CLASS OF 1990
25TH
REUNION
Dear Classmates,

It's been twenty-five years, can you believe it?!

The pages of this yearbook are filled with the stories, memories and histories that describe what our experiences at Brandeis mean to each us, and how, in many ways, those experiences shaped who we became. There is no doubt about it: our time at Brandeis — and the knowledge and experiences it delivered — played an important role in determining our worldviews and impacted our decisions about how we would live our lives. For many of us, our years at Brandeis also cemented some of our most meaningful and transformative personal relationships.

As we perused the pages of our 25th Reunion yearbook, we couldn't help but reflect on the fact that as much as Brandeis shaped us, we shaped Brandeis. We each contributed to the tapestry of experiences, perspectives and opinions that, together, created an intellectual, educational and social environment that was unique to our undergraduate years. So, this book is as much a celebration of us as it is a celebration of Brandeis itself. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did!

Our 25th Reunion, June 5-7, is truly a milestone. Our committee has created an exciting line-up of events, all of which promise to be awesome. It will be amazing to come together as a class and rekindle fond — though perhaps long-forgotten — memories. Those of you who haven't been back for a while will be dazzled by the campus transformation, and we're all likely to be nostalgic seeing our old haunts.

Happy 25th Reunion!

Best,

Darin Correll
Adrienne Waterston

Class of 1990, 25th Reunion Yearbook Coordinators
Special Thanks

On behalf of the Institutional Advancement Division,
we would like to thank the members of the
Class of 1990 Reunion Committee

Michael I. Kanovitz, Co-chair
Steven H. Levine, Co-chair
Andrew M. Zeitlin, Co-chair

Darin J. Correll, Yearbook Coordinator
Adrienne A. Waterston, Yearbook Coordinator

Jason A. Advocate
Melissa Benenfeld-Merovitz
Stella A. Levy Cohen
Miri Abrams Forster
Ilene Judith Parish Gershen
Jonathan S. Gershen,
Lyla A. Naseem Gleason
Marni Smith Katz
Susan E. Loeb-Zeitlin
Judy Cashman Magram
Eric S. Mulkowsky
Paul Ruggerio Namaste
Daniel B. Ramer
Wendy L. Shlensky
Julie B. Smith-Bartoloni
**Pop Culture**

Academy Award, Best Picture: *Platoon*

Fox Broadcasting Co. makes its prime-time TV debut.

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inducts Aretha Franklin as first female artist.

**Movies**

Fatal Attraction

Beverly Hills Cop II

The Untouchables

Lethal Weapon

Dirty Dancing

RoboCop

Moonstruck

**Died this Year**

Andy Warhol

Rudolf Hess

John Huston

James Baldwin

**Economy**

Average income per year: $24,350

Average monthly rent: $395.00

Average price for new car: $10,305

Gallon of gas: 89 cents

U.S. postage stamp: 24 cents

One dozen eggs: 65 cents

**World News**

Supernova is observed, the first “naked-eye” supernova since 1604.

The Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie (Butcher of Lyon) is found guilty of crimes against humanity.

William Buckley, American hostage in Lebanon, reported slain.

Iraqi missiles kill 37 in attack on U.S. frigate *Stark* in Persian Gulf; Iraqi president Hussein apologizes.

The world’s population reaches five billion.

The first criminal is convicted by using DNA evidence in England.

**US News**

AZT wins FDA approval for use in the treatment of AIDS.

U.S. Stock Market crashes on October 19 with a 22.6% point drop.

Admiral John M. Poindexter, former National Security Adviser, testifies he authorized use of Iran arms sale profits to aid Contras.

Richard Branson and Per Lindstrand make the first transatlantic hot-air balloon flight.

Baby M custody case begins, becoming the first American court ruling on the validity of surrogacy.

President Reagan lifts trade boycott against Ukraine.

Prozac is released for use in U.S. by Eli Lilly & Company.

**Class of 1990 Timeline**

1987
**World News**

Winter Olympics are held in Alberta, Canada.

Summer Olympics are held in Seoul, South Korea.

Soviet Red Army withdraws from Afghanistan.

Pan-Am 747 explodes from terrorist bomb and crashes in Lockerbie, Scotland, killing all 259 aboard and 11 on ground.

Iraq-Iran war ends after 8 years and 1.5 million dead.

Earthquake in Armenia kills 60,000.

**US News**

U.S. Navy ship shoots down Iranian airliner in Persian Gulf, mistaking it for jet fighter; 290 killed.

Over one third of Yellowstone National Park is destroyed when a series of more than 250 different small fires combined with the 1988 drought destroys 793,880 acres.

U.S. Shuttle Program resumes 2 1/2 years after the Challenger disaster.

Republicans sweep 40 states in election, and George Bush beats Michael Dukakis.

NASA scientist James Hansen warns congress of the dangers of the global warming and the greenhouse effect.

The U.S. and Canada reach a free trade agreement.

Robert C. McFarlane pleads guilty in Iran-Contra case.

**Pop Culture**

Academy Award, Best Picture: *The Last Emperor*

CDs outsell vinyl records for the first time.

Ted Turner starts Turner Network Television (TNT).

The first major computer virus infects computers connected to the Internet.

The first World AIDS Day is held on December 1st.

**Movies**

Rain Man

Who Framed Roger Rabbit

Big

Die Hard

Beetlejuice

A Fish Called Wanda

**Died this Year**

Roy Orbison

Chet Baker

Luis Alvarez

Edgar Jean Faure

Nora Astorga

**Economy**

Average cost of new house: $91,600

Average monthly rent: $420.00

Gallon of gas: 91 cents

Movie ticket: $3.50

Gallon of milk: $1.89
**World News**

Massive protests on either side of the Berlin Wall bring about the collapse of the East German government. The Berlin Wall is eventually dismantled and the Brandenburg Gate is opened.

Thousands of students occupy Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China protesting for democracy; hundreds of demonstrators are killed. The U.S. and other countries around the world place sanctions on China.

Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the Dalai Lama.

200,000 protesters in Prague, Czechoslovakia call for resignation of the government, which leads to free elections.

The Malta Summit between the USSR and the U.S. ends the Cold War.

**US News**

The U.S. Supreme Court rules that flag burning is a form of political protest and is an act of protected speech under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

A San Francisco Bay area earthquake measuring 7.1 in magnitude killed 67 and injured over 3,000. Over 100,000 buildings are damaged or destroyed.

The serial killer, Ted Bundy, is executed in Florida’s electric chair.

The first of 24 satellites of the Global Positioning System is placed into orbit.

The U.S. government provides a $150 billion bailout for savings and loan associates.

Exxon Valdez tanker leaks 11 million gallons of oil into Alaska’s Prince William Sound.

Army General Colin Powell is the first black Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**Pop Culture**

Academy Award, Best Picture: *Rain Man*

Scientists declare 1989 as the warmest year on record, possibly a sign of the greenhouse effect.

The first edition of Microsoft Office is released.

Toyota launches Lexus, its new luxury car brand.

Nintendo releases the Game Boy.

The Simpsons debut on FOX.

**Movies**

*Batman*

*Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*

*Lethal Weapon 2*

*Back to the Future Part II*

*Driving Miss Daisy*

*Dead Poets Society*

*When Harry Met Sally*

**Died this Year**

*Lucille Ball*

*Samuel Beckett*

*Salvador Dali*

*Bette Davis*

*Ferdinand Marcos*

*Billy Martin*

*Laurence Olivier*

*Sugar Ray Robinson*

*Andrei Sakharov*

*Robert Penn Warren*

**Economy**

Average cost of new house: $120,000

Average income per year: $27,450

Average price for new car: $15,350

Gallon of gas: 97 cents

U.S. postage stamp: 25 cents

**1989**
World News
Nelson Mandela is released from a South African prison after 28 years and becomes leader of the African National Congress.
Industrialized countries around the world agree to stop dumping waste into the oceans.
Margaret Thatcher announces her resignation as British Prime Minister.
The Hubble Space Telescope is launched.
East and West Germany reunite.
The Cold War ends and the Communist Party gives up power of the Soviet Union.

Pop Culture
Academy Award, Best Picture: Driving Miss Daisy
The Euro dance band Milli Vanilli admits to lip-synching hits such as “Girl You Know It’s True,” and has their Grammy award revoked.
Seinfeld debuts on NBC.
The first in-car satellite navigation system is sold by Pioneer.
Entertainment Weekly hits newsstands.
World Wide Web debuts.

Movies
Dances with Wolves
Good Fellas
Ghost
Pretty Woman
Total Recall
Die Hard 2
Dick Tracy
Edward Scissorhands

Died this Year
B.F. Skinner
Jim Henson
Greta Garbo
Sammy Davis, Jr.
Le Duc Tho

Economy
Average cost of new house: $123,000
Average income per year: $28,960
Average monthly rent: $465.00
Cost of a gallon of gas: $1.34
**Top 10 1987**

**Artist/Track**
The Bangles, “Walk Like an Egyptian”
Bon Jovi, “Livin’ On a Prayer”
Starship, “Nothing’s Gonna Stop Us Now”
Cutting Crew, “(I Just) Died In Your Arms”
U2, “With or Without You”
Whitney Houston, “I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)”
Michael Jackson, “I Just Can’t Stop Loving You”
Whitesnake, “Here I Go Again”
Bill Medley & Jennifer Warnes, “(I’ve Had) The Time of My Life”
Belinda Carlisle, “Heaven Is a Place on Earth”

**Top 10 1988**

**Artist/Track**
George Michael, “Faith”
Michael Jackson, “The Way You Make Me Feel”
INXS, “Need You Tonight”
George Michael, “Father Figure”
Michael Jackson, “Man in the Mirror”
Whitney Houston, “Where Do Broken Hearts Go”
Guns N’ Roses, “Sweet Child O’ Mine”
Bobby McFerrin, “Don’t Worry Be Happy”
The Beach Boys, “Kokomo”
Bon Jovi, “Bad Medicine”

**Top 10 1989**

**Artist/Track**
Poison, “Every Rose Has Its Thorn”
Bobby Brown, “My Prerogative”
Paula Abdul, “Straight Up”
Fine Young Cannibals, “She Drives Me Crazy”
Madonna, “Like a Prayer”
Bette Midler, “Wind Beneath My Wings”
New Kids on the Block, “I’ll Be Loving You (Forever)”
Richard Marx, “Satisfied”
Simply Red, “If You Don’t Know Me by Now”
Janet Jackson, “Miss You Much”

**Top 10 1990**

**Artist/Track**
Phil Collins, “Another Day In Paradise”
Janet Jackson, “Escapade”
Sinead O’Connor, “Nothing Compares 2 U”
Madonna, “Vogue”
Wilson Phillips, “Hold On”
New Kids on the Block, “Step by Step”
Mariah Carey, “Vision of Love”
Bon Jovi, “Blaze of Glory”
George Michael, “Praying for Time”
Vanilla Ice, “Ice Ice Baby”
1990
- President: Evelyn E. Handler
- Commencement Speaker: Daniel K. Inouye
- Tuition: $13,780
- Total Undergraduates: 2884
- Number of Graduates: 534

Today
- President: Frederick M. Lawrence
- Commencement Speaker: Thomas Pickering
- Tuition: $46,022
- Total Undergraduates: 3,729
- Clubs and Organizations: 275+
- Number of Majors and Minors: 43 and 45
Brandeis Accepted at Grad. Schools

By CHERYL ALCON

Despite Brandeis’ omission from the U.S. News & World Report’s 1990 College Guide and the fact that this year’s median freshman SAT scores fell below a combined score of 1200, Brandeis students are still considered excellent students when applying to law or medical schools, according to Lisa Berman Hills, director of the Haas Center. Traditionally, Brandeis has had trouble maintaining consistent high standards of acceptance rates to law and medical schools as well as other types of graduate school programs.

“Brandeis is a top-tier school for law schools,” Berman Hills said. “The low scores really look bad to Brandeis applicants.” This is encouraging during a time when more students are applying to law school across the nation.

Statistics from the Haas Center show that, for the past three years, the percentage of Brandeis undergraduate students applying to law school has increased from 25% to 30%. Law schools have become increasingly competitive. However, Berman Hills says Brandeis has still done phenomenally well in their acceptance rates.

In the past, over 90% of the Brandeis students applying to law school gained admission to a school of their choice. Although no full-time programs are available for law school acceptance numbers, Berman Hills believes that Brandeis’ high percentage compares quite favorably with other universities in the nation.

Similarly, 63% of those Brandeis students applying to medical school were accepted at a school of choice. These rates compare quite favorably with national averages for medical school, which stated that only 59.8% of all students applying to medical school were accepted at a school of their choice.

“Brandeis’ rates for medical schools are holding steady,” according to Hillary Lambert, director of Academics Affairs, who is the chairperson of the Board of Pre-Med Students.

Brandeis’ MCAT scores are above the national average as well. The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) consists of six sections. Four science-based sections cover anatomy and math. Each section has fifteen points. The national average per section is 23 points. Brandeis students’ scores hover around nine in these sections.

In three of these tests, Lambert noted that there are several students each year who score perfect fifths on each section.

Gymnasium Project Underway

By JANET WAGNER

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Singer Elvis Costello Booked For Bronstein Weekend Show

By KLAUS KOLLE

Pop prominence Elvis Costello will be in town for a one-man show at April 14. The show, which is sponsored by the University of Vermont, is expected to be a sell-out, and tickets are already being sold out.

Costello has had his share of hits, including "Sans Souci," "Love Letter," and "Land of Hope and Glory." He has been a favorite of the 1970s, with his unique blend of rock and roll and soul.

Costello's appearance at the Coliseum is part of a series of events at the University of Vermont. The school is well known for its focus on the arts and culture, and it is the home of the University of Vermont Symphony Orchestra.

In recent years, Costello has focused on his solo career, releasing several successful albums. He is known for his distinctive voice and his ability to mix different genres of music.

Costello's performance at the Coliseum is sure to be a highlight of the weekend, and fans are excited for the opportunity to see him perform live.

Former Brandeis President Bernstein And Wife Killed in Cairo Hotel Blaze

By EVAN RIVLIN

Former Brandeis University President Harry R. Bernstein and his wife, Anna, were killed in a hotel fire in Cairo, Egypt, on March 5. Bernstein served as president of Brandeis from 1977 to 1983.

The Brandeis community was shocked and saddened by the news, and messages of sympathy poured in from around the world. The university has established a memorial fund in memory of Bernstein and his wife.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but it appears to be an accident. The hotel was well known for its top-notch facilities, and it was a popular destination for travelers.

Lawrence Wien Dies; Established Int'l Scholarships

By WASHINGTON POST

Lawrence Wien, 92, of Washington, D.C., who established the Lawrence Wien Endowment at Brandeis University, has died. Wien was a successful businessman and philanthropist, and his generosity will be remembered for generations to come.

Wien was born in New York City in 1926 and grew up in the Brooklyn area. He attended Hunter College and was a successful businessman in the real estate industry. Wien established the Lawrence Wien Endowment at Brandeis University in 1994, and it has provided scholarships and funding for international programs.

In addition to his philanthropy, Wien was known for his love of art and music. He was a member of the board of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra.

Graduation Speeches Focus on American Foreign Policy and The Need For Change

By RANDY BRANER

As the Class of 2023 prepares to graduate, speakers at the commencement ceremony emphasized the importance of American foreign policy and the need for change.

"We must continue to support the values that make our country great," said President John F. Kennedy, who delivered the keynote address. "We must be a leader in the world, and we must do it in a way that is consistent with our values and our principles.

"We must also recognize the changes that are taking place around the world," added Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "We must be prepared to adapt to a changing world, and we must do it in a way that is consistent with our values and our principles.

The commencement ceremony was held on campus, and it was attended by the entire university community.

NASA Astronauts To Train On Campus

By PAUL MURPHY

NASA has announced plans to establish a training center on the Brandeis University campus. The center will be used to train astronauts for future missions.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for our university," said President Kenneth W. Fleming. "We are proud to be part of this exciting project, and we are confident that it will bring many benefits to the university and the community.

The training center will be located in the old physics building on campus. It will be used to train astronauts for future missions, and it will be open to the public for tours and educational events.

250 Students Join Thousands in D.C., Defend Women's Rights, Abortion

By AMY SMITH

As thousands of protesters gathered in Washington, D.C., for the Women's March, Brandeis University students joined in the demonstration. The march was held to show support for women's rights and to protest recent changes to abortion laws.

"We came together to show our support for women's rights," said one student. "We are committed to fighting for our rights and our freedoms, and we will not give up.

The march was peaceful, and it was attended by students from all over the country. It was a powerful demonstration of solidarity and support.

The Justice

The legal journal of Brandeis University

Continued on page 12
Faculty Votes For Int'l Studies Program

Charles Napoli: A Dedicated Friend to Brandeis Athletics

$1.25M Scholarship Announced; Honors Abram, Thelma Sachar

Student Broadcasters to Launch Weekly News Show

Washington, D.C.

Weekly Torchbearer
Brandeis Proposes Power Plant; Project To Reduce Energy Costs

By JONATHAN SHAPIRO

As part of an ongoing effort to cut energy costs, Brandeis city, which has not yet released comprehensive studies, announced plans for a new natural gas power plant in the neighborhood behind the Judson Interests Center. Brandeis would lease the plant from the Energy Company, a subsidiary of the Proctor and Gamble Company, which would be responsible for the plant's operations.

The university has not yet released comprehensive studies on the project, but the university said it would release the plans as soon as possible.

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Significant Savings

No significant savings would be seen from the new plant, according to Brandeis officials. They said the university would not release comprehensive studies until the plans are developed.

The university has not yet released comprehensive studies on the project, but the university said it would release the plans as soon as possible.

Cable TV Service Offered

In Foster, Charles Apts.

By CRISL ALON

Although the exact date has not been released, the cable service, which will make its debut in Foster Living Room, is expected to start operating before the end of the year. According to the Cable Company of South Street, the service will be available to residents of the complex.

The service will be available to residents of the complex.

Campus Police

Lobby For Guns

The Justice

The Independent Student Newspaper of Brandeis University

Volume XLII, Number 17

Seps 22, 1989

State of the Week:

"Brandeis is a home you don't just like, you have to live in it!" -Chancellor Foster, quoting Albert Einstein

Affirmative Action

HENTZ LEAVES TOP ADMIINISTRATIVE POST

By YURIE BERNSTEIN

Following more than two years in his position as Associate Director, Hentz left the university in July. He was replaced by John F. Smith, who has been serving as the university's director of public relations since 1986.

The university has not yet released comprehensive studies on the project, but the university said it would release the plans as soon as possible.

Hentz's Resignation

Hentz's resignation was accepted by the university's board of trustees. The board of trustees also announced that Smith would continue to serve as the university's director of public relations.

The university has not yet released comprehensive studies on the project, but the university said it would release the plans as soon as possible.

Novelist Angelou to Keynote Women's Month

By IRIS HAIDER

Prominent author and civil rights activist Maya Angelou will deliver the keynote address at Brandeis University's Women's Month on March 14.

Angelou's words are part of a month-long series of activities planned for National Women's Month at Brandeis, including lectures, workshops, and film screenings. The theme for this year's activities is "In Search of Commonground:

Our Struggle for Solidarity," and much of the programming will focus on women's rights and attempts for equality.

"Women's movement, in general, has lost direction," Coordinating Editor Erica Benjamin said. "It has always been dominated by white upper middle class women. We need to combat this because the concerns of lesbians have been neglected."

"This theme acknowledges that all women are different. Differences can be a powerful tool. But we must still work toward some form of commonground.

The programs planned for the month of March address women's achievements, unsolved problems and future goals. Among the programs are "Women Making Movies," a video presentation of "The Politics of Honor: A Feminist View," and "Pornography..."
Indigos Perform at Stein

By KEVIN BRANDON

The walls of the Stein are too thin, and the smell, enough to make one feel sick. The noise is deafening, and the heat is oppressive. The lighting is poor, and the atmosphere is constrictive to any form of discussion or activity. Despite these obstacles, the Indigos, a musical group consisting of four singing women, managed to put on a worthwhile performance on Stein's second floor last Thursday night.

Their music defies easy categorization. It is a mesh of jazz, blues, and a continuously shifting rhythm, but it never loses its drive and passion. Their vocal range is impressive, with each member bringing a unique style to the performance. The group's ability to adapt to various musical styles and create a cohesive sound is a testament to their skill and dedication.

The performance, however, was not without its challenges. The heat and noise inside the building made it difficult for some members to sing clearly, and the sparse audience did not provide much feedback. Despite these setbacks, the Indigos persevered, showcasing their talent and commitment to their craft.

The Stein itself presented further obstacles. The acoustics were not ideal, and the space was limited, making it difficult to create a satisfactory performance environment. However, the Indigos were able to overcome these challenges, demonstrating their adaptability and resilience.

In conclusion, the Indigos' performance at Stein was a memorable event that showcased the group's talent and dedication. While the venue presented challenges, the group's passion and skill were evident, making for an enjoyable and engaging musical experience. The Stein is a challenging space for any performance, but the Indigos proved that with determination and skill, any venue can be transformed into a place of beauty and artistry.
It is my pleasure to greet you, the graduates of the Class of 1990—

All over campus, graduates and their families have taken photographs. Pictures of Mom with the graduate — Dad with the graduate, brother and sister with the graduate — grandparents with the graduate — and graduates with graduates.

When photo commercials tell us to preserve our memories in photographs, we respond because of the natural desire to find permanence in an ever-changing world. We want things to stay the same. We want happy moments to be with us always. Even though we know it cannot be, we want life to be a still photograph.

We want parents not to grow old — children not to grow up — friends not to move away — neighborhoods not to change. We are forever snapping pictures of our lives — both figuratively and literally.

But the shutter clicks, and we are no longer in the same pose. Life moves on, and so do we. As much as we may wish to hold each moment forever, we know that change is an unavoidable and essential part of life. It is, in fact, change that gives meaning to our lives and the things we do.

You, the graduates of the Class of 1990, are “perfect examples of the positive power of change.” You are not the same people you were when you first came Brandeis. You have developed new skills and new interests, forged new friendships, and, most importantly, you have grown emotionally and intellectually. And on the strength of the foundation that Brandeis has provided you, you will continue to grow and change with each passing year.

Brandeis, too, has changed as well. Today, it is not the same University that you entered as freshmen in 1986. Neither is it the same University that I came to in 1983. The physical changes are the most obvious. Ziv Quad is new, as is the expanded and refurbished Sherman-Hassenfeld facility. And across the street from this ceremony, work is underway on a magnificent new Sports and Convocation Center.

Although less visible, there have been academic changes as well. Faculty have retired, some have accepted positions at other colleges and universities, and still others have come to Brandeis to continue the process of intellectual renewal. State of the art scientific research has yielded new results and new discoveries, poetry has been written, new plays have been produced, historical events have been interpreted again, new courses have been added, and the curriculum has been strengthened in ways both big and small.

When you leave (Brandeis) today and begin to plan your future, you will continue the process of change. Similarly, as we at Brandeis plan for the future, the University will also continue to change. Brandeis will grow, new programs will be introduced, others may be changed, but Brandeis will also be steadfast by its vision and its ideals: an unwavering commitment to excellence that guides our course and provides the confidence needed to accept change.

So, take pictures and enjoy and treasure this moment. But understand that it is part of a continuum, part of the process of life in an ever-changing world. The tree you’ve smiled in front of will grow—the building behind you will undergo renovation—clothing and hair styles will change—and all of us will grow older. The next time you visit Brandeis—which I hope will be often—you will be different and so will your University.

Preserve the photographs—let them bring you back often to this special day in your life. But remember always that the photograph is frozen in time—you and Brandeis are always moving forward. And now, as you move on—as you commence your voyage into life beyond the Academy—I wish you safe journey, much success, and much happiness.

Thank you.
I told my kids I was an EMT with BEMCO and now one of them wants to know about all things medical and wants to be a doctor when she grows up. I’m tickled by that!

My other twin can’t believe I went to a school with a castle!

More seriously, I loved the unique experience of being at a secular school with a Jewish majority, that was also a community that was welcoming to all.

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

I told my kids I was an EMT with BEMCO and now one of them wants to know about all things medical and wants to be a doctor when she grows up. I’m tickled by that!

My other twin can’t believe I went to a school with a castle!

More seriously, I loved the unique experience of being at a secular school with a Jewish majority, that was also a community that was welcoming to all.

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?

Maybe within the next 25 years my twins will have gone to Brandeis too!

Life since Brandeis:

Career: I had a great time traveling around the country in my first career, in undergraduate college admissions, then buckled down, got serious, and went to law school. I have since been working as an employment and insurance coverage attorney, and have been working in-house at an insurance company for the past 9 years. At this time, I’m on the verge of a career move... hint, hint to all you NYC lawyer alums who might know of some opportunities...

Non-career: I lived in Montana for a few years after Brandeis --Josh Milner ’90 joined me there! Lived in upstate New York, Boston, New Jersey, then moved to NYC after meeting my partner, and started a family. We have awesome 6 year old twins!

I spend my free time enjoying my family, traveling, soaking up all that NYC has to offer, and singing in an amazing chorus!
Life since Brandeis:
Following Brandeis, I graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Dental School in 1994 and then completed a General Practice Residency program at North Shore Hospital in Manhasset, NY. Following my General Practice Residency, I completed my specialty training in prosthodontics at Eastman Dental Center/University of Rochester. After becoming a prosthodontist, I went into private practice in Rochester, NY and also taught dentistry at Eastman Dental Center. I married Peter Abt in 1998 and had a son, Benjamin in 2001. Then, in 2001, we moved to Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania and I began working at the University of Pennsylvania Dental School as the Director of Operative Dentistry. In 2003, I had a daughter, Arielle. In 2004, Peter got a job in Rochester, NY, so we moved back to Rochester where I worked in the faculty dental practice at the University of Rochester and also taught in the department of prosthodontics and general dentistry at Eastman Dental Center. In 2007, Peter accepted a job at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, so we moved back to the Philadelphia area and I began working at the University of Pennsylvania Dental School again. I am currently the Course Director for Fixed Prosthodontics at the University of Pennsylvania Dental School. We live in Villanova, PA. Peter is working as a transplant surgeon at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Benjamin is 14 and Arielle is 11. I am really enjoying teaching at Penn and spending time with my family.

If you knew then, what you know now, what would you do differently?
If I knew then, what I know now, I would have spent less time in G-zang studying and more time being involved with other things. However, since many of my closest friends (and husband) spent just as much time as I did in G-zang, I have really great memories when I look back at that time.

Your greatest achievement(s):
My greatest achievement is having a wonderful husband and family and being happy.
Life since Brandeis:
I wouldn’t have believed that it’s been 25 years already, except that my oldest son, Josh, is preparing to apply to college himself next year. Hard to believe I have 4 kids, Josh (17), Aidan (14), Ethan (13) and Emma (7), or that I have been married for 19 years now. Time flies.

My wife, Debbie, and I are going on our 20th year this September. I’ve been running my law firm with my law partner for the last 8 years, focusing on family and matrimonial law. There is never a dull moment, and I (generally) love it.

Each summer we take a few weeks off with the kids and travel to Europe, where we can all de-stress and focus on enjoying life and family.

Life lessons you learned at Brandeis:
I have such warm and fond memories of Brandeis as the place that helped me grow both intellectually and socially into the person I am today. One of the most important lessons I learned was the need to balance work and leisure. It’s still a constant struggle, especially with 4 kids and a law firm in New York, but it all started at Brandeis.

Most interesting travel experience:
Every year we take the family to visit a close group of friends in England and go to a small music festival in the south west. We have been going with the same families for more than 10 years. It’s such a different pace of life, and the kids and us have come to look forward to it every year as a time when we can kick back, relax and just enjoy one another’s company without the stress of school and work. Not to mention that the beer and cider is just better in England.
Life since Brandeis:
Not much really.

With Neil Steinhardt, Larry Reiter and Jimmy Helburn
Wayne Altman

Life since Brandeis:
Family Physician
Teacher at Tufts Medical School
WellnessCampaign.org

My wife and oldest son Akash

My two youngest sons Zeke and Jacoby
Life since Brandeis:

I returned home to Los Angeles where I attended law school at UCLA. As a lawyer, I’ve worked as a public defender, a law firm securities specialist, and in-house counsel. I was married in 2000 and am now the proud father of two girls, ages 10 and 12.
Life since Brandeis:
I received my MBA in Marketing from NYU Stern School of Business. Following graduation, I went to work for American Express where I stayed for 5 years. Mostly, I worked on Cardmember Acquisition and designing their “find me a card” website when the internet was very new. During that time, I got married to my husband, Eric. We now have 4 children and will be celebrating our 20th anniversary around the time of the reunion. Joshua, age 16, Julia, age 14, Lilly, age 11 and Talya, age 10. I am now working as Director of Marketing and PR at a Scarsdale Synagogue.

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:
I have stayed in touch with 3 friends - Ilana Schoenfeld, Judy Cashman Magram and Michele Goldstein Resnick. We see each other periodically and/or speak on the phone. It's always nice seeing old friends and picking up where you left off!

Most interesting travel experience:
Traveling abroad to France my junior year at Brandeis was definitely my most interesting and memorable travel experience - the chance of a lifetime! I will strongly encourage my kids to take advantage of that opportunity.
I keep in touch with most of the people with whom I was closest at Brandeis, primarily through Facebook.

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

I have great memories from my time at Brandeis, of making wonderful friends and getting a first-class education in a pretty, open, inclusive, and nurturing environment.
Life since Brandeis:

It is truly unbelievable that 25 YEARS have gone by since our days at Brandeis! What a wonderful foundation for learning, growing and realizing how valuable academics are TODAY! If only we could go back for 1 more semester. Who knew then that a "5-year Plan" would have been OK after all!? 

What I mention most about my Brandeis days are the lifelong friends I made while there and the sense of community/camaraderie I felt while on campus. There are probably not many people who can say that the roommate with whom they were randomly originally matched for their freshman year would still be one of their closest friends after 4 years of college, let alone 25 years after graduation, but I am happy to say that I can!

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

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I was an SSIS counselor and co-coordinator (manager) for most of my time at the school. From the people I counseled I learned that we’re all different - and wonderful, and worth being valued. From the counselors themselves I learned that working as a group means also valuing the input and differences of each of them as individuals.

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Most interesting travel experience:
Travel is what my family loves best. We love to explore the nooks and crannies of a new city, wander a market, talk to new people.

My favorite is when we took the kids to Japan. It was our first long-distance trip with them (they were 9 and 6). I was proud that they were thrilled to visit such a different culture, being respectful, interested, and engaged in what they saw and to whom they spoke. We stayed in a more traditional Japanese room in Kyoto and they took to it with gusto.

My daughter cried when it was time to come home.

Life since Brandeis:
I’ve been happily married for almost 20 years to a smart and funny beauty named Pam. Together we have two lovely kids: Sarah (15) and Alec (12). We’ve travelled the world together and love exploring.

Professionally, I’ve gravitated towards Information Technology. I managed part of Citibank’s environment in the 90’s, and now run a technology area for the insurance company New York Life. I also pursued an MBA that joined my passions of international work and technology.

I often think back to my time at Brandeis. I met some lifelong friends there, and enjoyed the intellectual challenge. I still hear the voice of Gerry Bernstein, much loved Architecture professor, in my head when I look up in Manhattan (and the rest of the world). My kids think it’s funny when I try to translate the Egyptian hieroglyphs when we visit the Met (thanks Cynthia Rose!). They also particularly enjoy my stories of times with my semi-crazy freshman year roommate. East 6th floor. No names mentioned here.

I also find I draw on my ’Deis experiences in unexpected ways. When I’m mentoring or counseling someone, I think back to my SSIS days (just the counseling part, no goods sold!). When writing for work or pleasure, I often hear the voice of my friend, tutor, and housemate Benedicte (“did you really mean to write that . . .?”). And of course, when the pressure gets to be a bit too much, what else is there except . . . LL Bean road trip anyone?

Sarah and Alec in Istanbul, as part of our trip to Turkey and Israel

Ah, when a family is tired of London, they are tired of Samuel Johnson

Sarah and Alec in Kyoto

The four of us in Hanoi, Vietnam
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating Brandeis, I attended Georgetown University where I received an M.S. in Physiology. Then I attended Sackler School of Medicine in Tel Aviv, Israel, where I met my future husband, Dan, the first week of school. We traveled Israel and many of the neighboring countries and graduated in 1995. Our four years in Israel were unforgettable! I initially started a general surgery residency at Maimonides Hospital in Brooklyn, however I decided after the first year to leave the program after realizing that I wanted to have a better quality of life. I switched to an internal medicine residency at NSUH, and got married to my medical school sweetheart during my first year. My husband was also at NSUH doing an ophthalmology residency. We had our first daughter, Samara, while we were there. I stayed an extra year and accepted a chief resident appointment. We then moved to East Setauket and both joined private practices. We had our second daughter, Kiley, the following year and three years after that were blessed with our third daughter, Eliana. Since Eliana’s birth I have worked part-time in order to spend more time with our girls. Danny and I have enjoyed our local community, our temple and our circle of friends and family. We have traveled with our family and friends, and especially love spending time in Nantucket every summer. All of our girls are very involved with soccer and I even joined a women’s team several years ago! We have recently been involved with Blanca’s House, a non-profit organization that brings healthcare to underprivileged areas. We are planning to travel to Ecuador next year to participate in a medical mission as a family. I can only hope that my next twenty-five years are as fulfilling, blessed and special as the last twenty-five!
Life since Brandeis:

After Brandeis, I attended Hahnemann (now Drexel) University and got my Master's in Physical Therapy. I have worked at NYU Langone Medical Center’s Rusk Rehabilitation since 1992 and am the Supervisor of the Adult Inpatient Physical Therapy Department. I met my husband, Hal on Christmas Eve of 2001, and we were married in 2004. We live in Park Slope, Brooklyn with our 2 kids, Sydney and Sam.
Life since Brandeis:

After graduation, I spent a few years living in Washington DC and Harrisburg PA. I moved to New York in 1994.

I currently live in Ridgewood NJ with my husband, David, and our twin 13-year old sons, Adam and Jonah. I am a User Experience Manager at Wiley Publishers where I oversee a global team that designs digital products.
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating, I moved to Philadelphia to go to medical school at Hahnemann University. I graduated from there in 1994 and did a 3 year Internal Medicine residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. I met my husband in 1993 as a 3rd year medical student, and we got married in 1997. I was in private practice for 4 - 5 years before leaving. In 2003, I started my own company, Advanced Medical Strategies, which provides medical and financial reviews of catastrophic health care claims. I have been doing this for 12 years and absolutely love it. I speak frequently on high dollar diagnoses and have traveled all over the country to do this.

I still live in suburban Philadelphia although after this past winter, I am definitely moving to a Caribbean island. I am an avid reader, traveler, athlete and animal lover. I volunteer for a no-kill cat rescue locally and own two kitties. My husband and I been able to visit some great countries with my favorite being Iceland. In 2012, I had breast cancer but I kicked its ass and really appreciate every day that I have with my family and friends. Life can change in the blink of an eye so I enjoy every minute. Suck it cancer!

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:

I remain very close friends with Joy Bockstein Abt. We see each other every month for lunch. I am also friends with many Brandeisians on social media so it is great to be able to keep connected with them and their events.

If you knew then, at Brandeis, what you know now, what would you do differently?

I would have been more relaxed and taken advantage of more social outings. I was so focused on making sure I had the grades to get into medical school, majored in the right science, studied as much as possible that I forgot how fun college should be.

If I could go back, I’d not put so much pressure on myself. I’d eat more Chumley’s ice cream, go to more concerts and parties and major in something I really had an interest in. I’d also want to go back with my current life satisfaction instead of the insecurities of a much younger woman!

Yes, I was a 45 year old bridesmaid

Best Halloween costumes!
Marc Borodin

Life since Brandeis:

Environmental enforcement for 15 years and more recently
government investigations.

May 2014
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating Brandeis, I received an MA in Higher Education Administration from Boston College and worked for a few years in Student Affairs. Then, I married my camp boyfriend in 1992 and moved to Washington, DC. I worked for 2 years at the GED Testing Service, writing test questions for the High School Equivalency Exam. Following that, I returned to graduate school in Sociology, which I had majored in at Brandeis, and received my PhD from American University in 2001. I have been on the faculty at AU as a Sociology Professor for the past 12 years. My husband Rick is a general surgeon, and we live in Bethesda, MD. We have two children, Talia, age 17 who will be entering Brown University as a freshman in the fall and Caleb, age 13 who is in 7th grade.
I only recently realized the impact of my family being immigrants on my college experience. My kids are my family’s first generation born in America so I didn’t know what to expect and as a result I think I created a vision of college that I saw in movies. I’m not sure that expectation could ever be met and as a result I think while I was waiting for it to happen, I didn’t genuinely connect as much as I could have. I share with my students now that they need to sink into the experience and open up to the challenges and changes without the pressure of expectations. If I could go back, I think I would tell myself to get out of my own head, to stop trying so hard to figure out who I was and where I did - or didn’t - fit in and just take everything in for what it was worth. Good advice at any age I think, and I still work on taking it myself.

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What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?

In the next 25 years I’d love to stay healthy and see my family stay healthy, dive the Great Barrier Reef and Fiji and learn what it means to really relax....and develop - or at least benefit from - a serum that wouldn’t make me look 25 years older.
Life since Brandeis:

I have been a bookkeeper in real estate for the past 21 years now, after beginning in human resources in and around the Boston and Cambridge, MA area. I have a wonderful husband, and we have two beautiful girls. Along with majoring in family scheduling and transportation to and from the kids activities, I’ve managed to play principal oboe and English Horn since 1996, in the Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra here in MA for fun.
Life since Brandeis:

After Brandeis, I attended and graduated from Podiatric Medical School in New York. After completing a residency program in NJ, I was hired as the Director of a State of New Jersey funded research project studying Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention, Project LEAP. Upon completion of the research, I then went into private practice in podiatry. I created a podiatric medical practice dedicated exclusively to providing house calls to homebound patients. My practice business name is Podiatric House Calls.
In many ways, my Brandeis friends are still my closest people - my base, my family - the ones who know me best and with whom I can be most myself. Whether they live 10 minutes away by car or across the country, my Brandeis friends are the folks with whom I share holidays and happy occasions; we went to each other's weddings and will be there for the Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. We know without question, we will be there for each other whenever the need arises. When my mother died in 2013, at least half a dozen Brandeisians made the trip to Worcester for the funeral. Our kids have grown up with each other and even if they only see each other every few years, there is an ease, an intimacy, that is a precious gift. When with these friends, I feel a comfort and authenticity that is hard to match.

Life since Brandeis:

In the Spring of 1991, after spending most of my first year post graduation in Israel, I sat around a Waltham apartment with a group of Brandeisians, '89, '90, '91. We all knew we wanted to stay together, and we knew we didn't want to stay in Waltham. So, we each wrote down our top two cities to live in - everyone wrote San Francisco as one of the top two - and, so, the adventure began!

I fell in love with the Bay Area - the people, the pace, the weather . . . this New England native really does not miss the seasons, but I do miss the Red Sox. After working for a series of nonprofits, I went back to school in 1995 and received my Master's in Social Work. Much of my graduate school course work focused on urban education - looking at inequities in American education.

Shortly after graduation, I determined that it was a mistake to try to theorize about inner city schools without ever having spent time in one. I pursued an Emergency Teaching Credential and took a job teaching English and Social Studies in an East Oakland middle school. Before I knew it, I had fallen in love with the community and the work. In the blink of an eye, I had been teaching for a decade.

Meanwhile, I had met and fallen deeply in love with the man who is now my husband, Ali Cannon. We lived together in San Francisco for five years with our dog and cat before becoming the proud parents of Rephael Baruch Cannon (Raffi) on December 9, 2004. Being a mom is by far the greatest job I could ever imagine. My son has taught me more than any other person I know - about love, letting go, having faith, connections, and sports (given that I barely passed the Brandeis PE requirement, it is quite shocking how much of my time is spent watching or playing sports with my now ten year old son).

In 2008, I left the middle school and took a job as a Teacher on Special Assignment (kind of like an Assistant Principal) at an elementary school. After serving in that position for six years, I became principal last July. I love my job and feel so lucky to do what I do.

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?

If the next 25 years can be as full and rich as the previous 29, I will be extremely grateful. Above all, I hope to see my son grow into himself to become all that he is capable of; if his journey happens to include a few grandchildren for me, that wouldn't be too bad either! I want to continue to deepen my relationship with my husband - to help each other become our best selves and to explore this next life stage together. I would like to hold fast to the friendships that feed my soul. Professionally, I am inspired by the belief that education holds the potential to transform society and bring about social change. I hope to be involved with this transformation and to have the opportunity to apply my educational leadership in new ways to reform some of the educational institutions of this country so that they truly benefit all children.
Jenny C. Cohen (Hsu)

**Life since Brandeis:**
In the last 25 years since I graduated Brandeis, I went onto obtain my Masters of Science and license in Occupational Therapy, married college sweetheart Michael A. Cohen ’91, worked in general rehab/cardiac/hand therapy specialty, birthed twin daughters ’98, taught hip hop, picked up tap/Polynesian dance/Middle Eastern dance, coached dance team at the college level and homeschooled/coached daughters in elite level baton twirling/rhythmic gymnastics/competitive dance. I am currently performing dance specializing in fusion with Near Eastern dance influences. I won a competition in January 2014, which resulted in an invitation to perform in Hannover, Germany. I am currently undergoing cancer treatment which ends in September 2015. Our family will be in Salt Lake City, Utah by summer 2015.
My plans for the next 25 years? I am pursuing my PhD in OT, achieving Hand Therapist certification, writing a book, producing a one woman show, starting a rhythmic gymnastics school, teaching/performing/competing on the national/international level, producing performance/teaching DVDs, and launching my blog. www.dance18.com

**Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:**
My fondest memories are dancing with my roommate Zoe in our college dorms. My most impactful memory is working on the Core Committee for Orientation.

**Family camping in Bar Harbor, Maine, September 2012**

**Skiing with daughter #1 and daughter #2, winter 2014**

**Performance photo, February 2015**

**Fire department holiday dinner aka date night, February 2015**
I have stayed in touch with many of my Brandeis friends. It is a wonderful experience getting together with them and sharing many life events. I loved my time at Brandeis and cherish the friendships I made there. My memories from my 4 years at Brandeis are full of laughter and friendship. No matter the time that goes by when I am able to connect or reconnect with my Brandeis friends it is effortless and natural. A fountain of youth. To me we are still young and carefree.

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:
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When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?
When I talk about Brandeis to my friends and family, I talk about the wonderful education I received. The professors and interesting classes I was fortunate to have had. The warm and welcoming environment. How from the moment I stepped foot onto campus I felt at home. The pride I felt and still feel having gone to Brandeis.

Life since Brandeis:
25 years! Wow! I am pretty sure that fact startles all of us! These past 25 years have been spent getting a masters of education, spending time with friends and family, beginning a career in education, becoming a wife and a mother, attending many weddings, baby namings, parties, Bar-Bat mitzvahs, volunteering, traveling, throwing my daughters bat mitzvah, and enjoying life. Happy to say that over these 25 years many of the friendships formed at Brandeis continue today. It has been a pleasure to share in each other’s celebrations and be there to support one another through both good and difficult times. There is truly nothing like the friendships forged at college to keep us feeling young.

My daughter’s Bat Mitzvah, November 8, 2014

With my brother and his wife, June 2014

My brother’s wedding, March 23, 2014

Family, September 2014
Life since Brandeis:

Moved back to L.A. after graduation. Worked for three years investigating discrimination in the housing and insurance industries. Got a joint J.D./M.A. in Urban Planning at UCLA. Met my husband Jonathan Cordish '90 at a Brandeis Alumni event (only one either of us has been to) and got married. Moved to Baltimore, where I worked as a lawyer and public policy consultant. Had three sons. Graduated from the Wexner Heritage Program (Baltimore 10) and Acharai (Class V). Now I spend my time shlepping, cooking, reading, and playing the banjo. I also hold numerous positions within the organized Jewish community, including member of the Board of Governors of The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, chair of the Center for Community Engagement and Leadership and co-chair the Cordish Family Foundation, which focuses primarily on Jewish causes in Baltimore and Israel and enhancing educational and social services for at-risk youth in Baltimore City.
We have had numerous interesting travel experiences; too many to list all in a short space. The most notable include our daughter turning one year old in Venice, Italy; our son turning four on a train traveling through the Outback of Australia and turning seven while we were staying in a 14th century castle in Northeastern England. Our most recent adventure was a driving trip starting in Vienna, Austria, then going east via Gyor, Hungary to Budapest, next proceeding north through the middle of Slovakia and stopping in the town of Banska Bystrica in the Carpathian Mountains en route to Krakow, Poland, then heading west via Wroclaw, Poland to Dresden, Germany, and finally ending in Prague, Czech Republic.

Most interesting travel experience:
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Brandeis definitely reinforced the belief that the best quality a person can possess is curiosity and the desire to find out more. As a teacher it excites me to see curiosity in my students, and I really encourage it in my own children. I’ve enjoyed exploring my own interests, and I love discussing ideas with my daughters. It definitely is one of the best things about being a parent.

Life lessons you learned at Brandeis:

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Life since Brandeis:

My life today is much different than it was 25 years ago, but even though it is nothing spectacular, I’m very happy and thrilled with the choices that I’ve made and been very blessed to have a lot of good luck along the way.

My husband and I will celebrate our 18th anniversary this summer. We have 2 girls; 9 and 13. Right now our life is filled with preparations for the 13 year old’s bat mitzvah. We’re having the party at the Brandeis Faculty Club, so it definitely feels like Brandeis is still a part of my life.

When not driving the girls to all of their activities, making lunches and trying to contain the mess of our house, I spend most of my time at work. I am now in my 16th year at Belmont High School as a Social Studies teacher. It is a great district, and even though I have been there for such a long time, I still really enjoy it. (I’m not always so thrilled when I’m grading, but we all have parts of our jobs that aren’t as fun).

We spend our vacations in Westport, MA and at my parent’s house in southwestern Virginia. Occasionally we go other great places like London (John and I went last summer and had a FABULOUS time), Washington, D.C. (where we took the kids and got to catch up with some Brandeis friends) and New York City where I get to visit my sister and see other Brandeis people.

A few years ago we moved to a new house in Newton, MA. We’ve been in Newton since 2004, but moved to Newtonville in 2012 (for those of you around here, we live very close to Newton North High School) and were fortunate to move into a very friendly neighborhood. There are lots of kids and families, and our kids spend lots of time running in and out of the house with the neighbors, which is a dream come true.

Please feel free to contact me when you’re in town. I’d love to see you. It is nice to be in touch with the people from Brandeis that I am in touch with, but I’d always welcome being in touch with more! Hopefully I’ll see many of you in June!

Dear friends,

Debbie Dashoff
Life since Brandeis:

Family:
Married Orley (Moskovits) in 2007.
Three children: Shira (6), Ariel (4), Danya (1).

Career:
2009 - currently: Principal and Managing Director of Juris Capital, a commercial litigation finance fund, in Chicago.
2004-2009: Managing Director of commercial litigation finance fund
Prior to 2004: General Counsel and Business Affairs; Private practice of law (Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP)

Other:
5x Ironman finisher, including 2013 Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii.

Desser Family, Sept. 2014

Wedding Day - Nov. 2007 - Jaffa, Israel

Look on Weinstock’s face after I beat him like a drum in 1:1

2013 Ironman World Championships - Finish Line
Life since Brandeis:

In the past 25 years, I have: gone to law school in New Orleans; married my best friend -- Benedicte, also class of '90; lived and worked in London; had three children with Benedicte (Alida (14), Alexander (12), and Teddy (9)); moved to Westport, CT; and practiced law in New York City. I am now a partner in a regional law firm of about 150 lawyers called Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus. I have not done as much traveling as I would have liked but have, just the same, enjoyed the journey thus far very much.
Life since Brandeis:

Hello Brandeis classmates. What have I been up to since last we met? Well... I guess I’ll give some highlights starting around “now” and working my way back to “then.” I currently work (and play) as a drummer and percussionist — teaching and performing a range of musical styles. I recently completed a PhD (whew!) in ethnomusicology at Wesleyan University where my focus was on South Indian rhythm and am looking forward to teaching in higher education. That was the culmination of over a decade of study and practice on mrdangam (a wicked drum) and konakkol (look it up) in the US and India. Concurrent with my late return to academia, I ordained as a Zen Buddhist priest in the Soto lineage — that’s where “Fugan” comes from. This follows a few decades of meditation practice (started in a sociology class at Brandeis). After spending time in a number of temples and Zen centers I currently run a small zendo on Cape Cod, where my wife, partner, and all around better half, Amy Walenga and I live.

Before the turn of the millennium, Amy and I spent time in Paraguay and Brazil. We met in Paraguay, as Peace Corps volunteers living way, way out in the campo; Amy was an RN then, she’s now an NP. In addition to developing a yerba mate habit, and parasites, we designed an HIV/AIDS community education project for teachers and healthcare workers. After two and a half landlocked (but amazing) years in Paraguay (not far from the Iguaçu falls made famous in the movie, The Mission), we moved to Bahia, Brazil. Sunshine, beaches, afọxé, samba reggae, amazing food, great friends, crowded busses, a few muggings, one robbery, and so on... While I played drums with a number of bands in the capital, including an unforgettable carnival atop a trio-electrico, Amy worked for MSF in the Amazon (she later did another stint for Doctors Without Borders in Zambia). After a rather exotic exit from South America (see me for details) we ended up back in Boston. Besides living in West Africa for about a year, getting caught up in a coup d’etat, sitting a winter retreat at Plum Village in France, and doing various sundry jobs here and there, that about covers it for me.
Life since Brandeis:

Loving relationships…built to last. Discovering the secrets of happy families. I’ve dedicated the past 25 years to both of these.

After graduating from Brandeis with my Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees, I returned to Europe to work as an investment banker. Disillusioned with the ethics of that world, I returned to the U.S. five years later to find my true work. I found it and become certified as a life coach in 1998. I’ve been coaching ever since and loving it!

At first it was all about leadership development and executive coaching, mostly in Manhattan. Once my son was born, my priorities shifted and I stayed and worked in San Francisco, from where I’d been commuting.

Life seemed good – I’d been busy chasing the promise of happiness with the achievement of my goals: I had meaningful work, a beautiful home, a handsome paycheck, my successful husband and my wonderful son…we looked like a happy family from the outside. But I didn’t feel that way inside. I felt driven, stressed, lonely, frustrated, over-extended, angry, and bad about myself for being angry…what a mess! Why wasn’t I happy?

So I went on a mission to discover how to be happy and how to create the marriage and family I’d always wanted. Ironically, this led to my divorce.

By the time I left my marriage, I’d studied personal growth and metaphysics for a decade and I’d been coaching long enough to know one thing for sure: nothing changes until you do.

I knew I’d just re-create the same unhappy dynamics with somebody new, that I’d co-created with my husband, if I didn’t change. I left that marriage with two priorities: to protect my son, Zachary, from the impact of our divorce, and to grow myself into the kind of person who’d naturally create a loving marriage and family that was built to last.

Four years later I met Michael. I told him I wasn’t dating. I hadn’t dated since meeting my first husband, and I didn’t think I was ready. But we grew closer and through our relationship I got to see how much I’d changed, how many skills I’d acquired, and how prepared I really was. We took our time creating the happy blended family we have now. Michael and I married in 2013 and our friends remarked that they’d never seen Zachary happier.

During the past five years I realized that my passion was always about connection and relationships. My focus shifted from leadership development in corporations to the ultimate leadership – that of parents and spouses in creating happy families. I founded the Happy Family Academy. Through my Thrive Beyond Divorce™ Mentorship and other programs, I’ve coached and mentored countless clients to create their own happiness and their own loving relationships built to last. I love this work more than any other I’ve done in my life. Best of all, my company and the work I do is a passionate expression of the happy family in which I so gratefully live.

Michele Eisenberg

The day Michael and I got married. Zachary loved being between us in this shot!

Zachary can’t just sit and watch movies...he built this tower while watching the movie “Rudy”.

Zachary, when his soccer team was silver, miraculously winning a gold tournament.

Last summer when I ran “Zachary Camp” - a week of all his favorite things and favorite friends.
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating Brandeis, I went on to earn a Ph.D. in American history from Brown U. As much as I enjoyed academia, I did want to get involved in policy, and so have spent my career involved in education nonprofit organizations, focused mainly on research and policy. I’ve worked the last 15 years or so for the National Center on Time & Learning, a national school reform organization based in Boston. I serve as the senior researcher, which includes conducting research both in best practices and in policy related to school time and transformation of educational programming.

On the personal side, I married my college sweetheart, Karen Splansky (’89), who is now an ER pediatrician at Children’s Hospital. We live in the Boston area with our three wonderful children: Jonathan (11), Shira (16) and Emily (19). We are active in our synagogues (two and counting), with our kids’ summer camp (Ramah), and various other boards and projects.

One last note: We’ve actually spent a good amount of time on Brandeis campus, of late, because Emily has just completed her freshman year here, a rather surreal experience for us. We are so proud of all that she is learning and doing. She reminds us -- as if we needed reminders -- of why we love Brandeis so much.

Life lessons you learned at Brandeis:

What I learned from Brandeis and, really, from the years since, is that what I gleaned from the classroom is not nearly as important as the social connections and friendships I began at college and have nurtured since. Our most enduring legacy is not the things we do, but the lives we touch.

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:

Looking back, what surprises me most about my Brandeis experience, I think, is how the friendships I made there have endured and deepened. Most people I know of our age have only a smattering of college friends or none at all. For my wife and me, our Brandeis friends continue to be among our dearest, and our lives continue to be enriched through the tight circle of relationships that first emerged over 25 years ago.
Life since Brandeis:

After Brandeis, I studied law at Indiana University, Bloomington campus, graduating in 1993. In October 1993 I received my law license. I began practicing law in the Fort Wayne, Indiana area that same year. I found the love of my life, Terra, in 1993 as well, and we were married on September 30, 1995. We have 3 children, Delaney, age 14, Zaira, age 12 and D'Artagnan, age 10. I began my own law firm, Finderson Law LLC, on April 1, 2014 after practicing for other firms in Fort Wayne for over 20 years. Terra and I like to travel, so we take our kids places to “see the world” or mostly just the Caribbean, because the weather is warmer!

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?

I hope that I can be considered a good husband, a good father, a good friend and a good lawyer and hope to achieve that goal by earning it every day.
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating from Brandeis, I attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine where I received my Doctor of Dental Medicine in 1994. Subsequently, I entered a one-year General Practice Residency Program at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, which I completed in 1995. I then received my Certificate in Orthodontics in 1997 after finishing two years of Advanced Graduate Studies at the Boston University School of Dental Medicine. I moved to Manhattan after graduation, and one month later met my husband, Steven Frankowitz, at B’nai Jeshurun in New York City (he sat next to me). One year later we were engaged and nine months later we were married in Lawerence, Long Island. We moved to Forest Hills, New York, and then to Fort Lee, New Jersey, when an opportunity arose for me to buy an orthodontic practice in Teaneck, New Jersey. We then had two children: a son, Eitan Max Frankowitz, who is eleven years old and a daughter, Ilana Brooke Frankowitz, who is eight years old. In 2009 we bought a house and moved to Tenafly, New Jersey. As far as my orthodontic practice is concerned, I bought the practice over a five year period. In 2007, I became the full owner of my practice, which is now called “Frankowitz Orthodontics”. I was chosen by my peers as a “New Jersey Top Dentist” in New Jersey Monthly magazine in 2014 and 2015. I was chosen by my patients as “New Jersey’s Favorite Kids’ Docs” in New Jersey Family Magazine in 2014, (and hopefully in 2015, but it did not come out yet)!

Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:

One of my fondest memories of Brandeis was my 21st birthday, which I shared with my twin sister, Joy, who was also at Brandeis. A group of friends threw us a big party at my sister’s suite in Ziv. They bought us two separate birthday cakes, which we never had before (we always shared a cake), bought each of us an answering machine (which was a big deal in those days), and hired a male stripper, who thank goodness did NOT strip all the way. We later found out, however, that our good friend Glen Markowitz offered to pay for him to strip all the way just to embarrass us! We are still friends with Glen to this day! (Not even sure if he knows that we know! Now he knows)!!!

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

When I talk about my Brandeis experience today to my kids, friends, or family, I tell them how much I absolutely loved Brandeis! I tell my kids that I would be happy if they went to Brandeis, too! I always tell people that I lived in the stacks at G-Zang, but I didn’t care because all my friends were there with me! I loved that I received such an excellent education at Brandeis and was definitely challenged by the premed/predent program, but most of all, I loved my friends. Brandeisians are just a different breed of people! Everyone was really smart, but you’d never know because no one had an ego. I felt like my friends loved me for who I was and truly cared about me. I am not so great at keeping in touch with people, but I know that if I ever call up someone from Brandeis, it’s like we never left!
Life since Brandeis:
Friends, I missed the 20th, although I live ten minutes away, because at 41, I was giving birth to my third child during the reunion. All boys, 12, almost 10, and almost 5. I am a Psychologist, and I work with individuals, couples, and families. I counsel, write, teach, and supervise. I also have been in a few musicals recently, sing write, hike, ski. Celebrating our 20th anniversary next year at our first bar mitzvah. I hang out with a lot of fellow Brandeisians, and am looking forward to the reunion.

Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:
Oh it was the friends. The singing, the laughing, the pranks, the stories, the drama and the tears! Late night road trips for munchies, weekend adventures. All night talks, talking over each other. Falling in and out of love every week! Lifetime friendships. Learned a few things along the way too. Life lessons and world experience, along with a whole boatload of courses I loved. If there were no Brandeis, there might not have been a Samantha, a Cindy, a Joanne, an Elise, a Rebekah, a Brian, and whole lot of other people I have loved and still love. I hope you guys come! I’m looking for folks I haven’t seen in a while. I’m hoping Scott, Marc and Rosalia, and Brian turn up. I’m starting to dial away....

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:
Scott and I

A Great Gatsby Party, 2013

Thanksgiving 2013

At Gwen’s Jack and Jill Shower, 8 years ago.

Puppy Love - December 2014

Amy Thau Friedman
James Friedman
Song lyrics that best capture your Brandeis experience:
Who needs sleep?
(Well, you’re never gonna get it.)
Who needs sleep?
(Tell me what’s that for.)
Who needs sleep?
Be happy with what you’re getting.
There’s a guy who’s been awake
Since the second world war.
Chorus of “Who Needs Sleep?” by the Barenaked Ladies
I value my tutelage under Brandeis Professors, such as Dr. Gloria Waite, Mr. Tony Williams, Dr. Edward Kaplan and Dr. Alan Levitan. Among the very many rich experiences, especially with my Black Student Organization colleagues and advisors, I recall fondly meeting poet Gwendolyn Brooks as part of Dr. Levitan’s UHUM class. I also appreciate the opportunity I had as a junior to spend a transient semester at Morehouse College - inspired by predecessors (Tammy and Rene, ’89) who were transients at Florida A&M University in 1988.

If you knew then, at Brandeis, what you know now, what would you do differently?
I would have come out of the closet!

Geoffrey Giddings
Ph.D. in African American Studies from Temple University. Taught and earned tenure at Antioch College. Currently Full Professor at Central State University. I return home to Guyana annually, for family and research.
Life since Brandeis:

After graduating from Brandeis in December 1989, I headed to Moscow (USSR) for a semester-long intensive Russian language study program, an experience that led to my life-long affair with the Russian language, literature, and culture. In all, I lived in Moscow for about three years in the early 1990s and have visited several times since. My next major stop after Moscow was Madison, Wisconsin, where I completed the coursework for a PhD in Russian Literature at the fantastic Slavic Department of the UW; in the middle of it, I married my first husband in Volgograd and brought him back with me to the States, and after he entered a PhD program at MIT, I lived in the Boston area (an apartment on Comm. Ave. in Brighton and then a little house in Medford) while writing my dissertation. My first children, fraternal twin boys named Anton and Kirill, were born in 1996 in Boston. When they were only two years old, my marriage ended, right around the time that I completed my PhD. I ended up getting a tenure-track job in the Russian Department at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana and moved here with my two-year-old twins in the spring of 1999. The following spring, I got married for a second time to a man I had met on match.com when it was still in its infancy! In that marriage, I went on to have three more children, all boys: Darien (born 2002), Kai (born 2005), and Asher (born 2006). In the meantime, I was building my academic career; I published my dissertation as the book “A Russian Psyche: The Poetic Mind of Marina Tsvetaeva” (2001), followed by two edited volumes, “Russian Literature in the Age of Realism” (2003) and “Taboo Pushkin: Topics, Texts, Interpretations” (2012). I also became co-director of my university’s program in Russian and East European Studies and taught a wide variety of courses, ranging from Russian language at all levels to Russian film, literature, and culture. In 2011 my second marriage also came to an end, and I am now focusing on raising my five wonderful boys and on developing my career (in particular, I am writing a scholarly monograph titled “Dangerous Verses: Alexander Pushkin and the Ethics of Inspiration”). My children are all talented musicians (their main instruments, from oldest child to youngest, are French horn, violin, oboe, piano, and cello), and music is a huge part of our lives; we are also members of our small but friendly local Conservative synagogue. For relaxation, I enjoy making beaded jewelry and watching films. My twins started college this year and are loving their freshman year at Harvard and Skidmore College, respectively (one of them also did a summer program at Brandeis after his junior year in high school and enjoyed it very much). I do not get back to Brandeis any longer, although I do find myself in Boston for professional conferences from time to time. I’d love to hear from any classmates who remember me and would like to get back in touch!

Most interesting travel experience:

Living in the USSR/Russia (Moscow and Volgograd) from 1990-1993, with side trips to Ukraine (Kiev) and Uzbekistan (Tashkent, Samarkand). Those three years changed my life forever!

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?

First of all I hope to finish writing the scholarly book I have been struggling with for more than a dozen years, then refocus my energies on becoming better known as a translator of poetry (from Russian into English). I would also like to return to the creative writing I did when I was younger, writing poetry, short stories, and creative essays. Sometimes I dream of going to film school and making films... but that is probably just a pipe dream!
Life since Brandeis:
My biggest accomplishment is my family. My wife, Tracy, after having broken up with me earlier that week, drove up to Brandeis from Brown to surprise me on Valentine’s Day, 1990. I was just finishing the night shift at the Stein and I was literally taking an ice sculpture heart (with an arrow through it) to the ally to be smashed. I am so happy that she came back so that my real heart was mended. 25 years later we have a freshman at Brown learning Hebrew and Arabic (blogs for the Times of Israel); a Junior at Brookline High where she has raised over $10,000 to help girls in Africa with obstetric fistula and is captain of the swim team; and an eighth grade boy who already plays hockey (defenseman) for the Brookline High JV team. Tracy is a clinical psychology researcher at Wellesley College’s Wellesley Centers for Women where she researches the prevention of depression in adolescents.

I am a business litigation attorney in Brookline. I handle zoning and licensing in Brookline and I handle many construction law matters in Eastern Massachusetts. I have been an elected Town Meeting Member in Brookline for about ten years and have been an officer at Temple Emeth in South Brookline for about the same period. I also sit on the Board of my beloved Camp Yavneh. I am just finishing as the first President of Ma’or Religious School, a collaboration of Temple Emeth, Mishkan Tefila and Temple Reyim.

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?
I loved everything that I took with David Hackett Fischer. Probably the most useful skill that I learned at Brandeis was the active listening method used at the People Are Listening hotline. I use that powerful empathy tool in my work as a litigator, as a father and, when I manage to be my best self, even as a husband.

Some of the best times I had were with my crews on the Track Team and in Sigma Alpha Mu.
My best memories are the memories of the people I met. I learned so much just by talking and listening to them. One great memory for me is my time with the Big Brother and Big Sister program. Stepping outside my life into that of an 8 year old growing up in Waltham was insightful. Running this program gave me leadership skills for life.

Living in the castle was just a "cool" experience to say the least. I’ll never forget the view I had of Boston = the world beyond the Brandeis campus.

And I have to admit that studying in Paris junior year was something extra special, and I’m thankful that I can share some of those memories with Ruth Anderson ’90 who was there as well.

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Life since Brandeis:

Over the past 25 years I’ve learned a lot about myself and what makes me happy—keeping busy, keeping fit, helping others and loving my family and friends.

I’ve been married to Brett Goodman, my high school sweetheart and best friend ever for 20 years. My boys are 17 and 14 and teach me so much about life. We’ve been enjoying our town of North Caldwell, NJ for 13 years.

For most of the time since Brandeis, I’ve been teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. I find this job rewarding, creative and always exciting as I continue to learn about our evolving language and the many people in our country who so desperately want to express themselves and make a better life for their families.

When I’m not working, I go to the gym, play the piano (2 years now!) and volunteer both at my temple and at a charter school in Newark. And for the past 10 years I’ve also been a Cycle for Survival devotee. Each year this indoor team cycling event founded by Jennifer Goodman Linn (my sister-in-law) raises millions of dollars for rare cancer research and treatment trials at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.
Elise Golden

**Life since Brandeis:**
I’ve been living in London. My husband Daniel and I have two sons. Leo is 12 and Sam is 8.
I’ve kept up with music by singing with a choir. Although my time is too limited these days to do it, when I was it was very exciting to perform in the large London concert halls and also recording albums at studios including the one on Abbey Road.
I work in “the City” (financial district) and am a Director in the iShares business at BlackRock.
We get home to Boston about once a year, in all different seasons so my kids can experience the different American holidays.

**Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:**
Club 169 South Street is still going strong. We live in all different places now (Massachusetts, New Jersey, England, Israel) but try to see each other every now and then. If anyone is missing from the reunion they are still included in the photo (by way of a funny face drawn onto a paper plate)!

**Most interesting travel experience:**
I moved to London for a 3 month work assignment....23 years ago. Talk about overstaying your welcome. :-)

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Elise Golden

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I’ve been living in London. My husband Daniel and I have two sons. Leo is 12 and Sam is 8.
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**Most interesting travel experience:**
I moved to London for a 3 month work assignment....23 years ago. Talk about overstaying your welcome. :-)
Life since Brandeis:
25 years has been quite the whirlwind. After Brandeis I headed to Rabbinical School in a program that sent me first to University of Judaism in Los Angeles, followed by Jewish Theological Seminary in NYC, with a year in Israel at the Conservative Seminary there. In LA I met my husband, Sean, also studying to be a rabbi. We were married almost 22 years ago, on July 1, 1993. After JTS, Sean, a US Navy Reservist Chaplain, went on active duty, moving us to Pearl Harbor, HI, then Camp Lejeune Marine Base, NC. Hawaii really is as great as you think, and the spirit of aloha still infuses our lives 13 years later. Officially we connected to the submarine force, but we got to work with all services: Navy, Marines, Army, air Force, Coast Guard, and DoD. During our time in Pearl Harbor, our house was a home away from home for sailors, marines, soldiers, and airdales. Our door was always open, and the Shabbat or holiday table was always crowded. Along the way, our sons were born: Jesse in NYC after I finished JTS, and Gavriel in Pearl Harbor. Their sister, Keren, followed at Camp Lejeune. After 5 years of volunteering with the Navy, where I received the honor “Submarine Lady of the Submarine Force” for my work and support of the command and the Navy, we headed to Bellmore, NY for a taste of civilian life. I worked as the school rabbi at The Brandeis School in Lawrence, Long Island, and did the local speaking circuit. A decade ago we headed up to Toronto, ON. I was the first Conservative woman rabbi in Ontario. Sean was the 3rd rabbi at Beth Tzedec, and I worked as the Family Education Coordinator while teaching prayer and halakhah at United Synagogue Day School. I left Beth Tzedec and USDS to be the Eastern Canadian Region USY (ECRUSY) Director of Youth Activities. I loved USY as a teen, and staffed METNY and Tzafon programs while a Brandeis student. I was excited to be back in the organization. I stayed with ECRUSY until Sean deployed to Okinawa, Japan. When he returned I began my current position as the Executive Director of MERCAZ-Canada and Canadian Foundation for Masorti Judaism, supporting the Masorti/Conservative Movement in Israel. During the summer I teach at Camp Ramah in Canada, staying connected to my love of informal education. I still do the lecture circuit, talking about life in the military, being a woman rabbi, and, of course, the Conservative/Masorti Movement in Israel. I teach and write for Pride of Israel Synagogue, where we are now.

My kids are all teens. Keren is talking about wanting to attend Brandeis, “Because you made it sound so great, Eema.” I wish I had more time to be involved with the Alumni Association, but I’m there when I can be. I’m even drinking tea from my Brandeis Alumni mug as I write this. I love my life, family, friends, and where I am. I’m here because of the great foundation I got from Brandeis and my friends there. Thanks. I think of you often.

Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:
Junior year, my suitemates and I were sitting in a circle in our suite. Friends and significant others were there too, and (I’m sure) quite a bit of alcohol. We were discussing what we were going to do after Brandeis with liberal arts degrees. Except for the poli-sci majors, who were headed to law school, we thought we should get used to saying, “Would you like fries with that?” Each person shared what we loved, and the group would suggest a career path. I said I loved discussing and teaching Judaism and my love for it, and I loved theater and acting. Brian Meyers said, “You should be a rabbi.” The thought had never crossed my mind, but that was it. I called my parents the next day and told them, and I’ve never looked back.

Y our greatest achievement(s):
There are two parts. First, all the lives I’ve touched and the impact I’ve had, both as myself and as a rabbi. Second, and more important, is coming to realize that impact. Awards or tangible thanks and recognition are nice but not always indicative of accomplishment. Hearing someone read my CV is always a bit surreal. Better are the simple notes of thanks that someone took time to write, the phone calls from former students and USYers who just want to say hi, or make sure I know what’s going on with them. I have a pashmina brought back from Afghanistan by a Canadian soldier for whom I organized Hanukah packages for her unit. There’s a lot of frustration in life, especially in any type of service. My greatest accomplishment is realizing the frustration doesn’t matter. The passion we have and how we use that passion does.
Life since Brandeis:

I live in suburban Philadelphia with my wife Dori and my two teenage daughters, Alyssa and Carly. I am an attorney practicing in Philadelphia. I am a long suffering Philadelphia sports fan, and still enjoy getting together as frequently as possible with Brandeis friends, including vacations, Springsteen concerts, our children's bar and bat mitzvahs, and poker nights.
Life since Brandeis:
After Brandeis, I went to law school, and have been practicing law in NYC since then. I’m an advertising lawyer. I’m currently Managing Partner of Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, which is a media and entertainment firm.
I’ve also lived in NYC since graduation. Currently, I live downtown, in Chelsea, with my family.

Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:
Working on the Justice is one of my many great memories from Brandeis. So many great people -- and we had such a good time doing it.
I truly appreciate my 4 years as a student at Brandeis. I loved the size of the school, the beautiful campus, the accessibility of the professors, the availability of Kosher food and Shabbat and holiday services for all levels of Jewish observance, and traying down the hill when I lived in EAST! My fondest memories would be the friendships that I made and being a part of Company B and Tympanium Euphorium. My husband went to Ohio State and he still laughs at the fact that our ENTIRE school would have dances. I loved Brandeis from the day I visited as a Junior in High School.

When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

I truly appreciate my 4 years as a student at Brandeis. I loved the size of the school, the beautiful campus, the accessibility of the professors, the availability of Kosher food and Shabbat and holiday services for all levels of Jewish observance, and traying down the hill when I lived in EAST! My fondest memories would be the friendships that I made and being a part of Company B and Tympanium Euphorium. My husband went to Ohio State and he still laughs at the fact that our ENTIRE school would have dances. I loved Brandeis from the day I visited as a Junior in High School.

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:

I spent several years as a professional actor/singer appearing in many productions regionally and Off Broadway. I was starring in a production in Cleveland, OH when I met my wonderful husband, David. For the past 20 years I have been the director of the Mandel JCC Playmakers Youth Theatre and Performing Arts Camp -- a program serving over 400 children from Kindergarten through College. I have had the opportunity to direct 4-6 shows a year, write 4 shows per summer and even manage to perform a few times a year. I have recently decided that I am ready to leave my program in someone else’s capable hands and make a career change. When I decide what that will be, I will let you all know :-). I am in the process of publishing a book of Jewish musicals and parodies that I have written over the years, and I am currently working on my first novel.

I have 3 incredible children -- Alexis is 15, Aidan is 13 and Ava is 7. I am so grateful for my amazing family and truly rewarding opportunities that I have been given.

My husband David and I pretending I care about football

Ava, Alexis and Aidan--my 3 wonderful kids

Happy!
Brandeis was where I learned to be comfortable in my own skin and to take on leadership roles. I was a pretty shy kid through high school. Recognizing the importance of leadership, public speaking, communication and related skills to my future, I embraced every opportunity to outgrow my shyness while at Brandeis...being a tour guide, taking a leadership role with my fraternity, being Chief Justice of the Judiciary Board, bartending at official school functions, etc. My Brandeis experience was a foundation for the confident, outspoken professional I was to become.

Life lessons you learned at Brandeis:
Brandeis was where I learned to be comfortable in my own skin and to take on leadership roles. I was a pretty shy kid through high school. Recognizing the importance of leadership, public speaking, communication and related skills to my future, I embraced every opportunity to outgrow my shyness while at Brandeis...being a tour guide, taking a leadership role with my fraternity, being Chief Justice of the Judiciary Board, bartending at official school functions, etc. My Brandeis experience was a foundation for the confident, outspoken professional I was to become.

Your greatest achievement(s):
While it may sound corny, my greatest achievement has been to be a father to two wonderful children I am very proud of. They are smart, funny, talented, athletic and, most importantly, have big hearts. Hopefully I had a little something to do with that. :)
Nich Haber

**Life since Brandeis:**

Work: Launched SkillCheck pretty soon after Brandeis. Developed over 800 online skill assessments used by companies to screen new hires. Ran it with my brother for 16 years. Sold it to First Advantage in 2006. Now working for Pearson in their Certiport division running the IC3 Digital Literacy Certification as the Global Leader. Working with educators, employers and government officials globally to define and confirm achievement in digital skills learning.


Community: Started NE Distance, a community-based distance project in 2012. It’s an athlete-in-residence program that recruits top post-collegiate track athletes and matches them to coach middle school cross country and track programs in urban schools.

**Your greatest achievement(s):**

I am proud to know that Boris’ Kitchen is still going strong at Brandeis.

**Most interesting travel experience:**

I have been working with the Vietnamese government to establish digital skills learning standards for all levels of their school systems: K-12, vocational schools, associate colleges and colleges. It has been a profound experience to work with the Vietnamese people to promote education in a time of peace.
Life since Brandeis:
Went to medical school, anesthesia residency, pain management fellowship, started private practice, got married, 3 amazing boys, got divorced.

If you knew then, at Brandeis, what you know now, what would you do differently?
Not study so hard. Make more friends. Take the arts and humanities more seriously.

Life since Brandeis:
Brian Haftel, MD
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My boys in Sarasota. Jacob 11, Oliver 8, Cary 6 1/2
Love old cars
My boys on their jumping castle in my living room
Life since Brandeis:
After graduating Brandeis I went to Cardozo Law School where I obtained my J.D. I then began practicing law and during my first ten years of practice I worked for three different New York law firms. After leaving my last firm I opened my own practice and have been working at the Law Office of Jennifer D. Hersh since 2004.
In January 2012 I gave birth to my two beautiful children, Elana and Evan and have been enjoying motherhood more than I ever thought possible.

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?
Over the next 25 years I hope to work less and spend more time traveling with my family and helping them grow into future Brandeisians.
I would like to go into the music business full time. Writing music, teaching seminars and help others realize their dreams. This dream includes opening up a Arts Academy for at risk youth.

Life since Brandeis:
I married Robert Heywood a year after college. I investigated insurance claims for 5 years until I had children. I have three children - Robert Jr. (Sophomore @ Babson College), Rickie in High School and Rhema attending a bi-lingual elementary school.
I taught Spanish for 8 years in Private and Public Schools and was an Adjunct Professor at Wheelock College teaching Spanish for the Graduate School of Social Work. I earned my M.Ed. in Educational Leadership. I have my Principal's license and Superintendent's license.
I am bi-vocational. I am an ordained Worship Pastor and Chancellor of the School of Worship for New Dimension Church, RI. I am the Regional Education Coordinator for the Collaborative for Educational Services and am responsible for all the schools for incarcerated youth in Boston.
I am a Gospel Recording Artist and am releasing my third CD in June 2015. My music is available on Itunes and other online music stores. Check out my website reneeheywood.com

What do you hope to accomplish, see, or become in the next 25 years?
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Fondest, funniest, or most impactful Brandeis memory:
My funniest memory was at one of the talent shows we had. I was singing a Whitney Houston song and forgot some of the words but nobody noticed. I also remember Ivan Turnipseed singing a song and forgetting the words. He yelled out to the audience, “Does anyone know the words?” He was my funniest friend at Brandeis.
Life since Brandeis:

It’s hard to believe it has been 25 years since graduation - I have such fond memories of my 4 years at Brandeis. I am sure I am (in part) the person I am based on the experiences and friendships made there. I am very thankful for many things in my life since graduation including meeting and marrying my husband Richard Ganz in 1999, spending time with family and friends, good health, earning an MBA in Finance, my career in HR (I am currently employed at Roche Molecular Diagnostics), opportunities to travel globally for business and pleasure, and having a lot of fun along the way. Here’s hoping to get reconnected and see everyone again in 25 years...
There is a small handful of friends from Brandeis that have remained within my close circle of the last 25 years. We’ve weathered many life storms together and celebrated so many of its joys. A cross-country road trip with Lisa Greenfield inspired by our inability to name every state on a blank U.S. map led to a lifelong friendship forged in hiking, camping, music, and art. From hitch-hiking in Scotland and hiking in the Israeli desert and the Pacific Northwest with Michelle Bates, class of ‘91, I’ve learned to embrace the absurd and find the joy of the moment. Galavanting in NYC, Jerusalem, NOLA with Ellen Steigman and scheming about getting me to Burning Man keeps me connected to the wonderful weird. Weathering many crazy winters and fun summers with Julie Smith Barteloni in Jamaica Plain. My Brandeis friends are some of my closest. The ones I know I can count on.

Brandeis friends you stay in touch with:
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If you knew then, at Brandeis, what you know now, what would you do differently?
Take more art, theater, music and anthropology classes. Sing more! Dance more!

Life since Brandeis:
The last 25 years have been quite a journey. I’ve lived in Jerusalem and Arad Israel, Austin, TX, Boston and Philadelphia, traveling for work, study, and adventure. I’m now an avid experimental vegetable gardener. I’ve grown okra in Boston and Philadelphia and perfected recipes for homemade pickles and lavender extract.
I took the scenic route (read 13 year meandering path) to earning a doctorate in linguistics at the University of Texas in Austin, studying language use, social change, and identity, in U.S and Israeli feminist communities. In Austin, I gained a love of Texas music, cowboy boots, salsa dancing, and tamales. In Israel, I became fluent in Hebrew, learned to Salsa dance and gained a deep love of the desert. While in Israel, I also co-lead a peace and conflict studies program for the School for International Training (part of the meandering I mentioned).
I’ve worked in the non-profit social change realm for most of the 25 years since graduation, mostly gravitating to organizations that bring a critical feminist lens to education, social change, leadership development, and community organizing. In 2012, I went solo, becoming a free-lance facilitator, social justice educator and organizational consultant. I also co-founded a consulting and training project called Rally Point for Collaborative Change with a colleague. We offer leadership development and organizational training with a focus on enhancing people’s capacity to collaborate effectively across divergent world views.
I’ve also embraced my artistic leanings more deeply, learning to sculpt in clay and wax, continuing to sing in a variety of settings, and learning different forms of improvisational theater techniques - including Playback Theater and Theater of the Oppressed. I’m an acting member of a Playback Theater Troupe in Philadelphia and regularly use expressive and performative arts in my consulting work.
I’ve been part of numerous communities in so many different places many of which include Brandeis alums from our year and others. I’m excited to see what the next 25 years bring.

A top Mitzpeh Ramon 2011.
It is hard to believe that 25 years have passed since we were at Brandeis! Lisa and I have been very fortunate to stay in close touch with a great group of classmates. We see each other whenever possible, have spent most New Years together since our graduation and have celebrated many wonderful events such as weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs. As time passes, I realize how unique it is to have maintained such close and lasting friendships from college; many of my other friends and business colleagues have remarked that they are absolutely amazed at the tight connections that we have maintained with our Brandeis classmates!

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When you talk about your Brandeis experience today to your kids, friends, or family, what do you tell them?

Brandeis was a fantastic experience for me on so many levels. Not only did I meet Lisa and some of my closest lifelong friends, but the classes and learning were exceptional. I still remember some of the great history classes that I took and remain very grateful to have had such a wonderful and enriching experience. We have recently been on several college tours with our daughter; coming back to Brandeis and seeing many of the familiar places on campus again as a prospective parent was special!

Life since Brandeis:

I have been married to Lisa Drate for past 22 years (our anniversary is the Saturday of Reunion Weekend!), and we have two terrific daughters (Adina -17 and Talia -14). We have lived in Needham MA since 2002. After college, I went to BC Law School and after practicing law for 3 years, I transitioned to several Compliance Officer roles in the financial services industry. I have worked at MFS Investment Management in Boston for the past 11 years. Lisa and I are active members of Temple Aliyah in Needham (which has a large Brandeis population!) and stay in very close touch with several classmates. We are looking forward to a great weekend in June and seeing many of our classmates!