



Orientation, Sept. 1967

CELEBRATING ALL WE HAVE BECOME

People tell us, “You look GREAT for your age.”
Have you heard that, too?

You need not be a math whiz to figure out that people who graduated a half century ago, are now...whatever. So planning our 50th Reunion was always going to be a bit fraught.

And that was before COVID. Suddenly, we were meeting on Zoom, trying to imagine a world where in-person gatherings, if they happen, might look very different. But with a wonderful committee, and a theme of “Transforming ourselves...and the world,” we’re planning a Reunion that will both remind us of our shared experiences at Mac and celebrate who we all have become.

Another plus? We’re planning a concurrent Reunion with the Class of 1970. Watch for some joint activities with that class starting this fall.

We hope to see you safely on campus June 3–6, 2021.

Kris Amundson and Jeff Goltz
Co-Chairs, Class of 1971 Reunion

REUNION 2021: THE WORLD AROUND US

We started planning our Reunion last November. In March, COVID arrived; in May, George Floyd was killed; discord and civic unrest increased. Not so different from the late 60’s and our time at Mac. Our classmate, Barbara Phillips, offers her reflections on bridging the past and the present. Share your reflections on our web page: macalester.edu/reunion/classof1971

My favorite sign from the Women’s Marches of 2017 was, “I can’t believe I’m still protesting this shit,” reminding me of similarities between our years at Macalester and now:

Poor People’s Campaign	Poor People’s Campaign
Assassination of Martin Luther King	Assassination of George Floyd
Kerner Commission Report	Mueller Report
Vietnam War	Unending war
So-called integration leads to Black Power Movement	So-called diversity leads to Black Lives Matter Movement
President Arthur S. Flemming arrives as Community Council advocates for Student Rights and Responsibilities, Inner College, Urban Studies Program, Expanded Educational Opportunities Program, and addressing institutional racism.	President Suzanne M. Rivera arrives to new adventures, including re-imagining the college experience in the age of COVID-19 and evaluating how Macalester lives its values while meeting the 21st-century challenges of institutional racism.



Barbara (left) while at Mac

We know that answers to the way forward in a complex world require the transformative work of strengthening community. During my Mac years, I experienced community not only in manifestations of student activism and recognizing the dangers to the soul of conformity, but also through those personal experiences that truly bind a community. Now, I’m hoping the women who were freshmen with me in 1967 on our wing of Dupre Hall—that radical experiment in co-ed housing—will show up and show out. I’m talking about you—Nancy Dalldorf, Maribeth Johnson, Georgeanne Olsen, Vicki Stromdahl, and Marj Lee!

FALL 1967: THE WORLD AROUND US

We arrived at Macalester from many places and many backgrounds. Arrival was our first Mac experience. Joyce Darden shares her arrival story [here](#). Add yours to the [web page](#)!

On a day in August 1967, set with having read *Demian*, *Siddhartha*, and *Report to Greco*, I boarded a train in Kansas City, Missouri, bound for Macalester College.

As I had witnessed athletes being awarded full scholarships despite their academic records bearing no resemblance to mine, I was determined to attend only a great Midwestern college that would award me an academic scholarship; in addition, it would have to be located in a state I had not visited and where no relative resided. Macalester checked all the boxes.

Aiding my decision were the restrictions placed upon me by my family, whose vocations included college professorships and deans, members of the judiciary, and realtors. I was forbidden to attend any institution where they had worked, or live in a place where they had lived. Minnesota fit.

The 480-mile train ride, through the farmlands of Iowa and stunning blues and greens of the Minnesota landscape, was a joyous one. The station-wagon ride from the depot to campus revealed new arrays of architecture varying dramatically from that of Missouri and Kansas, as was the climate I was about to endure.

The experience of frosh orientation at Camp St. Croix convinced me that, like *Demian*, I was going to “find myself.”

GIFT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Please join us in participating in the 1971 Class Gift! Our goal is to reach 71 percent participation, raise \$10,000,000 for the college, and add 21 new James Wallace Society members (planned or deferred gift) in honor of our milestone event. Please keep your eyes open for communications from the 1971 Gift Committee.



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT RIVERA

Greetings, Scots!

I had the great pleasure of talking with some of your classmates in August via Zoom at a Reunion planning committee meeting. They are hard at work planning your 50th celebration.

I know that you faced several tumultuous years during your time at Macalester. We face many challenges today, including a global pandemic and national civil rights crisis. I'm committed to putting the Macalester values into action so we can create a more just and thriving world, and I look to the whole Macalester community as partners in this work.

As I told your classmates on the planning committee, the Macalester of tomorrow is going to be yours, too. Alumni are the largest branch of the Mac Family Tree. So I welcome your input, feedback, and suggestions as I navigate these uncharted waters. I'm eager to meet all of you, and I'm optimistic that we might celebrate in person for Reunion 2021. Until then, please visit macalester.edu/president for news and messages from me.

Warmly,
Sue

Dr. Suzanne M. Rivera
President

MAKE OUR REUNION *YOUR* REUNION

Connecting with classmates you knew (and ones you wish you had known) is the best part of Reunion. From now through next June, we're hoping you'll get involved by:

- ▶ Contributing to our web page: macalester.edu/reunion/classof1971
- ▶ Zooming into online affinity group get-togethers ranging from concert choir to Macalester students abroad and even SAGA workers. If you are interested in an affinity group, or have suggestions for other groups, email Kathy Holte at kmholte@gmail.com. And look for more details soon about a January discussion about international experiences—including SWAP, study abroad, work abroad, and more!
- ▶ Reading and together discussing a timely book in our virtual book club. If you are interested in our book club, email Nancy Lane at nancyelane@yahoo.com.
- ▶ Visit Mac Direct, Macalester's online community page, to make sure your email address and contact information are up to date: macdirect.macalester.edu.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



MACALESTER