

Achieving Change Together

January 2024 ClassACTions Newsletter

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From Our Chair:





Check us out at:

www.classacthr73.org

Comments? Questions?

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I hope you have experienced joy, rest, and celebration during the holidays! May the new year bring peace and health to each of you, to our precious planet, and to all beings who inhabit this earth!

As the year begins, we all see many difficult challenges to our world, our country and, yes, even our alma mater, Harvard. *Especially during these times*, I want to express my deep gratitude to every member of the ClassACT community. Each person who joins us strengthens ClassACT and gives us more courage and options to fulfill our mission to create positive change in this troubled world.

What we accomplished in 2023 was remarkable.

As we begin 2024, promise for more impact abounds.

At the core of all we do is compassion and love for this earth, for all people and beings, and for one another. We have committed ourselves at this moment in our lives to this community---working together to do what we can to right wrongs, ease suffering, heal the earth, deepen understanding, increase health and well-being, and engage meaningfully with one another.

If you are reading this and haven't joined us, please do! We welcome all to our community!

Onward into 2024!

Marion Dry, Chair, ClassACT HR73 Board

ClassACT HR73 Launches a New Webinar Series for Bridges

ClassACT HR73 offers pro bono assistance to nonprofits called <u>Bridges</u>, which are either founded or run by classmates, as well as supporting classmates who are involved in organizations that want to change the world. In order to help these organizations to further their objectives, we are offering assistance via a series of webinars that will be recorded and archived on the ClassACT HR73 website for their use and access at any time.

Future webinar topics include social media, grant writing, fundraising, and communications strategy. All webinars will be recorded and available on the ClassACT HR73 website. If you missed our previous webinar, "A Ten-Point Plan for Building a Board of Directors", created by Ron Dieckmann '73, click the link to watch.

5Creating a 501(C)(3) with Leonard Easter '73

Wed. January 17th @7pm EST



Click image above to register!

Setting up a 501(c)(3) involves asking a lot of legal questions in order to arrive at the best answers for your organization. Register now for the upcoming ClassACT HR73 Webinar on Wednesday, January 17th at 7pm EST to learn the legal do's and don'ts from attorney **Leonard Easter '73**, who specializes in navigating the nonprofit world. There will be plenty of time for you to ask your specific questions so you will be able to better understand and manage the best course of action for your organization.

6 Steps to Promoting Your NonProfit on Social Media With Katie Marinello

Wed. February 21 @7pm EST



Click image above to register!

Social Media is an essential communication tool for nonprofits looking to raise awareness, build community, and even engage donors. But how to break through the noise to get an accurate and compelling story across? Join ClassACT HR73's social media manager **Katie Marinello**, owner of KT World Communications LLC, to learn the basics of creating a digital strategy that bolsters your nonprofit's mission. If you've found yourself confused or intimidated when posting on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and more, this is the webinar for you!

Climate Change, Public-Private Partnerships, and Social Equity: Lessons from Bangladesh

March 1, 2024, 9:30am-5:30pm

Click to Register



On Friday, March 1, ClassACT's Benazir Bhutto Leadership Program with Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA) and the Salata

Institute, both at Harvard, will host a daylong in person Symposium focused on mitigating climate change and its concomitant social inequities through public-private partnerships. We hope you will join us for all or part of the day. Refreshments and lunch will be provided for attendees and there will be a reception at the end of the day.

This one-day symposium will be the third that ClassACT has sponsored in collaboration with the Weatherhead Center and the first with Salata, and will take place at the Weatherhead Center on Harvard's campus.

The Benazir Bhutto Leadership Program of ClassACT HR73 brings a Fellow or Fellows from majority-Muslim countries to spend one year in the Mason Fellows Program at Harvard Kennedy School. Our current Fellow, Nazmul Haque, has had a long and successful career developing public-private partnerships in response to climate change in his native country, Bangladesh. Using his experience as a case study, our panelists will examine and enlarge upon the example offered by Nazmul, considering size of country, general economic and political factors, institutions, technology, and leadership and the interrelationship of climate-change mitigation with other national and international priorities.

The participants in the program for the day include:

- WCFIA affiliates, Professor <u>Dustin Tingley</u> and Weatherhead Scholars Program Fellow <u>Diego Osorio</u>
- '23 '24 Benazir Bhutto Leadership Program Fellow Nazmul Haque
- Visiting Environmental Fellow <u>Hélène Benveniste</u>

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- Clarence Dillon Professor of International Affairs Michael Hiscox
- Gurney Professor of English Literature and Professor of Comparative Literature <u>James Engell '73</u>
- MIT Sloan faculty member and ClassACT HR73 Board Member <u>Leigh</u> <u>Hafrey '73</u>
- Ambassador Peter Galbraith '73
- Chairman of the Global LPG Partnership <u>Kimball Chen '73</u>
- BBLP Associate, Tufts faculty member and Harvard Visiting Fellow, <u>Erum Sattar</u>
- HBS faculty member, <u>Peter Tufano</u>, who will present the keynote address.

Georgia's On Our Mind

By Ryan O'Connell

Edited by Marilyn Go, Jim Harbison, and Jacki Swearingen

Over the last two decades Georgia's political make up has changed dramatically, mostly because large numbers of African Americans and other minorities have migrated to the state. Half of all new voters since 2000 are Black Georgians, and they now represent one-third of all voters. The state's Latino and Asian-American communities, while smaller, have also grown rapidly. All three groups lean heavily Democratic, and their growth has turned Georgia from deep red into a battleground state.

Black eligible voters drove nearly half of Georgia's electorate growth since 2000

Georgia eligible voter population change, 2000 to 2019, in thousands

	2000	2019	Change, '00 - '19	% of total increase
Black	1,552	2,472	+920	48%
White	3,879	4,374	+495	26
Hispanic	114	382	+268	14
Asian	62	214	+152	8
Total	5,677	7,585	+1,908	

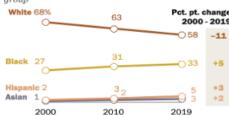
Source: Pew Research

The 2020 election was a political earthquake in the state, as a Democratic Presidential candidate carried the state for the first time since 1992 and Georgians elected two Democrats as Senators. However, Georgia has a long history of voter purges and voter suppression, and the election triggered a strong counter-reaction.

The state legislature rushed through a law designed to make voting more difficult for minority citizens and city dwellers, who tend to be Democrats. Georgia is such a highly gerrymandered state that in October 2023 a federal judge, responding to a challenge from civil rights groups, ordered the state to redraw the maps created by the Republican legislature because they diluted Black voting power and violated the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

... and grew the most as a share of the state's electorate

% of eligible voters in Georgia, by racial and ethnic



Source: Pew Research

- To read the full news article and find out what you can do whether you live in Georgia or not, <u>click here</u>
- <u>Click here</u> for the link to the full series of voter protection articles

Bridge Update

United Nations Association of Greater Boston





From left to right: Gina Wilcox (Harvard College '90, HBS '95), Gina McCarthy, Farida Kathawalla, Caitlin Moore, Lina Musayev Photo courtesy of UNAGB

UNAGB, sponsored by classmate **Richard Golob**, hosted its final event of 2023, and it was a great success! On December 18th, their Charter Circle gathered for our Annual Diplomatic Year-In-Review to connect with one another, share warm wishes for the holiday season, and hear from a special guest speaker, Gina McCarthy, former Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the first White House National Climate Advisor.

In her remarks, Administrator McCarthy reminded us that solutions to major global challenges like climate change begin at the community level -- especially with young people. UNAGB embodies this ethos every day in their work with schools and students. In 2023, with the support of their donors they reached nearly 5,000 students in schools across Massachusetts and beyond. They can't wait to reach even more in 2024!

In the new year, the UNAGB team is hard at work planning our spring Model UN Conferences and our 2024 International Women's Day Celebration!

For more updates from UNAGB, you can sign up for their email list here!

If you're interested in helping with the organization, learn more about them <u>here</u>.

New ClassACT HR73 Health and Healthcare Projects



The ClassACT Healthcare Working Group has been working to develop projects in six focus areas - vaccines/pandemics/infectious disease, international health, reproductive health, chronic diseases/diseases of aging,

mental health, and health inequities/healthcare access.

Stan Mark and **Debbie Winn** identified pairs of classmates for each of the six topical areas and asked them to generate ideas and potential projects for ClassACT to undertake. Not surprisingly, the teams have been rising to the challenge. Here's a sampling of emerging projects.

Reproductive Health. Classmates **Vivian Lewis** and **Claire Wilson**, along with several other classmates, are planning to create a guide of non-partisan resources and organizations for people interested in volunteering or getting more information about reproductive health issues.

International health. Classmates Ron Dieckmann and David Griffin are seeking to expand access to more low-income countries that could benefit from a state-of-the-art clinical decision support software called DynaMed. The American software is a gigantic inventory of current scientific medicine that has been developed for a smartphone or desktop/laptop computer to assist diagnosis and treatment. It is licensed extensively worldwide on a commercial basis but is gifted to Ron's non-profit KidsCareEverywhere or KCE (see www.KidsCareEverywhere.org) for distribution in impoverished countries for free. The organization is launching a major fundraising drive in January 2024 to help extend the distribution of the transformational software to more eligible geographic areas. They are seeking expertise in fundraising from classmates, as well as contacts with high-level health officials in low-income countries.

Health services. Classmate **Tom Schneider** is sponsoring a Bridge project with the organization <u>CommUnity Cares</u>, which was featured (with contact information) in the December 2023 ClassACT Newsletter. The organization's mission is to serve as a gateway to consistent, high quality healthcare for people in underserved communities. If you have an interest in any of the six topical areas or the above projects, contact <u>Debbie Winn</u> for more information.

ClassACT Movement, Multi-Class Update



January will be a busy month for the Multi-Class Working Group as several meetings are scheduled to move the group's efforts forward.

First, there are plans for the smaller leadership group to continue to meet to discuss ways to develop programs to facilitate classes working together. For example, Environmental Groups from several classes met in mid-December to share ideas and successes and find ways to collaborate across classes. The next cross-class collaboration will feature projects in the justice & civic engagement area.

Secondly, all the classes are invited to a conversation with Travis Lovett, the Assistant Dean of Civic Engagement and Service at Harvard College, who oversees the Phillip Brooks House and is also responsible for communications, partnership building, and mobilizing key stakeholders to broaden and deepen Harvard's community engagement efforts. Travis has been responsible for developing or co-developing several signature programs including Harvard's Global Day of Service. We have had several discussions with Travis and his team and feel that there is potential to work together with undergraduates and recent graduates.

Third, a meeting is scheduled on January 23rd with the current year's Reunion Classes. We feel that connecting with classes that are having reunions is the best and quickest way to spark interest in setting up a ClassACT type organization in other classes. We have connected with other Reunion classes, but this meeting is an attempt to institutionalize the process each year.

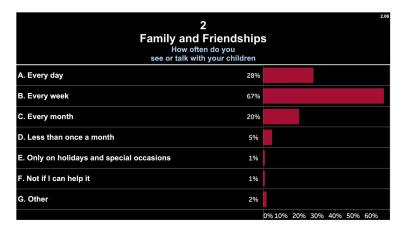
Finally, these events and programs will be discussed at our Board Retreat at the end of January as we continue to work on our strategies to enhance the ClassACT Movement.

And The Survey Says....

The Class of 1973 survey was sent to all classmates prior to the reunion. Asking about everything from demographics to hobbies to the Harvard experience, it provides insight into our classmates, both funny and poignant.

Now, every month we will send out aggregated, anonymous results to one question from the survey so you can see how you stack up compared to your classmates!

This month's question: **How often do you see or talk with your children?**



*If you would like to view all the aggregated results, click here.

The ClassACT HR73 App is Up and Running!

You can access ALL of ClassACT HR73's events, publications and other

activities on the ClassACT APP... watch a forum that you missed, read a past bulletin, volunteer your talents, make a donation, or find a classmate.

Join our growing number of users and download the ClassACT HR73 mobile App today! Just scan the QR code below.



If you are already a member of ClassACT HR73, log in to the app with the same username and password that you set up for our website. (classacthr73.org)

If you are a new user, you can register on either the app or the website and be registered for both.

Need help? Or want to provide us with feedback/suggestions for the app? Email: classacthr73@gmail.com.

Interested in helping ClassACT HR73?

ClassACT HR73 is built on classmate participation and we are interested in having every classmate as a member of our ClassACT community. If you are interested in learning more about ClassACT HR73 and how you can be involved, please visit our website or send us an email.

While encouraging the sharing of time and willingness to work together, ClassACT HR73 also welcomes financial support. To support our work in this way you can donate below.

Donate Here

Please add ClassACTHR73@gmail.com to your contacts so future messages don't end up in spam or some other odd spot in your inbox.

Class Achieving Change Together (Class ACT), Inc.

ClassACT App

