



ClassACT App

[Class Achieving Change Together \(Class ACT\), Inc.](#)



March 2024 ClassACTions Newsletter

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According to the Farmer's Almanac and ancient folklore, March is a transitional season that comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. With the Class of '73's 50th reunion in the rear view mirror and as our official 10th anniversary of incorporation approaches, ClassACT HR73 is an established and respected model for outward-facing alumni engagement and activism. More and more Harvard alumni classes and other groups are creating their own versions of ClassACTs, dedicated to utilizing their Harvard educations, expertise and experience to promote positive change. The lasting and rewarding connections with classmates and others keep all of us going. There's lots more to come. ClassACT HR73 enters this next decade roaring like a lion!

CALL FOR CLASSACT PHOTOS!



Classmates at the 50th Reunion, June, 2023

This spring ClassACT HR73 will be celebrating our 10th year of incorporation with a special edition of the ClassActions Newsletter! If you have photos related to ClassACT over the past 10 years, please forward them to classacthr73@gmail.com.

Upcoming ClassACT HR73 Activities: Dates and Registration

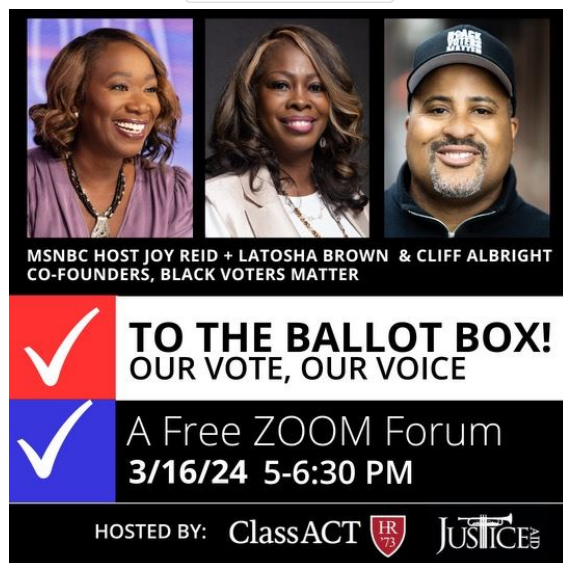
It's Not Too Late to Join Us!
TO THE BALLOT BOX! OUR VOTE, OUR VOICE

A ClassACT HR73/ JusticeAid ZOOM Public Forum

Featuring: Moderator **Joy Reid, Harvard '91**
Panelists **Cliff Albright** and **LaTosha Brown**
Special Presentation by **Paine the Poet**

Saturday, March 16th, 5:00 - 6:30pm EDT



[Register Here](#)



MSNBC HOST JOY REID + LATOSHA BROWN & CLIFF ALBRIGHT
CO-FOUNDERS, BLACK VOTERS MATTER

TO THE BALLOT BOX!
OUR VOTE, OUR VOICE

A Free ZOOM Forum
3/16/24 5-6:30 PM

HOSTED BY: ClassACT  

The right to vote and participate in elections should not be a controversial issue, but it has become one. The forum will explore issues related to this right, voter apathy and voter suppression. It also will discuss how to engage and motivate citizens in local communities and across the country to have a voice, register and vote. Join us for this vibrant and timely discussion.

Building an App for Your Nonprofit with John Noran '73

Wednesday, March 27th, 7 - 7:45pm EDT

[Register Here](#)



WED. 3/27 @7PM EDT

CLASSACT WEBINAR SERIES:
Building an App for Your Non-Profit
With John Noran '73



ClassACT 

Have you ever thought about getting an app for your organization? In Building an App for Your Nonprofit, **John Noran**, who spent 21 years managing outreach for a federal program providing internet access discounts to schools and libraries, managed grants and contracts for a state library, provided accounting services for an economic think tank, taught Western music in Taiwan, and was apprenticed to a tracker organ builder, will help you decide whether an app would be useful to you and, if so, give you a step-by-step guide for creating one. In advance of the webinar, you can review the [ClassACT HR73 website](#) and also download our app from either the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store (search for "ClassACT HR73") to get a feel for what an app can do.

Save the Date: April 24, 7pm EDT Bridge Webinar:
Creating and Enhancing Your Organization's Website

*Stay tuned for more information!



Missed one of our previous Webinars? Not to worry! Recordings and slides are available on our website:

- [“A Ten-Point Plan for Building a Board of Directors,”](#) with Ron Dieckmann '73
- [“Creating a 501\(C\)\(3\): What You Need To Know”](#) with Leonard Easter '73
- [“Six Steps to Promoting Your NonProfit on Social Media”](#) with Katie Marinello

Save the Date: Wednesday April 10, 12 -1pm EDT

ClassACTors Learn at Lunch Series

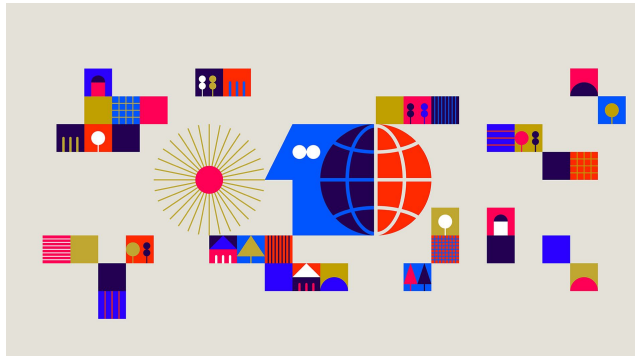


ClassACT HR73 is pleased to announce a ClassACTors Learn at Lunch series focusing on Biodiversity, Climate Change and the Environment...an informal monthly zoom meeting to hear, learn from, and ask questions of members of the ClassACT Environmental Working Group and others. More information coming soon.

Save the Date: May 2, 7pm EDT ClassACT Zoom Forum:

Business and Society: The Role of Capitalism

***More information coming soon**



From the Justice & Civic Engagement Committee:

Looking towards November....A continuing focus on individual states.

Fair Elections and Reproductive Freedom in Michigan

Written by **Marilyn Go** (Voting) and **Vivian Lewis** (Reproductive Freedom)

Edited by **Jim Harbison** and **Jacki Swearingen**

Michigan is one of four states that has established an independent redistricting commission in its attempt to end partisan gerrymandering and create competitive elections with the drawing of fair maps.



Demographics. Michigan has experienced slow growth since its heyday as the automotive capital of the United States. The population has been predominantly Non-Hispanic White, but the number of NH Whites has been declining. In 2022, the percentage of NH Whites was 74%, while the percentage of Blacks was 14.1%, Hispanic 5.7%, and Asians 3.5%.

Michigan is also home to more than 400,000 Arabs, who have had a voice in Michigan politics. In the recent Presidential primary election in Michigan, over 100,000 voters selected "Uncommitted" to express opposition to

President Biden's handling of the Gaza conflict.

Independent Redistricting Commission. In 2018, Michigan voters approved a constitutional amendment establishing an independent redistricting commission. In December 2021, the Commission released Congressional and state legislative maps that were hailed as being fair, unlike prior maps drawn by Republicans who controlled redistricting.

However, a group of Black Michigan voters filed federal lawsuits in 2022 claiming that the maps violated both the U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights Act. In December 2023, the federal court agreed and ordered the redrawing of Congressional maps and state legislative maps for more than a dozen Michigan state House and Senate districts around metro Detroit. New maps have been submitted and are now before the court and its experts for review.

Political Landscape of Michigan. Due to low population growth, in 2022, the number of Representatives from Michigan dropped from 14 to 13. This was the fifth time that It lost a House seat following a Census. In 2022 elections, voters elected 7 Democrats and 6 Republicans to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Until the use of the new maps in 2022, the Michigan state legislature was controlled by Republicans who effectively maintained control through redistricting. After the 2022 election based on new maps, the number of state Representatives who were Democrats increased from 53 to 56, while the number of Republican Representatives dropped from 56 to 54.

Reproductive Freedom. In 2022 Michigan voters approved a state constitutional amendment to ensure abortion rights. Governor Gretchen Whitmer, a Democrat, subsequently signed a series of laws to protect reproductive freedom of women, including repealing a law requiring a separate insurance rider to pay for abortion, and issued an executive order protecting Michigan healthcare workers from extradition for providing IVF services or pregnancy terminations.

For our more detailed analysis of these issues and suggestions for ways you can become involved, please click below.

[Click to read full article](#)

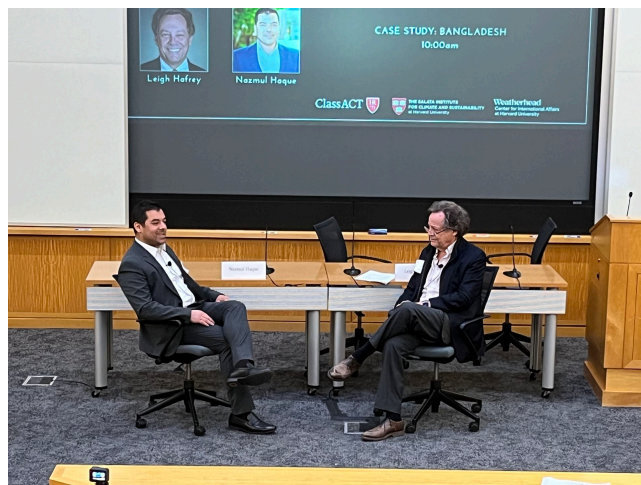
For the full list of articles concerning voting rights in particular states, click below:

[Click for full list of articles](#)

Weatherhead Climate Change Symposium: A Resounding Success

On March 1, ClassACT sponsored its third symposium in collaboration with Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, and its first with the

Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability, a bracing, provocative and thoroughly engaging day exploring the nexus of climate change, public-private partnerships and social equity.



Nazmul Haque and Leigh Hafrey '73

Inspired by the work of our current Benazir Bhutto Leadership Program Fellow [Nazmul Haque](#), and calling on the expertise and humanity of a group of passionate scholars and classmates, the symposium gave us cautionary tales, causes for optimism, sobering warnings and new ways to think about the future for our planet and its people.

Video highlights of the symposium will be available later in March.



Nazmul Haque and attending members and panelists of HR73

ClassACT HR73 @50 Video Project

Marilyn Go - Supporting Pluralistic Democracy



*Click above to view video, created by **Rick Brotman '73***

In the latest installment of videographer **Rick Brotman's** [@50 Video Project](#), we learn about the life and professional passions of classmate, **Marilyn Go**. Arriving as an immigrant from China in 1956, Marilyn became the “unsung hero of the Asian American community.” As a lawyer, judge, voting rights advocate and redistricting commissioner Marilyn was and continues to be a passionate voice for democracy for all.

Bridge Partner Updates

[KidsCareEverywhere](#)



Image from Lima and Cajamarca, Peru

KidsCareEverywhere (KCE), a Berkeley-based global health nonprofit organization, just returned from a major educational venture in Peru in February, 2024. The KCE team trained doctors, nurses, pharmacists and dentists in seven hospitals in Lima and Cajamarca. KCE donates a powerful medical software called DynaMed to health care providers in the low income world. DynaMed is considered the world's leading medical decision-support

software, and is used widely throughout the United States, Europe and the Western medical world. It is approximately 70,000 pages, resides on mobile phones as well as desktop computers, and works on-line and off-line. DynaMed is therefore available immediately at the bedside to assist patient care, as well as for teaching and self-learning. It is updated daily with current scientific literature. KCE receives the software from EBSCO, an information services company in Ipswich, MA, who grants KCE the ability to donate the award-winning program free to selected geographical areas in the low-income world. KCE has trained over 10,000 providers in 25 different countries on three continents over the last 18 years.



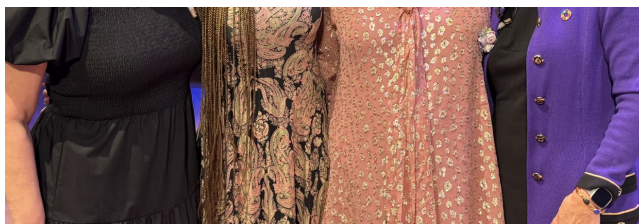
Image from Lima and Cajamarca, Peru

During the Peru trip last month, the KCE team focused on a new "Champions Program". This novel initiative trains doctors in the host countries to become instructors in DynaMed. The Champions allow KCE to monitor and mentor learners virtually, without physical presence of the KCE team, while they disseminate the software themselves in their own hospitals. This approach has become the primary delivery model for KCE and greatly extends the utilization of the software and the application of the software in communities.

"The Champions Program is our most cost-effective approach to dissemination of DynaMed," explains **Dr. Ron Dieckmann '73**, Founder and Executive Director of KCE and ClassAct HR73 Board member. "Clinicians in the countries we support typically see about 20,000-to-30,000 patients a year. For a training and download cost of only \$25/clinician to KCE, we can potentially improve the health care experience of millions of patients with each site visit. The Champions program obviously makes this approach even more scalable, and we are excited about the enhanced opportunities to truly transform health care in our low-income sites."

International Women's Day 2024 with [UNAGB](#)





Susanne Goldstein, Malia Lazu, Elaine Martyn, Tara Kenney. Photo courtesy of UNAGB

On Thursday, March 7, members of the Boston community gathered at the Boston Public Library for the United Nations Association of Greater Boston (UNAGB)'s 2024 International Women's Day Celebration! The event convened a panel of incredible speakers to discuss "Financial Security and Independence for Women Worldwide." Over 100 global citizens joined UNAGB in this meaningful conversation and came together in support of gender equality and women's economic empowerment. The event also kicked off UNAGB's initiative to raise 50 scholarships this spring to help local students attend UNAGB's [Summer Institute in Global Leadership](#), a week-long leadership development program based on the core components of Model UN. UNAGB is proud to share that, through their International Women's Day event, funds for 27 scholarships have been raised so far! For more information about UNAGB's programs or to donate, visit their [website](#) or email them at info@unagb.org!

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An original and continuing Bridge connection:

[Salih Self Development Center](#) and the [Osiligi Hope Foundation](#)



***David Weeks** and members of the Salih Center for Self Development*

The sewing program students in the Salih Center for Self Development in Kumasi, Ghana were given a boost by ClassACT HR73 when in 2014 **Marion Dry '73** introduced **David Weeks '73** to classmate **Michael B. Alexander**, President of Lasell University. Michael made it possible for David to meet Lasell teachers in the fashion program in the Donahue Center for Creative and Applied Arts. That meeting inspired David to share stylistic

ideas in fashion design with the Salih Center sewing teacher in Ghana. It also resulted in the donation of 40 sewing machines that were sent by cargo ship to Accra and then by truck to Kumasi.

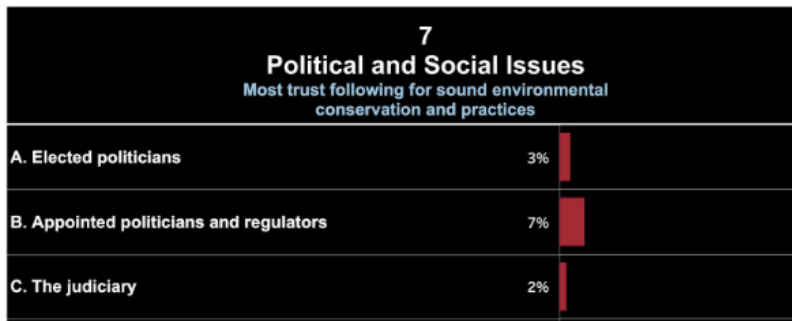
To support his Osiligi Hope Foundation medical projects in Kenya, David also appreciates the valuable and ongoing health care conversations he has had with classmates recommended by ClassACT HR 73 Board members.

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: **Who do you trust for sound advice regarding environmental conservation and practices?**



*If you would like to view all the aggregated results, click [here](#).

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

