



Mather Alumni News

July, 2008

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Mather Alumni Happenings

Fellow alumni - don't forget to scroll down to see if your reunion is listed!

We say Goodby to Robin Bluestone-Miller

Robin Bluestone-Miller hadn't been back to Mather since 1969, when she graduated. But for the past three years, Robin has been a familiar face in the halls of Mather, as the first Program Director for the Sandi Port Errant Alumni Volunteer Program.

Robin approached this task with 30 years of experience in public schools as a LCSW, and has launched an alumni volunteer program that is unique in the Chicago Public School system. Under her guidance, alumni from all classes have begun to return to Mather as Science and History Fair Judges, Career Fair participants, classroom lecturers and mentors.

With her excellent work, she has honored the memory of Sandi Port Errant, for whom the Alumni Volunteer Program is named. Sandi, from the Class of 1967, had begun her love of volunteering as a student at Mather. She continued throughout her lifetime, offering her time and talent to many organizations, but especially to Mather High School. We are pleased to have this program, generously funded by her sister, Roberta Port Washlow, bear her name. Robin's skill in initiating this excellent program is a tribute to Sandi's spirit.

Unfortunately, Robin is leaving us to pursue her work as a faculty instructor at Loyola University Chicago in the School of Social Work, where she is conducting research in the training of school personnel in solution focused brief strategies. We were fortunate to have Robin as our Program Director. She brought to this position, not only a breadth of knowledge about

adolescent development, but equally important, an understanding of how to work successfully with all categories of school personnel. She is well-respected and well-liked by all those with whom she has interacted and we will miss her.



Get involved in the Mather 50th Birthday Party planning

It's time for a birthday celebration! Mather High School is turning 50 next year.

In honor of this milestone, a celebration is being planned for October, 2009, and Mather is getting a face-lift. As the Steering Committee meets to coordinate a festive event marking this special anniversary, the bulldozers are in the field waiting to renovate the school. With coordination and a bit of luck, the construction should be finished just in time to celebrate.

There will be many opportunities for alumni involvement. Announcements about the 50th Birthday will be in your "mailbox" soon.

A Mather Alum Offers a Unique Scholarship.

Charna Halpern (Class of 1970) has created an annual scholarship for a Mather High School student. This scholarship is for classes at her professional theater, the iO Theater in Chicago. It will help an aspiring performer get his or her start in theater.



The initial recipient for this scholarship is Mario Lekovic. Born in Bosnia, Mario came to the United States without knowing a word of English. ESL (English as a Second Language) was not taught where he first lived so Mario found himself learning English as he attended his regular classes. At Mather he excelled in honors and advanced placement classes. He was the student director for the 2008 Mather High School Drama production of *The Graduate*, a stage crew member in various productions, Editor-In-Chief of the Mather Free Press and Captain of the Debate Team.

Mario will be entering Columbia College in the fall where he will study journalism and theater. The iO Theater scholarship will provide him with a wonderful head start.

Thank you, Charna, for offering this exceptional opportunity.

Volunteer Today!

We have completed a very successful year!



Special thanks to the many alumni who volunteer as a part of the Sandi Port Errant Alumni Volunteer Program. Alumni donated over 375 hours of volunteer service this year. The faculty, administration and students are thrilled to have Mather alumni as History and Science Fair Judges, speakers in classrooms, career counselors, and college application coaches. In addition, Mather alumni serve on the Scholarship Evaluation Committee and provide administrative support to the program. As reported above, Robin Bluestone-Miller, Class of '69, will be leaving this year as the program's director. Please contact us if you know of any alumnus looking for a part-time job as a volunteer coordinator for this program. [E-mail](#) us to obtain a copy of the job description.

School News

Stay in touch with the school!

Although it is summer Mather students are keeping busy. Check out the music department's [blog](#) and learn where students will be learning and performing.

Mather High's Wish List

Don't forget to [check out](#) the Mather High School wish list on our website. We are always adding more "wishes" from the teachers.

School Renovation Update

Know your target audience.

The renovation of Mather is now in full force. As we have reported in past alumni newsletters, Mather is getting a \$ 25 million renovation which will be completed around September 2009.



Alumni Connection

Calling all members of the Class of 1978. It's not too late to sign up for your 30th reunion on July 19th!

Join fellow classmates at your 30 Year Reunion.

- Private Room
- Appetizers and unlimited soft drinks from 8-10pm
- Cash bar
- Live band after 10pm



WHERE: CUBBY BEAR/LINCOLNSHIRE
21661 Milwaukee

TIME: Check-in 7:30pm - ??

COST: \$25 per person - pay at the door or mail. Checks payable to Debbie Karbin, 515 Nichols Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60004.

RSVP: by July 12th to dkarbin@comcast.net

Calling all members of the Class of 1969!

The 1969 Reunion Planning Committee are starting plans for their 40th reunion. They are asking that past alumni from 1969 please email them at Mather69@aol.com so they can create a master invitation list.



Class of 1965 -- Join Classmates at a Get Together Next Week!

The Class of 1965 will have a summer get together at Stash's in Highland Park on July 12th at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$40.00. Any questions? E-mail them at mather1965@yahoo.com.

Class of 1968 -- It's time for Your 40th Reunion!

A weekend of fun is planned for you. On Friday, August 29th, join classmates at the 10th annual Mather Golf Outing. Although a location hasn't been set yet, the cost will be

in the range of \$70 to \$80 for golf only, \$20 to \$30 for dinner only and \$90 to \$110 for both golf and dinner. This will be a great warm-up for the main event -- your reunion.

Join everyone on August 31st at your 40th reunion. It will be held at 7:00 p.m. at Pinstripes, 1150 Willow Road, Northbrook, Illinois. Two bowling lanes and two bocce courts have been reserved from 9pm-11pm for those who wish to participate. The cost is \$68.00 per person if you RSVP before August 1st. After August 1st the cost is \$86.00. There will be a cash bar. Make your check payable to Mather Class of 68 and mail it to Stephen Pawlow, RSM McGladrey, 570 Lake Cook Road, Suite 300, Deerfield, IL 60015.

Looking for a place to stay? Twenty rooms have been reserved at the Staybridge Hotel, 2600 Lehigh, Glenview at a group rate under the name Mather High School Class Reunion. The rate is \$129 - \$159. To make a reservation call them at (800) 238-8000.

Mather Class of 1988 20 year reunion

Saturday Sep 13 2008
7:00 - 11pm
Bar Louie -- Evanston
1520 Sherman Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201

For further details feel free to contact either [Colleen Murakami](#) or [Brooke Benjamin](#)

Want to keep abreast of the details? Establish a profile on Facebook. Join the group that is named "Mather High School Reunion - Class of 1988".

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