



DEWEYGRAM

An Official Publication of the John Dewey Alumni Association
Spring 2014

John Dewey Alumni Association

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Message from the Executive Committee

Welcome to the first issue of the new *Deweygram*, the quarterly publication of the John Dewey Alumni Association. Each season we will bring you news about alumni activities, updates on what our members have been doing since graduation, stories on current and former faculty members, upcoming events, news about John Dewey High School, and more.

This publication is for you. Your ideas, feedback, and participation are welcome. Please send your comments (or communicate your interest in volunteering) to our editor at secretary@johndeweyalumni.org. Your subject line should indicate [Newsletter Feedback](#) or [Newsletter Volunteer](#).

At the moment, our plan is to produce three online issues of *Deweygram* which will be posted on our website, with links at our Facebook and Twitter pages and in a MailChimp email communication to all alumni and faculty on our mailing list. We hope to print the year-end Winter edition and mail a hard copy to any member who requests one.

To receive a print copy of Deweygram's winter issue, please send your mailing address to info@johndeweyalumni.org with a subject line of [Newsletter Mailing Address](#).

Because we did not have a year-end publication for 2013, this issue includes some highlights of JDAA activities from last year, including the presentation of the Dewey Spirit Award to a 2013 Dewey graduate, the fight against the Dept. of Education's proposal to put another school in Dewey's building, and assorted alumni events.

Our "DEWEY THESE DAYS" column recaps recent news stories about our *alma mater* and its current students and programs.

Alumni and Faculty Updates will fill you in on what some of your fellow graduates and former teachers have been doing since you last saw them.

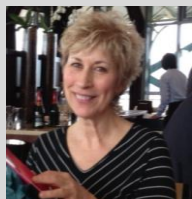
Looking ahead to the coming year, we offer a preview of our 2014 calendar of events, including a planned all-class reunion.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Deweygram*.

Alumni Updates

1972

Barbara Kramer Carlson received both a BA and MA in Music Education from The Conservatory of Music at Brooklyn College. She has taught music (mostly strings and orchestra) for 35 years in Brooklyn, Westchester and Manhattan. She lives in Yonkers. She is the proud mother of one son, an actor.

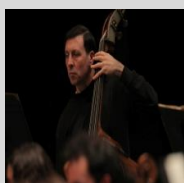


Lawrence Zweig lives in Fürth, Germany (near Nuremburg). Despite training to be an electronic technician, he is a full-time social activist and describes himself as being “unemployed.” He is also, he says, “way too single!” For those in the Class of '76 who remember seeing his picture in your yearbook, Lawrence did return to Dewey that year to take one final English class. Yearbook pictures were being taken at that time and he stopped in to take an extra one.



1973

Erik L. Cohen works as an Oracle database administrator for BAE Systems and plays the double-bass as a freelancer and as part of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's in Music Performance, both from SUNY Stony Brook. He lives in the Washington DC area, is married, and has one daughter who teaches elementary school.



Brian Chichi majored in art at Dewey and went on to win one of only 12 full scholarships to New York's School for the Visual Arts. After earning his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, he moved to Los Angeles – “illustrating his way across America,” he says, on a '74 Harley Davidson FLH he rebuilt himself. Once in LA, he settled down and got his multi-media certification from Platt College. He has worked as a graphic designer for 35 years. (Check out his website at www.Chichidesigns.com).



1974

Michael Drillinger has been a plumber, software designer, network specialist, technology consultant, salesman, and bookkeeper, in addition to being a licensed outdoor guide and Chairman of the Ten Mile River Scout Museum. He has earned two degrees (a BA in Environmental Studies and an MBA, twenty years apart), married twice, and helped raise two great children (as well as two inherited grandchildren from his second marriage). He is a past president of the JDAA and also previously served as its Secretary and Treasurer.



1975

Ellen Block Algava has been married for 34 years to Albert Algava (class of 1974) and has three children: Benjamin, Diane, and Alexandra. She is a Registered Nurse (who took her State Board examination at Yonkers Raceway under the \$2.00 window) and has worked as an operating room nurse for over 25 years. She currently lives in New Jersey.

Diane Deutsch Keahey earned a Bachelor's degree in Health Sciences at Brooklyn College, a Master's in Human Nutrition at University of Bridgeport (CT), and a Doctorate in Biology at Wayne State University (MI). She is currently an Assistant Professor of Clinical Laboratory Science at Wayne State University, as well as a Registered Dietician and a Diabetes Educator. She lives in Michigan with her husband, Edwin, and her two daughters, Julia and Genevieve. Her son Alexander is currently doing genome research at Harvard University.

Harold Kramer owns and operates The Boulevard Tavern in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. He is a member of the JDAA Board of Directors and was a driving force behind the hugely successful 40th Anniversary Reunion at Dewey in 2010. He is a widower and lives in Queens.

Want to see your own name here?

Send your information to:

alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org

Alumni Updates (continued)

1976

Theresa M. Schoenacher married Kelvin Swarth and had two children, Zachary and Abigail. They live in Roslyn, New York. Theresa holds a Bachelor's degree in English/Psychology and a Master's in Sociology from New York University. For nearly 25 years, she was Director of Contracts for Gentiva Health Services, the nation's largest home health and hospice provider. She currently works as a Contracts Specialist for Pall Corporation, a clean technology company.

1977

Robert Liebowitz was 9 credits short of a Bachelor's degree at Brooklyn College when he left to spend his life in the theater. He co-founded the None of the Above Repertory Company and served as its Artistic Director from 1982–2007. He's taught theater, acting, directing and playwriting for 30 years. *Awake and Aggravated: Four Plays by Robert Liebowitz* was published in 2004. Outside the theater, he has been a proud employee of the United States Postal Service since 1998, and the father of a 24-year son, Andrew. He is divorced.

1978

Janice Deutsch worked at Dewey after graduating, serving as a paraprofessional in the Program Office. She went on to earn three simultaneous Bachelor's degrees from Brooklyn College before becoming a NYC special education teacher. She has since worked as an office administrator, paralegal, and ghost writer. She fostered one son, through whom she is now a great grandmother! Janice serves as the Secretary of the JDAA and editor of *Deweygram*. She is single and, when not seeking new stamps for her passport, still lives in Brooklyn. [This photo was taken in Spain.]



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1979

Bruce Weisburd graduated from SUNY Oswego with a Bachelor's degree in Communications and began working in Residential Life at several universities in Arizona and California. His next career took him all over the country, too, working first as a property and casualty claims adjuster and then as a claims manager for State Farm Insurance Company's catastrophe team. He has since served in claims management positions for several Florida insurance companies and currently holds the position of claims manager at Florida Peninsula Insurance. Bruce loves to travel, is an avid moviegoer, and enjoys time with his friends and family. He lives in Wilton Manors, Florida.



Marty Angstreich has worked in the Information Technology sector since leaving college, working his way up to Senior Project Manager for state and city governments as well as publicly-held companies. He has also spent most of his life as a musician – playing with bands, serving as an accompanist, teaching piano and voice, and working as musical director for schools, community organizations and professional theaters. He is also an ordained minister, a husband of 29 years, and the father of three. He lives in Central New Jersey.



1980

Alan Lerner now works as a graphic artist after more than a decade in customer service and sales. He has lived in Florida for 23 years and traveled all around the country as a national sales manager. He still does customer service but is also collaborating on (and doing the cover art) for two upcoming publications. He drew this picture of the Dewey campus from memory:



Alumni Updates (continued)

1995



Shirley F. Juste earned her BA in Psychology from SUNY Stony Brook and her MA in Counseling from National University. She currently serves as Program Supervisor for Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens' Open Door Psychosocial Clubhouse. She previously provided school-based counseling (VA), inpatient social work services in a psychiatric hospital (CA) and leadership to community-based group homes (VA and CA). She has participated in the children's ministry at her church and works with cultural organizations such as Haitian Orphan Wish.

1998



Louis Rivera has worked as an Underwriting Specialist for AIG Benefits Solutions since 1999. He has been married for two years and still lives in Brooklyn, New York.

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alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org

Faculty Updates



Robert J. De Sena is remembered as much for being the founder of the Council for Unity and faculty advisor of the S.O. as for teaching English. After 26 years at Dewey (1970-1996), he became the President of Council for Unity, Inc. He has garnered many awards for his efforts in combating bias, reducing school and community violence, and empowering youth, including the President's Medal from the Freedom Foundation, the Gorgeous Mosaic Award, and the Anti-Defamation League's Richard R. Greene Distinguished Educator Award. De Sena is also the author of two fairy tales, *Dragonslayer* and *Chrysallia: the Princess of Possibility*. In his "spare" time he enjoys landscaping, cooking, wine tasting and world travel. He lives on Long Island and has one son, Nikolas. He still describes his time at Dewey as "*the best years of my life!!*"

Thomas Heinegg was a founding Dewey teacher and served the school for ten years as both a science teacher and SPARK Coordinator before becoming Director of SPARK for the Bronx. He subsequently worked for Parsons The School of Design (as Director of Admissions) and the New School (as Asst. Provost), and coordinated the establishment of a College of Art and Design in the Dominican Republic. He was principal of three schools on Long Island and served as Vice President of the NYC Chamber of Commerce. He married and raised three children, one girl and two boys. He recently revisited Malaysia as the guest of several now-grown students he met while serving in the Peace Corps.



Brian Jetter came to Dewey in 1978. In his 14 years of service to the school, he taught biology (including the advanced placement class), chemistry, and an elective course in genetics. He was faculty advisor to the Science Institute and coordinator of the Science Department's DISK program. He also served as SO Advisor. After leaving Dewey, he became an assistant principal at Bayside High School in Queens, the Director of Math and Science at the Queens High Schools Superintendent's Office, and the founding principal at the Queens High School for the Sciences at CUNY's York College. He has since retired and currently resides in Florida.



Ed Salzman started at Dewey when it opened its doors in 1969 and stayed until his retirement in 1991. During that time, he was a member of the science department, teaching Earth Science and pioneering a new course in Astronomy. Most of his time, however, was devoted to making the school safe and secure by working in the Dean's Office. All three of his children are Dewey alumni, and between them they have given him seven grandchildren. He and his wife now live in Saratoga County (upstate New York) where, he says, he passes his time "shoveling a lot of snow." He also reads (a lot), plays the recorder (a little), and has written four novels and a number of short stories. (Don't look for him on the bookstore shelves, though; he reports that none of his works have been published.) Mr. Salzman did not have a recent picture to include here, so we took this one from the 1978 yearbook.



Remembering 2013: JDAA Events and Activities

Last year, the John Dewey Alumni Association hosted events for alumni, presented awards to two Dewey seniors, raised funds for community members hit by disaster, and championed the school in its efforts to maintain its integrity. Here are some of the highlights of our 2013 activities.

The new year began, as the old one had ended, with relief efforts for those hard hit by Superstorm Sandy in the fall of 2012. Adding our outreach to those of the major relief organizations, we marshaled volunteers to provide support services and/or make donations of food and materials to those in need. We also raised over \$250 in monetary contributions.

Springtime saw the return of alumni gatherings including a Networking Event for 1995-2013 Dewey graduates and a pre-Memorial Day barbecue, both held at the Boulevard Tavern in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

Extensive Dewey memorabilia, including old JDHS yearbooks, were collected, scanned, and posted at the JDAA Archives site. Our thanks to Steve Lasky, a former Dewey yearbook coordinator, and our members for their contributions to our collection. A special nod of appreciation must also go to our tireless archivist, Sue Savodnick-Epstein for her efforts to create and maintain a comprehensive Memory Lane for Dewey alums.

At the close of the school year in June, JDAA presented the fifth annual Dewey Spirit Award, a cash prize recognizing outstanding scholarship and achievement, to two graduating seniors, Rodwell Jeffrey and Stephanie Reyes. The presentation was made by Dewey teacher Joe Occhiogrosso at the 2013 commencement ceremony.

Summer events included music, theater, film and dance.

The JDAA organized musical excursions to see Mariah Carey perform with the New York Philharmonic at an all-star charity event on the Great Lawn at Central Park, and Smokey Robinson bringing back some memorable hits of the 60's and 70's at his concert in Coney Island.

Combining music with theatre, we offered discounted tickets to see the 2006 Tony Award winning Best Musical, *Jersey Boys*, the toe-tapping (and secretly sing-along) story of the rise and fall of Frankie Vallie and the Four Seasons.

Also on stage was Dewey (and *Saturday Night Live*) alum Colin Quinn in his "observational comedy" show, *Unconstitutional*, a hilarious, if slightly irreverent, look at our national character and the Constitution that framed it.

Film outings included the world premiere screening of *ROMEOWs* (that is: Retired Older Men Eating Out Wednesdays), a film directed by former JDHS art teacher Bob Sarnoff, with commentary and Q&A from Mr. Sarnoff after the showing, and a showing of the 1939 classic comedy-drama *The Women* (starring Joan Crawford) at HBO Bryant Park Summer Film Festival.

Free open-air activities included a Swing Dance performance in Herald Square by the 34th Street Partnership, Dancesports Studio and the Hot Shim Sham Orchestra, with a free dance lesson for audience participants, plus an excursion to the Friday-night fireworks in historic Coney Island.

While we continued to offer activities for alumni in the fall – a Greenwood Cemetery walking tour and pumpkin carving event; the Cobble Hill Halloween Parade; a First-Saturday visit to the Brooklyn Museum – our efforts in September and October were concentrated on opposing the Department of Education's proposal to subdivide 50 Avenue X and put a second district high school on the same premises as John Dewey H.S. starting in September 2014. The *Deweygram* article below (scroll down to page 8) describes our extensive efforts to join the school and community – lobbying District 21's Community Education Council, Community Board 13, the Panel on Education Policy, the City Council, and even the campaign staff of successful mayoral candidate Bill DiBlasio – to prevent this ill-conceived and widely-condemned plan from being rammed through in the waning hours of the Bloomberg administration. It also describes actions taken after the resolution passed, and the latest update on the school's future.

Remembering 2013 (continued)

The autumn also saw our General Membership meeting and Board of Directors election. Our thanks to the alumni, faculty, parents and community members who attended, as well as those members who voted by proxy.

The event took place at Dewey and was accompanied by refreshments that had been prepared and served by the school's Culinary Arts students, under the direction and supervision of their program coordinator, Chef Michael Colon.

Prior to the General Membership meeting, the JDAA honored its 2008 founders with a medal-and-memory ceremony. Each honoree was presented with an engraved medal by JDHS Assistant Principal Frank Bepensata and JDAA Vice President Elsie Chan, and was invited to share stories of their time at Dewey.

Our year ended with a visit to the tree-lighting ceremony in Rockefeller Center and a subsequent holiday party for alumni and former faculty at La Slowteria, an authentic Mexican restaurant in the Carroll Gardens section of Brooklyn.

The Year Ahead: 2014 Calendar of JDAA Events

Monthly: The JDAA Board of Directors holds administrative meetings each month. All members are invited to attend. Check the Calendar on our website or email secretary@johndeweyalumni.org for details regarding meeting dates and locations.

June: Summer issue of *Deweygram*

September: Fall issue of *Deweygram*

October: What: **45th Anniversary Reunion / General Membership Meeting / JDAA Elections**
Where: John Dewey High School, 50 Avenue X, Brooklyn, New York
When: October 18, 2014 – 12:00 – 6:00 PM
Registration: Reunion registration details will be provided in the Summer issue of *Deweygram*, as well as on our website and Facebook Pages.
Election: The slate of candidates (and a proxy form for those who will be unable to attend the election) will be distributed to all members 30 days before the election.



SAVE THE DATE:

October 18, 2014

**45th Anniversary Reunion
General Membership Meeting
JDAA Elections**

December: Winter Issue of *Deweygram*. To receive a copy, please be sure to provide your street mail address to us at info@johndeweyalumni.org. Please indicate "Newsletter Mailing Address" in the subject line.

DEWEY THESE DAYS

Dewey Beat 94% of High Schools in the Country to Earn Silver-Medal Ranking

In April 2013, *U.S. News and World Report* released its Best High Schools ranking results, a review of over 21,000 high schools across the nation. John Dewey H.S. received a Silver-Medal rank, coming in at number 1,401 nationally (top 6%) and number 127 in New York State (top third). According to the article, among the factors accounting for Dewey's high rank were: surpassing the State average on standardized test performance; substantial participation in Advanced Placement classes; and a high college-readiness index.

Dewey Financiers Outperform Stuyvesant H.S. Challengers in National Competition

In May 2013, *The Wall Street Journal* spotlighted John Dewey H.S. as one of the top competitors in the SIFMA (Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association) Foundation Capitol Hill Challenge, a national stock market fantasy-investment contest intended to promote financial literacy in high school students. More than 15,000 students (4,500 teams) from 669 schools in 50 states competed in the Stock Market Game to create the greatest return on a hypothetical \$100,000 starting portfolio. Two Dewey teams finished in the top 20. The competitors were participants in Dewey's Academy of Finance, a three-year concentration of coordinated coursework in business and social studies, field visits, college study, and a paid summer internship at select financial institutions in the New York City area. Dewey pioneered the Academy of Finance, which has since expanded to a national program.

Dewey Robot Throws Out First Pitch at Cyclones Game

In June 2013, the *New York Daily News* reported the latest success of the John Dewey H.S. Robotics Team: a 150-pound computerized pitcher which took the mound to throw the first ceremonial pitch at the Cyclones-Ironbirds game on June 20. The nearly life-size robot launched a perfect strike into the human catcher's mitt.

The 'bot's creators were part of a 25-member team (called the Megalodons or Team 333) that achieved a top-ten finish at the 2013 Ultimate Ascent competition, joining the ranks of such science and technology leaders as Bronx HS of Science, Stuyvesant HS, Brooklyn Technical HS, and Riverside Engineering & Design HS.

The pitcher 'bot was not the first creation of Team 333 to make news. Back in 2012, their remote-operated submarine camera was spotlighted in the *Brooklyn Daily* after its inaugural launch into Jamaica Bay to record underwater marine life. That team took the \$2,500 first place prize in the *Beneath the Sea* robotic submarine contest and an extra \$500 in scholarship money from the Roddenberry Dive Team. (They have also reportedly created robots that climb ladders and throw Frisbees!)

The Megalodons also competed in The First Robotics Competition, one of only three teams from New York City to qualify. (The others were Stuyvesant and Francis Lewis H.S.) They were featured in the Jan/Feb 2014 issue of *Education Update* magazine.



Dewey Marine Bio Students Help Inaugurate the New Hurricane-Resistant "Eco-Dock"

The American Veterans Memorial Pier in Bay Ridge was the site of the ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new hurricane-resistant dock that will accommodate everything from personal kayaks to large historical sea craft. The first vessel to pull into port at the new facility was the aptly-named schooner, *The Pioneer*, carrying Dewey Asst. Principal Lane Rosen and a group of his Marine Science students. (Also in attendance was Dewey alumnus and NYC Councilman Vincent Gentile.)

This excursion is only one of many these students take during the year. While they have a marine laboratory in the school, where the creatures they study come to them, they often go to educational centers and natural habitats where they can observe marine life and aquatic environments too big to fit in the school's aquarium.

Dewey's Marine Science program has been featured in *Education Update* magazine twice in the last six months, first for its participation in the Eco-Dock opening (Nov/Dec 2013 issue) and then for the remarkable scope of its educational activities, its academic challenges, and its partnership agencies (Jan/ Feb 2014 issue).

Dewey Co-location Resolution Withdrawn!

Background of Co-Location Proposal. In 2013, after schools recessed for the summer, the NYC Department of Education (DOE) proposed to place a second open-enrollment district high school in Dewey's building at 50 Avenue X beginning in the 2014-15 academic year. The basis of the proposal was the DOE's erroneous claim that the building was underutilized. The department's Educational Impact Study projected that Dewey's 2013-14 enrollment would be 1,630 students, only 68% of its capacity of 2,434. (This figure under-reports the actual enrollment by approximately 300 students.) The DOE's stated intention was to introduce 105-115 ninth graders – and a separate administration – to share the building, and then to gradually increase the non-Dewey population to 420-460 over the next three years.

The JDAA rallied to oppose the DOE plan.

Opposition Action. The first battle coincided with the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. One day prior to the hearing at the District 21 Community Education Council (CEC), JDAA representatives Elsie Chan, Janice Deutsch, Bunji Fromartz, and Frank Gentile met with JDHS principal Kathleen Elvin, Assistant Principals Jon Messinger and Frank Benpensata, Teacher Michael Solo, United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Chapter Leader Martin Haber, Parent Coordinator Kristine Gattuso, Parent-Alumnus Rob Accurso, CEC Delegate Linda Dalton, and Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS) representative Marianne Russo to strategize the best approach and potential arguments against co-location. The JDAA provided a written position paper for the consideration of the attendees.

On September 18, 2013, the JDAA and JDHS presence at the CEC hearing was strong. Former faculty members Elsie Chan, Thomas Heinegg, and Rose Riccio-Pietanza joined Principal Elvin and three members of her current faculty to speak of the school's history, its achievements, its legacy, and its survival of the DOE's prior attempts to shut it down. NYC Councilmen Vincent Gentile and Dominic Recchia and NYS Assemblyman William Colton, all Dewey alumni, championed the school and spoke out against the DOE's intention to push through ill-conceived citywide changes in the dwindling months of the current mayoral administration. Half a dozen current Dewey students and alumnus Edmund Unneland also shared their Dewey

stories. Additional students, alumni, parents and community members lent support from the audience. By at the end of the evening, the CEC unanimously adopted a formal resolution to oppose the co-location proposal.

The very next day, Dewey alumna Janice Deutsch spoke against the proposal on behalf of the JDAA at a meeting of the Panel on Education Policy (PEP), and presented written copies of her remarks and both the CEC resolution and the JDAA position paper to Chancellor Dennis Wolcott and each Panel member.

We also reached out to various media outlets and to the campaign office of then-candidate, now-Mayor Bill DiBlasio, a well-known and vocal opponent of the Bloomberg administration's educational policies on school closings, restructurings, and co-locations.

Throughout September and October, JDAA representatives continued to speak out against the Dewey co-location proposal at meetings of Community Board 13, the New York City Council, and the John Dewey High School community. We were present at the final DOE public hearing at John Dewey High School on October 30, 2013, when the DOE – ignoring the JDAA, the corrected facts about the school, the pleas of Dewey's current students and faculty, the outcry from the community, the position of multiple elected City and State officials, and the resolution of the District 21 CEC – adopted its own proposal.

Not Letting it Stand. The battle was taken to the courts. The UFT filed a lawsuit against the Board of Education and then-Chancellor Wolcott alleging that they disregarded the safeguards embedded in New York State's Education Law by pushing through these proposals without timely notification, proper impact assessment, appropriate reutilization planning, and other required procedures.

In January 2014, Public Advocate Letitia James filed a NYS Supreme Court petition to nullify all co-location resolutions approved by the Bloomberg administration.

In early February, Mayor Bill DiBlasio, speaking on WNYC's *Brian Lehrer Show*, declared "a moratorium on closures and co-locations," and reported that funds earmarked for charter schools were being reallocated by the new administration. Finally, on February 27, schools chancellor Carmen Fariña issued a release stating that the Dewey co-location resolution, and eight others, had been withdrawn. ***Dewey remains Dewey!***

ELECTION NEWS

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2014-2015 JDAA DIRECTORS

Nominations are now being accepted from any member who wishes to run for a seat on the John Dewey Alumni Association Board of Directors for the upcoming term of office. Here's what you we think you need to know to decide if you want to run, but if you have any questions, send us an email at alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org and put "Election/Nomination Inquiry" in the subject line.

The term of office for the newly-elected Board will run from September 2014 to September 2015.

The number of director positions is currently set at eight, but this may change as a result of a vote of the General Membership at our annual meeting in October.

Eligibility Requirement: The only requirement to run for a position on the Board is that you be a member of the JDAA (either alumni or faculty). If you are not an active member of the JDAA, you can easily become one by joining us at our website:

www.johndeweyalumni.org/become-a-member-of-jdaa

The Role of the Directors is decision-making and governance of the organization. In that capacity, we work toward our mission of keeping the Dewey experience & legacy alive, continuing a relationship with the school, fostering connections between alumni, and maintaining an archive for the benefit of our members.

Within that framework, we elect officers to handle specific duties and organize committees to conduct the programs and activities approved by the Board. Candidates run for general Director roles. After the Board elected by the general membership, its members vote for the officers – President; Vice President(s); Secretary; and Treasurer – from among their number. Committee members do not need to sit on the Board.

The duties of the Board members vary based on their committee activities and any leadership roles they

assume. At the most basic level, all directors commit to attending the monthly meetings called by the JDAA President, either in person or by means of electronic communications.

As an all-volunteer organization, we understand the need to balance the competing needs life, so we make every effort to accommodate a variety of schedules by rotating days of the week and locations of the meetings, and/or holding telephone conference calls, and/or arranging for Skype participation when possible.)

All meetings are held in Brooklyn, New York, but members who feel up to participating remotely are welcome to submit their names as candidates.

The rewards of participation include having a voice in alumni activities, engaging with others who share your ongoing enthusiasm for Dewey and its legacy, promoting events that bring graduates together, and helping shape the direction of our organization.

To submit your candidacy, please send your name, graduating class (or faculty department), and a brief biography to alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org. Please indicate Election Candidate in the subject line.

Please note: If you wish to nominate someone else for a Board of Directors seat, please obtain his/her consent first.

AUDIT COMMITTEE NOMINEES WANTED

The JDAA By-Laws establish an ongoing committee to ensure the preparation of an annual treasurer's report and review it for compliance with ethical and regulatory requirements. The Committee may call for an audit of any fiduciary practices or irregularities. This Committee requires three members (not including the JDAA Treasurer) and fulfills only one duty annually. **To run for a seat on the Audit Committee, please submit your candidacy as indicated above.**

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Class Representatives Wanted for Reunion Planning

The 45th Anniversary Reunion Committee is seeking volunteers from every class (yes, all 43 of them) to help make this year's event spectacular. We welcome your ideas, organizational skills, networking abilities, technical assistance, public relations efforts, manual labor, and any other services or skills you can offer.

To volunteer (or recommend a volunteer), contact us at alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org. Please put **Reunion Committee** in the subject line.

Help Complete our Yearbook Archives

The JDAA online archives are nearly complete but we are missing copies of *50 Avenue X* for the following years:

2007, 2008, 2010

If you have a copy of any of these issues, or know where we can borrow one for scanning purposes, please contact our Archivist, Susan Savodnick-Epstein, at

jdhsarchives@gmail.com.

We also accept copies of any Dewey publications, photographs, videos, and other memorabilia,

Join the *Deweygram* Team

If you liked this inaugural issue of the new *Deweygram*, or if you think you can help us make the next one even better, volunteer for the JDAA Newsletter Committee. We are looking for any and all of the following:

- ❖ Writers
- ❖ Researchers/Fact-Checkers
- ❖ Typists
- ❖ Graphic Designers
- ❖ Assistant Editors
- ❖ Editors-in-Training
- ❖ Technical Assistants
- ❖ Administrative Assistants

If you are interested in helping, either permanently or on an issue-by-issue basis, please contact our Editor in Chief, Janice Deutsch, at secretary@johndeweyalumni.org. Please indicate **Newsletter Committee** in the subject line, and specify the type of service you'd like to provide.

Alumnus Seeking Alumna

No this is not a dating site or a place for personal ads. One of our members, Alan Lerner (Class of 1981), has been trying to locate Dewey alumna Shari Rabinowitz Brager (Class of 1982). We offered to help.

If you are in touch with Shari, please ask her to contact us at alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org and let us know if she is interested in contacting Alan. (Please do not provide Shari's contact information yourself. Her privacy is important to us.)

Want to Join the JDAA Board of Directors?

Nominees are now being accepted for the 2014-15 term. Email alumnirelations@johndeweyalumni.org to submit nominations. Indicate **Election Nominee** in the subject line. (If you are nominating some other than yourself, please get the nominee's consent.)

Your Card Here?

In a future issue, we will publish member business cards (or similarly sized ads) for a nominal fee. Stay tuned for details, or email us at info@johndeweyalumni.org.