

3/26/08

Dear Fellow-MSMers,

As a follow-up to the previous e-mail from the External Affairs office, please read about some of our recent and upcoming activities held for current students and alumni.

- Alumna Jackie Venable (MM '81), a successful fund-raising professional, held a Fundraising Workshop on February 28, where MSM students learned of ways to fund their own projects. At our next **Fundraising Workshop on April 10**, we'll focus on **Finding Grants and Writing Proposals**. Gina Taglieri, MSM's Director of Development, will share insights about how you can solicit grants and support from a diverse group of funding organizations.
- This fall, the School is planning a major event to wrap up our 90th Anniversary celebration: **An All-Alumni Reunion** is scheduled for October 16 – 18, 2008, at Manhattan School of Music. This gathering of MSM alums will include opportunities for graduates and students to meet and network. Students will play an important role in this effort, as will faculty, staff, and the MSM Alumni Council.
- Speaking of the Alumni Council**: As part of our new Student Philanthropy Program, the Alumni Advisory Council is selecting a **student each year to serve as liaison to the group and represent students' interests**. The selected student will engage with Alumni Council members on issues directly relating to the current and proposed programs and initiatives that will strengthen MSM. Students can apply for this opportunity in the coming weeks.
- Coming soon in our lobby: you'll soon see news of our alumni activities in a new **Alumni Class Notes** display. Winners of competitions and auditions, recipients of commissions and awards will all be listed here. You can also check out alumni news on the web at:
<http://www.msmnyc.edu/ouralumni/classnotes/>
- Two distinguished alumni are being honored at MSM's annual Concert Gala on May 6: **soprano Dawn Upshaw** and **composer John Corigliano**. The Concert Gala is the School's biggest fundraiser of the year.

Thanks for taking the time to learn about our activities. If you're interested in finding out more or becoming involved, please drop me a note at jblanchard@msmnyc.edu

John K. Blanchard
Director of Alumni Affairs (Class of 1989)
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***Our Alumni Council is a diverse group of former Manhattan School of Music students who assist the administration with issues regarding alumni development, activities, special events, and fund-raising. They also help the administration with issues concerning current and proposed programs, giving advice on issues as they arise during the year. The members of the Council act as ambassadors for Manhattan School of Music throughout the world by staying acutely aware of the activities and progress of the School. Details: <http://www.msmnyc.edu/ouralumni/council/>