

HR1981 45th Reunion Schedule

Thursday, June 4

9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Pre-Reunion Class Tours

Classmates have organized several tours for those arriving earlier on Thursday. Most have **limited capacity**. See HR1981.org for details and to sign up.

- *Kayaking on the Charles* (9:00–11:30 A.M.), Mark Gluck
- *Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University* (12:15–3:15 P.M.), Joe McDonough
- *Harvard Museum of the Ancient Near East* (1:00–2:00 P.M.), Noreen Hughes Verbrugge
- *Harvard Square: Past, Present, Future* (1:00–2:30 P.M.), Cara Seiderman
- *Adams House Renovations* (1:00–2:00 P.M.) Barbara Watson (coordinator) & Claire Mays *
- *Harvard Art Museums* (2:30–3:20 P.M. & 3:30–4:20 P.M.), Mary Schneider (guide) & Ruth Milkman (coordinator)
- *Houghton Library* (2:30–3:20 P.M.), Barb Shubinski (coordinator)
- *Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America* (3:00–4:00 P.M.), Noreen Hughes Verbrugge **

To explore on your own, check the individual [Harvard Museums](#) for their hours, exhibits, and tours, or go to [Harvard Visitor Center](#) to register for University walking tours. **Please note: you must coordinate your own transportation to these tours.**

* If you can't make Thursday's Adams House tour, there's a shorter early-Friday tour at 8:15 A.M.

** See also the Radcliffe Institute Open House on Friday at 3:30 P.M.

4:00–11:00 P.M.

Check-in at Headquarters

Cabot Library, Science Center

Please come to headquarters to check in when you arrive on campus. You will receive your name badge, favor, additional Reunion materials, and your House/dorm room key and assignment, if you are staying on campus.

Coffee and tea available 8:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M. Thursday–Saturday.

Parking is complimentary at 52 Oxford Street, as well as (on Friday only) at the Soldiers Field Garage at 111 Western Avenue.

6:00–9:00 P.M.

Dinner with Sing-A-Long/Jam Session/Hootenanny

Leverett House, McKinlock Hall, 8 Mill Street: Dining Hall, Courtyard, and Junior Common Rm (A108)

After ten years away from one another, we're getting back together in style. Musical style. Classmates Rich Bashner, Russ Gershon, Chris Owens, David Rothman, Siri Smedvig, and anyone who wants to bring an instrument will lead us (and our guests) in a carefully-planned spontaneous sing-a-long/jam session/hootenanny featuring all the hits from *The Great HR1981 Songbook*. This includes pop tunes of our youth and anyone else's youth.

There will also be spaces for quiet conversation.

Enjoy a casual dinner of sliders (portobello mushroom, pulled pork, and fried chicken), along with a cold antipasto spread, dessert buffet, and beer and wine. Perfect for mingling!

Note: 9:00 P.M. is a hard stop; a recommended off-campus late-night location is TBD.

Friday, June 5

8:00 A.M.–11:00 P.M.

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8:15–8:45 A.M.

Adams House Renovation Tour

Entrance to Adams House

If you couldn't make the Adams House tour on Thursday, sign up for this shorter one at HR1981.org. Capacity is limited.

8:30–9:00 A.M.

Coffee Connection

In—or outside—the 9:00 A.M. venue

Bring your favorite morning beverage & nibble, and connect with other arriving classmates.

9:00–10:00 A.M.

Our Next Act: Living Well in Retirement

Science Center Hall D

Discussion with a panel of classmates on different aspects of our future lives:

- Living with intention and purpose.
- Using current medical knowledge and proven alternative therapies to extend an active life.
- Dealing with the bumps in the road: declines in health and caretaking challenges.

10:30 A.M.

Alumni Parade Line-up

Harvard Yard

11:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Harvard Alumni Day Parade & Program

Tercentenary Theatre

All Harvard alumni are invited to join the Harvard Alumni Association for the fifth annual [Harvard Alumni Day](#), a day for and in celebration of Harvard's vibrant global alumni community! The 156th Annual Alumni Association Meeting will include a keynote address, remarks from President Alan M. Garber, and the celebration of the 2026 Harvard Medalists.

1:00–3:00 P.M.

Harvard Alumni Day Yard Party

Harvard Yard

Join classmates and fellow alumni for a festive gathering in the Yard, featuring food, beverages, and activities.

2:00–5:00 P.M.

Harvard Art Museums Open House

Harvard Art Museums

Reconnect with fellow alumni and explore the galleries at your own pace. Stop by the Alumni Welcome Table in Calderwood Courtyard for a special giveaway and for information about alumni contributions featured throughout the museums.

3:00–6:00 P.M.

Shared Interest Group Meetups

Various Locations

[Shared Interest Group \(SIG\) meetups](#), and other alumni-organized mini-reunions.

3:00 P.M. & 4:30 P.M.

Afternoon Symposia Sessions

Science Center (limited seating)

- From the Yard to the World: Harvard Alumni in Public Service
- Harvard & America 250
- Stories from Fellow Alums
- Work on Climate and Sustainability at Harvard: Meeting the Moment at the Salata Institute
- Kempner Institute: Unlocking Intelligence (4:30 P.M.)

3:30 P.M.

Radcliffe Institute Open House

Radcliffe Yard, 10 Garden Street

Enjoy light refreshments in Fay House; peruse curated selections from the Radcliffe College archives in the Schlesinger Library; and visit the Institute's current gallery exhibitions, *Cooking Up Change: Women's Agency and Community Building Through Cookbooks* and *Eve Fowler: words doing as they want to do*. [Please register](#).

5:00–11:00 P.M.

Shuttle Bus for Evening Events

Science Center Plaza to David Rubenstein Treehouse (20 Western Ave, Allston)

Buses will transport classmates directly to the Treehouse for the evening program from Science Center Plaza at 5 P.M. Buses will depart approximately every 25 minutes thereafter, routed via the 52 Oxford Street Parking Garage.

Parking is complimentary at 52 Oxford Street, as well as (on Friday only) at the Soldiers Field Garage at 111 Western Avenue.

5:30–7:00 P.M.

Poetry Reading and Book Fair

David Rubenstein Treehouse, Riverbend Room

Many American poets have either served on the Harvard faculty or have studied with that faculty. HR1981 is no exception, having produced some of the strongest poets publishing today. Come hear several of them recite their work. Buy copies of their award-winning books, along with those of other classmates in all genres. Sharpies will be available for inscriptions.

7:00–11:00 P.M.

Class Gala: Dinner & Dance

David Rubenstein Treehouse, Canopy Room

Come join us for our reunion gala, and catch up with old classmates and make new friends. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with open bar will be followed by a sumptuous meal. Don't forget to bring your dancing shoes to celebrate! (We'll have a DJ.) Cocktail attire suggested.

Saturday, June 6

8:00 A.M.–11:00 P.M.

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9:00 A.M.–10:00 A.M.

Classmate Projects: Initiatives with Vision and Breadth

(Choose Session 1 or Session 2)

Session 1

Lowell Lecture Hall

- **Lisa Davis: *Our Minds Were Always Free***
An entertainment lawyer, Lisa wrote an exploration of how African American innovators

and artists have fought for, and often won, the rights to own and benefit from their own work.

- **Ruth Milkman and Saul Perlmutter: Civil Discourse and Depolarization**

Since HR1981's 35th reunion, classmates have explored ways to improve discourse in our country. Ruth has worked with an evolving team of classmates to create a scalable working prototype for online, pseudonymous, voice-based interaction. Saul has written about the importance of critical thinking and civil discourse in a polarized world and incorporated this work in his teaching.

Session 2

Emerson 105

- **Bruce Hochstadt: Detainee Education and Workplace Support**

Bruce and a Harvard Club of Chicago team created an education program for Cook County inmates, enrolling over 300 detainee students and 60 alumni volunteers. Bruce received the HAA's Outstanding Alumni Leadership Award in 2024.

- **Jon Roberts: My 50-Year Hunt for Yellow Pigs**

In 1976, Jon attended the Hampshire College Summer Studies in Mathematics, a program for highly motivated high school students. Previous attendees ("yellow pigs") revisit the program to support current students. Jon directed and his wife, Ming-I Huang, produced the film *Hunting Yellow Pigs*.

10:30 A.M.–NOON

Glimpses

Lowell Lecture Hall

Glimpses was invented by HR1981 to help us get to know each other better, as a class. You'll hear classmates' 5-minute talks about transformations, discoveries, adventures, and poignant moments. Between the talks, we'll enjoy photos and videos of classmates' creations. All Glimpses are personal, and all speakers are classmates who have not presented at a reunion.

NOON–2:00 P.M.

Field Day Class Luncheon

Science Center Plaza Tent

Come join your classmates for a BBQ lunch with an open beer and wine bar and yard games. After you eat, head into Harvard Yard for games and activities with the other Reunion classes. Suggested dress code is casual. See you there, rain or shine!

12:30–2:00 P.M.

Rehearsal for Memorial Service

Memorial Church, Choir Room

Mandatory rehearsal for the 45th Reunion Choir, led by choir director Andy Clarkson '81.

Contact: [Susie Kendall](#).

2:00–3:00 P.M.

Memorial Service

Memorial Church

We gather to honor our deceased classmates in a non-denominational service. Readings and music will feature classmates, including the 45th Reunion Choir.

3:30 P.M.

Class Photo, followed by Primal Scream

Widener Library Steps

4:00–5:00 P.M.

Class Conversations

Locations TBD

Connect with classmates in smaller groups. Pick one session. Topics may include:

- **Seriously, Let's Play! Improv Games: *Intrigue~Surprises~Silly Scenarios***
(Bonnie Z. Bottoms & Barb Shubinski)
Comedy and play are essential to being human, and we need them now more than ever. Come expand your imagination, transcend your everyday self, and immerse yourself in creative collaboration.
- **The Bill of Rights in 2026**
What's the current status, and health, of America's most fundamental statement of civil rights? How are the interpretations changing? What's their relative power?
- **On the Move: Traveling (or Relocating!) to New Places in Retirement**
(Karen Albrecht, Jonathan Band)
Let's trade ideas for travel that are exciting, affordable, sustainable. How can HR1981 travelers connect with local classmates for a meal, an insider adventure, or maybe even an invite to "couch-surf"? Plus: pleasures and pitfalls of retiring abroad.
- **Make a Difference and Keep Learning: Working for Change**
(Sara Frankel, others TBD)
Looking for new challenges, connections, or opportunities to help? Volunteering for nonprofits builds expertise, offers meaning, and makes a difference. Let's share experiences, and explore collaborations between our endeavors.

- **Reviewing Your Past: Writing Your Memoir or Family History**
(Helen Lee, Stephen Postema, Sara Nicholas)

5:30–7:00 P.M.

H-Solo: Singles Meet-Up in Harvard Square

Daedalus Bar, 45 ½ Mt Auburn St (next to Tommy's)

If you're navigating this stage of life without a significant other, join us. We'll have no program other than connecting with one another. So even if you are adamantly and contentedly solo, drop by. RSVPs encouraged but not required. Contact: [Nancy Boghossian](#)

7:00–11:00 P.M.

Class Dinner & Party

Smith Campus Center, formerly Holyoke Center, first floor

Relax and mingle with your classmates to beautiful piano music. Enjoy cocktails with open bar and a delicious dinner as we celebrate another memorable reunion. Cocktail attire suggested.

Sunday, June 7

8:00 A.M.–12:30 P.M.

Housing Check-out

Check-out will be available in the lobby of the House/dorm where you are staying. All House/dorm keys must be dropped off by 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 7. Keycard access will be cut off at this time.

10:00 A.M.–NOON

Farewell Brunch and Survey

Northwest Labs Atrium, 52 Oxford Street

Instead of multiple choice, we will ask for some blue book-worthy responses in our HR1981 45th Reunion Survey. The answers should be thoughtful, uplifting, and entertaining. Join us to hear your classmates' Harvard memories, the highlights of their past 45 years, and what they hope the future brings.

NOON-2:00 P.M.

Post-Reunion Hangout

Location TBD

If the reunion is ending too soon for you, meet up after the Farewell Brunch and Survey. We'll announce an outdoor destination where we'll hang out.