



Smith College Club of Philadelphia

Annual Newsletter – May 2018

Letter From the President

I joined the Philly Smith Club Board two years after meeting **Emily Szeliga '03** at a brunch. We had one of those beautiful Smith moments: "What year were you, what house did you live in?!" In true Smithie fashion, Emily recruited me to come to a Board meeting right away. At said Board meeting, I remember thinking that even with our different backgrounds and stages of life, everyone in this room clearly went to Smith. From enduring a never-ending winter to reveling in the glory of an Eagles Super Bowl win, it has been an honor and privilege to spend this year surrounded by Smithies.

The year of being surrounded by Smithies began with our 2017 Annual Meeting where the intelligent and hilarious **Kory Stamper '96** read from her acclaimed book *Word by Word: The Secret Life of Dictionaries*. In the fall, our Faculty Speaker and Smith College Archivist, Nanci Young, presented the history of Philadelphia alumnae/i at Smith as well as Smith's renovations to Neilson Library.

Coordinator, **Carolyn Trench '07**, held a send-off event for entering students, in-person interviews for local applicants, and a tea for accepted students and families. Carolyn has also led a series of conversations with the college and our Club on supporting the admission and retention of a more diverse representation of Philadelphia students. **Karoline Adler '81** masterfully organized the care package program for current Smithies during fall and spring finals. And **Susie Kwon '11** and **Lindsey Benitz '03** coordinated the Smith College Book Awards program to recognize talented local high school students and invite them to apply to Smith for free.



As a die-hard Red Sox fan, it was only natural to organize a trip to Citizens Bank Park for a Red Sox/Phillies game. / Crys Arellano-Fryer '09

Monthly "On the 18th" events gave Philly area Smithies the opportunity to build community, network, and experience new local attractions. In February, **Margie Lord '73** hosted educator, author, and social activist Joan Countryman, who shared her work with the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa. **Dru Foster '82** and **Kate Fox '07** hosted a Smith tea and knitting party. And **Jamie Lee '04** presented negotiating and networking strategies with area alumnae/i as part of "The Power of Our Voices" speaker series.

The Philly Smith Club also enjoyed the company of fellow Seven Sister alumnae/i, thanks to **Mary Guinn '15**. Seven Sisters alumnae/i gathered at Woodmere Museum for the Violet Oakley exhibit and marched together in January at the Philadelphia Women's March.

The Philly Club continues its commitment to supporting both prospective Smithies and current Smith students. Our Alumnae Admissions
Your membership dues and donations make these programs possible. And your presence makes the Philadelphia area a great place for a Smithie to live. These are just a few of the ways to connect with Smithies in the coming year:

- Become a member! (p. 2)
- On the 18th meetups! (p. 5)
- Sponsor a book award (p. 3)
- Give to the scholarship account (p. 4)
- Interview a prospective student (p. 3)
- Join the Board! (p. 6)
- Connect on social media (p. 6)

Finally, it has been an honor to be surrounded by such an amazing Board this year. To Vice President **Susie Kwon '11**, Treasurer **Elizabeth Savage '66**, Secretary **Mary Guinn '15**, AAC **Carolyn Trench '07**, Membership Director **Michelle Steiner '10**, Communications Director **Julia Signell '14**, **Karoline Adler '81**, **Liz Borland '97**, **Dru Foster '82**, **Kate Fox '07**, and **Margie Lord '73**- you are all endlessly kind, creative, giving and funny and I have loved having regular reasons just to spend time with you.

I cannot wait to see everyone at the Annual Meeting on June 18th at the Fleisher Memorial Museum! Until then, use this newsletter as way to get more Smith into your life!

Smith love,
Crys Arellano-Fryer '09



About the Club

"To keep a connection with our alma mater"

The Smith College Club of Philadelphia (SCCOP) is the official Philadelphia-area chapter of the Smith College Alumnae Association. Driven by pride for our alma mater, our mission is to connect local alumnae with one another and to the rich cultural and social activities of the Philadelphia region. The Club also runs a range of activities to support and encourage current students and applicants to the college. SCCOP covers the Greater Philadelphia Metropolitan Area, which includes southeastern Pennsylvania, northern Delaware, and southern New Jersey. The Club aims to connect with the more than 1,000 alumnae in our area!

Club Membership

SCCOP plays a vital role in fostering alumnae connections in the Philadelphia region. While a dedicated team of volunteers leads the group, we rely on your membership contributions to make all that the Club does possible. Your membership dues send care packages to current students, host the annual send-off for accepted students, present local high school juniors with book awards, and cover the cost of club events. Many events are free, and members receive a discount on ticketed events. No matter how long you've been away from Smith, there's a vibrant Smith community in Philadelphia that would love for you to join!



The Club hosts wonderful events year round, such as talks with influential women like Joan Countryman (left), On the 18th monthly activities (middle), and our Annual Meeting (right; Susie Kwon '11). / SCCOP on Instagram (@[phillysmithclub](https://www.instagram.com/phillysmithclub))

Joining the Smith College Club of Philadelphia

Becoming a member of the SCCOP is an easy **two-step** process: complete the membership form so we have your contact information, and pay the appropriate dues for your membership level.

1. Go to <http://www.phillysmithclub.com/membership> to complete the membership form.
2. Pay dues online by clicking the yellow "Donate" button on the membership page to pay via PayPal. If you prefer to join and pay via mail, please send a completed membership form and your dues to the address listed on the page. A downloadable membership form is linked on the page for your convenience.

Club membership is valid for **one year** from the date you join.

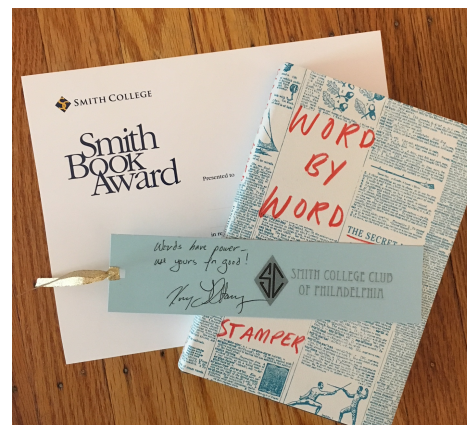
- Annual membership dues are \$20.
- Junior membership dues are \$5. Junior membership offers the same benefits of the annual membership at a discounted rate to alumnae who have graduated in the past five years.
- Members of the most recent graduating class are eligible for a free Junior membership when joining within one year of graduation.
- All Smithies are eligible for a \$55 Ivy Day membership, valid for **three years** instead of one.



Future Smithies

Book Awards

Did you know that the current President of the Smith College Club of Philadelphia found out about Smith when she received a Smith Book Award in high school? The book award tradition carries on! Each year, the Club reaches out to high schools in Greater Philadelphia to identify a **distinguished member of their sophomore or junior class**. That student is recognized with a book by a Smith alumna, a certificate, and the opportunity to apply to Smith College with no application fee. In 2017, the Club presented 20 book awards and the recipients received *Gift from the Sea* by **Anne Morrow Lindbergh '28**. The following area high schools presented a Smith Book Award in 2017:



Abington Senior High School
Academy of Notre Dame de Namur
Agnes Irwin School
AIM Academy
Baldwin School
Central High School
Conestoga High School
Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy
Jenkintown High School
Julia R. Masterman Laboratory & Demonstration School

Olney Charter High School
Pennsbury High School
Philadelphia High School for Girls
Solebury School
Springfield High School
Springfield Township High School
Upper Darby High School
Upper Dublin High School
Episcopal Academy
Pennsbury High School

In 2018, book award honorees will receive a copy of *Word by Word* by **Kory Stamper '96** with Kory's personal note enclosed. With 14 nominations already received, we are well on our way to another successful award season.

Sponsor a Book Award

Book awards are funded entirely by club membership dues and donations. Consider helping us continue this wonderful tradition by sponsoring a book award. Just \$20 allows us to recognize an outstanding student in the area— and possibly a future Smithie! Online donations are gratefully accepted via PayPal by clicking the yellow "Donate" button on the [membership page of our website](#).

Alumnae Admissions Program

The Alumnae Admissions Committee celebrated another successful year! Our fabulous and dedicated volunteers conducted close to twenty interviews this past fall in the Greater Metropolitan Philadelphia area.

We have also been blessed with fantastic hosts for our annual events for admitted students and new Smithies. In August, **Dru Foster '82** hosted an ice-cream social send-off event for new Smithies and



Admitted students in April 2018 / Dru Foster '82



their families, current Smithies, and alumnae. We enjoyed vibrant conversation and a delicious selection of sweet treats at her home in the Fairmount-Art Museum neighborhood.

This April, **Dru Foster '82** also hosted newly admitted Philadelphia Smithies and Smith

alumnae/i at her home. Dru put out a fantastic spread, and we hosted ten very excited admitted students! We are looking forward to another successful year reaching out to prospective Smithies and welcoming the newest members of the Smith community.

Become an Alumnae/i Admissions Volunteer

If you'd like to volunteer, just drop a line to phillysmithclub@gmail.com. We are especially interested in working with anyone who would like to do outreach to prospective Smithies of color. Join us!

Smith College Club of Philadelphia Scholarship Fund

Started in 1940, the **Smith College Club of Philadelphia Scholarship Fund** is one of the **oldest and most successful alumnae/i scholarship funds in the country**. With help from donations from our Club, the Smith College Alumnae Association has provided financial assistance to many students from the Philadelphia region. Scholarships are awarded as grants in the students' financial aid package from the College.

Each year, funds are awarded to several current Smith students from the Philadelphia. Donations to the fund will go toward local students, and counts toward class gifts. If you would like to make a donation, online donations can be made via PayPal by clicking the yellow "Donate" button on the [membership page of our website](#). We also accept checks, which can be sent to the address listed on our membership page.

Current Smithies

Care Packages for Current Students

We reminisce fondly about afternoon tea, our close friends from our houses, and the joy of Mountain Day, but we also remember the tough times too; exams and final papers. The Club offers encouragement to the 48 students from our area, studying at Smith, by sending them care packages at the end of each semester, timed to arrive at the beginning of reading period. The care packages are themed and contain treats, calming teas, and items (socks, bandanas, coloring books) designed to distract and amuse an otherwise stressed out exam-taking Smithie. All Club members are invited to help assemble the packages and the "Care Package Meeting" has become a fun event for all!



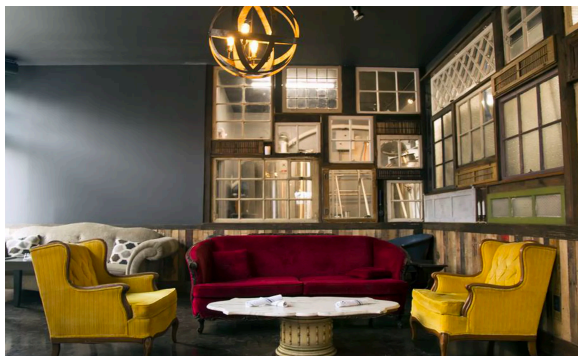
From left to right: fall 2017 care package, with the theme of "Relax," Club members packing spring 2018 care packages at Karoline Adler '81's home, and spring 2018 care package, with the theme "Go Eagles!" / Karoline Adler '81



Eternal Smithies

On the 18th – A SCCOP Tradition

On the 18th of each month, the Club hosts an event at a location across the city—from cafes, to homes, to outdoor spaces. The 18th is a day to take a pause from our busy schedules to slow down, catch up with old friends, and meet new Smithies. It's a great way to get involved with the Club and meet other Philadelphia-area Smithies. Check our **social media** and **website** for upcoming On the 18th events!



On the 18th in July 2017 was a lively group of 12+ to share community and *hygge*, the Danish experience of good time in community with friends at Bar Hygge in Fairmount. / Tessa Tintle



On the 18th in January 2018 Held at Park Towne Place - six Smithies gathered to share some time and some handwork including several knitters and some crochet. / Philadelphia Magazine



Club Events

In addition to our On the 18th events, the Club hosts other speakers throughout the year. For our annual Faculty Speaker event, the Club was honored to have **Nanci Young**, Smith College Archivist, who discussed the history of Philadelphia alumnae/i at Smith as well as current renovations to Neilson Library. The Club was also thrilled to help support the College's The Power of Our Voices negotiation seminar, with **Jamie Lee '04** and an update from the College from **Serena Williams '81**, vice president of the AASC Board of Directors.

On February 21, 2018 alumnae of Smith classes ranging from 1951 to 2015 gathered to spend the evening with **Joan Countryman**, educator, author, and social activist. After some lively greetings among old friends and making new connections, we talked with Joan and listened to her reflections on her career as Head of Lincoln School, a Friends school for girls in Providence, RI; Founding Head of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa; and Head of Atlanta Girls' School. Joan's wide ranging presentation led to thought-provoking questions and conversations about education in the US and South Africa as well as in Philadelphia today.



Top: Nanci Young, Smith College Archivist / Mary Guinn '15
Bottom: Jamie Lee '04 / Crys Arellano-Fryer '09



Smith College Club of Philadelphia Book Clubs

Interested in joining a group of well-read, enthusiastic Smithies to discuss timely novels and the classics? Join one of two Philadelphia-area book clubs, the **Main Line Book Club** and the **Center City Book Club**. Recent books have ranged from current events and social commentary to bestselling novels. Meetings often include light refreshments, great conversation, and of course, fantastic company.

If you are interested in joining a book club, please email phillysmithclub@gmail.com with your preferred location.



The occasion was the visit from a Smith alumna, Dinitia Smith '67 (third from left), who is the author of *The Honeymoon*, a novel about George Elliot. She came down from New York to speak to the combined Philadelphia Smith Club Book Clubs on November 14, 2017. / Rena Margulis.



Seven Sisters in Philadelphia

Philadelphia-area Smithies joined with Seven Sisters alumnae/i for even more activities. From a holiday Happy Hour at the Ritz, to a special tour "Queens, Warriors, and Archaeologists: Women in the Penn Museum," and lecture "The State of Reproductive Rights" at the Science History Institute, Smithies enjoyed connecting with our larger Seven Sisters family across the area. To keep up to date with Seven Sisters events in Philadelphia, join the **Seven Sisters College Alums of Philadelphia** Facebook group at

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/sevensistersphilly>.

Philadelphia-area Smithies at the Woodmere Museum for the Violet Oakley exhibit as part of a special Seven Sisters event. / Anne Standish '80

Want to Get Involved? Join the Board!

If you or a Smithie you know wants to bring their talents and passion for Smith to Philadelphia, the Club Board is waiting for you! The **Secretary position** will be open for this upcoming year. **Nominate yourself or a fellow Smith** at phillysmithclub@gmail.com.

Connect with the Club! Stay up to date by following us on social media:

WEBSITE www.phillysmithclub.com

EMAIL phillysmithclub@gmail.com

FACEBOOK [Smith College Club of Philadelphia](https://www.facebook.com/SmithCollegeClubofPhiladelphia)

TWITTER [@PhillySmithClub](https://twitter.com/PhillySmithClub)

INSTAGRAM [@phillysmithclub](https://www.instagram.com/phillysmithclub)



Mark Your Calendars!

SCCOP Annual Meeting

Monday, June 18 6:30–8:30 p.m.

The Fleisher Art Memorial, The Sanctuary

719 Catharine St

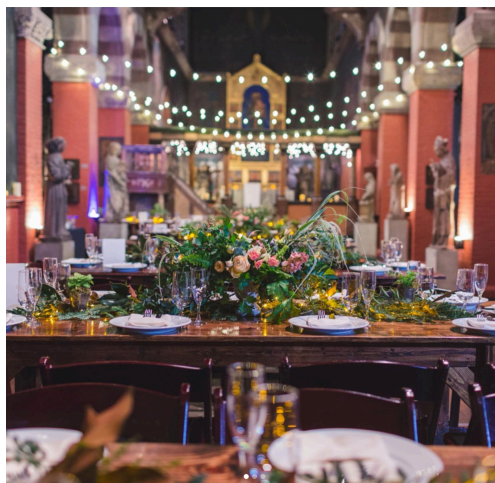
Philadelphia, PA 19147

This year our Annual Meeting will be hosted at **The Fleisher Art Memorial**, a Philadelphia treasure and one of the country's oldest non-profit community art schools.

In addition to enjoying the beautiful Sanctuary space and a free tote making activity, the Annual Meeting is also our Board Elections! If you or a Smithie you know wants to bring their talents and passion for Smith to Philadelphia, the Club Board is waiting for you! **Nominate yourself or a fellow Smithie**

at **Nominate yourself or a fellow Smithie**

at phillysmithclub@gmail.com.



The Fleisher Art Memorial / The Fleisher Art Memorial on Instagram (@[fleisherart](https://www.instagram.com/fleisherart))

Ticket Pricing

\$15 recent alums (classes of '13-'17)

\$25 members

\$35 for non-members

RSVP: Email phillysmithclub@gmail.com.

Payment: Pay online by clicking the yellow "Donate" button on [our membership page](#) to pay via PayPal. If you prefer to pay via mail, please send a check addressed to the Smith College Club of Philadelphia to the address listed below. Please note in the memo lines for both check and PayPal that the payment is for the Annual Meeting. We also welcome payments upon arrival, but please RSVP in advance.

SCCOP Treasurer

2401 Pennsylvania Ave Apt. 11A12

Philadelphia, PA 19130