



GREEN LIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF THE DARTMOUTH LGBTQIA+ ALUM ASSOCIATION

Volume 29 Issue 1 • June 2024

ALL-CLASS REUNION SET FOR JULY 25-27, 2025

DGALA will celebrate its 40th anniversary with an All-Class Reunion in Hanover over the weekend of July 25-27, 2025. The Reunion will welcome alums of all classes across all Dartmouth schools for a weekend of recreation, community, learning, networking and social events.

planning committee, share your input about what you would like to see, and reserve your space in our dorm or hotel blocks that we'll share with you soon. We have just over a year to work together to create a magical summer weekend at Dartmouth! ❖



With the 2020 reunion cancelled due to the pandemic, next summer's reunion will be a long overdue opportunity for us to gather, reconnect, reflect and reinvigorate. The hundreds of alums that have returned for prior All-Class Reunions in 2014, 2009, 2004 and 2002 will all attest to the powerful and inspiring spirit of DGALA's All-Class Reunion weekends.

Over the coming months, you'll hear more about how you can join the reunion

JOIN US ON CAMPUS THIS JUNE 14-15!

Friday, June 14, 8 -10:30 PM: Drinks at Six South St. Hotel

Saturday, June 15, 8:30 -10:00 AM: Breakfast Meeting with President Beilock, Hinman Forum, Rockefeller Ctr.

Saturday June 15, time TBA: Tour of Triangle House (construction permitting)

All events are free

DGALA/DCF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

DGALA's collaboration with the DCF to provide scholarships to LGBTQIA+ students is now in its 20th year! The program works like this: every dollar that a DGALA alum gives to the Dartmouth College Fund counts towards funding need-based scholarships for LGBTQIA+ students. For every \$50,000 that DGALA alums contribute, DGALA is able to fund another Scholar. The program works on a fiscal year basis, so any DCF gift that is made by June 30 this year will fund DGALA Scholars in the coming academic year.



In each of the past two fiscal years, DGALA members have generously given over \$200,000 to the DCF, thus funding five DGALA Scholars (the College rounds up to the next \$50,000 once we hit a new threshold). So far this

year we are at \$188,760, so we still have a way to go to continue our support at current levels. Please make a gift if you have not done so already. If you are on our mailing list, there is no need to specify your DCF gift: the default is that your gift will support our Scholars. The url to give to the DCF is dartgo.org/dgala. The QR code above also will take you there.

DGALA Scholar Gabriel Quealy '25

We are happy to introduce our two new Scholars this year, Gabriel Quealy '25 and Thomas Paine '27 (several Scholars profiled in recent *Green Light*'s have carried forward this year, we are pleased to see). Gabriel shared these words with us:

Thank you so much to DGALA for awarding me this scholarship! It has been such a wonderful gift that's helped the financial burden of this degree for me. I am forever grateful to you and all the alumni who donated!



Gabby at Stonehenge while on foreign study

I come from "just outside of Boston," and am a History major and WGSS (Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies) minor. During the fall of 2023, I did a foreign study program at University College London, where I conducted an archival project about trans and gender variance in Victorian England. I identify as a trans student here at Dartmouth and currently work at OPAL as a gender diversity coordinator. As a trans historian, hoping to go to grad school to research LGBTQ histories and histories of gender variance, I think a lot about where our community comes from. And I think a lot about how important it is for people to recognize that we've always been here – albeit in different forms. I hope to be able to shine light upon these experiences of the past to better help the queer people of the future.

DGALA Scholar Thomas Paine '27

Our youngest Scholar, Thomas Paine '27 hails from England and shared these words, *"Thank you so much for your kind generosity which has given me the amazing opportunity to come to New Hampshire and enjoy the American college experience! This has allowed me, as a Brit, to study overseas and be immersed in an entirely new culture, allowing me to grow so much as a person. I enjoy French history and I've also been able to study the American Revolution and local Upper Valley stories from the era. I am very passionate about travel, having gone to a British boarding school which was very international—I have had the opportunity to have friends from all over the world. I am also a collector of vinyl records! I have been able to continue learning about LGBTQ+ issues by taking the class "Queer Popular Culture," this spring, which has certainly been one of my favourites so far.* ♦



At the beginning of Pride Month last year, I went to the local park with my friends to mark the moment and appreciate the rare occasion of a British summer!

DGALA DOINGS

SABA NEJAD '18 JOINS DGALA LEADERSHIP

DGALA is pleased to announce the recent election to its Board of Directors of Saba Nejad '18. Saba works as a Data Engineer and currently lives in Brooklyn, NY. Before New York, Saba lived in



Boston for four years. Recounting her first experience at a DGALA alum event in NYC, Saba said that she attended a movie event “seeking a community I had left behind in Boston. The DGALA group was not hard

to find, all sitting together, talking and laughing before the movie started. The event was fantastic, and I was surprised at the welcoming and community feel folks there created.” One of Saba's goals in leadership is “to seek out more alums to come to DGALA gatherings and to create a community that newly graduated LGBTQIA alums can fit right into.”

LOCAL GATHERINGS

Since our last issue, DGALA alums have gathered in DC, NYC and Minneapolis. We support gatherings of any size in any place; do reach out to us at DartGALA@gmail.com to learn more!



DC



NYC

TRANSFORM 2024!



DGALA TRIANGLE GRANT

DGALA's Triangle Grant program continues to inspire students to plan and hold fun, imaginative and community-building gatherings at Triangle House, typically open to all students, residents and non-residents alike. Students apply for DGALA funding, up to \$500 for each gathering, and the fabulous Angelique Bouthot, OPAL's Assistant Director, Leadership Development and LGBTQIA+ Student Advising, provides instrumental help in overseeing the program. Food for a good meal is usually part of each gathering.



Mid-winter-term blues were cast aside for a Queer Valentine's event, where students decorated heart-shaped cookies and other treats. The event brought students together to build queer community and discuss being queer during Valentine's, which spotlights heteronormative culture.



The House of Lewan held two gatherings of their own at the House. A winter term get-together featured a professional photo



booth, where students could try on drag attire and test the look of various poses for future performances by the House. The spring term kicked off with a welcome-back organizing gathering, as the House looked to prepare for the annual TransForm event during Pride, as well as other performances.



The House now has its own website; check it out at: <http://houseoflewan.com/>.

And the House of Lewan also collaborated with the Hopkins Center on a special film screening at the Hop of a new episode from Season 4 of "We're Here," the critically-acclaimed HBO series about four fabulous drag queens using their art to spread love, awareness and connection across the country. Show creator and DGALA member Steve Warren '82 spoke at the Hop, and at a special Triangle Grant event at the House (see sidebar student report on page 5).



PROGRAM THRIVES

Also as part of Pride celebrations in April, the students kept up the beat by arranging on their own (with support from OPAL) an Intercollegiate Queer



Prom, held in Common Ground in Collis Center. Students from MIT, UNH and Colby Sawyer all joined their Dartmouth hosts at the event.



And finally, a post-Pride Triangle Grant relaxation gathering was scheduled at the House for all to unwind! ❖

STUDENTS REPORT ON "WE'RE HERE" TRIANGLE GRANT EVENT

On Friday, April 5, Jessi Calidonio '26 and I hosted our dinner and discussion with Steve Warren '82, and his partner Johnnie Ingram. Our event lasted an hour, and we were joined by Johanna Evans from the Hop, our live-in advisor Gary, Angelique, 4-5 friends of Steve's, myself, and an estimated 9 student guests, making attendance between 15-20 people. I led a panel discussion on the show, its inspiration and process, and questions about queer mentorship, and navigating an industry normally catered to a straight, white, male demographic. Johnnie and Steve were great guests, and very excited to see our wonderful Triangle House.



This event was a great chance to build community in our house. When Jessi and I proposed the event, we were thinking about how great it would be to get the students together to learn from Steve, but we were happy to see how connected Steve and Johnnie were with we students as well. Beyond the exciting opportunity within our house community, it was inspiring to see queer alumni come back and be so willing and happy to speak with us, and remind us how lucky we are to have resources and community all around us.

Thank you for making this event possible! It meant a lot to everybody involved, and we couldn't have made it happen without your support.

Robbie Abel '24

DGALA SPEAKS OUT ON CURRENT COLLEGE ACTIONS

DGALA leadership has pushed back against two recent actions by the College, joining other concerned alums, faculty and students. In mid-April the College announced that it would award an honorary degree to a member of the business and law faculties at Uganda Christian University. And on the evening of May 1, the College summoned New Hampshire state riot police, as well other police, who forcibly arrested participants in a peaceful protest encampment that students had set up that evening. DGALA responded to both actions:

DGALA April 22 Letter to Dartmouth Trustees

On behalf of the Board of Directors of DGALA, I write to express our great dismay that the College has announced plans to award an Honorary Doctorate Degree in June to an individual who is an employee of Uganda Christian University (“UCU”), an aggressive denier of LGBTQIA+ rights.

UCU is chartered by and closely affiliated with the government of Uganda. Uganda is the nation with the severest laws on Earth against LGBTQIA persons. Its “Anti-Homosexuality Act” provides for the death penalty or life imprisonment for sexual relations between persons of the same sex, and imprisonment for up to twenty years for “promotion or recognition of sexual relations between persons of the same sex.” UCU likewise expects all staff members and students to conform to their [Statement of Faith] rule and “shun all sexual immorality polygamy, adultery, fornication and homosexual practice.” UCU has publicized the June honorary degree in conjunction with fundraising efforts.

We do not know the individual who is to receive the honorary degree. Our concern is that Dartmouth appears to signal its support of Uganda’s horrific laws by honoring anyone potentially complicit with them. Without diminishing the honoree’s contributions to the College, we call upon the College to issue a statement condemning Uganda’s violations of human rights so as to make clear that the College does not support them.

Sincerely,
Erik Ochsner ‘93
President



Police assemble on Green



Police throw Prof. Orleck to ground

DGALA Statement on May 1 Arrests

DGALA condemns the violence committed against Dartmouth students and faculty by militarized police on May 1, and we further condemn the College administration for soliciting, enabling, and excusing this violence. It is unacceptable for police in riot gear to intimidate and assault nonviolent civilians, and, even if they were violating a school policy, it is intolerable that the administration approve such actions.

The LGBTQIA+ community has historically been a target of police violence. Police violence has long been weaponized against others in our broader community: a community that includes Black people, Latinx people, Indigenous people, and, as we’ve witnessed recently with increasing horror, protestors standing up for the human rights of Palestinians. Any Dartmouth policy that summons police in riot gear to arrest peaceful, unarmed protesters is a flawed policy.

Dartmouth’s history includes peaceful student demonstrations demanding divestiture. In the winter of 1986, a series of student protests called for the College to divest from South Africa to push for an end to apartheid. Students slept in shanties on the Green and many, including LGBT students, protested at Parkhurst Hall. Ultimately, the Trustees did agree to divest, a peaceful precedent for the current students’ demands.

DGALA calls on President Beilock and her administration to drop each and every charge resulting from the protests on May 1. We further call on Dartmouth to issue an official apology for facilitating violent assaults on its faculty and students.





FY23 DONORS SO FAR

Member gifts received
July 1, 2023 – May 11, 2024

Benefactor (\$500+)

Trevor Burgess
Paul Camp
Brad Hise
Israel Sanchez
Gretchen Wetzel

Champion (\$250+)

Bart Bingenheimer
Robert Chaloner
Paul Cunningham
Laura Frem and Jennifer Carter
Dawson Her Many Horses
Michael Jarvis
Harold Leich
Xander Meise
Erik Ochsner
Sylvia Racca
Kevin Roon & Simon Yates
Christopher Wilson

Advocate (\$100+)

Ronald Akie
Wendy Alexander
Jacob Bourne
John Brett
Sarah Burgamy
Bob Cohn
Robert Conn
David Davenport
Steffan DeClue
Eric Fanning
Paul Gambaccini
Thomas Herman
Edwin Hermance
Ellen Ives & Colleen Johnson
John Jordan

Advocate (cont'd)

Susan Kahil
Ann Root Keith
Michael Kenyon
Caroline & Darcy Kerr
Steve Knowlton
Anthony Lipp
Marie Longo
Caitlin and Emily Nicholson
Catherine & Jennifer Petter
Jeffrey A. Pond
John Ribaud
James Rich
Stanley Sack
Robert Saltzman
Timothy Stanne
Steven Strauss
Eric Stults
Elliot Stultz
Brad Ursillo
Carl Walesa
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Pete Williams
Jim Wiltshire
Todd Young
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Robert Zinnes
Anonymous

Supporter (\$25+)

Victoria Allen
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Joseph Brown
Kate Carolan
C. Scott Chaney
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Supporter (cont'd)

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Victor Hollenberg
George Irving
Vincent Leung
Linda Markin
Richard Otto
Amanda Rosenblum
David Schnabel
Matthew Schwartz
Clo Tepper
Peter Van Buren

*Contributions received through
May 11, 2024.*

*Our fiscal year ends June 30.
If you would like to make a dues
contribution and appear in this
year's final supporter list, visit us at
<https://dgala.org/support-dgala> or use
the QR code below.*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On a daily basis, we continue to see and feel similar thoughts about so many hot-topic current events around the world and on campus in Hanover. The “steps forward” really do outnumber the “steps backward”, but the pain caused by the latter is strong and hurtful. “Fear of the unknown” is still very real in our daily lives.

The DGALA Board wrote a letter to the Board of Trustees after it was announced that an honorary degree would be awarded to an alum who works for the Uganda Christian University in Uganda, where being caught in a same-sex act is punishable by death. After having received zero response, we are now working together with the Affiliated Groups Roundtable (BADA, DALA, DAPAAA, NAAAD and Women of Dartmouth) to issue a larger statement to the community.

The DGALA Board issued a statement condemning the actions of the College, after student and faculty protestors on the Green were arrested by police in riot gear with an armored vehicle. We are now working with working with the Affiliated Groups Roundtable to issue a larger statement to the community.

While those storms are brewing all around us, there continue to be many encouraging and inclusive events happening on campus, like the House of Lewan's annual event “Transform.” This



In May Erik celebrated with DAPAAA during their 25th anniversary celebration in Hanover and had the opportunity to meet Montgomery Fellow George Takei and his husband Brad Takei

student-run drag club continues to thrive, and it was inspiring to see 200-300 students, faculty, friends, family and allies there to support the event.

DGALA continues to support the community via the Triangle Grants program. Thank you to Angélique Bouthot, (Assistant Director, Leadership Development and LGBTQIA+ Student Advising) and Gary Xia (Director of Time Away, and the Triangle House live-in advisor) for all of the work they continue to do for the students and our community.

Shaun Akhtar '12 has stepped down from the DGALA Board. A huge thank you for all he has done over the years. He has been our webmaster, set us up for a Google Workspace for nonprofits, and offered sound and sage advice. I know he'll continue to support our Community through his work with Dartmouth Club of the Upper Valley, and the College's LGBTQIA+ Employee Network. Thank you, Shaun!

What can you do? You can think of events, join the Board, attend our mini reunions in 2024 and 2025, and in 2025, you can make your way back for 40th anniversary “All-class” reunion, July 25-27, 2025! Stay positive, move the line forward, and thanks for all that you do for our Community as a whole, and for Dartmouth.

Erik Ochsner '93
President, DGALA



An all Affiliated Groups sidecar event was held before the April 9, 2024 President Beilock Welcome Tour in Los Angeles. Members from BADA, DAPAAA, DALA, DGALA, NAAAD, and Women of Dartmouth celebrated the strengths of our diversity by lowering silo walls.