



(above) Alumni gather in Commons at the Schwarzman Center for a meal;
(opposite) members of the community reconnected during receptions, dinners, presentations, and more.



Alumni Weekend 2022

PHOTOS BY MARA LAVITT
AND HAROLD SHAPIRO

REUNITED AT LAST



After a three-year hiatus, more than 1,000 Yale Law School alumni and guests gathered in New Haven on Oct. 21–23 for Alumni Weekend 2022. The joy of returning to campus and reuniting with classmates was evident through the smiles on faces and the enthusiastic conversations heard throughout the building.

A centerpiece of Alumni Weekend was the State of the School address, in which Dean Heather K. Gerken outlined how the school is leading the way in redefining legal education by ensuring the most capable students have a seat at the table and creating the infrastructure to support them through the launch of two of the biggest programs in the Law School's history: The Tsai Leadership Program and the Hurst Horizon Scholarship Program, both made possible through the generosity of alumni.

With The Tsai Leadership Program, the Law School has begun to invent a curriculum for the next century as well as to teach critical skills for success across sectors. The program also seeks to build powerful mentorship networks, particularly to help empower first-generation professional students and low-income students, Gerken said.

This year, 51 Law School students have received Hurst Horizon Scholarships, which eliminate tuition and fees for students who come from families below the federal poverty line, ensuring that a YLS legal education is accessible to everyone. In her remarks, Gerken emphasized that this is only the beginning, and she hopes to expand the scholarship to reach more students in the future.





“The bigger we build this, the more of an influence we are going to have, not just on this place itself but on legal education,” Gerken said. This month’s launch of the Yale Law School Launchpad Scholars Program, powered by Latham & Watkins, further cements the School’s commitments to opportunity and equity in legal education and the legal profession.

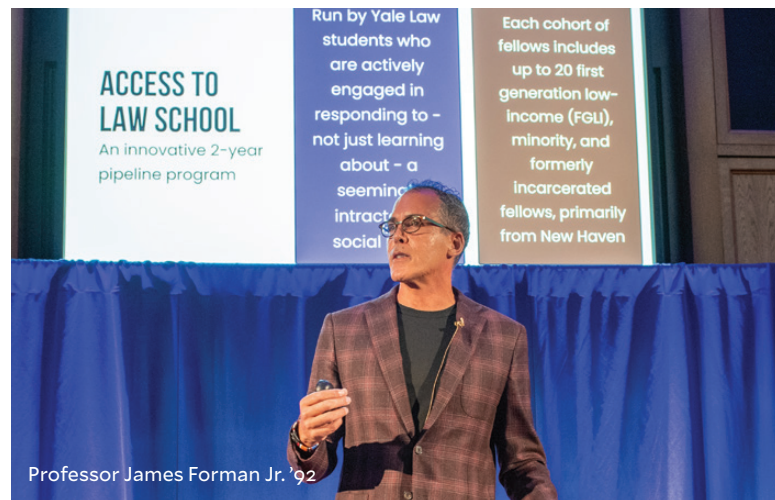
In front of a packed auditorium, Gerken presented the Award of Merit, the Yale Law School Association’s highest honor, to Catharine A. MacKinnon ’77 and posthumously to Pauli Murray ’65 JSD and Deborah L. Rhode ’77. The Award of Merit recognizes alumni or long-time faculty of Yale Law School who have made a substantial contribution to public service or to the legal profession.

Professor Deborah Rhode ’77 was a prolific scholar who wrote more than 30 books on topics including legal ethics, gender, and access to justice. Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray ’65 JSD was a trailblazing

scholar and activist for civil rights, human rights, and women’s rights who has been recognized as a saint by the Episcopal Church.

Professor Catharine A. MacKinnon ’77, Elizabeth A. Long Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School and James Barr Ames Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, is described as “law’s most prominent feminist legal theorist.” Among her many accomplishments, she is best known for expanding the definition of sex discrimination law.





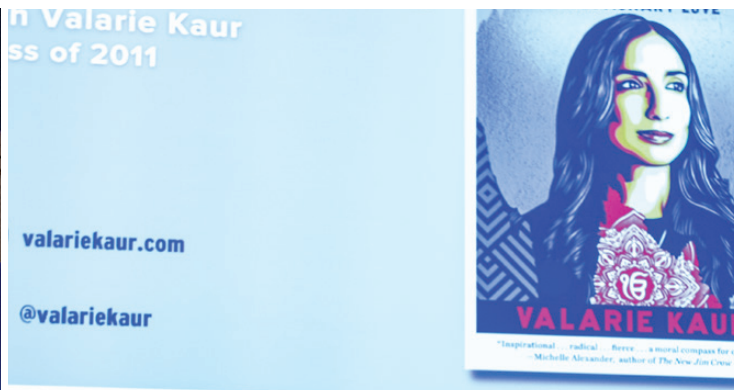
Professor James Forman Jr. '92

ACCESS TO LAW SCHOOL

An innovative 2-year pipeline program

Run by Yale Law students who are actively engaged in responding to - not just learning about - a seemingly intractable social

Each cohort of fellows includes up to 20 first generation low-income (FGLI), minority, and formerly incarcerated fellows, primarily from New Haven



Valarie Kaur '12

“Jim Thomas [’64] made my life in law possible. That life was far from preordained or inevitable...Actually, for me, it hung by a thread of not happening.”

CATHARINE A. MACKINNON '77



On Saturday afternoon, Sen. Cory Booker '97 of New Jersey and Sen. Chris Coons '92 of Delaware held a conversation with Dean Gerken in the Levinson Auditorium in which they discussed their Yale Law School experiences, including the powerful impact that the clinics, the Law School, and New Haven communities had on them and how they took leaps of faith into public service after law school. The two senators also spoke about the importance of connecting across political divides, especially in such a divisive political moment across the country.

The weekend also saw the dedication of Carol and Gene Ludwig Hall, the newly renovated home of The Tsai Leadership Program. Read more on page 55.

Class reunion dinners and brunches were held for all classes ending in 2s and 7s, with the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972 celebrating their 50th reunions and the classes of 1960, 1961, and 1962 celebrating their 60th reunions in tandem this year following postponement due to the pandemic. Alumni also attended the student/alumni breakfast, diversity events, and special reunion class activities. 🍷

Chris Coons '92



“We must make it our earnest work to find and embrace and understand across our differences, or we will lose this vital experiment in democracy.”

CHRIS COONS '92





Professor Douglas Kysar



Cory Booker '97

**“People think we’re so divided,
but we have so much that joins us.
Every day we could do things to change the energy...
the solution to this is not a leader;
it is millions of acts of grace.”**

CORY BOOKER '97



(left to right) Nancy Gertner '71, Professor Anne Alstott '87,
Lourdes Rivera '90, and Monica Marquez '97



Dwayne Betts '16



Class of 2017



Class of 1971



Ludwig Hall Dedicated as the Home of Tsai Leadership Program

PHOTOS BY HAROLD SHAPIRO

Nearly one year after the launch of The Tsai Leadership Program, alumni, faculty, and staff gathered on a sunny afternoon in the Courtyard during Alumni Weekend 2022 to celebrate the dedication of Carol & Gene Ludwig Hall, the program's newly renovated home.

The program opened with introductory remarks from Dean Heather K. Gerken, in which she recognized the founders of The Tsai Leadership Program — Joe Tsai '90 and Clara Wu Tsai, Michael Chae '97 and Alexa Chae '97, and Gene Ludwig '73 and Carol Ludwig.

"I cannot imagine a more fitting name for this hall to bear than Gene and Carol," Gerken said. "Together they embody everything that the Law School and The Tsai Leadership Program stand for. Their intellect is matched only by their empathy. Their creativity and curiosity led them to think of solutions that others didn't even think were options."

The program's new space sits adjacent to the Courtyard in what was formerly known as "The Cottages" in the heart of the Law School campus.

In his keynote address, Gene Ludwig said he was honored to be associated with Joe Tsai and Michael Chae, whose character, decency, excellence, and commitment to philanthropy exemplify the best characteristics of Yale Law School alumni. Ludwig shared three stories with one element in common: that everyone wants to have access to the American Dream and that in public service, the needs of low- and middle-income families can be met when multidisciplinary approaches, advocacy, and successful implementation combine. 🍷



(top left) Gene and Carol Ludwig, with Dean Gerken, dedicate Ludwig Hall; (top right) Gerken addresses the crowd; (middle) Joe Tsai '90, Carol Ludwig, Gene Ludwig '73, Michael Chae '97, and Alexa Chae '97; (bottom) the interior of Ludwig Hall.