

## ALUMNI & FRIENDS | November 2023



### Winter Events

Campus is getting chilly, but we're sending you warm thoughts and best wishes wherever you may be. Over the next two months we'll be connecting with our alumni and celebrating our amazing community.

#### Philadelphia: November 30

President David B. Fithian '87 and Jeffrey Lurie '73, LHD '19 invite Clark alumni to Lincoln Financial Field, home of the Philadelphia Eagles, for an exclusive reception at the FanDuel Lounge on **Thursday, November 30**. Enjoy the ultimate VIP experience with a behind-the-scenes look at the stadium while you reconnect with Philly-area alumni and friends.

[Register here](#)

#### Hartford: December 2

Join us for a holiday reception and performance at the Hartford Stage on **Saturday, December 2**. Mingle with fellow alumni, including Marla J. Byrnes '76, who is celebrating 30 years as a board member of the Hartford Stage, and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. After the reception, enjoy a production of "A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas," adapted and directed by Michael Wilson. [Learn more about the Hartford Stage.](#)

[Register here](#)

### **Boston: December 10**

On **Sunday, December 10**, we're hosting a holiday party on wheels! This three-hour, private trolley ride takes you through Boston's seasonal attractions, lighting displays, and holiday landmarks. Festivities include music, Clark trivia, prizes, and a souvenir gift. The tour begins with a complimentary bowl of chowder, then guests hop on the heated trolley to enjoy the sights and sounds of the season.

[Register for the afternoon tour: 3-7 p.m.](#)

[Register for the evening tour: 6:30-10:30 p.m.](#)

### **California: December 3 and 5**

West Coast Clarkies can join us in [Los Angeles](#) on **December 3** at The Godfrey Hotel I/O Rooftop or in [San Francisco](#) on **December 5** at the W Hotel SF. For questions, please call the Office of Stewardship and Donor Relations at 508-798-4364 or email [mhorvitz@clarku.edu](mailto:mhorvitz@clarku.edu).

### **Alumni & Friends Virtual Book Club**

Prefer to connect virtually? Clark's University Librarian Laura Robinson and her team put on an incredible book club where alumni and friends discuss classic, modern, and culturally important works of both fiction and nonfiction.

#### **Want to read ahead? Here are the books we're discussing next:**

**February 22**, Black History Month, co-sponsored by the [Clark Black Alumni Association](#) (CBAA):

["Kindred"](#) by Octavia Butler

**March 27**, Women's History Month: ["Taste Makers: Seven Immigrant Women who Revolutionized](#)

[Food in America"](#) by Mayukh Sen

**May 8**, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month: ["Crying in H Mart"](#) by Michelle Zauner

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## Alumni Council Weekend Recap

Clark's [Alumni Council](#) and [Graduates of the Last Decade \(GOLD\) Council](#) gathered on campus on November 3 and 4. Highlights of the weekend included committee meetings, interacting with SARC (Student Alumni Relations Committee) and other student leaders, hearing from members of Clark's leadership team, touring the new Center for Media Arts, Computing, and Design, and assembling care packages to enhance student wellness at finals time. Our Councils aim to strengthen engagement with the university, forge new connections between alumni, support the student body, and inspire fellow alumni to give back to Clark, both philanthropically and as a volunteer. We truly appreciate the time and energy these alumni give to our community. To learn more about getting involved, visit our [website](#), or email us at [alumni@clarku.edu](mailto:alumni@clarku.edu).

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## Cougar Challenge Success!

Nearly 1,400 people supported Clark's 5th Annual Cougar Challenge in October. This generosity helped unlock a \$100,000 gift and raised over \$330,000 to support Clark Athletics.

Since 2019, the Cougar Challenge has raised over \$1 million to support student-athletes!

[Watch the Thank You Video](#)

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## Fall Fun Recap

The fall semester is nearly over, but we have plenty to look back on and be thankful for!

Clarkies kicked off the month of October with some family fun and ice cream at Kimball Farm in Westford, MA. The [Clark LGBTQ+ Alumni Association](#) (CLAA) celebrated LGBT History Month with University Librarian Laura Robinson at the Alumni & Friends Virtual Book Club, where they read and discussed [“She’s Not There: A Life in Two Genders”](#) by Jennifer Finney-Boylan. We finished out the month at the [State Room](#) in Boston, where alumni heard from President David Fithian '87 about the meaningful changes underway at the university.

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On November 1, alumni and friends visited the [New Bedford Whaling Museum](#) for a special guided tour by artist Dan Ranalli '68 of his exhibit titled: Whale Stranding, followed by a discussion about [Rescue and Record: Whale Stranding as Art and Action](#). This past weekend, Clark’s former hockey players gathered for a game at the Horgan Ice Arena in Auburn, and tomorrow we celebrate Native American Heritage Month with the virtual book club, discussing [“There There”](#) by Tommy Orange.

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*If you'd like more information about our events, please email Clark's Alumni & Friends Engagement Team at [alumni@clarku.edu](mailto:alumni@clarku.edu) or call (800) 793-6246.*

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## Meet the Team

Cindy Ironson, Director of Alumni & Friends Engagement, began her time at Clark in 2017. Over the years she has forged many alumni connections, created events, assisted colleagues across campus with alumni engagement, and organized activities for the university’s Alumni Council, GOLD Council, Athletics Hall of Fame Committee and the Undergraduate Parents Advisory Council – all crucial volunteers for Clark.



Cindy's favorite part of the job is getting to know alumni and fostering connections between them. She is eager to hear from alumni who want to re-engage with their alma mater, and from those who have an idea for an engagement event. She can be reached at [cironson@clarku.edu](mailto:cironson@clarku.edu) and you can read more about her background, as well as the rest of our staff, on the "[Meet the Team](#)" section of our website.

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## Upcoming Events

*Save the date for our upcoming events. Stay tuned, registration is coming soon!*

### **Alumni Basketball Game | January 27**

Meet and mingle with coaches Tyler Simms and Bridgette Reyes, current players, former teammates, and fellow alumni.

### **Alumni & Friends Book Club | February 22**

Clark's University Librarian Laura Robinson and members of the [Clark Black Alumni Association](#) (CBAA) will lead a discussion about "[Kindred](#)" by Octavia Butler in honor of Black History Month.

### **Regional Receptions | Multiple Dates**

Clarkies are invited to join us for receptions in Sarasota on Sunday, February 25 at Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium, Washington D.C. on Wednesday, March 13 at the Conrad Washington DC, and in New York City on Wednesday, April 10 at SECOND.

### **Reunion Weekend 2024 | May 17-19**

Join us on campus to reunite with classmates, celebrate your time at Clark, and reconnect with the

city of Worcester. For more information, please continue to visit [clarku.edu/reunion](https://clarku.edu/reunion). Registration will open in early 2024.

### **Heritage and Identity Events on Campus**

### **More Alumni & Friends Events**

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## **Get Involved**

**Join an alumni affinity group** – Sign up for community-specific emails for the alumni affinity groups: the [Clark Black Alumni Association \(CBAA\)](#) and/or the [Clark LGBTQ+ Alumni Association \(CLAA\)](#), or suggest a new one!

**Share Your Experience from College to Career** – The Career Connections Center (CCC) is seeking alumni volunteer speakers to participate across a variety of industry-themed weeks. Inspire the next generation of professionals as they begin their career journey and prepare for life after Clark! Email Angela Harris, Sr. Associate Director of Employer & Alumni Engagement at [anharris@clarku.edu](mailto:anharris@clarku.edu) for more information.

**Join ClarkCONNECT** – Connect with 7000+ Clark alumni, students, and faculty on the ClarkCONNECT platform. Check out the [Internships & Projects Guide](#), or visit the Career Connections Center website.

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**Support The Clark Fund** – Make Clark a stronger university and exceptional community for our students. Choose to give to the area that matters most to you!

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## Stay Connected



Make sure your contact information is up to date so you can stay in the know about Clark events, activities, and more!

[Update Your Information](#)

## Share your News



Did you get a promotion? Get married? Write a book? We want to hear all about it, and your classmates do, too.

[Share Your News](#)

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