

2000-01 Annual Report Mount Holyoke Club of New York June 2001

**Mount Holyoke Club of New York
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Mission Statement

The Mount Holyoke Club of New York, founded in 1886, continues a long tradition of service to Mount Holyoke College and its alumnae and strongly supports the College's commitment to women's education. Our mission is to strengthen the Mount Holyoke community by cultivating an active association of New York metropolitan area alumnae who are connected to, informed of, and actively involved in, the life and work of the College and the Alumnae Association. The Club aims to foster meaningful relationships among all alumnae through both social and professional activities.

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President's Report

Sunny Park Suh '91 President

The Mount Holyoke Club of New York is ending another fantastic season! This year was dynamic on many levels – financially, programmatically and organizationally – as well as being very productive on more levels than one (but more on that later!).

We continued to build on our 1999-2000 accomplishments. Programmatically, we had a terrific year, thanks to our programming team, led by Vice President – Programs Lily Blake. Again the Young Alumnae were out in full force, hosting many interesting and creative outings under Emily Rivera's leadership. On the Seven Sisters front, Kristen Scheyder continued to strengthen our network and sponsor many collaborative events. In particular, we were very excited to host a joint program with the Smith Club to welcome back former presidents Elizabeth T. Kennan and Jill Ker Conway for a delightful evening. We also had an extraordinary Christmas Vespers Concert, thanks to the outstanding talents and tireless efforts of Jennifer Giesecking and her team of volunteers.

What's more, we continued to expand our communications efforts. In addition to our print newsletter, redesigned by Heidi Kwan Roman, and our e-mail newsletter *Mary.onLyon*, we initiated a monthly bulletin for club members called *MHC/NYC*, and Heather Waterman revamped our website. All of this would not have been possible without the help of the communications group, headed by Carolyn Dorais.

And like last year, club membership grew again! Through membership dues and our many successful programs throughout the year, we were able to increase our treasury significantly and to build a reserve for next year, when we will not have the opportunity of hosting Vespers. This was particularly critical for us since we started the year with an unusually low balance. With the club on a sound financial footing, we are proud to be able to sponsor an Alumnae Scholar for the fourth consecutive year.

In closing, I want to recognize the efforts of all the women who found time in the midst of their personal and professional commitments to volunteer on the board and on various club committees this past year. This year was particularly exciting with the birth of several babies, and with four more to come, we're doing our job of increasing the pool of possible members for the Class of 2023!

(continued on page 4)

We serve for various personal reasons, but one thing that we all have in common is our commitment to the College. With more than 1,600 alumnae in the city and approximately 6,000 alumnae in the metropolitan area, we are constantly working to stay in touch and connect with you. Initially, I attended Mount Holyoke College merely to gain a college education. But what I also gained was membership in a legacy – a community and a family of amazing women – that began freshman year and continues to this day. For me as a college administrator, Mount Holyoke has always been my standard for academic and institutional excellence. I hope and trust that we will keep it that way. So thank you for supporting the club and the College over the past year!

Sunny Park Suh

Board of Directors 2000-01

President	Sunny Park Suh '91
Vice President	Erica Harper '90
Vice President – Programs	Lily Klebanoff Blake '64
Treasurer	Linda Ing Phelps '86
Secretary	Katherine J. Stanfield '97
College Trustee	Joan Shapiro Green '66
Programs	Moushumi Khan '93 Mariko Gima LeBaron '96 Julie Oh '90 Susan Saxe '77
Seven Sisters	Kristen Scheyder '92
Vespers	Jennifer Giesecking '99
Young Alumnae	Emily Rivera '96
Membership	Jennifer Durst '95 (Chair) Mary Flaherty-Lovy '94 Nicky Kram Rosen '91
Outreach	Karen Quinn Pisciotta '89
Communications	Carolyn Dorais '68 (Chair) Heather Waterman '96
Admission	Erica Metzger '98

Members of the Young Alumnae Committee, Communications Committee and Nominating Committee are listed on pages 14, 15, and 19. Alumnae Admission Representatives (AARs) are listed on page 17.

Treasurer's Report

Linda Ing Phelps '86
Treasurer

We successfully met our primary financial objectives this year, which were to:

- Fund the club's annual contribution to the Alumnae Scholar Fund *and*
- Restore the club's financial position to a level that would sustain our activities through a "non-Vespers" year.

As many of you may be aware, the Christmas Vespers Concert is the club's largest fundraising event and is held in New York City only once every other year. Accordingly, while the club benefited from Vespers this year, we will not have the opportunity to host the event next year.

Income

The club received income of approximately \$50,000, about twice the amount of last year's income. This significant increase was largely driven by (i) Vespers, (ii) membership contributions, and (iii) the benefit performance of "Old Money" and reception with Wendy Wasserstein. Vespers 2000 was a tremendously successful event and generated income of approximately \$22,000 from the sale of general admission and patron tickets of \$25 and \$75, respectively.

Membership contributions increased 20% to approximately \$15,500. Contributions ranged from a basic membership of \$35 (\$10 for the Class of 2000) to a patron level membership of \$150. Of course, alumnae are welcome to make contributions in any amount and may also specify whether they would like a portion of their dues, in excess of the basic level, to go to the Alumnae Scholar Fund. This year, \$2,135 was specifically earmarked for the Alumnae Scholar Fund. Typically, the club makes a donation to this fund in the amount of \$5,000, which means that we must contribute a portion of our operating budget, in addition to the money donated by members for this purpose. With a contribution of \$5,000, the College designates a young woman from our area to be the scholarship recipient.

"Old Money" generated income of just over \$10,000 from the sale of general admission (\$100) and patron (\$150) tickets. Fees from other programs, typically charged to cover expenses such as catering and room rental, totaled approximately \$2,000.

Expenses

Expenses for the club totaled approximately \$27,000, not including our planned contribution of \$5,000 to the Alumnae Scholar Fund. The club's expenses are primarily related to (i) the cost of programs, including Vespers and "Old Money," (ii) communications, and (iii) membership.

The total cost of the club's programs approximated \$19,500. This includes expenses of about \$12,000 for Vespers (church rental, marketing, patrons' reception, and transportation for the choirs) and \$5,000 for "Old Money" (tickets and reception).

Approximately \$4,500 was spent on communications with local alumnae. These communications take the form of newsletters mailed periodically to all alumnae in New York City, the *MHC/NYC* bulletin mailed monthly to club members, and specific event mailings.

Approximately \$3,300 was spent on mailings promoting membership and the production and distribution of the membership directory.

Alumnae Scholar Cindy Severino '01

Carolyn Dorais '68

Cindy Severino '01, a Manhattan resident, is the Mount Holyoke Club of New York's Alumnae Scholar for 2000-01. We are delighted that our \$5,000 contribution to the Alumnae Scholar Fund at the close of the 1999-2000 year entitled us to have a "named scholar" – and a native New Yorker to boot!

Cindy, a graduate of LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts, majored in history and minored in film at MHC. She spent her junior year in Scotland at the University of Edinburgh.

Her extracurricular activities included involvement in The Network, through which she worked to organize arts events on campus, and the Weissman Center for Leadership. In January 2001, she pursued a January Term internship at Net4Music, a Web site for musicians, where she worked with alumnae LaVida Dowdell '74 and Erica Metzger '98.

Cindy took several courses in acting at MHC and would like to explore film production. Now that she's graduated, we've heard that she may be coming back to New York, and we hope to welcome her as a club member next year.

This summary is based on the article that appeared in the Winter 2001 issue of the club's newsletter. Judy DeCosta '97 interviewed Cindy for the article.

Membership

Jennifer Durst '95 ***Membership Chair***

Membership support is vital to the Mount Holyoke Club of New York. Your generous gifts pay for scholarships, alumnae communications and networking, as well as exciting programs and events throughout the year.

Nearly 300 alumnae joined the club this year. Special thanks go to every alumna who has supported the club.

Patron Members

Lily Klebanoff Blake '64
Pat Brooks '61
Helen Calvelli '74
Christine Coll '90
Mary Beth Topor Daniel '82
Carolyn Dorais '68
LaVida Dowdell '74
Alice Heuch Fiske '39
Mary Flaherty-Lovy '94
Harriet Farber Friedlander '52
Susan Davis Gerber '75
Joan Shapiro Green '66
Erica Harper '90
Janet Marlon Hayes '74
Sandra Svihovec Hewitt '61
Arcinee Hovanessian '79

Carine Klein-Dubois '73
Ellie McGrath '74
JooYun Julie Oh '90
Linda Ing Phelps '86
Karen Quinn Pisciotta '89
Jane Hoover Polley '58
Irma L. Rabbino '53
Linda Rodd '74
Susan Saxe '77
Kristen Scheyder '92
Ludmila Schwarzenberg '67
Adrienne Skinner '77
Carla H. Skodinski '72
Amy S. Trapp '80
Marcy Wilkov Waterman '71
Andrea Snelson Weitz '95

Programs

Lily Klebanoff Blake '64
Vice President – Programs

Date	Event
September 19	Women in the 2000 Election – 7 Sisters event
October 15	Back-to-School Brunch – with special guest Mona Sutphen '89
December 8	Vespers – an extraordinarily successful event, with more than 600 tickets sold
January 11	"Old Money" – a play at Lincoln Center followed by a reception with playwright Wendy Wasserstein '71
January 18	Reception for January Interns
February 12	Women and the Leadership Q – a workshop conducted by Shoya Zichy
March 10	7 Sisters A Cappella Jam – with V-8s
March 28	Mama Gena's Guide to the Good Life – a seminar conducted by Regena Weiss Thomashauer '78
May 2	Meet the Authors of <i>Overnight Float</i> : Jill Ker Conway and Elizabeth T. Kennan – Mount Holyoke/Smith event
May 16	Starting and Growing a Business in New York City: Women Entrepreneurs Face the Challenges – 7 Sisters event
June 14	Annual Meeting with Professor Vincent A. Ferraro on "The Bush Administration's Foreign Policy"

Sponsors and Contributors

The Mount Holyoke Club of New York gratefully acknowledges the following sponsors and contributors:

Deutsche Bank

Morgan Stanley

Lincoln Center

Joan Shapiro Green '66

Susan Saxe '77

Lily Klebanoff Blake '64

Seven Sisters

Kristen Scheyder '92 ***Seven Sisters Liaison***

In 1999, Mount Holyoke representatives to the Seven Sisters Clubs of New York assumed a leadership role in organizing the clubs and planning joint activities for New York City area alumnae of the Seven Sisters. These efforts began with monthly organizing meetings and publicity in each Sister's newsletter. The first official group programming endeavor was the launching of a Career Network. The first Career Network program on May 3, 2000 was "Jumping Off the Cyber Cliff...Is There a Safe Landing?" This panel discussion featured Seven Sisters alumnae who had made the transition to e-business.

Building on the success of that event, the Seven Sisters organized four events in 2000-01:

Role of Women in the 2000 Election

On September 19, the Seven Sisters Clubs of New York City hosted a panel discussion on the role of women in the 2000 election as voters, opinion-makers, and candidates. The dynamic panel of speakers included:

- Catherine Abate (Vassar), former New York State Senator for Lower Manhattan
- Ethel Klein, Principal of EDK Associates (public opinion pollster)
- Tanya Melich, Republican advocate and author of *The Republican War Against Women*
- Lissa Muscatine (Radcliffe), Director of Communications for Hillary Rodham Clinton

The panel was moderated by Kathy Kleeman from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University, and topics ranged from the role of women as candidates to the key issues that women across the country identified as pivotal when selecting which candidate to support. Approximately 70 area alumnae attended this program.

Seven Sisters A Cappella Jam

On March 10, the Seven Sisters hosted an A Cappella Jam at Barnard College, featuring performances by:

- the Barnard College Bacchantae,
- the Bryn Mawr College Night Owls,

- the Mount Holyoke College V-8s,
- the Smith College Smiffenpoofs,
- the Vassar College Matthew's Minstrels *and*
- the Wellesley College Widows

More than 100 area alumnae and friends and family of the performers attended the event. Based on the enthusiasm of the performers and audience, we hope to hold this event annually.

Book Talk with Liz Kennan and Jill Conway

On May 2, the Mount Holyoke and Smith Clubs of New York jointly hosted a book talk by Elizabeth Topham Kennan '60 (former president of Mount Holyoke College) and Jill Ker Conway (former president of Smith College and current trustee of MHC) at the Cosmopolitan Club. Under the pseudonym Clare Munnings, these distinguished academics changed gears and wrote a murder mystery, *Overnight Float* (W.W. Norton, 2000). At our program, they discussed the collaborative process of writing mystery novels as a team, where the original idea for the book came from, and their plans for future collaboration. Approximately 140 Mount Holyoke and Smith alumnae attended the event.

2nd Annual Seven Sisters Career Network: Women Entrepreneurs

On May 16, the Seven Sisters Clubs of New York City hosted the second annual Career Network panel discussion. This year's panel focused on "Starting and Growing a Business in New York City" and featured local alumnae who own businesses ranging from consulting firms to retail storefronts. The panel included:

- Georgia Buchanan, President, On My Mind Productions (Vassar)
- Mary Graham Davis, President, Davis Consulting Group (Mount Holyoke)
- Lena Biorck Kaplan, Owner, White on White (Mount Holyoke)
- Nancy Slotnick, CEO, Drip Café (Radcliffe)

The panel, moderated by a representative from the National Foundation of Women Business Owners, addressed topics such as doing business in New York, coming up with the original business idea, business planning and feasibility, access to financing, launching the business, and the first big break. Approximately 30 alumnae attended this program.

Based on the success of our 2000-01 events, the Seven Sisters intend to continue providing creative joint programming. If you have ideas or suggestions for future Seven Sisters programming or would like to participate in organizing these efforts, please contact the Mount Holyoke Club of New York.

Young Alumnae

Emily Rivera '96
Young Alumnae Chair

2000-01 Young Alumnae Committee

Emily Rivera '96 (Chair), Mariko Gima LeBaron '96, Jennifer Jurcsak '97, Jennifer McSpadden '97, Beth Mangas '98, Erica Metzger '98, Carolyn Southey '98, Amanda Davis '00

The Young Alumnae Committee's e-mail newsletter was distributed about once a month to more than 350 women in the New York City area. The newsletter, which contains event announcements, apartment openings/needs, and job openings, has increased the visibility of the Mount Holyoke Club of New York for young alumnae and brought alumnae in touch with each other. The newsletter has also sparked a Young Alumnae Reading Club, which meets monthly.

During 2000-01, the Young Alumnae Committee hosted events on a monthly basis:

- "Welcome to NYC, Class of 2000" Potluck Brunch
- Museum Outing to "Curios and Treasures" Exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Night of Pottery Painting
- Post-Vespers Happy Hour
- Reception for January Interns
- Museum Outing to "Behind the Screen" Exhibit at the American Museum of the Moving Image
- Pre-Oscars Happy Hour
- Young Alumnae Business Card Exchange

Upcoming events for the summer include a party for matriculating students in the Class of 2005 (June) and a summer reception for MHC students with internships in the New York City area (July).

Communications

Carolyn Dorais '68 **Communications Chair**

2000-01 Communications Committee

Carolyn Dorais '68 (Chair), Judith Geraldine DeCosta '97 (Writer/Editor), Mariko Gima LeBaron '96 (Writer/Editor), Heidi Kwan Roman '91 (Graphic Designer), Heather Waterman '96 (Web Master)

Our goal is to foster a sense of community among local alumnae as well as to promote specific club programs and events. To this end, we've issued the following communications this year:

- *An eight-page **Winter 2001 Newsletter**, with photos of Vespers, written and edited by Judy DeCosta and Carolyn Dorais. We mailed this newsletter in early March to all alumnae in New York City, Jersey City, and Hoboken, and to our dues-paying members outside the city. The newsletter was beautifully redesigned by Heidi Roman, who also used the winter issue to launch the club's newest special interest group – MOM (Mothers of Mount Holyoke). MOM held its first meeting in April, with about 15 alumnae gathering to network about motherhood, parenting, and related issues. (For more information, contact Heidi at heroman@bellatlantic.net.)*
- *A new one-page monthly bulletin for club members, **MHC/NYC**, which highlights one club event each month and includes brief calendar listings for other upcoming events. In its first year, MHC/NYC was written and edited by Carolyn Dorais. From October through June, bulletins were mailed to about 350 alumnae each month, including 1999-2000 members as well as 2000-01 members. The September 2000 inaugural issue was enclosed in the membership mailing sent in August to all alumnae in the metropolitan area.*
- *An e-mail newsletter, **Mary.onLyon**, written and edited by Carolyn Dorais and sent about twice a month to nearly 600 alumnae, most of whom reside in the New York metropolitan area. Since our 2000 Annual Meeting last June, we've e-mailed 22 issues, 10 in July-December 2000 and 12 in January-June 2001. **Mary.onLyon**, launched in October 1998, includes club news, news of the College and local alumnae, and occasional job and apartment postings.*

To join the distribution list for *Mary.onLyon*, write "Subscribe" to wordpowercommunications@rcn.com and include your name and MHC class.

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- *Our Web site, www.mountholyokeclubofnewyork.com, created and maintained by Web professional Heather Waterman, which recently passed the all-important 1,000-hit mark. (Please bookmark it and visit often – we’d like to hit 10,000 before the end of 2001!) The site includes basic club information, a calendar, information on upcoming events, photos of past events (including Vespers), a membership form in PDF format, and past newsletters (1999-2001) in PDF format.*
- *Occasional mailings to promote specific club events. This year Emily Rivera was in charge of Vespers invitations, which were mailed to all alumnae in the metropolitan area. Mariko Gima LeBaron wore many hats on the Program, Vespers, Young Alumnae and Communications Committees: Many thanks to her for the reminder postcards for the Back-to-School Brunch and Vespers, and for the flyer publicizing the Annual Meeting.*

Our special thanks to Cambridge Graphic Arts, printers for the Vespers invitations and the newsletter, for their patience and outstanding professionalism. And many, many thanks to the wonderful staff of the Alumnae Association – including Deborah LaBarre, Lynn Marois, and Lisa Sihvonen-Binder – for all their help with address lists, postings on the Association’s Web site, and many other matters.

Heather, Heidi, and Carolyn plan to continue on the Communications Committee in 2001-02, serving as Web master, graphic designer, and Mary.onLyon editor respectively.

Admission

Erica Metzger '98 Admission Chair

This has been a busy and productive year for Alumnae Admission Representatives (AARs) in the New York City area. Forty-five AARs from a variety of class years have covered more than a dozen college fairs at local public and private high schools. This is in addition to the dozens of fairs attended by the staff of the College's Office of Admission.

There were more than 800 inquirers from high schools in our area this year and 148 applications completed. Please see below for the latest five-borough and borough-specific figures.

2000-01 Alumnae Admission Representatives

Co-City-Wide AARs:	Emily Inglesi '95, Erica Metzger '98
Bronx AAR:	Amy Cortright '99
Brooklyn AAR:	Karey Scheyd '99
Manhattan AAR:	Jennifer Georges '97
Queens AAR:	Sung Hee Choe '95
Alumnae Interview Coordinator:	Susan Geller Ettenheim '75

2000-01 Admission Statistics

Five-Borough Totals

Inquirers: 840
Applicants: 148
Acceptances: 83
Matriculants: 22
Deferrals to 2002: 1

Bronx

Inquirers: 136
Applicants: 26
Acceptances: 13
Matriculants: 1

Brooklyn

Inquirers: 251
Applicants: 42
Acceptances: 20
Matriculants: 5
Deferrals to 2002: 1

Manhattan

Inquirers: 251
Applicants: 58
Acceptances: 35
Matriculants: 11

Queens

Inquirers: 151
Applicants: 20
Acceptances: 13
Matriculants: 5

Staten Island

Inquirers: 51
Applicants: 2
Acceptances: 2
Matriculants: 0

(please see list of matriculants on page 18)

***Class of 2005:
September 2001 Matriculants from New York City***

Bronx

Anna Kwon

Bronx High School of Science

Brooklyn

Susan Friedman

Edward R. Murrow High School

Tiffany Johnson

El Puente Academy of Peace and Justice

Myra Schiffman

SUNY Stony Brook (Transfer Student)

Eva Turner

Packer Collegiate Institute

Lindsay Washington

George Wood Wingate High School

Manhattan

Biftu Aba-Jebel

Urban Academy

Alexandra Bonomo

Marymount School of New York

Lara Ceppi

Lycée Français de New York

Choitsho Dorji

Institute of International Education

Cyrena Drusine-Stokes

Beacon School

Jennifer Gomez

Loomis Chaffee School (CT)

Julia Hoffman

Dalton School

Elizabeth Hui

Midwood High School

at Brooklyn College

Mariel Stack-O'Donnel

Stuyvesant High School

Aniela White

Stuyvesant High School

Annie Yoon

Marymount School of New York

Queens

Amber Banks

Elisabeth Irwin High School

Rachel Brauser

High School of Environmental Studies

Grace Hahn

Benjamin Cardozo High School

Monique Paes

High School for Health Professions

Kristel Thompson

Hotchkiss School (CT)

Nominating Committee

Erica Harper '90

Vice President; Chair, Nominating Committee

2000-01 Nominating Committee

Erica Harper '90 (Chair), Lily Klebanoff Blake '64, Erica Metzger '98,
Kristen Scheyder '92.

We are pleased to present the following slate of officers and directors for the 2001-02 Board of Directors of the Mount Holyoke Club of New York:

President	Sunny Park Suh '91
Vice President	Erica Harper '90
Vice President – Programs	Lily Klebanoff Blake '64
Treasurer	Linda Ing Phelps '86
Secretary	Stella Kang '94
Honorary Member	Joan Shapiro Green '66
Programs	Jennifer Durst '95 Mariko Gima LeBaron '96 Erica Metzger '98 Susan Saxe '77 TBA
Seven Sisters	Kristen Scheyder '92 Katherine J. Stanfield '97
Young Alumnae	Emily Rivera '96
Membership	Mary Flaherty-Lovy '94 Nicky Kram Rosen '91 TBA
Outreach	Karen Quinn Pisciotta '89
Communications	Jennifer McSpadden '97 TBA
Admission	Erica Metzger '98