

Cate responded that it was a good idea, but not appropriate for JALF funding. **Id.** She told Maia that the group would request that the funds be returned and decide how to award them thereafter. **Id.** Maia accepted her decision and said “Ok. Thanks for letting me know.” **Id.** at 15.

Then, on November 24, 2019, Cate wrote to Rennie Washburn, Marlboro’s Chief Advancement Officer. **See** Exhibit 5, attached hereto. Cate told her that JALF did not believe it was appropriate to redirect its award to Emerson College. **Id.** As she put it: “The JALF group directed that this award be given to a Marlboro student...I want to reiterate that our intention behind this award was to fund a Marlboro College Student.” **Id.** Accordingly, Cate asked that the award funds be returned to JALF. **Id.**

Rennie responded two days later to tell Cate that “we are looking into it,” and “I don’t want you to think you’re being ignored.” **See** Exhibit 6, attached hereto. After four months had passed, Marlboro still hadn’t responded, so Cate asked for an update on March 23, 2020. **See** Exhibit 7, attached hereto. Rennie responded that Marlboro was “still working with our attorneys on this. Will let you know when I know more.” **Id.**

It has now been six months since JALF requested the return of its funds and Rennie replied, “I don’t want you to think you’re being ignored.” Marlboro has not sent the funds; nor have they refused. This silence is no longer acceptable.

The relationship between donor and charity is controlled by the agreement between the two; when a charity changes its purpose, assets restricted to a specific purpose may only be transferred by following the specific terms governing the restricted assets. **See** Restatement of Charities, § 3.01(c). Here, the agreement between Marlboro College and JALF was not formal, but it was nevertheless a meeting of the minds in writing between agents for the donor and the charity; and provided specifically that the money raised by donors would only be awarded to a student of Marlboro College, who embodies the core values thereof.¹

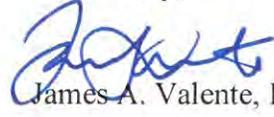
Where the terms of a donation are restricted, they can only be modified if both the charity and the donor agree to the modification. **See** Unif. Prudent Mgmt. of Institutional Funds Act at § 6(a) (2006). Even where the donor is unavailable, the doctrine of *cy pres* requires that the modification be “as near as possible” to the original purpose. **See** Restatement (Third) of Trusts at § 67 cmd. D.

If there is to be no more Marlboro College, the JALF award cannot continue. The proposal of substituting a new award, named after a different person, with a different criteria, to be awarded to a different group of students within a different institution, is not “as near as possible” to the fund’s original purpose.

¹ To the extent that this language may be considered ambiguous, it will be construed in favor of the intent of the donor. *Cf* Uniform Prudent Mgmt. of Institutional Funds Act at § 2(8) (2006).

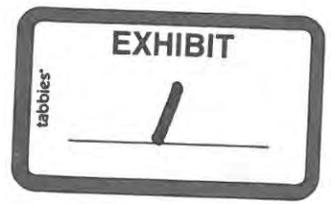
Accordingly, we respectfully demand that you return the JALF funds to JALF prior to July 1, 2020. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



James A. Valente, Esq.

Cc: Richard H. Saudek, Esq., Chair
Kristen A. Newcomer, Vice Chair



7/26/14, 7:57 PM

Cate

Kathy, this is Cate Marvin. I have an idea. I think we should create a pledge page for a Jed Fels Memorial scholarship fund, or something like that. A lot of people right now are feeling really nostalgic about Marlboro because Jed represents just the kind of crazy person who is supported at a place like Marlboro. A lot of conversations are going on on Facebook that involve memories.

Cate

I personally would like to make a donation to Marlboro of something around one dollars, something I haven't really done before, because I've been thinking about Jed.
I want to suggest to Jed's friends that our class donate money tomorrow bro in his honor.
If we make it a pledge, then people will donate now. Because it is summer and people are poor. Pledging will make it more likely that people will donate.
The problem is is I can't follow up on people if they don't make good on their pledges I would kind of need a commitment from you on that end. Follow up on people who pledge on Facebook.
I meant that I would need your help to follow up on people's pledges.
Anyway, let me know what you think, because I want to make the suggestion sometime this evening while people are still thinking about Jed.
We could also ask his brother to suggest that people donate to Mallboro College in lieu of flowers. He seems like he's unsure of where people should donate.
He's the first person in our class to die, I think.
This might not result in raising a whole lot of money, but I promise you it will result in more active alumni involvement from this particular class.

7/26/14, 9:32 PM



Hi Cate. This is a wonderful idea. I have been touched by the Facebook posts and can feel the sadness. I could certainly handle following up on people's pledges. We might want to make it a one time scholarship, since it's hard to know if we'd continue to raise enough funds each year. We'd also want to give the scholarships and prizes committee some parameters on how people would want it awarded. For example, you could say its for a freshman who I exemplifies community engagement or whatever. It could be based on financial need. We could work out those details. Anyway, I can commit to helping make this work. I only had a few fun interactions with Adam in Facebook, but I have been moved to get to know him better through all of the alumni posts as well as his other friends and family.

7/27/14, 7:20 AM



Cate, are you a member of the alumni Facebook group that a graduate initiated? That would be a good place to post your message about the scholarship.
Oh, and I love your ponytail picture!

7/27/14, 8:55 PM

Cate

Kathy, It's starting to take off. I'm going to talk with Steve Plymire tonight. He was close to Jed. It will likely seem strange for me to coordinate this fundraiser alone as I didn't keep in touch with Jed. So I'm looping Steve in. I think his group of friends might be best suited to decide who/what they want the money to designated for. I'm going to create the FB page this evening and get people to migrate to that site to share stories and pledge to the fund. Thanks!! More soon. Cate



It's really something Cate. I will get all the details on what is involved in setting up a fund. I am inspired!
Cate

I am too! This is going to be fun!



Hey, my alumni newsletter will be emailed in mid August. Think about if you all want to include something about Jed and the fund in his memory.

Cate

Gotcha. We should have a bunch of stuff for you by then. I want the FB page to gather memories, and we could pull from those posts to write a short piece about Jed. By that point, we'll know how much dough we have and how we want to spend it. I want to pull this together quickly, while there's a lot of momentum.

Cate

7/28/14, 1:10 PM



Hi Cate. I have the information for how to set up the scholarship. I think I will email you rather than try to type it all here, if that's okay.

Cate

Cool.

7/29/14, 9:40 PM



Hi there Cate the Great. I noticed that in the "about" section of the wonderful page, Adam's graduation year is listed as '93. It should say '92. I couldn't see how I could edit it.

7/29/14, 10:41 PM

Cate

Gotcha! Thanks for the sharp eye!



The fund is up to \$775, btw.

Cate

Really?



Really.

Cate

We need to shoot for a lot of money. I'm thinking \$5K
How many people have given?
(Can you tell that I have experience with fundraising?)



That is three people so far. I am thinking we will want to provide the link and other giving options a few times over the next several days. I could also include it in the alumni newsletter in mid August for those folks who may not have seen it on Facebook. I think \$5,000 would be amazing. Whatever it is, the process of all of this is priceless.



I emailed you what I think is the Marlboro community photo from 1992. Also, according to my records, Jed was the senior speaker.

Cate

He was??? I wasn't there! That's really incredible. Yes, this experience is really exciting. I love using my writing to make actual, real changes that bring people together and make them happy/happier. Just between you and me. It really makes me happy. And I had a really strong feeling about this. I'm so thrilled to see people connecting.



You have certainly brought people together and made them happy for that connection, past and present. I am delighted o hear it makes you happy to do this, since you are clearly putting a great deal of time and energy into it.

Cate

That's only three people (am I among them? I think we're going to be getting substantial gifts from everyone. The idea is we are at the point in our lives where we can actually give some real money. I think it would be easy to get to 5K if we work it. Someone suggested we make this the biggest Marlboro prize yet, and I agree. Creating the BEST prize and having it go to someone who exemplifies the provocative nature ala Jed Fels (who was, to be blunt, overweight, smelly, and messy, and so obnoxious you would not believe it) would be perfect. Anyway, the word is spreading . . . I heard from some Marlboro friends abroad who texted me to ask what happened . . .and I think everyone is really feeling this.



That is cool. If I was the writer that you are, I could say it better. That is damn cool.

Yes, your pledge is counted in that total. The trick will be to encourage people to donate or pledge now and not wait too long.



Is that Jed in this cover picture? We have a current student who looks so much like him!

Cate

Yes, he is. He's the guy lying on his stomach.

7/30/14, 11:05 PM

Cate

Hi there! I'm going to a VIDA retreat in Ohio tomorrow and get back to NH on Sunday (kid is staying with parents). I'll be driving back through Brat sometime next week . . . I got into a little car accident today on my way so my car is in the shop somewhere in NY and I have to find out when it will be fixed in order t know what my plans are next week!



Well that sucks. I hope your retreat is wonderful.

Cate

I'm always having car problems. I'm having a run of bad luck. Just trying to keep positive.



Let me know if I can help with my local taxi service. I have a very reliable VW Golf.

Cate

I have a rental car. Can't not be mobile.

8/4/14, 5:13 PM

Cate

Hi there! Want to meet up tomorrow? I can come to Brat or the campus. I'll have my kid with me!

8/4/14, 7:44 PM



You betcha. I have a meeting on the Hill from 2:30 to about 3:30. We could meet in Brattleboro in the morning or any time after 4. We could meet on campus anytime except that one hour. My cell is 802-258-1301.

8/4/14, 9:51 PM



Let me know if you'd like to meet in the morning in Brattleboro so I don't drive up the hill. I could meet in town anytime up until 11 or so.

8/4/14, 11:11 PM

Cate

Hey, sorry. How about Lucia and I come to you around noon at Marlboro? Or 1:00? Let me know what works best for you. If you'd prefer to meet in Brat, we can come there as well.



Really either way works fine for me. I'm assuming you have a long drive ahead of you. I'd say it might be nice for you to be on campus, but of course you just were this spring. So maybe the extra drive to Marlboro is more of a pain for you both.

Cate

We'd love to come to Marlboro!



Let's do that then. I will expect you some time between 12 and 1. My office is on the second floor of Mather. FYI, there's no lunch for me to offer you. They only feed the music festival people. I'm so glad that it's working out to meet! Of course, if your day unfolds differently and you need to cancel, I'll understand.

8/5/14, 11:45 AM

Cate

We're just leaving now.. See you between 1-1:15 we are chronically late



No worries. See you then.

8/5/14, 7:41 PM



Hi there. Thanks again for our meeting today. I hope my comment on donations of less than \$20 are looked down on or aren't appreciated. I just know in the world of development, we try to shy away from suggesting amounts much lower than that. I love the reaction so far to you throwing out the goal of \$20,000! Let me

know if you need any more information as you sort out how to share with the group. Most importantly, I hope Lucia got some delicious ice cream!



Typo on that sentence. I meant that small donations aren't looked down on.

Cate

I'm using that info to ensure that they give AT LEAST \$20.00. I'm trying to set an example. Very manipulative.

Is there any way alums can have a say in who receives the prize?

Christian wants to know.



Donors can set the general parameters for the prize, but are prohibited by Federal law in the selection process. I guess when you think about it, that makes sense.

8/7/14, 8:47 AM



Hi there. My alumni newsletter is scheduled to be emailed out in a week or so. I'd like to include a write-up about Jed, the Fund and the inspiring ways alum are reconnecting to each other and to Marlboro. This might reach some alum who are not on Facebook but would like to participate in all of this activity. Could you or maybe Christian write something up for me? It doesn't need to be long. Let me know.

8/7/14, 10:04 AM

Cate

Yes, I am driving back to NJ today. Talk soon!



Safe travels.

8/14/14, 4:21 PM



How about interviewing Sara Coffey

Cate

I asked her already!!!! Now, to apply pressure. Any new contributions? XO, The Obsessed One



Okay, we have \$4,030 in, \$876 pledged for this year, and \$3,650 pledged the next two years. Total of \$8,556!

I'm giving you the pledge numbers because that affects when it can be endowed.

Cate

Yes, I figure we can give folks until December 31, 2014. Yes?



That means the year long clock starts ticking then and funds would be available to award then. Again, you could decide to establish and announce the fund at the 2015 Commencement. You could also take \$500 from the money that has come in and award one prize sooner than the endowed funds were available. Bottom line is we need \$10,000 in hand to start the year long period.



Funds are available a year after the fund is endowed.



What about Bobbi Hahn?

Cate

Great idea!

8/15/14, 7:30 PM

Cate

Kathy!! Where are we at with funds raised?

8/15/14, 10:27 PM



Hi there. We are now at \$9,471 in donations and pledges. Damn. The only additional people who have pledged since I sent you the names today are Jessica and Adam. I am going to a family reunion in the Berkshires. So my computer time will be very limited. I will bring you up to date Sunday night, for sure. This is ridiculously amazing Cate.

Cate

Holy fuck. That's great news!!! Have loads of fun. See you on the other side!!! Thanks for everything, Kathy.



Holy fuck Cate. I hope you feel a real sense of pride for all you are doing. I don't just mean the money. I do mean the money. But not just the money.

Cate

I'm really happy. And I'm really proud of our peeps.



Said with the genuine humble spirit I hear from so many Marlboro folks.

Cate

Yes. We're kind ridiculous that way.



Just try getting our faculty to share the amazing stuff they do so we can share with alumni! More bragging! Please!

Cate

You know, it's funny-- I never brag. (And I have a lot to brag about.) I'm starting to understand where this comes from!



It's the chicken or the egg thing. Do similar souls find Marlboro? Does the Marlboro experience encourage this trait?

Cate

Jessica and I want to raise 30K now.



You're going to kill me.

Cate

Before you sleep (??) how many people have contributed?

You have to understand, people who have completed the Plan are obsessive and determined and don't know when to stop . . .

Don't cry, Kathy, it will be okay!



I'M CRYING! Mostly because I'm laughing so hard.

49. I emailed you the names earlier today. We have added Jessica and Adam since then, bringing the total to 49. I have to go make rice krispie treats for my family reunion. The challenge then will be not to eat them all myself.

Cate

Don't touch them.



I promise?

Cate

The way I think of it is: I have eaten enough desserts to last a lifetime. I do not need any more. And I keep my cupboards bare.

Hard with a kid in the house.

My calories are set aside for alcohol consumption.

Because I have to read and write a blurb for a very poor collection of poems, which means I have to publicly lie, so I need wine.



Sounds horrible. I will leave the dam rice things for the children. Alcohol sounds much better. Enjoy your wine and your poor poetry.

Cate

THANK YOU!



No, THANK YOU!

8/17/14, 8:08 PM



Hey you, Cate Marvin. Did you hear the news?



Here are the names to add to our list of donors and pledgers - Pippa Arend, Carrie Stubbs, Kristin Luther, Jessica Taraski, Adam Shepard. One person increased their pledge as well.

Cate

What's the "news"?



\$10,336 in donations and pledges! I couldn't stop myself and posted it in the group already.



Also Diane Echlin gave a while back.

Cate

Awesome!!!!



You betcha.

8/18/14, 1:35 PM



Hi there. Who is the alum I was going to reach out to from a while back? I haven't gotten around to it yet and now I don't recall his name. So sorry.

Cate

Not sure.

Can you jog my memory a bit more?

I'm dealing with so many Marbs these days . . .

Those spotlights are a bit overwhelming.



Darn. I will try to find it. So as you know, we have almost \$5,000 in hand. Of the pledges, about another \$1,500 or so is expected for this fiscal year (by the end of June, 2015). We need \$10,000 actually in before we can start the endowment and let it cook for a year. How do you think we should clarify this for the group, now that we have surpassed the \$10,000 mark in donations and pledges? I am happy to help.

Cate

I will think about how to communicate that. I'm not anxious about it. Because we're still in August. I also want to discuss it with Christian and Dan, and they're both out of the country right now.



Makes perfect sense. On the person I said I would reach out to, his name came up in one of the threads as someone people wanted to find. I looked him up in our database and saw we had an email for him. I offered in the thread to reach out to him on the group's behalf (our procedure for such requests to connect). It was a time that I didn't do it right at that moment, and now it's weighing on me. I'll look through and find the name. Thanks.

Cate

CJ Churchill.



Thanks! I'm emailing him now.

8/19/14, 12:21 PM

Cate

Kathy, Just because I'm curious . . . have we raised anymore \$?



Just because you are curious, we are at \$11,386!

Cate

Excellent!!!



Agreed.

8/20/14, 3:28 PM

Cate

have we made anymore money? Probably not. Oh, and how are you?



Hi there No more money to report since yesterday afternoon. I am doing well. Thanks for asking. I know your life is about to get much busier. Please let me know what I can do to support you in this Herculean effort!

8/24/14, 7:55 PM



Oh crap, I hope I didn't mess up by telling Geraldine about some of the beautiful I comments people made about her! I didn't suggest that she join the group though. You are so right about professors in the group.

Cate

No, I think it's cool to tell her, just don't invite her!



Absolutely.

8/25/14, 11:53 PM

Cate

Hey-- how much moola do we have now?

Cate

Can I do a spotlight with YOU?

8/26/14, 8:49 AM



We have \$11,486. Some of the money that has come in were already in the count as pledges. A spotlight on me? Weird. If you think it's a good idea, but as you may have heard, I am not an alum. I am touched that you have asked.

8/28/14, 2:30 PM

Cate

Do you have a few minutes to talk this afternoon?



Sure.

Cate

Cool. I'

Coo. I'll call you in a few.

If that works!



There's a thing at 3:00 that I should make a quite appearance at, but I don't need to be there right at 3.

Cate

Does 3:30 work?

Something just came up at my job.



Sure. I will be here by 3:35 at the latest.



I'm back in my office until 4:30. [REDACTED]

8/29/14, 12:00 PM

Cate

Do you think it would be possible to hold the JALF reunion over the 2015 Columbus weekend?

8/29/14, 1:57 PM



I think that's a definite possibility. That Saturday is Family Day/Open House, which includes some cool faculty led sessions. It could be a great weekend to have some fabulous alumni around! By the way, good news. Your donation didn't go through so you can wait a bit if you like.

9/2/14, 5:05 PM



Hi there. I just shared a Google doc with you. It's a very bad video of Jed giving the Commencement speech. It is as good as we can get it. If you listen with ear phones, it's a bit better. Very touching, even when I couldn't quite make out what he said.

9/2/14, 6:56 PM



I will keep looking at what times are open for Marlboro North! Promise!
I shared the Jed speech video with the Maine kyacke person, whoever that might be.

Cate

That's Joe Dupont.



I know silly!

9/3/14, 12:01 AM

Cate

Hello there! I just wanted to let you know that Christian Moerk has offered to take over the Spotlight feature for a bit, and it's likely that you'll be receiving the interview questions from him. I'm really looking forward to reading your responses, and I'm grateful you're willing to take part in our on-line community!
XO, Cate



I'm glad that Christian is stepping in for you for awhile. I may have to ask Geraldine to help me edit my responses to keep up with all you damn writers! What did you think of Jed's speech? It's a shame that the quality is so bad. Our media specialist really worked on it, but the buzz from the microphone and Jed's tone of voice were too similar to clean up very well.



Btw, I think the speech can be posted on Facebook. I sent it to you as a Google doc because of the size of the file.

Cate

I have yet to watch it. But Joe did and loved it. I'll post it tonight. You're the best, Kathy.



I think I might have to email the video to you in order for you to share it on Facebook, which I can't do until tomorrow. I did just try to email a link, but I don't think it worked. And thanks for your kind words. I may have to send you another bumper sticker to replace the one you're giving away.

9/4/14, 3:14 PM

Cate

How much \$\$\$ do we have now?



In a meeting. I'll get back to you. No big donations in.

9/4/14, 4:53 PM



The person who is tracking checks mailed is now gone for the day and isn't back until Monday. So I don't think I can give you an accurate update until then. Sorry!

9/5/14, 1:30 PM

Cate

Where did you come from? How did you end up at Marlboro? Where are you now? How do you remember Jed? Burning Question: How do you see the JALF page helping you help Marlboro? Have you ever felt you had to walk the line when explaining what's happening here, as regards revealing too little or too much?



Great burning question. I will write this and have it to you by Monday, okay? Thanks for asking me to do this!

Cate

Yay!!!

9/8/14, 3:31 PM



Here you go Cate. Let me know if it is too - whatever! I can also send it in a word doc if that is easier. Where did you come from? How did you end up at Marlboro? Where are you now? How do you remember Jed? Burning Question: How do you see the JALF page helping you help Marlboro? Have you ever felt you had to walk the line when explaining what's happening here, as regards revealing too little or too much? Question 1 East coast, west coast. We moved a lot while my dad climbed (and ultimately came crashing down) the corporate ladder. I attended five elementary schools, two middle schools and then fortunately one high school and college in Los Angeles. My college experience wasn't much of an experience. Seeing all of your wonderful photos drove this point home, as I don't think I have even one picture directly related

to my college life. I lived in my own apartment while holding down three part time jobs. I'd drive to campus only to attend classes. Except for a few professors and classes, my time at college was anything but transformative. For the first thirty years of my professional life, I have been in social justice and human services non-profit field, most often working with youth living in difficult circumstances. There is something about those teenage and early adult years that I find fascinating, invigorating and important. It's always been my thing. Since I can remember, I have wanted to work for a college. Many of my jobs included outreach to colleges for volunteers and interns. Every single time I stepped onto a campus, I have been so inspired and felt a real pull. Question 2 When I was fifty years old, my mom, really my best friend, got sick and died. On the year anniversary of my mom going into the hospital, my dad had a major heart attack. My siblings and I stood by him as he fought for his life for nine torturous months. Then he died. About six months later, I was laid off from my human services position, something I had never experienced in my career. So, I lost my mom, my dad and my job in less than three years. My own personal perfect storm. Surprisingly, among all the brokenness and loss was an opportunity to reinvent myself. I threw caution to the wind and asked myself who I wanted to be now. I was ready for a career change and wanted to shake things up (since they were so shaken for me). For the six months I was unemployed, I explored all kinds of paths from local economic development to financial planning to massage therapy. It was a blast. To find inspiration during this perfect storm of mine, I also went to tons of art openings and artists' talks and saw films about artists and read about artists. A theme developed from these artists that can be summed up as, "Follow the brush", one of the painter Wolf Kahn's mottos. I heard him tell a great story that while painting what was supposed to be a woods scene. It wasn't working out. So he turned the canvas sideways and changed the painting into one of the ocean. Turn it sideways? Wow. I knew I had followed too set a path too often. Get the next job. Do the logical thing. There was no sideways, only one way. Well, no more. I had seen firsthand that life is precious and I wanted more. I wanted to follow the brush and see what the painting of my life would become rather than over control and over think. About this time, I applied for the alumni director position at Marlboro, a college I knew very little about. As I researched the school, I became quite intrigued. I noticed while driving up Route 9 for my interview that I was nervous. Quite frankly, I had not felt nervous in any of my other career pursuits. I realized then that I really wanted this job. After interviewing with some staff, students and faculty, including Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, I really really really wanted the job. Not just because it was a college, but because it was Marlboro College. You know how so many of you immediately felt you had found your place at Marlboro College? Well, me too. I was fifty-three and I felt as though I had found my place. That feeling has only grown since I started on staff about a year and a half ago. I often say that I have the best job at the college. As alumni director, I get to connect with the interesting people who chose to come to this interesting place on the Hill. I am inspired every day. Every day. So now I get to be a part of young people thriving, finding themselves and what they care most about learning, doing so with profound support and encouragement from their teachers and doing so in a place that challenges them to also care about community and the world. Damn good stuff. Important stuff. Question #3 I think I first felt genuinely connected to Jed when I read his Plan. There was something so intimate and touching about going into the Library's Plan Room and pulling his from twenty-two years ago. Plus, your descriptions and memories as well as the video of his speech have brought him to life for me. I feel like Jed and I go way back. Burning Question The stories I have been privileged to read on the JALF group are actually quite similar to the stories I hear from alumni throughout all eras. What is so powerful about this group is that all the stories are in one space, one safe, magical space. Plus, you are at a certain time of life when you can look back on your Marlboro years with a certain clarity and perspective that comes with age. While generational differences can pose some barriers, I really believe that students considering Marlboro today would know if this was their place by reading your posts and comments. Your stories are so authentic, funny, touching, heartbreaking, smart and kind-hearted. They are real. Your stories are relevant to who this college is today. Don't you just love that? This Facebook group is such a rare and beautiful example of the very best that social media can be. How that ends up supporting Marlboro, I don't know. I do know that I hope to call upon you to tell your stories and to play whatever alumni relations roles that interest you. I do talk about what is happening with the JALF group all the time to basically anyone who will listen. It is so over the top inspiring, how could I not? Whenever anyone starts to ask how this group can help the college, beyond the amazing Fund you are creating, I always explain that this is sacred ground and needs to be respected as such. That might sound corny, but it's the best way I can describe what is happening here. So I always tell people on campus to stay tuned. More to come. I look forward to following the brush that is this group. I sincerely thank you for including me. I am addicted to you.

9/9/14, 7:34 AM

Cate

Identify typos and I will correct!



Will do. After pancakes.

9/9/14, 9:23 AM



CM: Where did you come from? KW: East coast, west coast. We moved a lot while my dad climbed (and ultimately came crashing down) the corporate ladder. I attended five elementary schools, two middle schools and then fortunately one high school and college in Los Angeles. My college experience wasn't much of an experience. Seeing all of your wonderful photos drove this point home, as I don't think I have even one picture directly related to my college life. I lived in my own apartment while holding down three part time jobs. I'd drive to campus only to attend classes. Except for a few professors and classes, my time at college was anything but transformative. For the first thirty years of my professional life, I have been in the social justice and human services non-profit field, most often working with youth living in difficult circumstances. There is something about those teenage and early adult years that I find fascinating, invigorating and important. It's always been my thing. Since I can remember, I have wanted to work for a college. Many of my jobs included outreach to colleges for volunteers and interns. Every single time I stepped onto a campus, I have been so inspired and felt a real pull. CM: How did you end up at Marlboro? KW: When I was fifty years old, my mom, really my best friend, got sick and died. On the year anniversary of my mom going into the hospital, my dad had a major heart attack. My siblings and I stood by him as he fought for his life for nine torturous months. Then he died. About six months later, I was laid off from my human services position, something I had never experienced in my career. So, I lost my mom, my dad and my job in less than three years. My own personal perfect storm. Surprisingly, among all the brokenness and loss was an opportunity to reinvent myself. I threw caution to the wind and asked myself who I wanted to be now. I was ready for a career change and wanted to shake things up (since they were so shaken for me). For the six months I was unemployed, I explored all kinds of paths from local economic development to financial planning to massage therapy. It was a blast. To find inspiration during this perfect storm of mine, I also went to tons of art openings and artists' talks and saw films about artists and read about artists. A theme developed that can be summed up as, "Follow the brush," one of the painter Wolf Kahn's mottos. I heard him tell a great story that while painting what was supposed to be a woods scene, it wasn't working out. So he turned the canvas sideways and changed the painting into one of the ocean. Turn it sideways? Wow. I knew I had followed too set a path too often. Get the next job. Do the logical thing. There was no sideways, only one way. Well, no more. I had seen firsthand that life is precious and I wanted more. I wanted to follow the brush and see what the painting of my life would become rather than over control and over think. About this time, I applied for the alumni director position at Marlboro, a college I knew very little about. As I researched the school, I became quite intrigued. I noticed while driving up Route 9 for my interview that I was nervous. Quite frankly, I had not felt nervous in any of my other career pursuits. I realized then that I really wanted this job. After interviewing with some staff, students and faculty, including Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, I really really really wanted the job. Not just because it was a college, but because it was Marlboro College. CM: Where are you now? KW: You know how so many of you immediately felt you had found your place at Marlboro College? Well, me too. I was fifty-three and I felt as though I had found my place. That feeling has only grown since I started on staff about a year and a half ago. I often say that I have the best job at the college. As alumni director, I get to connect with the interesting people who chose to come to this interesting place on the Hill. I am inspired every day. Every day. So now I get to be a part of young people thriving, finding themselves and what they care most about learning, doing so with profound support and encouragement from their teachers and doing so in a place that challenges them to also care about community and the world. Damn good stuff. Important stuff. CM: How do you remember Jed? KW: I think I first felt genuinely connected to Jed when I read his Plan. There was something so intimate and touching about going into the Library's Plan Room and pulling his from

twenty-two years ago. Plus, your descriptions and memories as well as the video of his speech have brought him to life for me. I feel like Jed and I go way back. CM: Burning Question: How do you see the JALF page helping you help Marlboro? Have you ever felt you had to walk the line when explaining what's happening here, as regards revealing too little or too much? KW: The stories I have been privileged to read on the JALF group are actually quite similar to the stories I hear from alumni throughout all eras. What is so powerful about this group is that all the stories are in one space, one safe, magical space. Plus, you are at a time of life when you can look back on your Marlboro years with a certain clarity and perspective that comes with age. While generational differences can pose some barriers, I really believe that students considering Marlboro today would know if this was their place by reading your posts and comments. Your stories are so authentic, funny, touching, heartbreaking, smart and kind-hearted. They are real. Your stories are relevant to who this college is today. Don't you just love that? This Facebook group is such a rare and beautiful example of the very best that social media can be. How that ends up supporting Marlboro, I don't know. I do know that I hope to call upon you to tell your stories and to play whatever alumni relations roles that interest you. I talk about what is happening with the JALF group all the time to basically anyone who will listen. It is so over-the-top inspiring, how could I not? Whenever anyone starts to ask how this group can help the college, beyond the amazing Fund you are creating, I always explain that this is sacred ground and needs to be respected as such. That might sound corny, but it's the best way I can describe what is happening here. So I always tell people on campus to stay tuned. More to come. I look forward to following the brush that is this group. I sincerely thank you for including me. I am addicted to you.

Cate

Tell me exactly where the typos are!!
I can go in and edit the post, as opposed to reposting it!!!!



I tried, but they didn't show up. Can I email you a word doc with the changes highlighted? If it's a pain, don't worry about it.

Cate

Sure. The word doc will work!

9/9/14, 10:33 AM



Thank you.

9/13/14, 10:06 PM

Cate

Hi there! Two questions . . . are we anywhere near discovering possible retreat dates? I want to get this pinned down!
Also, do we have a ore recent tally for the JALF fund?
Thanks!

9/14/14, 2:21 PM



Hi there. The housing in Marlboro North for 25 people will be available sporadically through the school year. The calendar for next year is still coming together, but I could get you when there are openings. I'm just not sure what times of year you folks are interested in. Let me know if there are certain times I should check. We could also look at this coming spring, if you want.



In terms of the fund, we are at \$11,841 in pledges and donations. That really is amazing Cate.

There is one other donation that I'm checking to see if it's for this fund. I'll let you know. I hope you are having a lovely weekend.
See you next Saturday!

9/15/14, 9:31 AM



Good morning! Did you want one or two tickets for Saturday? I had RSVPd for you and then you RSVPd. I think you want one ticket, right? Thanks.

Cate

Yes, thanks.



Next time, please try to answer me faster than half a second! :)

9/15/14, 4:19 PM



Hi there. The good news is that the college has lots of innovative programming going on. The bad news is there is almost no housing available. There will probably be a week or two in the second half of April, 2016 available in Marlboro North. I am checking on one other location on campus and will let you know. I wonder if we could book a place off-site for Columbus Day weekend next year if we did it very soon.

9/16/14, 10:46 AM



Hi there. The possible angle on housing is not an option. I did talk to the Colonel Williams Inn on Route 9. You could book their rooms for Columbus Day weekend, 2015. There are 12 rooms that can sleep 36 to 38 people. The cost ranges from \$100 to \$175. They always sell out that weekend, so no deals. They would require deposits. If you folks wanted to come off season, let's say late October, they would work out a better deal.



Also, have you ever met Sophie Cabot Black, fellow alum and poet? She will be there at Saturday's event. She's a cool lady, like you!

Cate

I know Sophie!



I figured all you poet types know each other and have secret hand shakes and stuff.

9/16/14, 12:48 PM

Cate

We all know each other. It's weird.

9/17/14, 11:02 AM



Oh dear! I had three people edit it. Tell me where the typos are and I will fix it.

Cate

Just sent you the edits via email!! Thanks a million.



I just emailed you back. I think there was still a word missing. Could you look at it to confirm?

Cate

Soon



No worries.

9/19/14, 8:37 AM



Do you plan to include people who have pledged but haven't actually donated yet in the decision making process for the fund? If so, you might want to clarify that in your post. See you tomorrow!

Cate

Yes.

9/20/14, 4:02 PM

Cate

I'll be 20 minutes late. I just missed my ferry by 1 minute.

10/8/14, 10:51 PM

Cate

Where are we at with JALF donations?
Have we reached 12K?

10/10/14, 2:10 PM



I wrote you a long response that isn't here! I am so sorry. In my flu-induced fog, I must not have hit "enter". Anyway, we have \$8,166 in donations and \$4,170 in pledges for a grand total of \$12,336! Great work. Truly.

10/24/14, 5:27 PM

Cate

I put a money order for the \$250.00 I pledged in the mail today.

10/24/14, 10:44 PM



That's great Cate!

11/11/14, 11:24 AM



Hi there. I know how busy you are, but I was wondering if you'd be available for our editor to interview you about JALF for The Record? That is an online publication we do twice a year. Perhaps we could share a few stories from the Facebook group (with permission of course). I could reach out to people about sharing their posts. Let me know. Thanks, Kathy

Cate

Sure, I'd love to.

11/11/14, 2:03 PM



Thanks Cate. Do you want me to look through the posts to possibly share (again, with permission), or would you like to do that?

Maybe we could share two profiles that are a bit representative of the stories.

11/11/14, 3:15 PM

Cate

Let's ask the folks on JALF to nominate stories!



Sounds like fun.

Would you like me to write the post?

Cate

Sure, if you could. I'm very busy this week. WORK is killing me. Hence, the pause on all Spotlights. By the way, things are going great with JOE.



I am so thrilled to hear that about Joe, although your Facebook posts make that quite obvious. It is one of the best results of JALF!

11/29/14, 6:56 AM



I am tickled pink to see all your pictures with Joe. It touches my heart to know you two have found each other. What a JALF story! don't know him (except in Facebook Land), but he has such a kind face. Seeing the two of you gets me all verclemp. I think since you're both Marlboro alums and I'm the alumni director, I somehow get credit for this very cool union.

11/30/14, 9:28 PM

Cate

Kathy, Thanks! Quick Qis this record interview going to be available online? That might affect my answers

11/30/14, 10:56 PM



The Record is actually only online.

Cate

Is it accessible to EVERYONE?
Or password protected?

12/1/14, 7:47 AM



It's accessible to everyone. We email it to our entire list and then lost it on the website. It's the publication that comes out in between the Potash Hill magazines.

12/1/14, 1:22 PM



Very soon. Expect a selfie with a check that puts us over \$10,000. Don't say anything yet, but coming soon!
Cate

Cool as shit!!!!



Cool as shit.

12/1/14, 5:03 PM



Tomorrow!

12/2/14, 10:07 AM



We are there. Jeff Bower's donation has put us over \$10,000. There are still outstanding pledges expected soon as well as over the year and years. So we will continue to grow. But we are past the huge milestone of \$10,000 to endow. I think you should share the news. Great work, Cate. Great.
Cate

OH MY GOD!!!!



You said it.

12/16/14, 2:28 PM



Hi there. I am grateful for both meetings last week. I haven't sent you the donor names because I'm waiting on a couple of people. Do you think it would be a good idea to post something giving people until January 1 to donate in order to be included in the planning? Some people wait until the very last minute to get the tax write-off.

12/16/14, 3:30 PM

Cate

Yes!!!



Would you like to write that post?

Cate

Yes. I will. Tonight.
Remind me if I don't, okay? Very overwhelmed right now and sleep deprived!!!!



Sure. I am so appreciative of your work, especially during this hectic time for you! You da best.

12/16/14, 10:50 PM



Reminder.

12/17/14, 2:53 AM

Cate

Yeah
Need it

12/31/14, 10:39 AM



We've gotten \$1,000 more in donations over the last couple of days. One gift I've been waiting for and one unexpected! Happy fucking new year, you fabulous gal!

Cate

That's great news!!!!!!!

1/14/15, 2:18 PM

Cate

Hey there Kathy! Okay, so I talked with John at the CWI and he suggested the weekend of October 24th. Would there be a conflict at the college?

1/14/15, 4:57 PM



I emailed you, but I need to check. It may be the weekend before Hendricks Days, which may or may not matter.

Cate

Okay. Fingers crossed.



Yeah. That would be a nice weekend.

1/20/15, 12:13 AM

Cate

Please let me know that Oct 24 weekend ASAP! Thanks.

1/20/15, 10:36 AM



I have inquired with the appropriate staff and have asked them to get back to me ASAP.

1/21/15, 1:44 PM



Okay, it looks like the weekend of October 24 would work. There is a trustee meeting on that day, which probably means that Bobbi Hahn would be in town. Brunch is served on Saturdays and Sundays in the Dining Hall. The discounted cost to you all would be \$4. Dinner would be \$5. We would need rough numbers for the kitchen. Other questions?



Of course, you don't have to eat on campus. I just figured it would be fun to have at least one meal in the Dining Hall.

The food is quite yummy these days.

Cate

Great news!!!!



I know. It's so exciting to think of you here.

2/10/15, 12:00 AM



Oh crap, did the group decide if the prize is for freshmen or sophomores? Either/or? I just realized that's not in the wording.

Cate

Okay, That is easy to solve. The group DID vote on having it go to second semester Freshman or 1st/2nd semester Sophomore.



Phew. Should I add that to the wording?

Cate

I'm adding it now.

Cate

"The Jedediah Adam Leland Fels Award recognizes an individual, specifically a second semester Freshman or a Sophomore, who demonstrates a passion for the literary and/or dramatic arts, and whose sense of humor, and unique or even provocative community presence embodies the core values of the College."

Cate

How's that look?

2/11/15, 10:45 PM



Hi there. Have you run the wording for the JALF prize by Jeff Bower? I think he's the only donor not on Facebook. I'm glad to send it to him, if you'd like.

Cate

Can you please do that? I'll be driving all day tomorrow to see my fellow JALFer, Joe Dupont
... I'm so relieved this is all coming together!!!!



You got it. I know he's traveling, but I'll email him.

2/14/15, 3:21 PM

Cate

When is the ALF Prize language official? In other words, when can I share it with the JALF page?

2/14/15, 5:03 PM



I say we are done. I just need to sort out the edits.

Cate

Shall we sort out the commas together?

2/14/15, 7:53 PM



I'm scared!

2/15/15, 1:10 PM

Cate

Just send me the text that was voted on. We can have Christopher Davey take a look. He is a professional copy editor.

Cate

by "text" I mean the language that was approved ...

2/15/15, 3:22 PM

Cate

Oh, and the reason I want to announce it on the JALF page is because I'm about to post a Spotlight by Sam Fels, Jed's brother, that's really moving. And I'd like for his Spotlight to come on the tail of that announcement. It'll make you cry. Seriously.



Wow. Ok, let me see if I can sort it out.

"The Jedediah Adam Leland Fels Award recognizes a second semester Freshman or a Sophomore who demonstrates a passion for the literary and/or dramatic arts and whose sense of humor and unique or provocative community presence embody the core values of the College."

I think that is it, including Chris' edits. I think.

2/18/15, 8:37 PM

Cate

Hi there! Question ... when we present the Jed Fels Prize, should we have Sam Fels do it at Commencement? I think it might be fitting to ask him to do so. If he does not want to or can't, I think the

next best person would be Jpe Dupont. Not because he's my boyfriend, but because he was one of Jed's closest friends. Your thoughts?

2/19/15, 8:59 AM



So, I double checked and the prizes are announced at Commencement by the Dean of Faculty. There is not an acknowledgement of prize donors who may be present. That said, I could check to see if we could introduce a JALF representative in the audience. Let me know.

Richard, our dean of faculty, just told me that the name can be long and that he could introduce anyone who was in the crowd from JALF>

4/10/15, 10:09 AM



Hi there. Could we post the news of your Guggenheim award on the official Marlboro College Facebook page? It's great to celebrate with the Marlboro community.

Cate

Of course!



Thank you. Very exciting news!

5/14/15, 3:43 PM



Hi there. Are you able to write me a sentence or two about how Marlboro helped you? Ellen is looking for quotes from alums for her Commencement speech.

Cate

Not right now. Deadline?

5/14/15, 5:59 PM



Probably tomorrow by noon. Don't sweat it. I just thought maybe you were done with your busy time. Don't sweat it, I mean.

8/21/15, 4:50 PM



I'm trying to decide if I should come to the Saturday dinner of the reunion. I don't want to impose, but thought it might be nice to come for a little bit. Plus, I'm a big fan of delicious food. Thoughts?

Cate

OF COURSE YOU SHOULD COME!!!!



Wow, all caps and everything. THANKS!

10/6/15, 3:23 PM



Hi there. Unrelated to JALF, I have a request. Could you possibly read a poem for our Marlboro College on the Road event on Saturday, November 21? It's at the Grolier Club again, 5:00 to 7:30. Let me know if it's even a possibility and then we can talk more. Thanks, Kathy
We have two faculty members speaking, and really want to incorporate a graduate as well as a touch of artistic expression.

10/6/15, 4:53 PM

Cate

Yes, I can do that.

10/6/15, 6:47 PM



I am thrilled! Give me a call when you have a moment. Office is [REDACTED] and cell is [REDACTED]

Cate

Tonight okay?



Sure

11/10/15, 10:35 AM



Hi there. I just emailed you. Could you send us a photo or two for the event program? Thanks!

Cate

You mean an author pic?



I'm not sure if that is what I mean. Basically a head shot. The photos of the two faculty speaking that are on our website are in black and white. So if you happen to have one in color and one in black and white, we can sort out which to use. Of course, we will use whatever is easy for you to send. Does that make sense?

Cate

Yep

Sent



Thanks!

11/19/15, 6:13 AM



Hi there. I emailed you about Saturday's event.

11/21/15, 1:40 PM

Cate

I'm not able to get my sitter until 3:30, which means I get a 3:54 train to Penn Station, which means I might arrive five or ten minute after 5:00. But I will be, as you said, "raring to go"!



Sounds good. Thanks for letting me know.

11/21/15, 5:15 PM

Cate

I'm here, just trying to figure out how to get in the building because of the instruction I hope they gave you a discount.

12/17/15, 10:56 AM



Hey, was your babysitter interested in the scholarship? We haven't gotten any applications from Jersey yet!

12/17/15, 12:17 PM

Cate

She got into a program in Jersey for teaching. So Marlboro isn't a good fit for her.



Oh right. I think you might have told me that already. I hope it all works out for her!

12/17/15, 2:42 PM

Cate

I just found out!



I see. It sounded familiar. I am old and get things mixed up. It's rather sad.

6/24/16, 5:17 PM

Cate

Hi there! Can Marlboro contribute any \$ to the JALF reunion (like you guys did last time according to Mike)- maybe???

6/24/16, 7:56 PM



Maybe. The challenge is that we're orgaining Alumni Says for Oct. 7-9 and that may more than eat up our already challenging budget. I can sure try though.

Cate

That's what j was thinking
I not j
Didn't want to step on toes



"I not j"? Anyway, no toe stepping. I'd be thrilled to pitch in. It's just a rough budget year. We could possibly do something. Let's put our heads together and see what we could propose.

Cate

Okay! Thanks. Still getting shit figured out . . .

8/1/16, 10:06 PM

Cate

Do you think Geraldine might be interested in officiating at our wedding?

8/9/16, 9:46 AM



Maybe. She's having a tough time right now, but might appreciate being asked to do something so joyful. Is she ordained for such things?

Btw, I am so sorry I didn't write back sooner. I've been on vacation, which included a vacation from social media.

Cate

No prob!!! If anyone needs a break from social media it is you!

8/9/16, 11:44 AM



Amen, sista!



I was able to get approval for the college to provide up to \$500 towards the JALF reunion/wedding. We should talk about what would be most appropriate for Marlboro to cover. Also, think about an opportunity for Kevin to welcome the alumni back. Last time, he said a few words at the Saturday dinner and then on his own initiative, addressed folks during the Sunday brunch. I can work with him on his message, which I know was perceived by some as a bit heavy handed towards fundraising last time.

8/9/16, 1:10 PM

Cate

That is totally awesome. THANK YOU for pulling that off!

I'm just now looking over wedding stuff . . . there is too too much for to tell you via FB Messenger. I know you have to be insanely busy right now because you just got back. Do you think we could touch base via phone some day this week for about 20 minutes?

We can get everything squared away!!

8/9/16, 5:37 PM



Of course! What time would work for you?

Cate

Sometime tomorrow afternoon work for you?



I have something at 3:30. Anytime before then would work well.

Cate

Cool



Do you want to set a time? That way I'll be sure to be at my desk.

8/9/16, 9:48 PM

Cate

Name a time? After 12.



Let's say 1:00. My number is [REDACTED]

8/10/16, 8:24 AM

Cate

Great! Talk then.

8/10/16, 12:40 PM

Cate

Can we move our meeting to 1:30?



Hi there. Your voicemail message was a bit garbled. Did you want to talk today or another day?

8/10/16, 4:25 PM



I spoke to Nancie at the Colonel Williams Inn and told her that we are processing the \$500 check. So, the check is in the mail (or it will be within a couple of weeks).

Cate

Goody gumdrops and thanks!!!!

8/11/16, 10:59 AM



I just emailed you and Ben, our kitchen guru. He and I did a walk-through and have some ideas. He might have a great connection for flowers.

Cate

Incredible!



Ben does a great job. I think he will be very helpful.

8/11/16, 6:43 PM

Cate

Is Rebecca being gone from the bookstore mean it will open over the JALF weekend? I hope so. I thought that was so silly of her to not open the store.

8/11/16, 7:49 PM



I'll see what I can do.

8/15/16, 3:39 PM

Cate

What's the name of the photographer?!



Kelly Fletcher

Cate

Thanks!!

8/17/16, 9:02 PM

Cate

Geri has agreed to marry us!



That is the coolest thing!

Cate

I know! We are super psyched.



This makes me very happy.

For a few reasons.

Cate

I think I understand that. Because she's been so sad. She's a real celeb among our crowd.
We are meeting up with Randy George tomorrow in Portland! Did you read Mike Crane's spotlight???

8/17/16, 11:05 PM



Not yet. I've been a bit under the weather and am catching up.

8/22/16, 11:54 AM

Cate

Hello!!!

I hope you've been feeling better.

I am writing you now to ask if a NY liquor license will work for the reception . . . your answer is probably "no" . . .



Let me ponder this question. I will think who to ask so that I get "yes" as the answer.

Cate

I'm always amazed by your gumption.

8/22/16, 2:07 PM



Back at ya. I think that if from the college's perspective, you can answer yes to the question of whether you have a licence to serve, we are good. You will be serving on campus for a very short time in the afternoon. No students will be served. We don't need to get into the specifics of what state. I'm good with that approach. Now, delete this conversation.

Cate

10-4.

8/23/16, 9:56 AM



I hand delivered the Marlboro check to Nancy today at the inn.

Cate

Awesome!!!

8/23/16, 1:06 PM

Cate

Hey! Quick Q, I don't want to both Geraldine for her address and phone number (I need for a wedding announcement I'm in the process of submitting). Can get your hands on that info?



Marlboro, VT, 05344, [REDACTED]

Cate

Thank you!!!



You betcha.

8/23/16, 4:35 PM

Cate

Hey lady. Do you have a very clear jpeg of the Marlboro tree logo you could send to me?



This one? I'm worried it's going to turn out fuzzy if I use it as clipart for a special thing I'm making for the wedding/JALF weekend.



If you ever tell anyone that you got this from me, I will deny it. Will this work?
I will email this to you as well.

Cate



8/25/16, 12:21 PM

Cate

Dear Kathy, I wonder if you have an email address for Rhett Bowlin '92 and, if not, an email address for former professor Dana Howell?

8/25/16, 1:54 PM



Cate

Thanks!!!!
I spoke with Kelly Fletcher today and she's giving me a reduced rate. I like her very much, from talking to her, not just because she gave us a discount.



She is one of the nicest people I have ever met.

9/8/16, 3:12 PM



Hi there. I hope the move went well! I talked to Randy Knaggs about the earth ball. If you want it in the dining hall, we will need to inflate and then deflate it inside, which I can handle. Or you could have it outside. We just can't roll it in. I'm sure this has kept you up at night and you have very little else on your mind.

10/4/16, 9:26 PM

Cate

We need that earth ball.

10/10/16, 1:34 PM



Hi there. I will let you know whether we can find the tape of the play. Can you tell me what year? Also, the fabulous Saron emailed you today. She was the recipient of the Jed Fels prize. Would you share her message via the Facebook JALF groups?

10/10/16, 9:20 PM

Cate

I think it has to be 1990 - 1991. But I'll check.

Cate

Spring 1991

10/17/16, 9:44 PM

Cate

Will the bookstore be open??????

Between 1 - 3?

Cate

And is Kevin coming with his wife?

10/17/16, 11:27 PM



The store will be open between 1 and 3. Kevin is coming with his wife.

Cate

Thank you, Wonderful.

10/18/16, 5:43 PM

Cate

Maia missed your call.

October 18, 2016 at 5:43 PM

Call Again

Cate

Do you think we could use the green room in Whittimore Theatre to get dressed and do hair and makeup before the wedding?

10/18/16, 7:07 PM



I can check tomorrow. The college is closed for Hendricks Days.

Cate

Thanks and sorry to bug you on your vacation!

10/18/16, 11:41 PM



Silly goose. I didn't mean that. You can "bug" me any old time.

10/19/16, 11:44 AM

Cate

Any word?

Need to get bridal party prep arranged!!



The staff person who needs to give us permission often works later in the day. I haven't heard back yet. Thwre will be folks using the climbing wall, in case that matters.

Cate

I just want to be able to use the green room for the wedding party to get dressed and do makeup and hair It would be easier to do it in the green room then in the rest around 71 Restroom

10/19/16, 2:14 PM



I just needed to confirm the theater department wasn't using the green room. They are doing Monty Python! So fun. Anyway, I just got the okay. It's all yours.

Cate

Fantastic!

10/21/16, 9:05 AM

Cate

Quick Q! Will we be able to use a hand held microphone at the wedding?

9/20/17, 2:35 PM

Cate

Kristin Fairbanks Luther and Ted Blanchard broke up for good several months ago. Don't mention weddings!!! There have been a bunch of break-ups lately.



Yikes. Good to know.

I was just fondly remembering last year's festivities. Do you think I should delete the comment? That might seem odd.

Cate

Naw . . . I think you are fine.



Okie dokie.

Cate



Hutch Brown and his GF just broke up.



Oh, that is sad! Sorry about Kristin and Ted, too.

Cate

Alas. I know. But these things happen for a reason. I didn't like the way Ted was treating Kristin at last year's reunion.

(Ignoring her.)



That sucks. Having two people share their lives is so hard. Mad respect to those of you who pull it off.

Cate

I know. In a lot of ways I miss being single. But I also appreciate the support.



Life is full of trade-offs. I think for the first time in my life, I'm kind of okay with not having any kids. I borrow them and that works out pretty well.

Cate

YOu can always borrow mine! I think I'm bringing her.



Nice.

4/20/18, 9:52 AM



Hi Cate. Is there any chance that you can attend the special dinner on May 12 that Kevin is hosting for 1993 and 1968 alumni, to celebrate your 25th and 50th anniversaries? Commencement is the next day. There are a few rooms in Marlboro North available if you wanted to make it a family affair. I know it's probably a long shot, but it would be lovely to have you here! Say hi to Joe for me.

Cate

Let me check with Joe.



Got it.

4/30/18, 11:26 AM



Hi there. Any chance you can join us on May 12?

Cate

I'll let you know today.



Thanks!

4/30/18, 8:49 PM

Cate

Hi there! I want to come so badly, but I have to travel to Long Island to move my aunt (suffering from dementia) from one assisted living care facility to another-- that trip happens just a few days after the dinner at Marlboro, and I need to rest and prep for it. I am very touched that you invited me, and wish I could express that in person. XO, Cate

4/30/18, 9:59 PM



I'm so sorry about your aunt. She's lucky to have you. You'll be missed.

6/25/18, 10:28 AM



Hi Cate. I wanted to let you know before the word goes out to the masses that I have resigned my position with Marlboro. I hope you know how much I truly love this place and our amazing alumni. I believe that it's time to get fresh eyes in the alumni relations office and take the work to the next level.



I'm off to a wonderful organization called the Crotched Mountain Foundation in Greenfield, New Hampshire doing fundraising work there. They offer all kinds of programs for people with disabilities, which takes me back to my professional roots.

I'll do the long commute for a few months and then plan to move to Keene. My sister and her family actually moved there last year from New York, so it feels like it was all meant to be.

I will share on FB and in the JALF page, but wanted you to know that I had the time of my life with you and our beloved JALFers. What you did to unite that amazing group was impressive. I had a blast being a part of it all.

I believe in Marlboro and its future and will be rooting from the sidelines.

Cate

Wow! What news! Oh, I shall miss you so much.



Me too!

10/11/18, 3:59 PM

Cate

Hi!! I need to paypal a donation on behalf of Tom Evans to Marlboro . . . but I can't find Marlboro's paypal address . . . help?



Cool. How much?
Cate

We are trying to track down the paypal account number. They guy isn't in today.

\$100

Also, we will have some more



Oh WOW! AMAZEBALLS!



We can't track down the paypal info right now. Is there any other way you an send them? We have an online portal from the website. Would that work or do you want to stay paypal to paypal?

10/11/18, 5:55 PM

Cate

I think that Marlboro should have a Paypal option on its donation page. So let's make this the motivating reason to get one? Or am I being a JERK?

10/11/18, 8:04 PM

Cate

Maia, A check for \$20 is coming your way from Karl I. Please out it toward the general donation we will be making to the JALF fund. I'll be sending you the money we made from t-shirts, and then some extra money from the JALF pot, hopefully via PAYPAL!
*put

10/17/18, 9:51 AM



Awesome! Waiting on PayPal info, keeo you posted

Cate

I have \$\$\$ for you when you're ready!



Is this all for the JALF prize?

10/17/18, 2:36 PM

Cate

yes

10/23/18, 10:43 AM



Hey Cate - A couple of thoughts on PayPal. Turns out that we do not currently have an official, multipurpose PayPal caccount for Marlboro. With your inspiration, we are working on that. In the mean

time, you can either post the payment to a Marlboro account that we have that is tagged for the NEH (and from which we receive the funds), or you could try and have PayPal send us a check - if they do that. Here's the link to the Marlboro/NEH PayuPal link:

<https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=g0ez9CArz05hIV6Sx0FFhPIE-tvqhUsDdvG9VDDupZ7FF5tVAI7cC6ehLVavCVXqXg4fv0&country.x=US&locale.x=US>

Donate

paypal.com



If you can tell me how much the total will be, we will look for it.

Cate

Thank you . . . I'll let you know soon.

10/27/18, 10:48 PM

Cate

MAIA, this link doesn't work . . . do you have the address? Let me now and I will be sending you: \$463.75

10/29/18, 3:11 PM



Oye. OK. Try this: Robertw@marlboro.edu . Also just sent you info about the fund. Hope it's helpful!

11/4/18, 5:54 PM

Cate

I just sent 478.46

11/7/18, 10:40 AM



Thanks Cate! I'm in Africa but I'm tracking it!

9/13/19, 11:22 PM



You up? Wanna talk?

Cate

Sure

You okay?



Yes

Cate

Good!



Relieved



You missed a call from Maia.
September 13, 2019 at 11:34 PM
Call Back
Cate



4/6/2020

Gmail - Fwd: JALF Fund

Info on JALF awards so far. Working to get more info on why the awards are so weird and varied.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hillary Twining** <htwining@marlboro.edu>
Date: Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 4:06 PM
Subject: Re: JALF Fund
To: Maia Segura <msegura@marlboro.edu>

15

- 2015 - Emma Studebaker '18 (later transferred to another college) / \$500
- 2016 - Saron Zewdie '18 / \$?
- 2017 - Bridget Houston '19 / \$125
- 2018 - Phoenix Bienemann '20 / \$845

The attachments are from a folder on the common drive called Prizes_Scholarships. I have no idea why the prize amounts are so varied. I think you'll need to check with Lynn Boles.



Hillary Twining
Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations
P.O. Box A
2582 South Road
Marlboro, VT 05344
802.451.7126 w
#YouAreWelcomeHere



On Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 2:58 PM Maia Segura <msegura@marlboro.edu> wrote:
This is fantastic Hillary! How can we tell how much was awarded and to whom?

On Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 1:20 PM Hillary Twining <htwining@marlboro.edu> wrote:
Hi Maia,

Jamie ran a report in Virtuous to identify donors to the JALF Fund. It looks like all of the gifts were made in 2014 and the first half of 2015. There are a total of 137 gifts (a number of people donated more than once), and the total raised was \$15,092. See the attached spreadsheet for more details. The JALF Award is listed on one of our giving pages (<https://www.marlboro.edu/giving/areas>) and is described this way: "Established in 2015 in memory of Jed (Adam) Fels, class of 1992, and recognizes a second semester freshman or sophomore who demonstrates a passion for the literary and/or dramatic arts and whose sense of humor and unique, or even provocative, community presence embodies the core values of the college." The award is given out at Commencement, and I think faculty nominate students. You may want to talk to Sara Salimbeni,

8/15/14, 1:18 AM

Cate

Hello! If you've been following Jed's page, you'll know that I'm invested in including more women's voices. Thus, I would very much like to you to take part in the "Alumni Spotlight" feature I post nightly. Just five silly questions to answer, and I'll help you edit any typos, etc. Please let me know if you're game. Best wishes, Cate



Hit me up, Cate!

Cate

Cool!!

8/15/14, 5:14 PM



Will you send me the Q's

Cate

Yep. Tonight!



Yay! Just shipped my hubby off so I will have a bit more time!

Cate

Bye-bye, hubby!



8/26/14, 12:23 AM

Cate

CM: Where did you come from? CM: How did you end up at Marlboro? CM: Where are you now? CM: How do you remember Jed? CM: Burning Question: Favorite Marlboro memory? We want details, of course.

8/26/14, 1:59 AM



Yay!

8/28/14, 2:55 AM



OK, Cate, Diane set the bar pretty high, but here's what you get from me. Thanks for the op. Donation coming soon. I promise.



CM: Where did you come from? Funny question. No idea. There is a story about the “Seven Segura Brothers that Sailed from Spain to Settle the New World” (corroborated by my vet in West Seattle, whose mother was a Filipino Segura. Though it turns out that we are all Basque – what a relief to learn that belligerence is genetic.). I grew up a little more than a mile from the shores of Lake Minnetonka. Those were good times. And I miss Tonka every day. But I remember my favorite Jr. High teacher saying, “Maia, you’ve gotta get out of here. Minnesota is too small for you.” After I got done having my feelings hurt, I understood what he meant. It wasn’t the place. It was the ideas. I think my Marlboro journey began at that moment. CM: How did you end up at Marlboro? I was lured in by the World Studies Program – then a joint with the School for International Training. I’d been an exchange student to Thailand in high school, so I can only assume that the WSP recruiters magically found me through an AFS mailing list. I had just kicked my one semester at a ladies’ college in southern Minnesota to the curb, so I didn’t have anything better to do. I arrived on Potash Hill for my campus tour in the middle of a snow storm. Immediately, my leather flats were whisked away and replaced with an over-large pair of Sorrel boots so I could get down to business. Need I say more? (PS, anyone know whose boots those were?) CM: Where are you now? A little less than a mile from the shores of Lake Washington. Landed in 98118, aka South Seattle, aka one of America’s most diverse communities (look it up!). Washed up here after a post-Marlboro summer in Alaska, scraping together cash from the fishing industry (beat the hell out of another temp job). I still love salmon. Which is lucky. That’s all we have here. I have a cool job because I invented it, after years of desperation in and out of stoopid corporate sales jobs that got handed to me, and sucked my soul. Took my mom being diagnosed with ALZ to realize what a disservice I was doing to her by squandering opportunities that she could only dream of – literally. Anyhoo, ditched the management position, hit grad school, and now my very patient husband Daimian, and I, get to do strategic marketing work on cool economic development projects. It’s incredible to see how the work impacts communities, how proud they become when we hold up a mirror and show them what is precious and unique, particularly in areas that are crazy-complex and diverse. Oh, and we have a whole bunch of cats and dogs that live with us and think that we are pretty cool. CM: How do you remember Jed? For a number of years, my work study job was in the Admission Office. I did early reviews of student applications, participated in interviews, and gave tours up and down Potash Hill to panting flatlanders and their parents. Just about the best part of this job was looking over the glamorous names of the prospective students, and wondering what kind of exotic creatures they were: Anwyn, Rhett, Tyra, Tonia & Sterling. Among these, ‘Adam Fels’ didn’t really stand out. If I stopped to think about what he might look like, it may have been: Tall. Svelt. Stern. Early one fall semester I started to hear “Jed” bandied about, but I couldn’t place the name with the files in my head. Soon after, this curly-headed, ruddy-cheeked ball of menacing laughter exploded on campus. Nope. Not an “Adam” at all. He was clearly JED. I was never close to Jed, but like so many others, I couldn’t help but smile when I saw him coming because I never knew what was going to

happen next. CM: Burning Question: Favorite Marlboro memory? We want details, of course. Did somebody say, "Hot mess?" OK, let's be real here. I imploded at Marlboro. And my poor little Honda "Quaalude" was a symptom of my demise, first rolling off and having accidents without me (the parking break never worked, and it would magically shift out of gear to have a little destructive adventures). Later, my starter quit working. This led to months of me parking on hills, hoping that I had enough room to pop-start before I ran out of decline, or got hit by another car. Many, MANY of you heaved that bastard of a car to help get me rolling. THANK YOU!!! There was one particular day the summer that I lived in the chicken coop in Green River when heavy winds and rain threw a maple across Lucier Road, just before Cow Path 40. I panicked when I saw it, knowing that I was likely to be the only commuter during that particular rush hour, and was still seven miles from home. If I fucked up the turn-around and stalled, I was likely to be there all night. Sure enough, just as I came out of the turn and had almost made my escape, my car - inexplicably - died. Dead. Right there on the flats. As I was about to hit bottom in a pit of despair, a hopeful engine droned my way. I was saved!! A little blue Honda rolled to a stop, and out stepped...Rod Gander. Rod Gander, Marlboro College President, pushed my car down that muddy road that day, my pathetic wheels spewing muck over his "summer suit," until I could coax a shutter from the engine and shove off. I wish that I could impart Rod's words of wisdom as I trundled away, but I was so mortified that I could barely utter a "thanks," and missed them myself. Eventually, years and years later, I steered out of my eddy, and got a sensible car. But I will always remember how Rod was not afraid to get dirty to make sure that I was on my way, if only for that short part of my journey.

8/29/14, 12:12 AM



Terror! But thank you for asking me to participate. That's the most fun I've had writing for a long time. XO!

Cate

You're up!!

Great great great story.

THANK YOU!!!



Man, it's hard to know where to go with Marlboro. What's amazing about what you're doing is that it forces us all to realize that it all really happened.

Cate

I know. It's so fucking weird.



Ha!

Cate

I get it.

I am realizing that myself.

But your spotlight is great.

It's got a lightness to it that I think is significant right now, given the previous posts. Sincere thanks.

And I love your toughness with your damned car.



Thank you. I have really hD to think hard and wrestle with everything I've forgotten. That's so fucking weird.

Cate

I had the WORST time writing my own spotlight. I realized then what I had been subjecting people to.
So: Respect. And, again again, thanks.



Yeah that bastard of a car was like having a really annoying room mate. Anyway, great exercise. And I hope we get a face to face all of us soon.

Cate

Me too!!!



Thx for the edits btw. Commas are my enemy.

Cate

XOXO!
I have to teach that shit to my undergrads! SOOOO confusing.
Marlboro never taught nobody how to use a comma.
I have edited EVERYONE's **spotlight** for this very thing.
LOL.



Haha! So true! Or the ultimate enemy the semi colon!
We all just text now where there is no need for context

Cate

So often misused. I had to fix that in many a **spotlight**. Even the best writers. So it goes . . .



I love it.

Ferrealz

Cate

It's fun to tailor the writing. Because all of the **spotlights** are so strong.
Forealz 4sure.



Or in my house "furrealz"

Cate

Ouch my grammar radar is . . .



Cate

Anyway, I think folks are going to love your piece.



Hope so! Have a great night and thanks again. This is a gift to all of us. XOXO!

Cate

Right back atcha.
Night.

6/20/18, 2:52 PM

Cate

Hi there! I am about to book the Big Picture Farm through AirB&B (or however you spell it) and was wondering if we might want to speak to them about paying outside the AirBandB system so we don't have to pay the \$257 service fee . . . what do you think? Adam suggested I ask you because you know them, and maybe we could all save a little bit of money . . . let me know if you are at all comfortable with asking them, okay? Thanks!!

6/20/18, 4:28 PM



Hey Cate - I'm happy to ask!

Thanks for being willing to take on the expense however hopefully temporarily.

6/20/18, 7:51 PM



Emailed Louisa. Waiting for a response. The only reason I can think that she might decline is that AirBNB includes awesome insurance coverage for hosts in their fees. Justa FYI

6/20/18, 11:15 PM

Cate

Gotcha. Thanks so much for asking her!

6/21/18, 10:13 AM



No problem! Let you know as soon as I hear back.

6/22/18, 5:26 PM



Hey Cate - Heard back from Louisa and my hunch was right about the insurance so she would appreciate if you could book through AirBNB. She said if it weren't a destination holiday weekend in VT she would have been willing to look at a discount, though. Maybe next year for the deal.

6/22/18, 8:37 PM

Cate

Thanks for asking!!

6/23/18, 8:03 AM



9/11/18, 2:09 PM



Hi Cate - Can you send me a quick little bio - 3 sentences - for the Home Days program? I tried Googling you but got overwhelmed and thought it might be better if you already have a thing you can send. Here's my Marlboro email: msegura@marlboro.edu

Cate

Cate Marvin graduated in 1993. She teaches at the College of Staten Island, City University of New York, and commutes there from Scarborough, Maine, where she resides with fellow alum and husband Joe Dupont. Her most recent book of poems is **Oracle** (Norton, 2015).



NICE! Thank you, Cate!
How many books have you published?

9/11/18, 3:39 PM

Cate

3

Three

And I have one anthology I co-edited.

9/11/18, 9:10 PM



Amazing.

Cate

Well thanks!

9/13/18, 12:25 PM



For Lucia Almond flour muffins we love: <https://www.damyhealth.com/2012/05/the-best-almond-flour-blueberry-muffins/>

Sub maple syrup, do 3 eggs not separated, double the baking soda. Yum.

The Best Almond Flour Blueberry Muffins (Grain Free)

My The Best Almond Flour Blueberry Muffins Recipe is gluten free, grain free, lower in carbs, moist and the best almond flour muffins I've ever had.

damyhealth.com

10/3/18, 11:13 AM

Cate

Hi there!!

Can you talk briefly sometime later today? I swear it won't take long. Like maybe 3ish or later?



Hey!! Later would be great. Setting up Bob Engel's memorial from 2:30 til it's done

10/3/18, 2:41 PM

Cate

Later then! Let me know when Bob's memorial is done!



How about now? Just got done in Persons. Out of breath but I'm good!



No filter for real

Try me when you can

10/3/18, 4:35 PM

Cate

What's your number?
I'm at [REDACTED]

10/3/18, 6:44 PM



So glad you called! Rennie is fully in for cocktails and I let her know that traditionally the college contributed \$400 to the event. She said, "we are just so glad they're here! And isn't Cate doing a workshop for free??" Anyhoo, you can count on the \$400. In the past it needed to go to a thing. Beverages?

10/3/18, 10:47 PM

Cate

Are you asking if we want or need them?

That is GREAT news!!!!
THANK YOU.



10/4/18, 6:39 AM



You're welcome!



10/9/18, 12:07 PM



Hi Cate - in addition to Jessica's sweet speech, do you happen to have mine recorded? I went off script (thank god!)

10/9/18, 10:11 PM

Cate

I do not ... :(

4/22/19, 1:11 PM



Call me when you can? I have a meeting at 2:30-3:30 but otherwise should be available at [REDACTED]

7/29/19, 11:10 PM

Cate

Your turn!

JALF SPOTLIGHTS ANTHOLOGY Segura.docx

7/30/19, 7:00 AM



Oh Cate. I will do this with much love, but I need a few days. Fucking moerk. What a prick. His new MO is that if things start to take a positive or at least not hostile turn, he rants about the “fakey salesey” manner in which the news was delivered and gets people all whipped up again. He need to shit the fuck up and let people start to come to terms with this. I have no idea how people are feeling about me and my role but it’s really hard to see my “friends” just jump in and flail with totally wrong information. Trying to put the fires out one at a time but I need to do it behind the scenes. Not that I would ever consider moerk a friend, but I couldn’t take it any more and messaged him last night with “you made your point” It’s so out of control

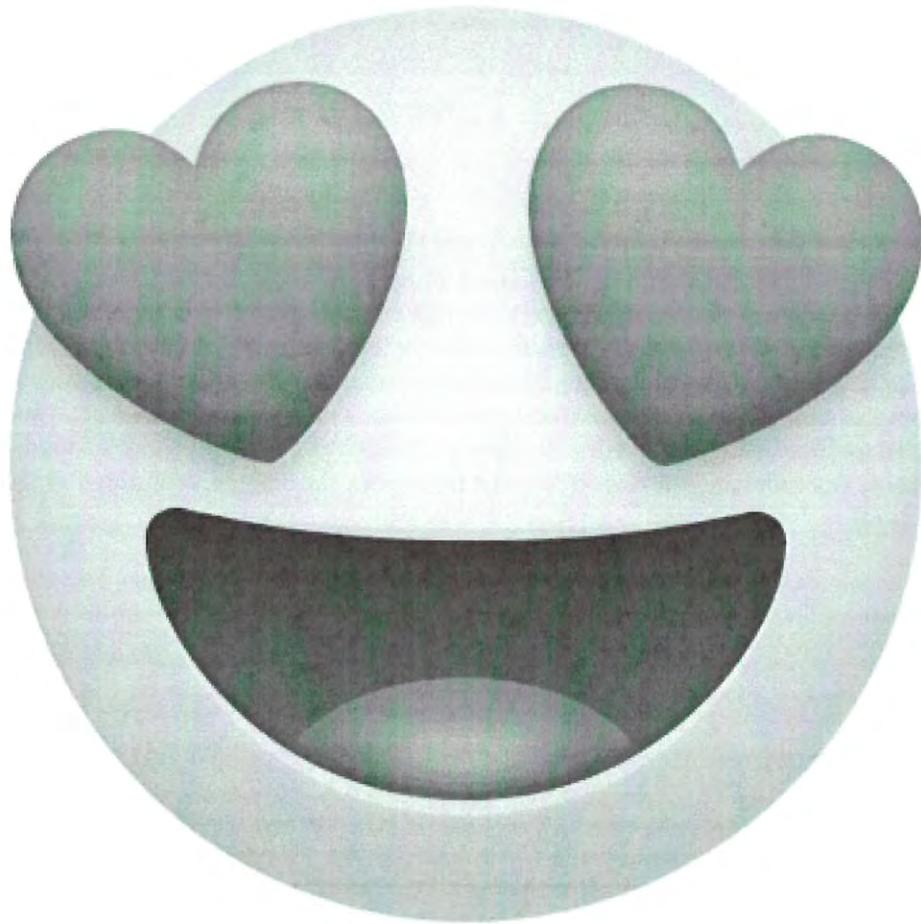
7/30/19, 8:13 AM

Cate

Take your time.

Cate

Maia. You are right in the middle of this. No way out but through. A lot of people probably (surely) do not realize how incredibly close you are to this. People like CM do not realize what it takes to do this work. You understand. The reason Marlboro is precious to him is because it is part of his self-image, which he does not want tarnished. He is an elitist. University of Bridgeport is for commoners. Regular folks. I am really sickened by the over racism (which people don't even realize) that's been communicated over this issue. HANG IN THERE. I am on your side.



8/27/19, 3:01 PM



Forgot to tell you that your tea was grown, harvested, curated and package by an alumna!
Love that stuff

8/27/19, 4:18 PM

Cate

Yay!!!

9/12/19, 1:19 PM

Cate

Hello there! I'm writing because I'm in the process of wrapping up the Official Updating of the Spotlights. I'm hoping you're still interested in participating (we want all the voices we can get!), but I also understand if you're too busy to contribute. This is Last Call! Please let me know if whether you're in or out! Warmest wishes, Cate

9/12/19, 7:59 PM



In! Sorry but can you resend the spotlight to me?

Cate

Cate

Sure thang

JALF SPOTLIGHTS ANTHOLOGY Segura.docx

9/21/19, 11:34 AM



Hi! Aurora told you that's she's performing on the 27th? Is she performing with Sharon's? I don't have on my radar at all and I gotta make sure that I have every possible head counted....



Cate

I'm not sure!

She just mentioned it in her Spotlight

You want Sharon's#?

9/21/19, 2:44 PM



Weird

9/24/19, 10:24 AM

Cate

I'd love to include your updated Spotlight. So I'm writing you now to give you one last nudge! Your official deadline is October 1st. Will that work for you? Best wishes, Cate

10/1/19, 7:40 AM



Working on it!!!

10/1/19, 12:46 PM

Cate



Great!

10/10/19, 5:17 PM

Cate

Hey lady! Can we talk sometime this evening?

10/10/19, 8:09 PM

Cate

I have questions about the JALF award letter.

10/11/19, 8:39 AM



Hey sorry I missed this! Can we talk later this afternoon or evening? Adara is AWESOME

10/11/19, 11:52 AM

Cate

When this afternoon?
Adara is clearly terrific!

10/13/19, 7:42 AM



Okok. On the other side of the Molly Booth event. Can you chat today?

10/13/19, 1:07 PM

Cate

Yes!

11/14/19, 7:30 AM

Cate

You forwarded a photo



11/14/19, 11:23 AM

Cate

Maia, I have two things to ask! First, can you help me figure out how to get the college to approve the MCAA using this logo? To whom should I speak? Second, and I realize this might come off as negative, which I do not intend; I do not wish to give Marlboro my \$30 donation every month now. As it would be going to Emerson. That \$ could go to skating lessons for Lucia. I hope you understand.

11/15/19, 9:04 AM



So, three things: 1) let me work on the logo - LOVE! 2) of course you can stop your monthly gift at any time but we must be doing a terrible job of expressing the fact that every much needed annual fund donation (which is what yours is) is going to OUR STUDENTS RIGHT NOW THIS YEAR and not to Emerson. And with donations already taking a huge hit this year from UB we are way behind. 3) we only JUST sorted the PayPal recurring gift thing so I don't think we were receiving monthly donations from you. This was on my list for the next week to address so this is probably all moot. Please check your PayPal account and let me know

Cate

Thanks.
I am okay with continuing to give.

11/15/19, 11:33 AM



Thank you Cate! TOOOOTALLY understand not wanting to give to Emerson. I'm still giving from each meager paycheck myself because Adara and Felix

11/15/19, 3:29 PM

Cate

Has Marlboro ever approached Chris Noth?

Cate

We are calling you now and it's going to voice mail

11/23/19, 7:40 AM



Hey Cate. Gonna throw something out there about the JALF prize. I met with Jason Breen yesterday who told me that he swung by Emerson and the Berkeley Beacon a couple of days ago. He said they are so excited to get our faculty and students and that they see themselves as a "small community of 4000 in the middle of a big city." So. I love that. But Jason started telling them about Rod and his history with Newsweek and what a force he was for community and they couldn't get enough of it. I think the Emerson deal is going to happen. And I am spending a ton of energy brainstorming how to pull our culture and ethos forward. There are many people at Emerson - students among them - that are hungry for it. What do you think about repurposing the JALF prize as a Rod Gander prize for a journalism student in the institute that demonstrates the intellectual tenacity and boots on the ground grit that typifies the Marlboro ethos? Just for you to think about.



Rod would hate it because he didn't think journalism should be learned in a classroom but I think our JALF group would love to honor Rod. And frankly these Berkeley Beacon kids are proving worthy of Marlboro.

Oh by the way. Jeff Bower not Jason Breen. Holy fuck I need more coffee

11/24/19, 11:16 AM

Cate

Hi Maia. I think this Rod Gander Prize is a great idea. But I do not think it is appropriate for JALF to fund it. Perhaps the college can find a way to create such a prize. As for our JALF fund, we will be requesting that the monies be returned to the JALF group via the MCAA. We will then decide how we want to direct the JALF Award fund. I'll be communicating with Rennie about this shortly. I hope you have fun this afternoon at Emerson!

11/24/19, 3:56 PM



Ok. Thanks for letting me know.



4/6/2020

Gmail - Fwd: JALF Fund

Gmail

Cate Marvin [redacted]

Fwd: JALF Fund

1 message

Jessica Taraski [redacted]

To: Cate Marvin [redacted]

Mon, Apr 6, 2020 at 11:30 PM

4/4

Begin forwarded message:

From: Maia Segura <msegura@marlboro.edu>

Subject: Fwd: JALF Fund

Date: October 29, 2018 at 3:05:04 PM EDT

To: Jessica Taraski [redacted] Cate Marvin [redacted]

JALF award funding and the detail on wording below.

This information does not reflect awards to students, and it does not reflect other donations from the last JALF meet up earlier this month.

There was some talk about revisiting whether the award should be need-based. I'll leave that to all of you. There was also talk of seeing if we could have a role in deciding who will receive the award. Let me know how serious you are about this and I will pursue/push this accordingly.

Cheers -

Maia

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Hillary Twining <htwining@marlboro.edu>

Date: Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 1:20 PM

Subject: JALF Fund

To: Maia Segura <msegura@marlboro.edu>

Hi Maia,

Jamie ran a report in Virtuous to identify donors to the JALF Fund. It looks like all of the gifts were made in 2014 and the first half of 2015. There are a total of 137 gifts (a number of people donated more than once), and the total raised was \$15,092. See the attached spreadsheet for more details. The JALF Award is listed on one of our giving pages (<https://www.marlboro.edu/giving/areas>) and is described this way: "Established in 2015 in memory of Jed (Adam) Fels, class of 1992, and recognizes a second semester freshman or sophomore who demonstrates a passion for the literary and/or dramatic arts and whose sense of humor and unique, or even provocative, community presence embodies the core values of the college." The award is given out at Commencement, and I think faculty nominate students. You may want to talk to Sara Salimbeni, the chair of the Prizes & Scholarships Committee, about alumni involvement. I hope this helps; let me know if you have questions.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=b2837d2b84&view=pt&search=all&permthid=thread-f%3A1663282977584489193&simpl=msg-f%3A1663282977584489193>

4/11/2020

Gmail - JALF Award Fund



Cate Marvin <[redacted]>

63

JALF Award Fund

12 messages

Cate Marvin <[redacted]> Sun, Nov 24, 2019 at 11:30 AM
 To: Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>
 Cc: Jessica Taraski <[redacted]>
 Bcc: Daniel Doolittle <[redacted]>, Randall George <[redacted]>, John Coakley <[redacted]>, Heather Bryce <[redacted]>

Dear Rennie,

I'm writing to redirect the conversation I've been having with Maia about the JALF Fund.

First, I do not think it is appropriate for JALF to redirect its award fund to another prize or transfer it to Emerson, nor do I think the JALF members should be expected to figure out "what to do" with the JALF fund in such a short period of time. Good decisions are not made in haste.

The Jedediah Adam Leland Fels (JALF) Award, established in 2015 in memory of Jed (Adam) Fels, class of 1992, recognizes a second semester freshman or a sophomore who demonstrates a passion for the literary and/or dramatic arts and whose sense of humor and unique or even provocative community presence embodies the core values of the college.

The JALF Award is an endowed fund that totals \$17,000.00. The JALF group directed that this award be given to a Marlboro student. I state the obvious because I want to reiterate that our intention behind this award was to fund a Marlboro College student.

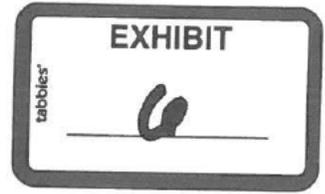
We expect that the award fund be returned to the JALF group. The monies can be held by the MCAA, as it is about to incorporate. The JALF group will then decide how they wish to redirect the funds they raised specifically to give to a Marlboro College student.

Wishing you well,

Cate

--
 Cate Marvin
 Professor of English & Creative Writing
 The College of Staten Island
 City University of New York
 [redacted]
 [redacted]





4/7/2020

Gmail - JALF Award Fund

Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>
To: Cate Marvin <[redacted]>

Tue, Nov 26, 2019 at 3:33 PM

Hi Cate,

This is a quick note to say that I've received your email, and we are looking into it. I didn't want you to think you're being ignored. I am out the rest of this week, but will be in touch soon.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours.

Best,
Rennie

[Quoted text hidden]



Rennie R. Washburn
Chief Advancement Officer

P.O. Box A
2582 South Road
Marlboro, VT 05344

802-451-7588 w
802-579-8583 c

55

Cate Marvin <[redacted]>

To: Daniel Doolittle <[redacted]>, Randall George <[redacted]>, Jessica Taraski <[redacted]>

Tue, Nov 26, 2019 at 5:04 PM

FYI

Sent from the widening gyre

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>
Date: November 26, 2019 at 3:34:16 PM EST
To: Cate Marvin <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: JALF Award Fund

[Quoted text hidden]

Cate Marvin <[redacted]>

To: Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>

Tue, Nov 26, 2019 at 5:05 PM

4/7/2020

Gmail - JALF Award Fund

[Quoted text hidden]

Cate Marvin <[redacted]>
To: Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>

Mon, Mar 23, 2020 at 11:28 AM

Dear Rennie,

I hope this finds you well. I know this isn't the greatest time to be asking questions like this, but folks in the JALF group have been asking me! Is there any word on this? I realize that we should have our lawyer be in touch with you about this directly. But I wanted to check in with you first.

TS

Hope you're staying inside. We are!

Cate

[Quoted text hidden]

Cate Marvin

[Quoted text hidden]

Pronouns: she/her/hers

[redacted]

Rennie Washburn <rwashburn@marlboro.edu>
To: Cate Marvin <[redacted]>

Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 5:06 PM

Hi Cate,

No word yet - still working with our attorneys on this. Will let you know when I know more.

Nearly all staff are working from home. Most of us have been for a week, but Governor Scott has ordered this for all of Vermont as of today, so there is no longer any choice.

Take care.

Best,
Rennie



Rennie R. Washburn
Chief Advancement Officer

P.O. Box A
2562 South Road
Marlboro, VT 05344

802-451-7588 w
802-579-8583 c



From: [Will Wootton](#)
To: [Curtis, Christopher](#)
Subject: Re: Marlboro College
Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 1:38:42 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Much appreciated.....ww

On Tue, Jun 9, 2020 at 11:46 AM Curtis, Christopher
<Christopher.Curtis@vermont.gov> wrote:

>
> Dear Mr. Wootton,
>
> Thank you for your correspondence on the matter. I will review it.
>
> Best, Christopher
>
> Sent from my iPhone

>> On Jun 8, 2020, at 9:21 AM, Will Wootton [REDACTED] wrote:

>> EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

>> Mr. Curtis:

>> In late March I addressed a letter to the Attorney General regarding
>> Marlboro's threatened
>> closure; perhaps unfortunately, I mailed it the old fashioned way, and
>> now with no receipt am worried it may not have arrived at all.

>> I've learned this from people whose letters have been acknowledged
>> publicly, and note they can not find mine.

>> In any case, I've attached a copy here, in hopes it will be accepted
>> and become part of the State's records.

>> Thank you,

>> Will Wootton

>> <Ag letter FINAL.docx>

March 26, 2020

T.J. Donovan
Attorney General
State of Vermont
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609

Dear Sir:

My name is Will Wootton, and I write to you over deep concerns I have regarding the upcoming closing of Marlboro College and the transfer to Emerson College in Boston of Marlboro's endowed funds of some \$40 million and the proceeds from the sale of the campus, approximately \$10 million. T.J.

I write as a 1972 Marlboro graduate, a 19-year senior level employee at Marlboro, and as a former president of another small, rural Vermont College, Sterling College, in Craftsbury Common, where I served from 2006 to 2012. And for the past few months I have been actively participating in one of the numerous, essentially leaderless groups opposing the College's closure, in this case called "Ibelieveinmarlborocollege.org."

To the current Board of Trustees, who feel there is no other choice for the College but closure, the reason for this deal as opposed to some other deal or concerted effort seems to be that some number of tenured faculty will move to Emerson at the same rank and better pay. No one knows how many faculty. Other than that, everyone loses their job. Windham County loses a major financial and cultural asset. The State of Vermont loses its fifth small, rural college. And higher education in America becomes just a bit more homogenized than it is already.

As someone who has written articles on the struggles and closures of small Vermont Colleges in the Chronicle of Higher Education, VTBusiness magazine, and other venues, it is of interest to me that Marlboro is failing for the same exact reasons that brought down Burlington College, St. Joe's, Green Mountain, and Southern Vermont College, all now shuttered. All of them laid the blame on "demographics" – meaning they could not attract enough students to pay their bills. Then they ran out of money.

But that's not it, at all. Small colleges close because of long and short term leadership failures on the part of boards of trustees and the presidents they select. They do not take action when action is needed. They are change adverse. They seek growth over strength. They can see the writing on the wall, but somehow are unable to read it, to understand it.

But Marlboro, at this point, is different. Not unique, but different from its now disappeared institutional colleagues.

Sweet Briar College, in Virginia, and nearby Hampshire College, in Northampton, MA are two other small colleges whose trustees attempted to close them – just as Marlboro's is trying to close their college – but whose communities rose up and protested and turned things around. Now both these institutions are rebuilding themselves, right-sizing, creating new curricula, and seeking a future.

Why these places but not Vermont's shuttered four? One critical reason, maybe the only critical reason, is that Sweet Briar and Hampshire were in possession of significant endowments. Sweet Briar about \$70 million, and Hampshire about \$60 million. A base, a foundation upon which to reset and rebuild. And they are.

Marlboro's endowment reached as much as \$50 million on a corpus of something over \$30 million. That's a lot of money for a college of 300, now reduced to 125 students. The endowment, too, I understand is much, much reduced.

So what's left? A foundational endowment, a dedicated rural community in the town of Marlboro, a significant lessee and companion in the Marlboro Music Festival, a body of alumni and friends who recently pledged nearly \$300,000 to support a sustainable Marlboro, and a cadre of former faculty and even some current faculty ready to get back to work, if the College can remain where it belongs, in Marlboro, Vermont.

But time is short. Only the tenured faculty, compromised with the promise of future employment, and current trustees have legal standing. Trustees opposed to the merger all resigned, mistakenly they understand now, losing their votes and standing.

So I, who believes the College deserves a chance to use its resources to downsize and rebuild, focus on the Marlboro Board, their actions, motives, and influences, and I have questions:

- 1. Will Board Chairman Richard Saudek explain how he has remained on the Board for more than 20 years, when the College's bylaws (most recently adopted in 2019) limit terms to a total of 12 years?*
- 2. How does*

former Chairman Dean Nyciper explain similarly long tenure on the Board?

3. President Quigley claims the College "raised" \$5 million dollars last year, while Richard Saudek told me and others that "the alumni never really stepped up." Will the Board provide an analysis of that impressive fundraising? Were all donors knowledgeable of the impending closure? Were some of those gifts – especially Trustee gifts – aimed at supporting the closure?

4. Despite repeatedly claiming, without a scrap of evidence, that the College had "thoroughly examined" the option of downsizing and rebuilding the College, will the Board justify its months-long steadfast refusal to open their downsizing examinations and process to independent scrutiny?

Further, will the Board explain its interpretation of its fiduciary responsibility, in light of the strange resistance to exhibiting evidence of even a brief study of the downsizing option?

Further still, will the board share its most recent report to NECHE, in which it apparently gave the Council the impression, but no evidence, that downsizing had been studied and rejected?

5. Will the Board's leadership assure the College community and the State of Vermont that Board member Donna Heiland – a former executive employee at Emerson and associate of Emerson President Pelton, has recused herself from voting on all measures regarding the "merger" with Emerson?

6. Finally, will the Board account for and justify the decade-long misapplication of funds to donor-driven building programs, consultancies, one-off scholarship initiatives, and other ineffectual half-measures as admissions shrank year after year, student retention declined, and the President received annual bonuses?

To me, Sir, Marlboro's decline, replete with missteps and missed opportunities, is evidence of poor institutional management and planning and fiscal recklessness, which includes hiring two presidents each without an iota of higher education administration experience, the reliance on high-end consultancies who, basically, have no experience in how small colleges operate, and relying on its endowment to repeatedly balance a budget and bail the College out of trouble, but only until the following year.

Never addressed or explored was genuine institutional change. Instead, they adhered to an educational and administrative model crashing all around them, even while witnessing the closures among their fellow Vermont institutions.

These aren't the folks who should close Marlboro College.

The College should be given the chance to right itself.

Given that chance, it will either succeed or fail. If it fails, there will still be a significant endowment – on a per student basis exceeding those at Sweet Briar and Hampshire. The campus will still be valued at \$10 million dollars. And there will be plenty of institutions, perhaps Vermont institutions, that would find such a place and community desirable.

Instead, the current Board has taken the most radical solution to the conundrum they themselves created, instead of the most conservative: downsize, restructure, rebuild.

There's an entire community of Marlboro citizens, Windham County friends, friends and alumni across the nation, and former faculty ready to support Marlboro. So it's important, at least, that the Board address these questions as to their leadership and their responsibilities to hire and fire presidents, and assure the viability and integrity of their College.

Thank you for your attention,

Will Wootton



Craftsbury Common, VT
05827

From: [Curtis, Christopher](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [Renner, Jamie](#)
Subject: Your Public Records Request
Date: Friday, June 26, 2020 12:22:00 PM

Dear Mr. Hall,

Thank you for your public records request of June 24, 2020. You requested: “any and all documents, with such redactions as are necessary, in regard to the proposed sale of the assets of Marlboro College to Democracy Builders Fund, and to the related merger of Marlboro College with Emerson College, of Boston.” And, “any other documents as the office receives them.”

Subsequent to our conversation, we agreed that you already possess, or have access to public records already posted on our website. And, that you are content to accept and continue to accept that type of constituent correspondence on a monthly (rather than daily) basis as some other requesters have also agreed to, and that furthermore, with respect to notice of any proposed transaction between Marlboro College and another entity will be treated as a standing request on the date we receive it.

As a result, the records you requested are already either received or posted. And, we will proceed as to the notice as outlined above (with three days set out in statute to respond).

Thank you for your patience and flexibility in amending your request.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best, Christopher

Christopher J. Curtis
Chief, Public Protection Division
Office of the Attorney General
State of Vermont
109 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05609
802-828-5586

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