum. The group, which includes students from a variety of universities, met on Thursday evening to discuss their concerns and plan their protest. "We are here to show our support for the Rose Museum," said One World Director of Operations, David Applefeld. "We believe that the Rose Museum is an important part of the Harvard community and we are here to voice our support for it." 

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**Massell or North, and why?**

- “Living in North was definitely better. If you ever had to run to a class you were late to it was always better to have to run downhill.” – Sam Roos
- “Look you guys I think we can all agree that no matter what happens North will always be Joanie and Massell will always be Chachi.” – Matt Hope
- “Massell - It was my first home away from home.” – Joshua Geller
- “Massell. Because I’ve never fallen into a pond in North Quad duh.” – Zachary Barr
- “Massell. We had some awesome basketball games there by that hoop next to Sherman.” – Vivek Venugopal
- “North! Better grassy quad for games, snowmen and naps in the sun.” – Eve Neiger
- “Massell. What could be better than Renfield 2?!?” – Julia Simon-Mishel
- “Massell. Because there’s a pond. Never underestimate the value of a water feature.” – Noah Schnoll
- “North -- campus security is further.” – Ben Mernick

**Usdan or Sherman, and why?**

- “Sherman on Friday afternoons for wings!” - Maxine Kantor
- “Usdan. Asian Chicken (W)Rap for life.” – Sam Roos
- “Usdan because even five years later Kathy still knows you and assumes you’re a senior.” – Matt Hope
- “BYO food from Grad and eat it in Usdan because everyone else is there.” - Leila (Alciere) Parks
- “Usdan because: Sherman regret.” - Sierra Kagen
- “Sherman: just too many great options of food (I have also finally lost all of the weight from the first year of binge eating at Sherman).” - Joshua Geller
- “Both and neither.” - Naomi Hyman
- “Sherman. Stealing food from the kosher side was always a thrill.” - Samson Quaintance
- “Sherman - because you can Shermanize and stay there for hours.” - Keren (Stiebel) Klein’
I’m reminded of my time at Brandeis when I hear this song...

- “Whatever You Like by T.I.... Skellig Memories <3” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “Jai Ho.” - Lindsay Gordon
- “Got Your Money - O.D.B. (RIP)” – Matt Hope
- “Jai Ho.” - Julia Simon-Mishel
- “Probably anything by Girl Talk.” - Nichole Speciale
- “Jai Ho.” - Arthur Attal
- “Fergalicious. Brings me right back to Renfield 2.” — Jenn Sheehan
- “Jai-Ho.” - Dan Rueven
- “Jai Ho. Because it was the best possible way to graduate.” - Zachary Barr
- “Slumdog Millionaire theme song.” - Sarah (Gelman) Rueven
- “Jai-Ho.” - Danielle Sunberg

My favorite late-night hangout spot at Brandeis was...

- “The Mods.” - Lindsay Gordon
- “The C-store. That’s where I first fell in love with Sabra hummus a torrid affair that continues to this day.” – Matt Hope
- “Zucker Levenson Rostic’s Castle suite sophomore year.” - Sam Zuber
- “Chums.” - Oriana Fisher
- “On top of the International Studies building roof.” - Sierra Kagen
- “On top of tower B when the weird theater kids would have werewolf parties during the full moon. Yep.” - Dan Newman
- “Peace Room.” - Jess Kent
- “A friend’s common room. I lost the housing lottery every single year.” - Andrew Franks
- “Mad Raven.” - Nelson Rutrick
- “The Phi-Psi House.” - Dan Rueven
- “Chums. Nothing beats a grilled PB&J and hanging out with the Chums staff.” - Eve Neiger
- “The roof of the castle. Or wherever I had rehearsal.” - Jacob Lazar
My favorite Brandeis event was...

- “Liquid Latex because it’s so unique to Brandeis!” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “When Girl Talk came to campus the very first time and rocked Chum’s to its foundation.” - Sam Roos
- “Springfest.” - Lindsay Gordon
- “PACHANGA!! and men’s basketball games.” - Sam Zuber
- “ORIENTATION.” - Dan Newman
- “Springfest 2009.” - Lauren Rosenblum
- “Tuesdays with ? Series.” - Jess Kent
- “Pachanga no doubt.” - Marcela Palau B.
- “The less you wear the less you pay dance!” - Drew Sambol
- “Midnight Buffet.” - Robin Sussman
- “Seeing Bill Clinton speak.” - Joshua Geller
- “Former President Bill Clinton’s visit.” - Leora Perkins
- “Spring Fest.” - Naomi Hyman
- “Senior week and celebrating our success.” - Aliye Melton
- “Pachanga and any Rose Art Museum dance party/event.” - Jenn Sheehan
- “Girl Talk!” - Amanda Okafor
- “Pachanga!” - Julia Simon-Mishel
- “Senior week - kickball and kegs.” - William Friedman
- “Pachanga.” - Arthur Attal
- “Midnight Buffet!” - Rebecca Sivitz-Jackowitz
- “Dance party at the Rose.” - Ben Mernick
- “Midnight Buffet.” - Justin Sulsky
- “Bill Clinton came to campus!” - Andrew Brooks
The hardest adjustment for me after we graduated Brandeis was...

- “No one in Chicago knows where Brandeis is so the biggest adjustment was saying I went to school ‘In Boston’.” – Matt Hope
- “How difficult it was to coordinate friend’s schedules to get-together.” – Lauren Rosenblum
- “Staying in shape without the Rabb Steps - HA!” – Jess Kent
- “Not living in close proximity to all my friends!” – Jenn Sheehan
- “Fewer parties with hilarious and elaborate themes that I didn’t really have to pay for.” – Zachary Barr
- “Not seeing my friends every day.” – Robin Sussman
- “Adapting to the real world :)” – Myriam Barthes
- “Not being able to play soccer every other day.” – Arthur Attal
- “Not having all my closest friends in the same place.” – Rebecca Sivitz-Jackowitz
- “Coming back to a big city riding the subway with strangers not seeing faces that were always familiar not being on a small close-knit campus.” – Gail Goldspiel
- “Missing my friends and not getting to see them every day.” – Aliye Melton
- “The community feeling is lost in the real world.” – Marcela Palau B.
- “Not having the time to do at least a few things that took me out of my comfort zone every week.” – Dan Rueven
- “The real world did not exist of approximately 12 hours a week of classes.” – Justin Sulsky
- “Finding a job...” – Andrew Brooks
- “That I didn’t just have all my friends living right by me.” – Rachel Cohen
- “Not being able to sleep until 11 and walk around in leggings all day.” – Sarah Gelman Rueven
You know you’re in the Brandeis library when...

- You can’t print anything and your life is ruined forever. – Matt Hope
- “The lights go out because no one has moved for 15 minutes.”
  - Leila (Alciere) Parks
- “You’ve seen everyone you know and have gotten no work done despite being there for hours. Gotta love the green room.” – Jenn Sheehan
- “The walls have carpet.” - Samson Quaintance
- “It’s 4am and I mostly hear Turkish around me.” - Myriam Barthes
- “It is packed on weekend nights.” - Dan Rueven
- “You’re sitting and talking to your friends and eating C-Store candy.”
  - Rachel Cohen
- “It’s the most happening spot on campus on a Saturday night.”
  - Sarah (Gelman) Rueven
- “Each successive level is below ground.” – Caroline Cadel

The one thing about Brandeis that always surprises my non-Brandeisian friends is...

- “That we have a CASTLE.” - Matthew Hope
- “The way we stick together into our late 20s (and I assume into our 70s 80s 90s).”
  - Leila (Alciere) Parks
- “The DIY-major.” - Sierra Kagen
- “How many people are pre-med.” - Lauren Rosenblum
- “Purim and Simchat Torah were some of our biggest party weekends. And that I know people (plural!) who wear capes and no shoes.” - Zachary Barr
- “Not every student is Jewish. Yes, yes, I assure you.” - Myriam Barthes
- “I hated the academics and loved the social life.” - Nelson Rutrick
- “The access and relationships with professors.” - Dan Rueven
- “Our mascot is an owl.” - Sarah Gelman Rueven
- “The fact that we have the most number of performing groups per capita of any university in the country.” - Jacob Lazar
My favorite Student Events concert during our time at Brandeis was…

- “Girl Talk. was. epic. Thank you Amanda Okafor.” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “Third Eye Blind.” - Lindsay Gordon
- “The Wailers.” – Sam Roos
- “Regina Spektor.” – Sierra Kagen
- “Flogging Molly & OAR. Not possible to pick just one.” - Aliye Melton
- “Springfest 2009. I don’t even remember who played that concert but it was second semester senior year the weather was perfect and it was awesome.” - Vivek Venugopal
- “Wailers hands down! And Girl Talk.” - Sam Zuber
- “Nas.” - Arthur Attal
- “Flogging Molly!” - Yuriy Kozlov
- “Regina Spektor.” – Jess Kent
- “Third Eye Blind.” - Rebecca Sivitz-Jackowitz
- “Idan Raichel and Regina Spektor both were AMAZING.” - Gail Goldspiel
- “Springfest 2009.” (Asher Roth).” - Andrew Brooks
- “Reel Big Fish.” - Eve Neiger
- “Regina Spektor.” - Vicki Schairer
- “Third Eye Blind.” – Justin Sulsky

Dartmouth Street or Moody Street and why?

- “Dartmouth. Bad Grammar House 30D a million regrettable frat parties. So many memories.”
  - Sam Roos
- “Moody St. definitely because it has (at least) three Indian restaurants. I mean I love to party but CURRY? Come on.” - Matt Hope
- “Moody Street because: Lizzy’s Ice Cream.” - Sierra Kagen
- “Moody Street because Thai food. And the Skellig.”
  - Jenn Sheehan
- “Option C-Charles Street. Taqueria Mexico is the best food in Waltham. Plus our tradition of Thursday night dinners there was always a blast.” - Vivek Venugopal
- “Dartmouth Street - my former address!”
  - Sarah (Gelman) Rueven
When I think of the Asian Chicken Wrap at Usdan I feel…

• “Grossed out.” - Lindsay Gordon
• “Pride and shame both caused by my authorship of this song: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqdZiu4zYKA Also indigestion and arteries clogging.” – Sam Roos
• “Glad I was a vegetarian at the time.” - Leila (Alciere) Parks
• “Hungry.” - Lauren Rosenblum
• “Tangy.” – Jess Kent
• “Nostalgic (and slightly ill).” - Aliye Melton
• “…elated.” – Jenn Sheehan
• “That I might have over done it on the sauce.” - Samson Quaintance
• “Satisfied. What a great sandwich it all the terribly right ways.” - Vivek Venugopal
• “… would rather keep my thoughts to myself.” - Myriam Barthes
• “Nostalgic and nauseous.” - Arthur Attal
• “Hungry.” - Nelson Rutrick
• “FULL.” - Gail Goldspiel
• “Not really that Asian.” - Marcela Palau B.
• “Nostalgic for Freshman Year.” – Justin Sulsky
• “Sick. So sick.” – Rachel Cohen
• “Heartburn. Really I then remember the cookies and get hungry.” - Jacob Lazar
• “I was fooled by the lettuce.” - Vicki Schairer
• “Nostalgic.” - Justin Becker
Pre-2008 Ridgewood or post-2008 Ridgewood and why?

- “Pre-2008 Ridgewood.... my name & Maurice Goldstein’s name was up on the wall of the Ocho for winning a beer pong tournament. #neverforget” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “Pre. Th ose always felt like you were in college during the 1970’s and let’s face it that would have been a way cooler time to be in college.” - Sam Roos
- “Post-2008! That place had a dishwasher! It’s still the nicest apartment I’ve had.” - Leila (Alciere) Parks
- “Pre-2008 felt like a weird co-op group home.” - Jacob Bockelmann

Getting #781 in the Brandeis housing lottery meant...

- “Obviously a box in the middle of Massell pond.” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “You had to move in with your boyfriend to a loft on Prospect St. before your relationship was really ready for that type of leap.” - Matt Hope
- “Nothing! Living off-campus is the way to go!” - Leora Perkins
- “Frantically contacting everyone I know to pull me in.” - William Friedman
- “I had a number that was shittier than 617? It’s...It’s a Boston joke. Don’t worry about it.” - Nelson Rutrick
- “Becoming best friends with someone who had a decent number to pull you into their suite (just kidding Avi)” - Andrew Brooks

I’m proud to be able to say that ____________ is also a Brandeis alum.

- “My closest friends.” - Julia Sokolyansky
- “Marta Kauffman.” - Lindsay Gordon
- “My friends, parents and sister (are).” - Zachary Barr
Dear Brandeis Graduate,

This book contains images of your years at Brandeis, images that with the passage of time and memory will change and grow. The most important images, however, are not in this book. What the Archon cannot capture in word or picture is the special nature of the education you have received at Brandeis. Personal relationships with classmates and faculty, both inside and outside the classroom, have helped to shape you in ways that may become evident only years from now.

Whatever specific knowledge or skills you take with you from Brandeis, I hope that our alma mater has sharpened your powers of reasoning and contributed to your ability to think for yourself, to see connections and relationships between ideas and events that may not be obvious, to be open to contrary views, and to distinguish fact from opinion and analysis from prejudice. You leave Brandeis at a time of great national and international challenge. The world needs educated people like you to help solve the problems that face us as individuals, communities, nations and as a global society.

In the fall, a new class will enter Brandeis, filled with the same anxieties, hopes and dreams you experienced. Each class contributes to the process of renewal that helps ensure Brandeis's vitality and contributes to the preservation of values and traditions that define Brandeis University and the special educational experience it provides. It is a remarkable journey that has brought you to your destination, and I urge you to treasure it.

The undergraduate experience lasts but four years; however, the experiences and memories of those years, coupled with the friendships you have formed with men and women from around the world, enrich a lifetime. I hope that graduation will reflect not the end, but the beginning of your relationship with our alma mater. As a graduate of Brandeis University, you join thousands of other women and men in this country and abroad who share a common experience and a special bond. Brandeis looks to you for continued active involvement in the life of the University and for support of its mission in educating future generations of Brandeisians. You can take pride in being an ambassador for this very special University.

I extend to you my very best wishes and heartiest congratulations for personal achievement that your Brandeis education represents.

Sincerely,

Jedda Reinhartz, Ph.D. '72
President
Life since Brandeis...

I spend my time working as a Commercial Real Estate Broker specializing in investment sales. My free time is still spent competing in Olympic Weightlifting and continuing to stay connected to old friends from Brandeis.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

The friends that I made at Brandeis are still my best friends to this day.

How have you and your life changed since graduation?

My days are much busier and filled with responsibilities that I once didn’t have. I opted to enter the business realm as opposed to pursuing a career path resulting from my HSSP major. While I appreciate where I am at in life, I do miss the days of little responsibility and lots of fun with friends.
Gregory Antill

Life since Brandeis...

Gregory lives in Los Angeles. He is continuing on where his Brandeis education left off, pursuing a Ph.D. in Philosophy at UCLA.
Simon Asulin

Life since Brandeis...

Since graduation, I’ve worked in several roles, including: scientist, consultant, teacher, and personal trainer. These days, my hobbies are playing with my puppy, training for triathlons, and learning new things. I loved Brandeis so much that I returned for my MBA. I’ve come to realize that life is short, so follow your passions, push hard, aim high, and reach for the stars, and if you fall you’ll land on a cloud.
Arthur Attal
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis, I began working at a Jewish day school, teaching fifth grade (sort of like Brandeis Junior). While teaching there, I earned a masters degree in education from Boston College (sort of like the exact opposite of Brandeis). After four years at that Jewish day school, I started teaching in the Newton Public Schools as an 8th grade history teacher, which is much more fun than it (probably) sounds. By the time of the reunion, I’ll be two weeks away from finishing up my first year there, and hopefully I’ll have continued to enjoy it as much as I do now.

Intriguingly, I am still living in the same apartment I moved to after graduating, which I consider an impressive fact. It’s about fifteen minutes east of Brandeis, but I think that’s more a product of the Boston area being a great location than a desire to remain that close to Brandeis. Except for winter, which is consistently the worst thing ever.

I see my Brandeis friends decently often considering most don’t live within two hours of me. Even though we’ve spread out over the last five years, they have remained, by and large, my closest friends. And while I told people for years that I went to Brandeis to find a Jewish doctor to marry, I have yet to find him.

I’m pretty excited to be at reunion, mostly because my parents got a lot of great free things at their Brandeis reunion (I’ve been jealous of their canvas tote bags for the past few years) and I assume I’ll be given similar gifts.

I have a bunch of hobbies and interests and stuff, but really, you can just ask me about them. Or look me up on Facebook. Happy reunion, all!

What do you consider your greatest achievement(s)?

The other day, a student told me I was his favorite teacher because I was “funny” and “gave less homework than the math teacher.” I’ll take that as a win.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

I refuse to be limited to just one. Here are some highlights:
1. The BaRuCH Purim shpiel
2. HTG’s The Music Man(dee)
3. Senior Week
4. The glow in the dark party honoring George Washington
5. Halloween costume fight in the Campus Center
6. Tour guiding
Life since Brandeis...

5 years in 500 words. Let’s make it 50 sentences and 5000 characters too.

Since this yearbook is all about 5s, I pause for a moment on 5 impressions.

Uncertainty

Some may live life with passion, others may observe it with disillusion – and a smile - while various others may desperately aim to control it; yet regardless of the angle, the perspective or the approach, one phenomenon is certain: nobody knows what comes next (some of us may now feel a temporary relief). I believe that is the paramount realization one must make to survive, accept and embrace -for the braver ones- the unknown. So breathe, relax and let go.

Perseverance

While we now know that we don’t know (de facto-that would be a safe assumption), one’s existence would grow to become an absurd charade, a miserable satire, or a ridiculous farce without countless and repetitive attempts to create a dynamic self that would serve an ever-evolving sense of purpose. You name it. In all aspects of life, I have come to gather that endurance, persistence, determination, tenacity, effort and drive are instrumental means to furthering the essence of one’s existence and witness progress.

Intuition

As one tirelessly chases self-inflicted or environment-induced aspirations; fact patterns are comparable and the day-to-day execution of strenuous and not-so-strenuous tasks has one primary ally; our own instinct. Yes, you can rely on your intuition and in fact develop a relationship based on trust with yourself (hard to believe, I know). Let’s face it, perception is the only sentiment left when artifacts are turned into dust and life must be dealt with. The clairvoyant state of mind is presently- and tentatively- depicted as such: #Beaware#Awareness#Instaware#Instainstinct. Voila!

Risks

Imagine that one has built a solid foundation tailored to one’s own priorities (a bold hypothesis I will admit), well, under this set of conditions, I trust that one must come to terms with circumstances and understand that mistakes are inevitable. With that in mind, we deserve to exercise our freedom (truly, a topic that would entertain a separate discussion) and take our chances. Let’s roll the dice... for a fraction of an instant, the past, the present and the future collide in limbo. Yes, one might fail (suggesting potential for resilience), and yes, one might succeed. Either way, one must face the opportunity cost of any decisions. In spite of the outcome, I do think that living a life without regrets leads to a serene, inspiring and stimulating existence.

Luck

There are countless ways to apprehend luck. One may reasonably label it a coincidence, one may contemplate the arbitrary nature of situations and savor unpredictable twists, one may logically talk about cause and effect, one may also wisely prepare for the opportunity, or, one may realize that - at times – we are at the right place at the right time. So, let’s agree on this. Timing does matter. Only, it is up to us to keep an open mind and walk alongside providence, if providence there is.

Sharing thoughts about life on this page - that was methodically allocated to me - seemed more fitting than inflating my own ego by itemizing a series of accomplishments to reassure myself that I am, indeed, on the right path. Yet again, one may draw a different conclusion on the matter.

Post scriptum: Due to time constraint, I am failing to meet self-imposed requirements, therefore setting a new challenge: 10,000 characters, 1000 words 100 sentences for the 10 year reunion.
Life since Brandeis...

Since leaving Brandeis, I have completed law school and a masters program in International Development Policy at Duke University. After graduation, I clerked for Judge Robert Hinkle at the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida. Now, I reside in Washington, D.C. where I work at the Department of Commerce as an international trade attorney for the Chief Counsel of Trade Enforcement and Compliance.
Since leaving Brandeis, I attended law school at American University’s Washington College of Law. I graduated in 2012 and now practice Family Law in Montgomery County, Maryland. I have been enjoying living in the D.C. area for the last five years. In October, I adopted a rescue dog named Bear.
Erik Blutinger

**Life since Brandeis...**

Since Brandeis, Erik has worked hard in becoming an emergency medicine clinician in Washington, DC. He has 4 years (including specialty training) left as of 2014. He has continued many of his hobbies, including soccer, surfing and playing the piano. From 2013-14, Erik completed a 1-year MSc in Health Policy, Planning and Financing at the LSE as a compliment to his medical studies. He happily stays in touch with many Brandeis alumni and faculty mentors.

**Share your fondest Brandeis memory:**

Too many fond memories to share - but one does stand out: 2008 ASS Snowboarding Trip up to Vermont, where 50 of us rented a log cabin (infused with a hot tub, pool table and plenty of speaker size) to go skiing in Vermont for 4 days.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis, my girlfriend, Elisette Weiss ’10, gave me an ultimatum: If we’re going to stay together we’re going to live in San Francisco. Moving from the East Coast to the West Coast wasn’t any easy decision, but five years later I can say with certainty that it was the right choice. I’ve had an amazing time living in one of America’s most beautiful and vibrant cities, learning a great deal working within two leading tech companies, and most importantly, Elisette and I are still enjoying a beautiful relationship together.
Andrew Brooks

Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating from Brandeis five years ago, I have been fortunate to pursue a number of exciting opportunities. I worked as a real estate consultant in New York City for about a year following graduation, and then served as a charter school teacher in Delaware as part of the Teach For America program. I moved back to Connecticut in 2012 and have remained there for the past two years. Although I’m no longer a full-time educator, I continue to teach part-time as a Kaplan instructor on the weekends while working full-time at Deloitte as a regulatory and public policy analyst. I was elected Town Treasurer of New Canaan, CT in 2013 and enjoy serving my community!

Outside of work, I have been devoting my time to a number of volunteer causes. I have officiated several weddings as a Justice of the Peace, represent an NGO at the United Nations, and plan chamber music concerts featuring talented, young musicians.

Although I’ve been keeping myself busy, I have found time to travel a bit domestically, including two road trips with Brandeis friends! I also enjoy going into New York City regularly to see friends and family.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?
William Kapelle was hands down the best professor at Brandeis (though Harry Coiner is a close second). He truly brought history alive through his legendary storytelling and vivid depictions of life during the Middle Ages. I am proud to call him my friend to this day.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis I went to London where I earned my master’s degree at the London School of Economics and traveled throughout Europe. I spent time visiting wonderful places in the UK, Spain, France, Italy, Sicily and Croatia.

I returned home to Washington D.C. to be closer to my family after four years at Brandeis and a year in London. I started a career at Edelman working in digital public relations, running social media campaigns for Fortune 500 companies for nearly four years – which has been amazing. Recently, I’ve relocated to New York City where I’m living it up with my British boyfriend in the Upper East Side.
Caroline Cadel
Life since Brandeis...

I’m currently about to complete my MBA at the George Washington University (by May 2014). Prior to GW, I worked primarily in the Oil & Gas industry in a Business Development role in Mumbai, India. Apart from that, I’ve just been traveling and spending time with family. Now, I’m looking to work in the US for at least a couple of years before I move again. Excited to see what happens! :D

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

My amazing friends!!! I feel SO close to all my Brandeis friends even if we haven’t been in touch for months.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

Mela! :D
Life since Brandeis...

I am about to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School and take the bar exam during the summer of 2014. Before law school, I worked on Massachusetts Health Reform with the legislative House Committee on Health Care Financing and the executive branch Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (currently the Center for Health Information and Analysis). On a personal and more important note, I married Yelena Emer (formerly Gluz), also Brandeis ’09, on June 26, 2011.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Professor Marty Levin-- At Brandeis, the insights about politics, policy, and life that he taught me in the two classes I took with him and through my honors thesis were invaluable. Today, I am very fortunate to count him as a good friend.

Share your most memorable or funniest Brandeis moment since Brandeis:

I have enjoyed the Chicago Brandeis Alumni group, especially Professor Whitfield’s Faculty in the Field talk.
Life since Brandeis...
1. “Gypsy” Production with Jordan Brown, Jennifer Faber, Arielle Kaplan
2. “The Swiners” Kickball Team: Senior Week 2009 with Lisa Magid, Elana Klinger-Rogers, Hanna Rosenthal-Fuller, Laura Cohen, Jessica Blumberg, Rebecca Schulman, Jennifer Faber, Madison Lyleroehr
3. Voices of Soul: Honey Butter Soul Stars
4. Traveling Europe 2010

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?
What happens at Pachanga, stays at Pachanga. You also can’t leave out Midnight Buffet....! Culture X was also a huge and popular event every year as well as A Capella Fest.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
My best memories at Brandeis were being in the musicals, especially when I played my first lead role as Mama Rose in Gypsy. It was the most incredible, memorable experience of my years at Brandeis and I believe it changed my life forever. I had the opportunity to work with some of the most talented people at Brandeis, and I am honored to have taken on one of the most challenging female roles in the history of musical theater. I will never forget those late night rehearsals and nights at the Stein. Of course we cannot forget the 24-Hour Musicals either.... some of my BEST memories were on and back stage either...
Life since Brandeis...

After living in Boston for 3 years post-graduation, I moved to DC in the summer of 2012. I work at Sixth & I, a non-membership, non-denominational Synagogue that serves as a community arts venue as well as a Jewish space for 20’s and 30’s. In my spare time, I play in a Bocce league and frolic along the National Mall.

How have you and your life changed since graduation?

Living in the same room with, or next door to, or down the hall from my best friends is something I took for granted. In the last 5 years we’ve gradually spread from our little cluster in Massachusetts to all across the world. From New York to Chicago to San Francisco to Scotland to Israel, it’s not easy to arrange a 6-way Google Hangout among 5 different time zones! Though we don’t all live in the same square mile anymore, we’ve succeeded in remaining close and are still a large part of each other’s lives.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating Brandeis, Gavi spent three years working for not-for-profit professional theater companies in Manhattan and Washington, DC as an Arts Manager, focusing in Special Events and Fundraising. She married Jason Fenster (’08) on June 3, 2012 and soon after they moved to Jerusalem for a year of study and travel. She is now pursuing two master degrees at Bankstreet College of Education and living with Jason in the Manhattan Valley neighborhood of New York City.
Life since Brandeis...

After we graduated, I moved to New Haven, Connecticut to pursue a PhD in pharmacology at Yale University. For my thesis research, I’m working in a crystallography lab where I am studying the structure and function of a protein linked to a rare brain disease.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

I made many great friends among our classmates there with whom I still stay closely in touch. Academically, my experiences working in the Petsko-Ringe Lab at Brandeis were instrumental in informing my decision to go to graduate school and introduced me to the field of protein crystallography in which I’ve been conducting research ever since.
Akiva Fishman

Life since Brandeis...

Straight after college, I headed to DC where I worked as a Research Associate for the Environmental Law Institute. I contributed to projects dealing with a variety of environmental policy issues, ranging from invasive species regulation and brownfields redevelopment to climate change adaptation and intergovernmental environmental organizations. Most of my time went toward managing and editing a series of books on natural resource management and post-conflict peacebuilding. At the end of two years I decided to go back to school and went to NYU to study environmental and international law. At the moment I am on a two-year hiatus from law school to do a Master’s in forestry at Yale before going back to finish up law school. During my summers while in grad school I’ve done a State Department fellowship to study water supply and management in the Middle East, an internship with the Liberian Environmental Protection Agency, and an internship with the Center for International Forestry Research. Talk to me if you’re working on international environmental policy and/or development!

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Dan Perlman, without doubt, had the biggest impact on me. It was because of his Field Biology class that I got interested in environmental issues to begin with. I grew up in Manhattan thinking that grass was different from bushes, which were different from trees, but not actually giving too much thought to the outdoors at all. Learning how to visually identify and name tree species in Latin was a bit of a shock to the system, and Dan’s enthusiasm and attention to pedagogy made a powerful impression.
Life since Brandeis...

After volunteering and working part-time at a number of science education organizations, I worked my way into a job at Zoo New England’s education department. My primary responsibilities include family and school programs both at the Zoo and in schools. I joke that I don’t get paid much in cash, but I get paid in some awesome experiences. Outside of work, I am still good friends with a number Brandeis alumni living in the Boston area.
Life since Brandeis...

Since graduating from Brandeis, I served two years as a member of the AmeriCorps Victim Advocates Program. There, I served at a community crisis center as an advocate for victims of domestic and sexual violence. Afterwards, I attended the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University where I acted as the Managing Editor of Staff for the Hofstra Law Review. I graduated with a J.D. in May 2014.
Life since Brandeis...

After Brandeis I decided to stay in the Boston area. I’m now living with my fiancé in Coolidge Corner. Right after graduation, I worked for an exciting new start up, Food Should Taste Good, a consumer packaged goods company. I was able to learn a great deal about the industry and the unlimited free chips didn’t hurt either! Food Should Taste Good was acquired by General Mills in 2012, so I decided to make a change. I transitioned to the thriving healthcare industry. I now work in the Growth Operations department of athenahealth, Inc. The headquarters are in Watertown, so I’m never too far from the old Brandeis stomping grounds.

I am also enrolled in a part-time MBA program at Boston University. Between work and school, life has certainly been very busy. I’m crossing off items from my travel bucket list like visiting the Eiffel Tower, Big Ben and hiking on lava fields in Hawaii. I am looking forward to continuing my travel adventures. I also got engaged at the end of 2013 to Greg Coppola. The year ahead will be filled with lots of exciting wedding planning, I’m sure.

I can’t believe it has been 5 years since we graduated, but I’m excited to see what the next 5 years will bring!
Danielle Friedman

Life since Brandeis...
It keeps moving.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?
Stephen Whitfield, Raysa Mederos, Joe Wardwell, Franz Wright, Alfredo Gisholt, Don Katz, Graham Campbell, Lucy Kim, Mary Schneider-Enriquez, Tory Fair, Sean Downey, Scott Weiner...they all did in different ways.
Life since Brandeis...

Since Brandeis, I moved to Washington, DC, attended law school, and currently work as an energy lawyer in DC. That’s the basic stuff. I also hiked to Machu Picchu, participated in a 300-person snowball fight, started a deeply cynical blog, discovered that country music isn’t that bad, and yelled “You can’t handle the truth!” in a courtroom. That last one is a lie - it is more of an aspiration. The rest are true.
Sonja Gandert

Life since Brandeis...
After Brandeis, I lived in Bilbao, Spain for two years teaching English. I then returned to the U.S. to complete my Master’s in art history at Tufts, which allowed me to reconnect with many Brandeis classmates in the Boston area. At Tufts my focus was on Latin American and Latino art, a field I hope to continue to pursue further in the future. Currently I live in frigid Ithaca, New York, where I am the curatorial assistant at Cornell’s art museum.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
My life at Brandeis was most impacted by the Rose Art Museum. Being able to intern there played a key role in my decision to pursue further studies in art history and the museum field.
Life since Brandeis...

After I graduated from Brandeis, I moved to St. Petersburg, Florida to begin an internship with the Tampa Bay Rays. Following the internship I stayed on as a Fan Host part-time. Since then I also now work as an usher / ticket taker / security for the Tampa Bay Lightning, Tampa Bay Bucs, Tampa Bay Rowdies, concerts, and more.

Several years ago I began to tutor math. I fell in love with it. Last fall I returned to school, going to the University of South Florida for a masters degree in teaching middle school mathematics. After I graduate in the spring of 2015 I will begin to teach.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

It taught me how to live and survive on my own. I have built a nice life for myself in Florida with what I learned.
Gail Goldspiel

Life since Brandeis...
Hi Brandeis Class of 2009,
I can’t believe 5 years have flown by! Since Brandeis, I’ve been living and working in NYC and enjoying the many Brandeis Alumni events that take place here! I earned my Masters in Museum and Childhood Education from the Bank Street College of Education in May 2012 and since then have worked as an educator at the New York Public Library and at the Museum of Modern Art. I am so excited to hear what everyone has been up to and look forward to seeing everyone again at Brandeis!

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?
I remember the first time I saw the Festival of the Arts at Brandeis. It was the spring of my first year, and I was walking up the Rabb Steps when all of a sudden, people burst out singing, dancing, freezing in place, and playing music for everyone to hear. I was so inspired, the next year and the year after I participated in and volunteered for the Festival; one year I even got a chance to help plan the Children’s Art Pavilion which was a big success! I would not be where I am today if not for the Festival of the Arts, the Rose Art Museum, and the wonderfully creative and community wide arts scene I found at Brandeis.

What do you consider your greatest achievement(s)?
In my junior year, I took a course called “Looking with the Learner.” Held in the Rose Art Museum, each week with Elementary school students, we looked at and discussed the art that surrounded us and we also made our own art, be it painting, sketching, dancing, or writing. I learned in this class, how to teach children in the museum setting, how to inspire and excite them about art, and how to find ways for the art to resonate with them. The experience was unbelievably rewarding, and more than any other course, brought me to museum education and where I am today. At the end of the class, I chose to write and illustrate my own picture book for my final project. My book, “Beatrice the Butterfly Visits the Rose Art Museum” was about a curious butterfly that follows the children to the museum and looks at and makes art too. I was so touched to create this book and so honored when it was displayed in an exhibit for the Rose in my senior year.
Gregory Goodman

Life since Brandeis...

Greg recently graduated from Tufts University School of Medicine in 2013. He is passionate about entrepreneurship, and is the Co-Founder of CEO in a Box, a custom venture-incubator focused on developing and training young leaders and visionaries. Greg is currently a start-up healthcare consultant and will be continuing his clinical training in internal medicine in June.
Lindsay Gordon

Life since Brandeis...

The last few years have been both busy and fun! After graduating from Brandeis, I attended Columbia University where I obtained my Masters of Social Work in May 2011. I then earned my license as a social worker in the state of New Jersey. My first job was at an agency called Care Plus, where I was employed as a clinician and provided therapy to children and families. I then went on to pursue a career as a school social worker, holding a maternity leave replacement position in Upper Saddle River, NJ, and then landing my current position as a school social worker in Verona, NJ. When I’m not working, I love spending time with my wonderful family, my amazing boyfriend Max, and my fabulous friends (many of whom I attended school with at Brandeis!)

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis has positively impacted my life because it provided me with both a phenomenal education and spectacular lifelong friends. My majors in psychology and sociology laid a perfect foundation for my graduate education and helped set me on the path towards my career as a school social worker. My friends from Brandeis remain incredibly close to me, and no matter the distance, we continue to be there for one another and to make new and exciting memories together.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

I have so many wonderful memories of my time at Brandeis -- but nothing compares to my memories of Mod 27! Whether we were dressing up to go to parties, going out for an evening in Boston, attending events on campus, eating NONSTOP, or simply spending time talking and laughing together in our common room -- MOD 27 WAS THE BEST!
Life since Brandeis...

After undergrad, I took a trip to Kentucky then headed to PA to bartend for a stint. Moved to The City. Started as a hand in a boutique and ended as a counselor at a methadone clinic. Six months of that left me burnt out and seeking calmer waters. Moved back to PA to catch my breath, audit a hotel, take some GREs, then figured I’d go big or go home so I went back to New York for round 2. Stumbled back into peacebuilding at NYU. Got a chance to go back to Mexico, then Burundi, then spent six months in a library writing a thesis. Along the way I’ve met incredible people and have experienced incredible things and plan to continue doing so, giving back wherever I can.
Aharon HaCohen

Life since Brandeis...

My wife Noreen and I moved to Israel in December 2010. We live in the beautiful hills of the Western Galilee with our dog Shomer. Since moving back to Israel, I have been working full-time as a Hebrew-English translator. Noreen works as an English teacher, giving private lessons to Israeli children and adults. It’s a real blessing to be able to have my own business and work from home in the Jewish homeland, and it’s really quiet and peaceful here.

I also play on the Galil Twisters fastpitch softball team. Believe it or not, the Israeli Softball League is very competitive (made up mostly of Americans or those raised in American families). I usually have to drive 2-3 hours each direction to get to the games (since there are not many softball fields in Israel), but it’s worth it. In 2013 we won the league championship.

For any Brandeisians who are visiting Israel, come up north. Our guest room is waiting, as are the beautiful views and nature that the Galilee has to offer.
Life since Brandeis...

Since graduating, I have been working at Bank of New York Mellon in Investment Services. In May 2014, I will be graduating from Endicott College. I am getting a Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting.
Life since Brandeis...

In the fall of 2009, I moved to Chicago with some friends from Brandeis and found an apartment near the Loop. I count myself pretty lucky in that many people I knew from school made this leap with me, and that we were able to share building a new life in the city together. I started working as a research associate at a lab down in Hyde Park at University of Chicago, while performing and writing comedy and theater on the side. For two years I worked on a protein engineering project in a lab that studies cell division, and then applied to grad school for my PhD. I decided to stay at UofC because of the wonderful connections I had made, and wanted the opportunity to branch out while staying in touch with my friends throughout the city. Currently, I’m a third-year grad student and I’m working on mechanisms of gene expression using biochemistry and fruit fly genetics. On the artistic side of things, my time in Chicago has inspired me to take some risks and push myself creatively. Highlights include starting a sketch comedy group known as the Miserables with my friends Sam Roos and Ashley Glicken, performing on a house team at Improv Olympic, and founding a completely unique weird duo called the Zocadero with my friend Sam Zelitch. I perform both improv and sketch regularly, as well as theater work with a site-specific collaborative theater project called ShowParty. Recently I was in play festival directed by my friend Erika Gellar. I’m struck and humbled at how my friends from Brandeis have enriched my life in the past five years. Last but not least, I met my boyfriend Ryan in 2012, and we have recently moved to an apartment in Lakeview together and celebrated our two year anniversary.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

My favorite time of year was Fourth of July in Boston. In the summertime, you’re unencumbered by classes and can really enjoy the holiday. Watching the fireworks along the Charles River with a bunch of friends from Brandeis is something that I truly looked forward to every year.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

PACHANGA AND THE AFTERMATH. Just kidding. Personally, I always enjoyed Orientation just because of the excitement of a new year and the chance to reconnect with old friends. Move-In day was always such an intense experience, I think I enjoyed the frenetic energy and pace of it all. Runner up is Girl Talk at Chum’s in Winter of ’07.
Naomi Hyman

Life since Brandeis...
Life has been great back in NY! Family, friends, my parents gave me the cutest dog after graduation so she’s now 4 and amazing, and my career in the tech and marketing world has been fast paced and awesome! I’ve also done some extensive traveling to name a few China, Sweden, Israel, and SXSW in Austin. I love that so many Brandeis people are in NY also and looking forward to this upcoming and our future reunions!

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
So many! I love my Brandeis friends so very much.
Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating, I have worked in Boston and New York (where I currently reside) and will be attending Columbia Business School in the fall. I am still just as close with my friends from Brandeis, they really are my best friends!!

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
I will never forget Disorientation! Though it was the last week of college, it truly was a perfect way to say goodbye. Kegs and Kickball remains the best afternoon of my life.
Sierra Kagen

Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating from Brandeis in ’09, Sierra spent one year in Italy with her husband before returning together to Boston. She spent three years in the Boston area working as an actress and transcriptionist. Recently, she moved back to her hometown outside of Seattle, and is continuing her work as a theater artist. She currently teaches and performs with Studio East/StoryBook Theater.
Life since Brandeis...
Since Brandeis, I have continued my study of psychology, working with adolescents at McLean Hospital and now as a doctoral student in clinical psychology at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. I live in the Boston area and continue to be grateful for the quality of my Brandeis education and the lifelong friendships I made!
Life since Brandeis...

After traveling across the 13 southern states from West Virginia to Texas in 2009-2010, Jess Kent returned to Boston/Cambridge to teach and consult until 2013.

Currently, she is studying in Southern California for graduate school while delving into graduate research internationally.

She has attended several BOLD events across the U.S. and she assisted with coordinating the 5th year Reunion for June 2014 in order to reconnect with fellow Brandeisians!

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis University influenced my critical thinking skills and emphasized importance of social justice both in my own life and beyond into the communities. The networks of friends, colleagues, faculty, staff, and administrators have positively impacted my life time and time again since graduation as well.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Sue Lanser, Guy Antebi, and Jeff Abramson made big impressions on me because of their genuine interest in student development by way of sharing their own mastery of information in an accessible and inspirational manner. I have continued to pursue topics that they encouraged me to explore further in graduate school and co-curriculars.
Life since Brandeis...

My husband and I have lived in Chicago for 5 years. We now have 2 sons. I taught third grade General Studies at a boys school for 3 years. Currently, we live in the dormitory of a Jewish girls’ college, where I am the Resident Supervisor, Facilities Manager and Student Activities Coordinator. We will be moving to Detroit (Oak Park), MI this summer.
Life since Brandeis...

I moved out to Kansas in 2011 to start veterinary school, and I love it! I'm finishing up my 3rd year this spring and going into clinical rotations in May - I can't wait!
Life since Brandeis...

Since Brandeis, I have spent much time working in and studying the field of Israel Education in both Chicago and Israel. I moved to my hometown of Chicago a year after graduation, and began a career at Shorashim where I have been working as the coordinator of Taglit-Birthright Israel: Shorashim trips. Living in Chicago, I have been able to embark on a Master’s Degree at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership, and have completed the Second City Training Center program in improvisation. In the summer of 2014, I will be moving to Israel and getting married!

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Stephen Whitfield was the most influential professor that I had the pleasure of studying with at Brandeis. He was the professor who improved my writing skills and taught me the value of a liberal arts education.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

Spring Fest! Spring Fest was the best.
Life since Brandeis...

As an undergraduate, I fell in love with political philosophy. I went on to study it in graduate school, and I've wound up back here at Brandeis! I've stayed close to a lot of my old college friends, and it is fantastic to catch up and see more of those I've missed. The "school spirit" of Brandeis has always been its particular embrace of community, and I am privileged to share that with you all.
Jacob Lazar

Life since Brandeis...

Jacob is living the dream! While at times he doubted his choices - being repeatedly stationed on bathroom duty (which is quite literally monitoring adolescent boys use the bathroom so they don’t smear poop on the walls) did not seem like the best use of his degree - his can-do spirit and plucky attitude saw him through the toughest of times. He currently resides in Brooklyn, teaching 11th grade literature at a public charter school in the Crown Heights neighborhood. He considers himself blessed to be able to have frank conversations with students about drugs, (butt) sex, death, and their connections to the establishment and subversion of the American narrative. He recently earned his MAT from a deservedly obscure institution and is sweating through the final stages of NY certification.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

JANET MCINTOSH because she is the best thing since sliced bread. Unconditional support from one of the brightest minds on the planet does wonders for a young undergrad’s self esteem.

Two way tie with Susan Dibble - it’s incredibly refreshing, in the midst of the academic high most classes impart, to take a class with someone who encourages you to remember the rest of your body. I found Professor Dibble’s movement classes to be a healthy exercise in grounding myself and exploring the range of possibility inherent in my body, balancing the mental acrobatics I did in other classes.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

Midyear Orientation in June, because of the community building and friendships that have lasted since. Also because it no longer exists, and is thus all the more precious of a memory.
Life since Brandeis...
After graduating from Brandeis and working at Yale University for a summer, I ventured to Australia and New Zealand for three months. I spent the time backpacking and exploring both of these wonderful countries. After that experience, I moved back to Boston and after a few months came back to Brandeis! I currently work at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Brandeis (BOLLI) as Program Administrator. While working, I received my Master’s Degree in Sociology.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
I met my very best friends at Brandeis!
Santana López

Life since Brandeis...
Graduated from Northwestern University in 2010 with a MSJ, concentration in Digital Publishing and Business Reporting. Moved to New York City to work in marketing communications at e-commerce site, NET-A-PORTER. Recently left to do marketing for Amsterdam-based fashion brand, Scotch & Soda. Adopted a little dog named Scout, who lives with me on the UWS.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
Sunday morning brunches at Usdan with the girls, recapping and laughing about the previous night.
Chen Lu

Life since Brandeis...
Since the best four years of my life at Brandeis, I have graduated from law school, clerked for judges in Connecticut, and started working as an associate at a law firm in Hartford, CT.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?
Midnight Buffet! Free shirts and food!
Benjamin Luxenberg

Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating Brandeis, I spent four years on active duty in the Marine Corps. In December 2013, I completed my active duty obligation at the rank of Captain. Now on to new adventures.
Madison Lyleroehr

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis had a huge impact on me. It opened my mind and empowered me in so many different ways and was an integral part in turning a soft-spoken Southern girl into the strong-willed, passionate, progressive, socially active woman I am today. Not to mention fostering my love of everything Jewish.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

One of my fondest memories from my time at Brandeis was the night Barack Obama was elected in 2008. I was at the viewing party in Shapiro when the official announcement was made, and it was like it was New Years Eve. People were cheering, jumping up and down, hugging and kissing. I went outside with some friends and popped the bottle of champagne I had been carrying around with me that evening. I returned to the Mods and just happened to be standing outside when two cars blasting music drove into the yard and a bunch of people got out and started dancing. I watched as people came pouring out of their Mods, and there was more dancing, hugging, and celebrating. I remember being so thankful that I was at Brandeis that night and not back home in Tennessee where I'm sure the reaction to his election was quite different. It was a memory I will tell my grandchildren about for sure.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduation I returned to California and became a digital marketing start-up junkie, working first with a small liquor-infused ice cream company, then a daily deals website and a small winery. I quickly discovered a passion for the food and wine industry and the wide array of people it touches. So in September of 2013, I enrolled in the INSEEC Bordeaux International Wine Institute. I am currently living in Bordeaux, France pursuing an MBA in Wine & Spirits Marketing and Management.

Share your most memorable or funniest Brandeis moment since Brandeis:

The active Northern California Alumni Association plans great events. A few years ago the club participated in the San Francisco AIDS walk in Golden Gate Park. It was a beautiful (surprisingly sunny) summer day in San Francisco and we had an amazing time complete with popsicles, music and a lot of laughter.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

My three years at Brandeis – and one year abroad in London – provided me with a wealth of opportunities and experiences. Despite a great education, what my time at university has left me with is an amazing and diverse group of friends and the ability to relate to a wide range of people. Embracing this diversity and a wide range of people has been an essential learning experience and has provided opportunities I would not have considered otherwise.
Ben Mernick

Life since Brandeis...
Things are good! Kicking-it in Jerusalem with amazing friends. Doing Psych research out of Labs at the Hebrew University.

Share your most memorable or funniest Brandeis moment since Brandeis:
I currently live with Brandeis friends and my connection with our alma mater feels stronger all the time. Deis is awesome.
Life since Brandeis...
After Brandeis, I did Teach For America for two years in the Mississippi Delta. After TFA, I moved to New York to help run a nonprofit civics education startup. After helping it grow and expand for a year and a half, I took off some time to write (which I am continuing to do on the side). I recently started working at a nonprofit merchant/investment bank, which works on nonprofit mergers and makes low-interest loans to nonprofits.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?
The philosophy classes I took with Professor Gaskins enabled me to better understand and question the intellectual underpinnings of our economic system and to think more critically about systems of ethics.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
Both through its academics and the culture of the school, Brandeis has helped me think more carefully about who I am and want to be. It has also provided me with some of my closest friends.
Life since Brandeis...

Emily completed her Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy and is working towards obtaining her professional license in Pennsylvania.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis, I returned home to Chicago, IL where I worked for Rotary International in Evanston, IL for three years, first as a graphic designer for their magazine, the Rotarian, and then as an archival assistant at the organization’s archives. I am currently completing a two-year graduate degree at University of Michigan’s School of Information. I graduate this year with a Master of Science in Information degree, specializing in Archives and Records Management and Preservation of Information.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

I made incredible lifelong friends at Brandeis that continue to be a source of support and love, and, of course, an excellent excuse to travel to new cities.
Dan Newman

Life since Brandeis...
I have grown a beard, shaved a beard, dated people, broken up with people, gotten jobs, left jobs, and generally won at life. I accidentally picked up a M.Ed. at Northeastern University in Higher Education Administration, I lived in three residence halls as a full-time job, and I joined a secret society (shhh). I’ve started to learn martial arts, building computers, and how getting older impacts late-night lifestyle choices.

The biggest life change is that I’ve shifted from the music field to the higher education field. It’s been a blast and I’ve still been able to advise a cappella groups at various institutions, but my days are spent telling people to make better life choices than how to write music. I also have a great long-term girlfriend that I met in graduate school and we both work in higher ed, so I guess that’s cute. And yes, we play Halo together.

Overall, I’ve been winning.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
Rather Be Giraffes, hands down, is the thing about Brandeis that I talk about to this day. Late night rehearsals, shows at Chums, awkward parties, and magical music moments are some of my fondest memories. Taking a man-walk after laying down our first tracks at a sketchy recording studio, the RBG Beach Weekend, and so many shows and funny rehearsals...aww shucks.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
Working in higher education has shown me just how great Brandeis was to me. I was encouraged to pursue my passions, try something new, and voice my opinions. At so many institutions it is shocking how meek, whiny, and uninvolved students can be. At Brandeis, I felt as though every person around me was awesome for some reason and they were doing something mind-blowing. I wish that more schools really embraced the liberal arts like Brandeis did.
Amanda Okafor

Life since Brandeis...
I moved back to California after graduation and I've since finished a Master's in Public Administration and started working for the City of Burbank's Public Information Office. I recently moved to Los Angeles and enjoy exploring the city for great photo spots, good food, and craft beer. Life is awesome :)"},

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
Brandeis was an incredibly unique college experience. We embraced each other’s differences. I can honestly say I'm a better person because of it. The biggest lesson I learned in my 4 years there was to create value in every situation I find myself, giving me an appreciation for life most never find.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?
Nas. At Brandeis.
Life since Brandeis...  
I live in Somerville, MA with my fantastic husband, Alex Parks '10. After Brandeis I did a little community organizing before moving into education. Now I teach elementary special education at a local charter school. I still get a good dose of activism at my job, but I also get the bonus of working with kids every day.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?  
I met all my greatest friends at Brandeis. I also got to tap into the activist spirit there, which determined my whole direction in life.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:  
I have many fond memories of B Tower and the reservoir. I’m still relieved that a certain someone didn’t get hit by a train.
Life since Brandeis...

I cannot believe that it has been 5 years since we all graduated. It is really kind of amazing. For those who knew me at Brandeis, I have done nothing in the last five years that will surprise you in the least. I spent the first two-years out working on political campaigns including for a Brandeis alum, former State Senator Jonathan Harris. From there I headed off to Law School at the University of Connecticut where I continued to be involved in politics. The only real news to report is that I am running for office. One of the things that Brandeis taught me is how important it is to be true to your principles. Everyone I worked with at Brandeis, whether I agreed or disagreed with them, that they did. I always believed they were doing what they thought was right. Sadly, too many times when I was out in the real political world, I saw the exact opposite. In some ways people are so out of touch with their principles that they forget they even have them. When you see that going on around you, you can either accept it, or you can challenge it. We know which path both Brandeis the man and the university would have chosen. Frankly, every day since I launched my campaign for State Representative in Connecticut has been invigorating, even the tough days. So many of my classmates have been so supportive. I am excited about the challenges ahead and believe Brandeis taught us to make the world a better place.
Leora Perkins
Liana Petruzzi
Life since Brandeis...

After Brandeis, I worked with various theater companies and non-profit organizations in New York City. At the same time, Emmajoy got her Master's in Teaching English as a Second Language from Teacher’s College, Columbia University. After I (finally!) proposed on a snowy day in Central Park, we got married on June 17, 2012 in Ogunquit, ME. I’m currently completing my Master’s in Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation at SIT Graduate Institute and Emmajoy teaches ESL in middle school math classes. We live in Alexandria, VA.
Life since Brandeis...

Since leaving Brandeis, I’ve lived in Newton, MA, New York City, Arlington, VA, and Washington, DC. My first year out, I taught English as a Second Language in an elementary school in Newton, MA while rooming with a fellow Brandeis ’09. After that, I moved to New York and worked as a server at a high-end restaurant that frequented patrons like Beyonce and Joaquin Noah, again living with a fellow Brandeis ’09 classmate. Then I reentered the world of education and edited standardized tests in Washington, DC, and while I did not live with any Brandeis friends, I joined lots of recreational sports leagues with fellow Brandeisians. Currently, I work as the Campus Systems Director for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and I love my job! I recently adopted the sweetest, friendliest, and most adorable homeless kitten from a no-kill animal shelter. He’s a major distraction from my GRE and GMAT studying!

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

If Orientation can count as an “event” then that is definitely my favorite Brandeis event. I met so many wonderful people and felt so welcomed by everyone. Very rarely do things pan out as well as one hopes when expectations are set high, but Brandeis’s Orientation did not fail my expectations!

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Professor Jerry Cohen from American Studies -- he nicknamed me “Full Court Press” and he came to watch me fence for the Brandeis University Varsity Fencing Team, which was so thoughtful and very much appreciated. It was hard adjusting to competing away from home without my parents to support me (they never missed a meet or tournament,) but Professor Cohen found a way to make it still feel like home. It was such an awesome feeling to have a professor take up a genuine interest in my sport, especially because it’s not one of the mainstream sports, like baseball and basketball. I’ll never forget Professor Cohen!
Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating I've continued to pursue my dream of being a professional smartass. I moved to Chicago shortly after graduation where I now perform improvised and sketch comedy at The Second City, iO Theater and others. I perform regularly with Amy Thompson ('11) and occasionally with Matt Hope ('09). I recently returned from touring with The Second City aboard the Norwegian Breakaway cruise ship for four months of 2013. I've lost a ton of weight since college but not as much as I should have and I'm still sometimes abrasive by accident.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis, Aaron attended the University of Connecticut School of Law and is now a practicing attorney in Boston.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis I completed a Master’s degree in Biology & Toxicology at NYU. My original thesis on the toxicity of cadmium oxide nanoparticles was presented at the International Toxicology Convention, and was recently published in the Journal of Inhalation Toxicology. After finishing my Master’s degree, I began working for Novartis Pharmaceuticals as a Microbiology Scientist. I worked at Novartis for about a year while I applied to medical school. I left Novartis in the Spring of 2012 to start medical school! I am now currently a second year medical student at RowanSOM and unfortunately cannot attend the reunion because of my board exam test date (which I am sure many of you can relate to). I hope to pursue a career in pediatrics after I graduate in 2016! I am so glad to have kept in touch with so many friends from Brandeis - whether it’s in person or by video chat! My Brandeis family means so much to me and I hope we are always a part of each other’s lives.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis definitely prepared me for my graduate academic career, both in terms of study habits and resilience. I also made many positive connections at Brandeis and have some close friendships that will stand the test of time!

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

One of the things I always reflect on from Brandeis was the luxury of having so many good friends close by. I loved having friends just come over whenever they wanted and the spontaneity of every day. Some of the best moments were those that were unplanned and just resulted in hours of laughter.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating from Brandeis, I spent two years teaching elementary school in Boston through Teach for America. In 2011, Eric Alterman ('09) and I moved to Rio de Janeiro where he plays cello in the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra and I teach 3rd grade at the American School of Rio de Janeiro. We are engaged and getting married in Oregon this coming summer.
Life since Brandeis...

Since graduating Brandeis in May 2009, I have been living and working in New York City. I got married in 2012 to my college “sweetheart” Sarah Gelman (now Rueven) and we live in Tribeca with our French Bulldog Stella. I spend free time travelling with Sarah, playing intramural sports, enjoying NYC and last but certainly not least, cooking and eating!

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

One professor that has had a lasting impact on my day-to-day life since graduation is David Hackett Fischer from the History department. As a student of his, we constantly met and spoke about life, history and how to use history lessons in modern day applications. I use his lessons on a daily basis in my work and life.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

There are so many! One of the best, for me, are the many meals and gatherings that our friends had in Usdan. We would put a few rows together and enjoy each other’s company during our first two years. This became a great tradition and was useful for a bunch of first years who were adjusting to college life. We have all stayed in touch and are great friends today.
Life since Brandeis...

After Brandeis, I moved to New York City, briefly worked doing fundraising for a Jewish nonprofit, before I decided to follow my real passion, nutrition. I was accepted at NYU’s Masters program for Clinical Nutrition and will be obtaining my license as a Registered Dietitian this year. Dan Rueven proposed to me in Israel in 2011, and we were married in the summer of 2012. We are still living in New York City, with one other addition to our family, our french bulldog, Stella.
Nelson Rutrick

Life since Brandeis...

Things changed a lot for me after I left Brandeis. I have totally different friends now. There’s Kelly, she’s quiet, and whenever she says anything it’s about food. She’s Persian. And then there’s Zack, he’s absolutely the opposite! He’s always running around everywhere. He’s a mix between Siamese and Abyssinian.
Drew Sambol

Life since Brandeis...
Drew is graduating in 2014 with a Masters in Sustainability Management from Columbia University. She hopes to work in corporate sustainability, helping organizations operate more symbiotically within the natural environment. She lives in Manhattan with her fiancé, Josh Mervis ('08).

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
A few of my fondest Brandeis memories: Singing with Starving Artists, my 567 “efficiency” apartment with Jenn Sheehan, all-nighters in Shapiro, Renfield 2, drinking tea in comparative literature classes, the Mansion parties.
Life since Brandeis...

Directly after graduation, I was afforded the incredible opportunity to attend the American Theatre Wing’s SpringboardNYC. SpringboardNYC is a theater-immersion program that allows recent graduates the opportunity to participate in myriad training sessions and workshops. After a brief foray into the world of theater, I attended Hofstra University School of Law to pursue my true passions. In December 2013, I graduated with a JD/MBA.
Vicki Schairer

Life since Brandeis...

After graduating I lived in Somerville for 4 and a half years. I worked as a freelance theatre director, administrator, and production manager. I directed over 20 projects including full length plays, 10-minute and 1-minute plays, and readings. I co-founded a devised collaborative theatre ensemble called Project: Project with which I co-developed, -wrote, -acted and -directed two productions. In March, I moved to Los Angeles to transition to a career in film or tv as a director and producer.

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?

I have very fond memories of Louis Brandeis’ Bar Mitzvah! It was so much fun dancing in front of SCC to all the songs that were played at our Bar and Bat Mitzvah!

How have you and your life changed since graduation?

I no longer do anything with science, although I graduated with a degree in Physics. Sometimes I miss the puzzles and the math, but I get to use the skills I learned in Physics when I direct plays.
Abraham David Schneider

Life since Brandeis...
It's been a long and bumpy ride. From working as a CIT in a kindergarten art class at the Metropolitan Museum of Art to being an archaeology Intern in Alturas CA to helping to design guides and newsletters for City University of New York. Been good and bad times but I keep pushing on with that can do spirit I saw all the time in our University. Been seeing your own stories online and am proud to have been one of the guys from our year. See you soon.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
It opened up the world for me, I met hundreds of interesting people whose lives and personalities were unlike any I had seen before.
Noah Schnoll

Life since Brandeis...

I went to New York and made a name for myself. I'm about to receive an MFA from NYU Tisch and I'm looking forward to the next phase of my life and career.
Desiree Schwartz

Life since Brandeis...
Since graduating from Brandeis, Desiree moved to New York City where she has lived for the past five years. She completed a Master’s in Sustainability Management from Columbia University to pursue her interests in energy and environmentalism. Desiree currently works at the New York Mercantile Exchange where she develops financial derivatives in the energy space.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?
This is a tossup between Professor Coiner and Professor McCulloch, both in the Economics Department. Both professors taught with such passion for the subject matter that it was easy to become excited and engaged in the material. It was a privilege to be in the classrooms of professors who were incredible teachers as well as respected scholars in their fields.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
In addition to providing an excellent education, Brandeis alumni form a wonderful community. Many of my friends today are Brandeis alums, including many who I have met since graduation.
Life since Brandeis...

Since leaving Brandeis, I have moved to Cambridge/Boston and started working in marketing, exploring what the Boston area has to offer and travelling when I can. My career has combined my love of writing, tech and ecommerce (yay English degree!), and I have enjoyed doing digital marketing for various companies in Boston’s start-up scene.

Outside of work, I am happy to say that I have started pursuing my lifelong dream of becoming a silversmith! I regularly take metalsmithing for jewelry classes and I love it. I now live in the North End of Boston and am having a blast decorating my new place. I’m not currently singing much, but if you live in the Boston area and wanna jam – let me know!

I am looking forward to spending many weekends this summer at my sister Theresa’s and also my parents’ near the beach, especially since we are planning her wedding this fall! I don’t spend enough time visiting my Brandeis peeps in New York City, but one of my favorite weekends of the year has become the Killington trip with a few of you each President’s Day.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

There are too many. From meeting such great people on my freshman hall who have become lifelong friends to getting so many opportunities to sing and finding an incredible mentor in Nancy Armstrong during my vocal surgery to the Pachangas/Wednesdays at the Mad Raven/Andre nights, my time at Brandeis was a blast. I am so thankful for the friends I made, the professors who taught me so much, the projects that really inspired me and the opportunity to study abroad.

Share your most memorable or funniest Brandeis moment since Brandeis:

Dancing in the rain at Jazzfest in New Orleans during Earth, Wind and Fire with my Brandeis ladies, Nomez and Juice. And any time Beans comes to Boston and we get the Ziv 128-303 crew together again, my stomach hurts from laughter!
Life since Brandeis...
Civil rights attorney. Because there is always a need for more justice in the world.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
Student Peace Alliance National Conference in fall 2007.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
My years at Brandeis taught me the importance of community. I made incredible friends and built relationships that I know will last a lifetime. Brandeis showed me what it was like to be part of an incredible community of social activists. Being surrounded by people who will challenge AND support you as a person, and your work, is an invaluable experience.
Life since Brandeis...
Hey everyone!!

Brandeis was such a fun and amazing time. I’ve forged some of the best friendships there and I’m so glad to say my girls are still an integral part of my life since. I only wish that Brian Paternostro ’08 were still alive. I miss him the most and know he loved Brandeis so much.

I now work at The New York Times International desk where I work with correspondents to produce immersive, multimedia stories. I also had a brief stint as a professor at CUNY’s Graduate School of Journalism. My most recent hobby is mixing house music - so I just bought a set of turntables.

All my love and hugs.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
So many to choose from, but that entire year at Rosenthal!

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
I got a crash course in diplomacy as president of the student body. That valuable experience has served me well since.
Life since Brandeis...

Following Brandeis, I attended the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After falling in love with Boston during my time at Brandeis, I decided to move back after law school. I am now a labor and employment attorney at a large Boston firm. I got married in February, 2014. While my husband isn’t a Brandeis alum, he has a sufficient love of Moody Street Indian buffets to qualify as an honorary Brandeisian.
Life since Brandeis...

Immediately after Brandeis graduation, I embarked on a two-month backpacking trip through Europe with absolutely no plan for what I’d be doing afterwards. Since then, I’ve lived in Boston, London and New York City, which is where I currently reside. My life led me down the career path of digital marketing & analytics but there’s no telling where it’ll take me next. As always, outside of work, I’m pursuing my two biggest passions which are dance and travel. I’ve danced/choreographed for companies in the Boston and New York areas. I did my fair share of traveling in college but the two most life-changing trips happened since graduating Brandeis: Israel & India. I plan to be back in both of those places later this year or next, and hopefully for extended periods of time.
Nichole Speciale

Life since Brandeis...
Since 2009, I stayed on at Brandeis University to do the Post-Bacc program in Visual Arts. After two years there, I was accepted to the MFA program at University of California at San Diego, which is where I am currently finishing up my degree. While in San Diego, I became close with graduate students in music and have been collaborating with them to expand my practice to think about how sound can be used as a drawing medium. I have also become an amateur wine-maker! Just bottled a batch of honey wine (or meade). After I finish my degree, I will most likely move to Los Angeles to look for work and to start to build my career as an artist.

Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?
I have been influenced by all my professors in the Visual Arts department. Each contributed to my life in a different way. I constantly think about their advice to me-- some of it is just starting to sink in! A big shout out to Joe Wardwell, Sean Downey, Susan Lichtman, Tory Fair, Scott Patrick Weiner, Graham Campbell, Alfredo Gisholt. After going to grad school, I’ve come to realize how unique our department in that I could have a strong relationship with all of you. Thank you and I miss you all!

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
So many but-- DUMPSTER PIZZA from Upper Crust. Is that gross? It’s totally in a box and fine to eat.
Which Brandeis professor left the biggest impression on you, and why?

Peter Gould co-taught the best class I ever took at Brandeis: Inner Peace, Outer Peace. It was eye opening and he was inspiring. It tapped into all the goodness of my time at Brandeis; it made me feel alive.
Justin Sulsky

Life since Brandeis...

I am currently a district-wide Teacher of the Gifted in the Northport - East Northport School District, which is on Long Island.

Since graduating Brandeis, I obtained an MA in social studies education and gifted education from Hofstra University. I am currently back at Hofstra for a post-MA certificate (CAS) in educational leadership, which will qualify for licensure as a New York State School and School District Leader.

I now live in Queens. In my free time, I take improv classes at the Upright Citizens Brigade and volunteer for The Trevor Project.

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:

There are many fond Brandeis memories, but one memory that stands out was the my 21st birthday dinner at Cheesecake Factory. I had many different friends from different parts of my Brandeis life, and it made me appreciate the quality and quantity of the friends I made at Brandeis.

Share your most memorable or funniest Brandeis moment since Brandeis:

My most memorable Brandeis moment since Brandeis was the wedding of Jacob Kamaras ’08 in San Diego to Megan Marcus. I enjoyed spending quality time with close friends in such a beautiful city. Primarily residing in the Northeast, we relished the warm and sunny mid-January weather.

Not to sound cheesy, but the warmth of spending a long weekend with Brandeis friends was even greater than the San Diego sun. I caught up with Brandeisians that I hadn’t seen in a while and had a lot of fun with close friends in a special setting.
Life since Brandeis...

After graduating, I moved to Austin for a year and now live in Washington DC and work as a lawyer.
Vivek Venugopal

Life since Brandeis...
Honestly, life has been great! After graduating I took a year off before starting at UMass Medical School. I graduate in 2015 now, after deciding to take an extra year to do research and travel before residency. I’m planning on going into Orthopedics, and in between the inevitable studying school requires, I’ve managed to stay in touch with my friends, have regular reunions with them, do some traveling, and have some pretty fun adventures.

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?
I left Brandeis with an amazing group of friends. Just like any place, there were positives and negatives, but the caliber of people I met there during my 4 years was outstanding. All of my friends left Brandeis with big plans, and all of them have achieved amazing things in the past 5 years. I’m excited to see what they’ll continue to accomplish in the years to come.
Life since Brandeis...

Hi friends! I hope you are all doing well. A lot has happened since graduation. I married Rebecca (Sturgis) Wexler in August 2010. I spent two years working full-time as the Youth Director and Community Educator at Temple Aliyah in Needham, MA. And now I am a Wexner Fellow and third year rabbinical school student at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. This year, Becca and I are living in Jerusalem for my rabbinical school year in Israel. During my time at JTS I have also served as a Rabbinic Intern at B’nai Jeshurun in NYC, learned at Yeshivat Hadar, worked as a Rosh Edah at Ramah Berkshires, served as a High Holiday student rabbi at B’nai Israel in Rockville, MD and Temple Beth Shalom in Pittsburgh, PA, and done a lot of teaching and tutoring b’nai mitzvah students. Becca and I will be returning to New York this summer and Becca will be starting a nursing/midwifery program at Columbia. I hope you are all doing well and are up to great things!

What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis had a huge impact on my life - from Hillel to JFA to NEJS. Heck, I even met my b’shert at Brandeis! I am so thankful for the incredible four years I spent at Brandeis!
What positive impact did Brandeis have on your life?

Brandeis didn’t always seem like the right fit to me while I was there. It was hard, challenging and had its moments. I didn’t realize in my early years at Brandeis that it was exactly where I was meant to be. It wasn’t until I was getting ready to graduate I realized how much I loved it! Brandeis gave me a family, lifelong friends, experiences abroad and life lessons I will never forget. It has shaped me into the successful person I am today, challenging the world we live in and working to make it a better place.
Fuying Yu

Life since Brandeis...
Junior Banker at Santander

What was your favorite Brandeis event and why?
When Brandeis spring comes

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
Friends
Sam Zuber

Life since Brandeis...

Wow I can’t believe how quickly five years has gone by! I feel so much has happened since senior week, but at the same time it feels like it was just last week was the Asher Roth concert. I still maintain many of friendships I made at Brandeis, and even when I run into those I haven’t seen in years, I am able to pick up right where we left off. I am truly blessed to have met so many great people there.

After graduation, I decided to take off two years before entering med school, so I could do something I would never get to do again. I spent 3 months in the Galapagos Islands volunteering in a local hospital and running a blood pressure/blood sugar screening clinic for the locals there. It was such an amazing experience as I gained a tremendous appreciation for all the nature that surrounds us and the beauty of a clear starry-night sky. Along with other volunteers from all around the world working on a variety of different projects, we formed a family away from home. While I have lost touch with most of them, it’s an experience I was happy to have had and will never forget.

When I got back to the US I moved to Washington, DC to work at the National Institutes of Health. I have to say my 15 months there were truly some of the best. It was a time and place where I was able to unite my home friends, college friends, study abroad friends, and DC friends into one super awesome group of friends. I also loved how amazingly well Brandeisians came together. Some of my closest friends I made in DC were kids from Brandeis I barely even knew.

After working at the NIH, I made my way up to New York Medical College and am currently in my 3rd year. School has been great, but it’s definitely not Brandeis, even though so many of our classmates are at the school! It is great to have so many good Brandeis friends though in the city.

It truly is remarkable how much people’s lives have changed in these five years, even though I feel for the most part nothing has actually changed. I am and always will be grateful for the time I spent at Brandeis and for the people I met during my time there.

GO JUDGES!!!!

Share your fondest Brandeis memory:
There are too many:
1. Brandeis men’s basketball games when we made it to the tournament and a group of us painted our chests.
2. Doing the guys’ Adagio hip hop dance on a torn ACL spring semester.
3. All those wonderful and hilarious memories I made while being on BEMCo.
4. Going to Ponzu with friends and celebrating with the owner Billy.
Then

&

Now

Arthur Attal, Lee Sieradzki, Gabriel Cohen-Elia and Jeremie Braoude

Gail Goldspiel and Justin Sulsky

Alix Lifka-Reselman, Jamie Van Wagtendonk, Emily Pope-Obeda, Aviva Cormier and Zachary Barr
Lauren Rosenblum, Lindsay Gordon and Zachary Barr

Caroline Cadel, Liz Gelda and Ilana Levine

Jen Faber and Hillary Mishan
Scheffres 2 Girls

Ashley Cukier, Liz Gelda, Caroline Cadel, Katie Schofield and Ilana Levine

Scheffres 2 Girls

Robin Farber, Lauren Wild, Danielle Garfinkel, Jordan Faigen and Erika Geller
Yael Rooks-Rapport, Jenna Gondelman, Carrie Richman, Gavi Young Fenster, David Bass and Missy Mlotek

Laura Adduci, Stephanie Chapin, Oriana Fisher, Lindsay Gordon and Myka Held

Ben Mernick and Akiva Fishman
Gail Goldspiel and Lauren Schneider

Lindsay Gordon, Stephanie Chapin, Myka Held, Oriana Fisher, Laura Adduci and Jessica Kent

Rachel Nadas, Rachel Landauer, Emily Oppenheimer and Naomi Hyman
Lindsay Gordon, Lauren Rosenblum and Zachary Barr

Amy Thompson and Matt Hope

Julia Sokolyansky, Jenn Sheehan, Maurice Goldstein and Naomi Hyman
Michael Goldman ’08, Avi Rhodes and Justin Sulsky

Emily Oppenheimer, Stella Liberman and Naomi Hyman

Ariel Fried, Michelle Liberman, Mollie Warshaw, Allie Levy and Jamie Jick
June Gerrie (née Michaelson) and Maxine Kantor

Leah Carnow, Julie Stein, Jacob Lazar and Janel Rabbani

Elana Klinger-Rogers, Rebecca Schulman, Hillary Mishan, Lisa Magid, Jess Blumberg, Katy Agule, Jennifer Faber and Madison Lyleroehr
Olga Malkin and Dawn Schwartz

Maxine Kantor and June Gerrie née Michaelson

Olga Malkin and Dawn Schwartz

Marina Suholutsky and Aliye Melton
Liana Petruzzi and Nathan Porteshawver

Lauren Rosenblum, Alexandra Friedman, Levana Goldberg, Eva Cassedy, Jessica Nu and Nichole Speciale

Adam Eisenberg, Jon Blanc, Dan Rueven, Mike Rosenblatt, Jake Kann, Ben Strassfeld, Sam Shoolman and Mike Katz
Lauren Maramara, Lauren Rosenblum, Honey Nagakura, Alexandra Friedman, Leila Alciere and Levana Goldberg

Sam Zuber, Danny Feuer and Jake Singer
Lauren Rosenblum, Lindsay Gordon and Zachary Barr

Sarah Rueven and Dan Rueven

Jake Kann, Jon Blanc, Jonah Mandell, Matt Relle, Josh Hochman, Mike Katz, Adam Eisenberg and Dan Rueven
Max Wallach and Nelson Rutrick

Sarah Rueven, Michelle Liberman and Allie Levy

Naomi Hyman, Julia Sokolyansky and Jenn Sheehan
Corey Pilz, Brooke Page Rosenbauer, Jenn Sheehan and Julia Simon-Mishel, (Dan Snyder and Nick Ramirez)

Maurice Goldstein and Julia Sokolyansky

Asher Tannenbaum ’08, Ross Felder ’08, Andrew Brooks and Justin Sulsky
Sam Zuber and Charlie Gandelman

Emma Cohen, Julia Sokolyansky, Anna Kharaz and Sonja Gandert

Julia Simon-Mishel and Aaron Voldman
In Memoriam

Let us remember those classmates, who are no longer with us, but will always be a part of us.

John Maquire

Igor Zhukovsky