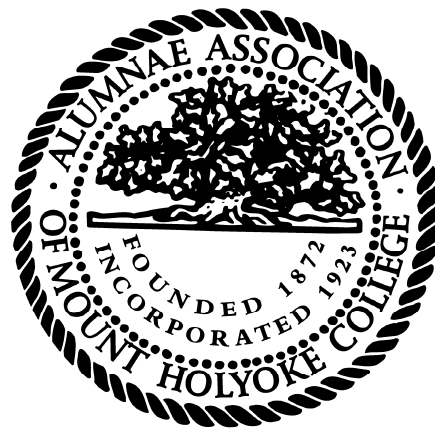


MOUNT HOLYOKE
CLUB OF NEW YORK
ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008



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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 Message

Jennifer Durst '95

President

I am pleased to present the 2007-2008 annual report of the Mt. Holyoke Club of New York. As you will see presented here, the club remains strong and active thanks to the hard work of its board and the support of club members, fellow alumnae, the Alumnae Association, and the college.

We had much to celebrate this past year. At the annual Back to School Brunch in early October, alumnae gathered to celebrate the two Loyalty Award recipients from New York City, Johanna Fausto-DiDio '98 and Erica Metzger-Hare '98. Johanna received this award for her hard work as the Alumnae Admissions Representative in New York for many years. Erica received her award as a result of her volunteer work for the New York club, the Alumnae Association, and as founder of the MetropoliTones.

The club also has two scholarship recipients to celebrate, Catherine Braine '11 and Allison Payne '11. Catherine was awarded a scholarship from the Mount Holyoke Club of New York Endowed Scholarship Fund. Allison received the club's Alumnae Scholarship, which is administered through the Alumnae Association. You can learn more about each of these students on page six of this report.

I encourage you to read through the pages of this annual report which features the efforts of the officers and committees of the board – the membership, programs, young alumnae, communications, and nominating committees as well as the New York Alumnae Admissions Representatives. The work of the Mt. Holyoke Club of New York could not be done without the commitment of the dedicated alums who volunteer their time, ideas and energy. I want to congratulate and thank this year's board for another successful year.

Board of Directors 2007-2008

President	Jennifer Durst '95
Vice President	Peggy Andrews '90
Vice President – Programs	Lynette Rizzo '96
Treasurer	Katherine Axt '01
Secretary	Tara Paone '81
Membership	Erica Metzger-Hare '98 (Co-Chair) Abigail Wolff '82 (Co-Chair)
Communications	Alanna Barton '05 (Chair) Amanda Davis '00
Programs	Arminee Bowler '75 Mary Hidajat '99 Brynn Metzger-Hare '00 Jacqueline Smith '77 Kiska Western '05 Marguerite Saint-Preux '02 (records)
Seven Sisters	Julie Holley '87
Technology	Lauren Razzore '98
Young Alumnae	Dana Barta '04 (Co-Chair) Tamara Dews '06 (Co-Chair) Gail Parris '05

Alumnae Admissions

Representative (appt'd by MHC): Katherine Axt '01

Honorary Members (non-voting): Lily Klebanoff Blake '64
Joan Shapiro Green '66

Treasurer's Report
Fiscal Year 7/1/07 to 6/30/08

Katherine Axt '01
Treasurer

Income

This year, the Club received income of approximately \$16,000. These funds came from membership, events and interest income.

Membership contributions totaled approximately \$10,000. Contributions ranged from a basic membership of \$40 to amounts in excess of the patron level membership of \$150. Alumnae are welcome to make contributions in any amount above the membership price of \$40. All amounts over \$40 are put into the Alumnae Scholarship fund, and this year alumnae donated approximately \$4,500. The Club made up the difference in order to donate the necessary \$5,000 to an Alumnae Scholarship.

Other income included nearly \$2,000 from our interest bearing bank account.

Revenues from various club programs were in excess of \$4,000.

Expenses

Fees from the Club's programs, typically charged to cover program expenses such as catering and room rental, totaled approximately \$14,000. While this was an "off" Vesper's year, \$4,500 of the above expenses are costs to hold the venue for the upcoming 2008 concert and to support the Boston Vespers performance in 2007.

Expenses for the Club (included in above total) were approximately \$3,000. The Club's operating expenses are primarily related to cost of communications, cost of mailbox rental, voicemail box etc., annual meeting costs and board meetings.

As mentioned above, the club will donate \$5,000 towards an Alumnae Scholarship.

We started the year with about \$47,500 in our account. We expect to close the year close to \$42,000 after we deduct the remaining anticipated expenses for the annual meeting.

Other

Last year, the Club donated \$50,000 to create an Alumnae Fund Scholarship Endowment through the Development Office. The current principal of the Mount Holyoke College Club of New York Scholarship Fund stands at \$61,873 and it has a market value of \$147,532 with earnings of \$4,352. We are currently supporting Catherine Braine '11.

We are grateful to all the alumnae who supported the Club during the year, especially those who contributed as Patrons and Supporters. Their additional contributions help support the club's Alumnae Scholarship given through the Alumnae Association.

Club Patrons

Patricia Brooks '61	Kristin Marlow '92
Maura Kehoe Collins '83	Ellie McGrath '74
Mary Beth Topor Daniel '82	Mary Metz '78
LaVida Dowdell '74	Erica Metzger-Hare '98
Sally Durdan '81	Brynn Metzger-Hare '00
Jennifer Durst '95	Tara Mia Paone '81
Marianne DePatie Fouhey '78	Payal Parekh '01
Susan Gerber '75	Grace Perry '74
Erika Gislason '04	Cynthia Polk-Allen '74
Joan Shapiro Green '66	Jane Polley '58
Sandra Svihovec Hewitt '61	Carla Skodinski '72
Ludmila Schwarzenberg Hess '67	Roberta Vaughan '68
Jane Gaar Kahan '62	Marlissa Holmberg Westerfield '81
Julie Labaton '93	Abigail Wolff '82
Jeanne Luboja '73	Jane Zimmy '74

Club Supporters

Virginia Altman Aaron '66	Jessica Jennings '79
Janice Abert '82	Laura Khoudari '00
Ann Macdonald Adams '62	Phyllis Krushner '57
Victoria Anderson '87	Nancy Lupton '74
Arminee Bowler '75	Susan Abert Noonan '82
Leslie Case '79	Lynette Rizzo '96
Arden Billings Edwards '52	Christine LaLoade Robinson '73
Susan Geller Ettenheim '75	Elizabeth Rowe '79
Aphrodite Garrison '72	Ilene Stone '47
Tammy Gruenberg '88	Nadia Nagib Wallace '88
Cheryl Harris '83	

Membership

Erica Metzger-Hare '98
Abigail Wolff '82
Membership Co-chairs

Total by Class			
	180		
1944	1	1976	1
1945	0	1977	6
1946	0	1978	3
1947	1	1979	4
1948	1	1980	1
1949	0	1981	4
1950	0	1982	5
1951	1	1983	5
1952	3	1984	2
1953	1	1985	3
1954	3	1986	0
1955	1	1987	2
1956	3	1988	3
1957	4	1989	1
1958	2	1990	1
1959	1	1991	2
1960	4	1992	2
1961	3	1993	1
1962	2	1994	7
1963	2	1995	1
1964	0	1996	1
1965	1	1997	1
1966	3	1998	7
1967	2	1999	3
1968	5	2000	4
1969	2	2001	4
1970	1	2002	2
1971	1	2003	4
1972	3	2004	9
1973	2	2005	8
1974	8	2006	10
1975	3	2007	7
		unknown	2

Total by Payment Type	180	100.00%
Paypal	32	17.78%
Check	108	60.00%
Cash	13	7.22%
N/A	11	6.11%
No Payment known	16	8.89%

Total by Decade	180	100.00%
1940's	3	1.67%
1950s	19	10.56%
1960s	24	13.33%
1970s	32	17.78%
1980s	26	14.44%
1990s	26	14.44%
2000s	48	26.67%
Unknown	2	1.11%

Total by Membership Type	180	100.00%
Young Alum	25	13.89%
Regular	78	43.33%
Club Supporter	19	10.56%
Club Patron	30	16.67%
Honorary	12	6.67%
Unknown	16	8.89%

KEY:		
Membership Type		Payment
Young Alumna	YA	\$20
Regular	REG	\$40
Club Supporter	CS	\$75
Club Patron	CP	\$150
Honorary	Hon	Free

Mount Holyoke Club of New York Scholarship Recipients

Allison Payne '11

Alumnae Scholarship Recipient

Although I was born and raised in one of the southernmost parts of Brooklyn, I have been living on the Upper East Side with my aunts for almost five years now. I am an English major. I think that what really drove me into this field is my aunt, who used to let me discuss all the books I read, starting from when I was in middle school. It was one of the first times I realized I had something to say, and my ideas were taken seriously. I was lucky enough to have the same experience in high school, where I was able to wrap all of my seemingly unrelated thoughts into a strong narrative voice. At Mount Holyoke I've continued down this road of communication. What I like best about Mount Holyoke is the limitless range of possibilities. Even though I've only just completed my sophomore year, I've already had the opportunity to study Chinese in Beijing for a summer, and I will be going again to China this summer to teach English. And during the spring semester, I will study in England. Everywhere I turn, people are willing to help and to listen: professors, the Career Development Center, the Center for Global Initiatives, even the financial aid office. At times it can feel overwhelming because I want to learn everything at once, and sometimes prioritizing can feel limiting. But I feel so lucky that this is even a problem. Still, I often miss the energy of New York. One of the things I miss most, strangely enough, is commuting to school. For whatever reason, I find sipping coffee on a crowded bus in the morning relaxing (as long as I have a seat).

Catherine Braine '11

Mount Holyoke Club of New York Endowed Scholarship Recipient

Catherine Braine is a rising sophomore who is looking forward to declaring a major in biochemistry. In Fall 2006, she completed a UN internship, finally arriving at Mount Holyoke as a Spring admit who was ready to work! After discovering that rugby was not her sport, she became the Public Relations Representative of the Mount Holyoke Spanish Club and Webmaster of the Mount Holyoke College Democrats. This summer she is planning to obtain her EMT certification, work at an extremely eclectic health food store, and participate in both the College Democrats of America Convention as well as the Democratic National Convention with the rest of the College Democrats in Denver. In Spring 2009, Catherine will be participating in research in Professor Craig Woodard's laboratory. She can't wait to return to school.

Programs

Lynette Rizzo '96

Vice President of Programs

Back-to-School Brunch – October 7

Club member Joan Shapiro Green '66 graciously hosted this year's brunch in her home. Alumnae Association Loyalty Awards were presented to Johanna Fausto and Erica Metzger- Hare, both Class of 1998. The MetropoliTones, NYC's Seven Sisters a'capella group provided entertainment.

Juilliard Orchestra concert – November 7

A performance by the Juilliard Orchestra at Avery Fisher Hall featured the U.S. premiere of a new work with text by Joseph Brodsky, former Mount Holyoke professor of English and US poet laureate. Completing the concert were works by Haydn (Symphonia Concertante, Op. 84) and Schnittke (Symphony No. 9).

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater performance – December 11

Members and guests enjoyed a special "All Ailey" program featuring three thrilling and diverse dances choreographed by Alvin Ailey: *The River*, set to the jazz music of the great Duke Ellington; *Flowers*, performed to the music of Janis Joplin, Pink Floyd and Blind Faith; and *Revelations*, the Company's signature masterpiece danced to rousing American spirituals. Following the performance, the MHC group had a private backstage tour led by the Company's stage manager - a member of the MHC class of 1997.

Pilates Class – February 3

Celebrity trainer Kristin McGee taught a wonderful yoga and Pilates mat class using magic circles, props and straps. McGee is best known as the instructor of MTV's: Power Yoga, Pilates and Pilates Mix. She is also a contributing editor for Fit Yoga.

Self-Defense Workshop – March 8

This women's self-defense workshop covered the basic elements of Jiu-Jitsu, three levels of self-defense and mindset for training in self-defense. Participants practiced awareness exercises and physical techniques in three parts: Stand-up techniques and Ground Defense Parts I and II.

Color Q Personality Assessment – March 18

Participants at this energetic, humor-filled and practical seminar learned about themselves and the

elements of their inborn style. Internationally recognized author and speaker Shoya Zichy presented a series of interactive exercises designed to help pinpoint one's best career; date, mate and relate with greater success; define personal entrepreneurial & investment styles; learn to manage others more effectively and more.

Princess Ida Performance - April 9

The Seven Sisters clubs of New York gathered for a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Princess Ida* - a beautiful, clever and poetic show set at a women's university - performed by the Blue Hill Troupe.

New York Celebrates Mount Holyoke College - April 10

Many of the club's board members supported the efforts around the April 10th Mt. Holyoke College event held in New York City. Over 500 MHC alumnae in the greater New York area came together for this wonderful night of celebration which was held at the Museum of Natural History and included remarks by MHC President Joanne Creighton; Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Suzan-Lori Parks '85; Congresswoman Nita Melnikoff Lowey '59 and a performance by the V8s.

Book Club – Ongoing

The newly-formed book club met several times to read and discuss such books as *The Almost Moon*, *Atonement* and *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*.

Young Alumnae

Dana Barta '04
Tamara Dews '06
Young Alumnae Co-Chairs

This year Young Alumnae hosted and participated in several events. The traditional Summer Intern Reception ran successfully while the January reception was canceled for the last two years. The YA Bowling and Karaoke Nites were successful, while the Scavenger Hunt and Streb events were canceled. In comparison to the previous year, the Happy Hour was relatively successful this year.

The year kicked off with the **Summer Intern Reception**, which was hosted and fully sponsored by JPMorgan Chase & Co. by Dana Barta '04. Current MHC students who were participating in summer internship programs throughout New York City, their sponsors, and newly admitted freshman students gathered to mingle and share their experiences with others. The event was very well attended; roughly 60-70 people were present.

On Friday February 29th, Tamara Dews '06 put together the second **Young Alumnae Bowling Nite**, based on a suggestion from some of young alumnae. There were 12 people eager to bowl - 6 alumnae, and 6 friends of young alumnae. With two lanes for three hours, food, and drinks, the YA's bonded until Midnight in Harlem for about \$40.

On March 14th, Dana Barta '04 organized the first Karaoke Night at Second on Second Karaoke based on a suggestion from some of young alumnae. The attendance was lower than expected: 6 alumnae and 4 friends of alumnae. The event was originally scheduled to start at 9pm, and the room was rented for 2 hrs. People arrived past 930, and we still had to pay for the 30 mins of room reservation. Photos are posted on the Yahoo group as well as the Facebook group.

Central Park Scavenger Hunt, put together by Tamara Dews '06 for October 2007 was canceled. **STREB**, put together by Tamara Dews '06 for May 2008 was also canceled. **The Cold Spring Hiking Trip** was postponed for the fall as a Mountain Day event.

The most challenging task this year was getting people to attend the events. While the young alumnae's email inbox (mhcnycya@yahoo.com) is flooded with emails of Young alums eager to join the MHCNYCYA Yahoo list (mhcnycya@yahoogroups.com) especially to find out about the Happy hour, the turnout has been quite low. The turnout, excluding the organizer was as follows:

Date	Location	Host	Turnout
July 13th, 2007	Rooftop: Rare View	Dana Barta '04	12

August 3rd, 2007	Bookmarks Bar	Rada Angelova '05	n.a.
September 14 th , 2007	Luna Park	Dana Barta '04	10
October 5 th , 2007	Katwalk	Tamara Dews '06	8
November 2007	Canceled		
December 7 th , 2007	Providence	Tamara Dews '06	12
January 2008	Canceled		
February 8 th , 2008	230 Fifth	Tamara Dews '06	14
March 7 th , 2008	Banc Café	Dana Barta '04	15
April 4 th , 2008	Taj Lounge	Dana Barta '04	4
May 2 nd , 2008	Ava Lounge	Tamara Dews '04	10
June 6 th , 2008	Rooftop: Rare View	Dana Barta '04	3

The Young Alumnae Yahoo Group – MHCNYCYA Group

(<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mhcnycya/>) is up and running since November 2006 due to Dana Barta's hard work. The group has currently 111 members. The MHCNYCYA is used by the board to make announcements, post events, photos, and keep the group up to date, while the group members are using it as a discussion forum with posted items about City events, recruiting, moving sales, rides to Alma Matter, etc. The Yahoo group is used as a communication forum, the poll feature is used to survey the groups opinion on events as the young alumnae co-chairs are interested in serving the groups needs and interests.

Mount Holyoke Young Alumnae Club of New York (MHNYCYA) – The Young Alumnae Facebook page is up and running since to due to Dana Barta' 04 hard work. The group currently has 110 members. The MHNYCYA is used by the board to make announcements, post club events, photos, and keep the group up to date, while the group members are using it as a discussion forum with posted items about City events, recruiting, moving sales, rides to our Alma Matter, etc.

Communications

Alanna Barton '05 *Communications Chair*

The club continued using MyEmma this year to handle our electronic communications, including both our MHC-NYC newsletter and periodic event reminders. Our email list currently includes 1,086 active email addresses, a number that includes both paid members and other alumnae who are interested in the club. The club has a low level of "list churn," with just .1% of members opting out of our list over the course of the year (all of whom were replaced with new contacts). We send newsletters or other email announcements to our mailing list approximately twice a month, over the course of the year we sent out a total of six newsletters and six event reminders.

MyEmma also allows the club to track the success of our online communications by viewing the number of emails opened, new members who join after being forwarded one of our emails, and the most popular links in each of our email communications. We have higher than average open and click-through rates for our messages, with open rates of 25.8% compared to an industry standard of 17.6%, and click-through rates of 15.4% compared to an industry standard of 3.8%.

Over the year Amanda Davis has handled all responsibilities associated with MyEmma, including formatting and sending out the newsletter and managing the email list; while I continued my role as newsletter editor, compiling event information, alumnae announcements and other club news for our regular online newsletters.

While most of our communications are handled electronically, the club did send out an event mailing for the Annual Back-to-School Brunch in September. We have also adopted the practice of printing out and sending newsletters for club members who do not have access to email and have specifically requested us to send them through regular mail.

Website

Our new webmaster Lauren Razzore was faced with quite a few challenges at the beginning of the year, as we transferred our website's hosting to the free service offered through the Alumnae Association and set up a new PayPal account. Lauren also redesigned the website, adding a section with photos and bios of all the board members and a section with event photos. Furthermore, the club's annual reports from the past six years are now available on the website for future reference by new club officers, alums and anyone else who may be interested.

Club Email Account

A new email account mountholyokeclubofnyc@gmail.com was also set up through Gmail and access was given to members of the club's executive board.

Social Networking

The club joined the world of online social networking by creating a Facebook site. Please join Mount Holyoke Club of New York at www.facebook.com.

Alumnae Admissions Representative [AAR] Report

Prepared by: Katherine Axt '01,
New York City Wide AAR
June 2008

2001-2008 ADMISSIONS STATISTICS FOR NYC SENIORS

	<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>APPLICANTS</i>	<i>% Ytd</i>	<i>ACCEPTS</i>	<i>% Ytd</i>	<i>MATRICULANTS</i>	<i>% Ytd</i>
<i>2008</i>	803	174	21%	100	57%	26	26%
<i>2007</i>	1139	193	17%	103	53%	25	24%
<i>2006</i>	813	145	18%	76	52%	24	32%
<i>2005</i>	1063	124	12%	64	52%	20	31%
<i>2004</i>	1081	131	12%	69	53%	15	22%
<i>2003</i>	1333	159	12%	87	55%	26	30%
<i>2002</i>	1593	162	10%	89	55%	33	37%
<i>2001</i>	965	165	17%	84	51%	21	25%

Fall 2007 Highlights

- AARs again attended college fairs at local public and private schools that admissions staff could not cover.
- AARs interviewed 23 prospective students, including several transfer students.

Spring 2008 Highlight

- **Accepted Student Reception – Host: Trustee Peggy Wolff '76** (Tuesday, April 15)
This year, Trustee Peggy Wolff '76 served as host. Fifteen accepted students and their families attended—a new record!—while 17 alumnae were present, including several Club Board members and Trustees of the College, which provided a unique perspective for some of the parents of admitted students. Catarina Costa-Wofford, the admissions staff member in charge of the NYC area, also attended. The event was a success because all constituents of the admissions process were there: alumnae, especially recent graduates, parents, and an admissions representative. After 45 minutes of mingling, alumnae introduced themselves, our host welcomed us to her home and described her MHC experience, and Catarina Costa-Wofford encouraged students to attend the upcoming MHC Preview weekends. Students received a blue MHC keychain to represent their class color as gifts. The MHC Club of New York and the Admissions Office co-sponsored this event.
- **Admitted Student Reception**
Again this year, we are planning to host an admitted student reception this summer. It will be in conjunction with current students interning in the city, and alumnae will also be invited to attend. This provides a great opportunity for entering students to meet some of their classmates and upperclasswomen. The reception planning is being spearheaded by the Dana Barta '04, Young Alumnae Representative, and is being co-sponsored by the Admissions Office, the Career Development Office, the Alumnae Association and the MHC Club of New York.

2007-2008 Alumnae Admissions Representatives

City Wide AAR – Katherine Axt '01
Manhattan AAR – Rebecca Wolfe '01 (fall) / Danielle David '05 (spring)
Bronx AAR – Yasmin Davis '02
Brooklyn AAR – Stephanie Gilette '95
Queens AAR – Iva Peeva '04
Staten Island AAR – Nancy Medwid '91

Nominating Committee

Peggy Andrews

Vice President; Chair, Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee Members:

Rada Angelova '04, Gabriella Illyes '06, Bianca Lane '06, Cathy Levy '83, and Bridget Mahoney '06

We are pleased to present the following slate of officers for the 2008-2009 Board of Directors of the Mount Holyoke Club of New York.

Board of Directors 2008-2009

President:	Katherine Axt '01	
Vice President:	Peggy Andrews '90	
Vice President of Programs:	Katherine Rodi '94	
Secretary:	Tara Paone '81	
Treasurer:	Dana Barta '04	
Membership:	Lynette Rizzo '96 Abigail Wolff '82	
Communications:	Emily Welch '05 Amanda Davis '00	
Technology:	Lauren Razzore '98	
Programs:	Rada Angelova '04 (Wellness / Professional Development) Mindy Merdinger Blackstock '88 (Mom-focused events) Gabriella Illyes '06 Gail Parris '05 (Lifestyle events)	
Book group:	Cathy Levy '83	
Seven Sisters:	A Oo '06 Megan Schmidt '02 Nadine Verna '00	
Vespers:	Heather Allison '99 Arminee Bowler '75 Gillian Furniss '88 Bianca Lane '06	Cathy Levy '83 Valerie Longwood '87 Courtney Reinfried '07 Jacqueline Smith '77
Young Alumnae:	Krystal Bisnauth '07 Angel Chen '06	Sixuan Chen '06 Tamara Dewes '06

Non-voting members

Alumnae Admissions Representative-NYC: Katherine Axt '01
(appointed by the MHC Admissions Office)