

Reunion reminders, JusticeAid in NYC, and thanks all around



# ClassACT Newsletter

October 9, 2018

## We are really looking forward to our Reunion!

*If you'll be at Reunion,\* join us for lunch at 11:30 followed by a panel conversation at 12:30 on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Geo Labs Lecture Hall, 20 Oxford Street, Cambridge. We also hope to see you at the Rama S. Mehta Lecture at 4:15 pm on Thursday, Oct. 11 at the Knafel Center, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge.*

## We are full of good reasons to say, Thanks

*Thanks* to the classmates who gave ClassACT a shout-out in the new Red Book: Ron Dieckmann, Marion Dry, Lynn Howell, Peter Galbraith, Sallie Gouverneur, Leigh Hafrey, Barbara Brosius Lindsay, Emily Fields Karakashian, Andrea Kirsh, Anne MacKinnon, Stan Mark, Steve Milliken, Bahman Mossavar-Rahmani, Carl Muller, George Putnam, Jonathan Sprague, Therese Steiner, Prentiss Taylor, Jr., Rick Weil and Henrietta Wigglesworth Lodge\*\*



*David Weeks and three community members pause from their work to smile at the camera.*

***Thanks*** in part to **David Weeks**, *the first building in the Osiligi Medical Complex development for the Maasai opens*

***Thanks*** to **Ryan O'Connell** for joining our Jeffersonian Dinner on overcrowded prisons in March

"Thanks to the ClassACT initiative, I attended a scintillating discussion on the U.S. prison system that was held at the Harvard Club in New York City. About 20 classmates attended the dinner; I knew half of them. Some of the participants had worked in the criminal justice system, as lawyers and judges. Most of us had not.

No matter. As the wine flowed, so did the ideas and the debates. I think we all left the dinner with a clearer understanding of the deeply flawed nature of our system—which is remarkably focused on punishment, rather than on rehabilitation, compared to Western European countries—and the racial issues underlying our policies toward criminals.



*Ryan O'Connell, Alan Dean, Kavery Kaul and Marion Dry  
March 2018 ClassACT Jeffersonian Dinner in NYC*

I also learned, to my chagrin, that politicians in the great state of New York were instrumental in creating the draconian sentencing standards for drug offenses that have helped cause incarceration rates to skyrocket.

I am very grateful to the classmates who sponsored this evening, which was one of the most stimulating I have experienced since our last reunion. If nothing else, Harvard folks know how to talk!" -  
**Ryan O'Connell**

*Thanks* to **Leigh Hafrey** of the ClassACT Board for articulating the scope of our ambitions in this video by **Rick Brotman**. Find the video [on our website](#), [Youtube channel](#), and [Facebook](#).



*Thanks* to ClassACT Bridge Project **JusticeAid** for their work to use music and the arts to support organizations fighting injustice! [Join them](#) in NYC for their forum on Nov. 11 and concert on Nov. 13. Their forum *Racism and the Criminalization of Poverty: 21st Century Debtors' Prison in the Age of Mass Incarceration* will be held at Riverside Church, and their concert, *A Music Benefit for the 300th Anniversary of New Orleans* will take place at City Winery.

\*We'll have a video later on, if you have to miss it.

\*\* If we left you out, our apologies!

*Please add [ClassACTHR73@gmail.com](mailto:ClassACTHR73@gmail.com) to your contacts so future messages don't end up in spam or some other odd spot in your inbox.*

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