



Mortar Board

Scholars...Chosen for Leadership...United to Serve

ALUMNI NEWS

Welcome to the first edition of Mortar Board Alumni News!

Developed especially for Mortar Board alumni...

Early this fall, Mortar Board surveyed alumni members to find out what you want to read about in our magazines and newsletters. We received some great feedback and even greater opinions. Alumni want to hear about:

- Benefits of membership
- Alumni members of Mortar Board
- What alumni chapters are doing
- Information on what is going on with Mortar Board at the national level
- Current issues related to higher education
- How to get more involved

We also asked how, and how often, members want to hear from Mortar Board, with the overwhelming favorite as e-newsletters (more than 75 percent chose this method), on at least a quarterly basis. Mortar Board will continue to publish and mail the Mortar Board Forum magazine on a biannual basis, and produce several other e-newsletters with varying topics, including special opportunities on merchandise and regional programs. Please forward this to your former Mortar Board classmates and ask them to sign up for Alumni News now.

A different idea on what you want to hear? Let Mortar Board know by sending feedback to enews@mortarboard.org!

Benefits of membership:

Beyond satisfaction, recognition and honor, Mortar Board has additional tangible benefits ranging from discounts and services to unique opportunities.

Networking

Members are given several unique opportunities to network with collegiate and alumni members in a specific geographic location, career area or graduate field of study across the globe as a part of Mortar Board's Career & Graduate School Network. For the tech-savvy, Mortar Board has nationwide groups on peer networking sites including Facebook and MySpace.

Graduate fellowships

Mortar Board alumni have the exclusive opportunity to apply for fellowships to continue their education at the graduate level. Thousands of dollars are available, with the deadline to apply occurring on January 31 each year.

Discounts and services from our partners

Mortar Board works with a variety of partners to bring exclusive special offers and discounts to our members. More importantly, these partnerships provide for scholarships and additional support of the honor society's mission and programs.

Career assistance

In addition to Mortar Board's Career & Graduate School Network, Mortar Board will be launching a national job search engine exclusively for our members this year. Additionally, members applying for jobs with the federal government receive employment entrance at the GS-7 ranking, which can mean an instant pay increase for certain jobs.

Award-winning collegiate chapters

Each year at the national conference, chapters are awarded for their various accomplishments. Check out a list of the 2006-2007 winners to see if your alma mater won an award at www.mortarboard.org/news/

**WHAT DOES
MORTAR BOARD
MEAN TO YOU?**



Forum Sneak peek

The semi-annual Mortar Board Forum magazine will arrive in homes in December, but you can expect to read about a historical perspective on career support from Mortar Board, detailed updates from more than a dozen chapters across the nation, a collegiate viewpoint on career preparation, a feature on life after graduation and how one member chose to make a difference instead of immediately entering the corporate world. If you aren't a Forum subscriber, there is still time to submit your information before the issue goes to press. Start subscribing today!

Leadership opportunities

Mortar Board has national leadership opportunities available in numerous positions, including as a committee member, section coordinator, National Council member and much more! Just let us know that you are interested by contacting Jon Cook at jcook@mortarboard.org.

Distinguished Mortar Board alumni

Audrey Finkelstein

The University of Miami, Initiated 1937

2007 Mortar Board Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award recipient

Audrey Finkelstein is a strong volunteer, philanthropist and community activist. As a pioneering woman that many describe as a “true suffragette,” she has many credits to her name, including the first female president of the American Jewish Committee, the first female chair of the Community Relations Board and the first female officer of the United Way. This summer, she was honored for her accomplishments and lifelong commitment to the ideals of scholarship, leadership and service with a Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award at the Mortar Board National Conference.



Finkelstein has generously given her time, talents and resources to numerous local and national organizations, including the Girl Scouts, University of Miami Alumni Association, Miami-Dade Schools Quality Education Committee, University of Miami Women’s Commission on the Status of Women, Council for Continuing Education for Women, YWCA, Rape Treatment Center, the fair housing group HOPE, and the Mental Health Association.

Finkelstein has also spent time as a public radio broadcaster and created The Civil Rights Radio Series audio cassettes, which are part of the Florida State Archives. She is known as the voice of “Straight Talk” and also hosted “Women’s View,” a television program that focused on women achievers in non-traditional fields. Today, she continues her volunteer service with Friends of WLRN, Inc. as a guest broadcaster on “Tropical Currents.”

Alumni chapter spotlight

Miami chapter awarded top national honor

The Mortar Board alumni chapter in Miami, Florida received the Outstanding Alumni Chapter Award at the 2007 National Conference in July. The chapter, founded in 1966, meets to enhance fellowship among members and support the local collegiate chapter at the University of Miami.

Among their successful events is the annual Homecoming Luncheon, a collective event for both collegiate and alumni members, held at the Coral Gables Country Club and the Senior Send-Off, an annual Mortar Board/ODK awards breakfast at the University of Miami. At the Senior Send-Off, the alumni chapter annually presents two regarded awards to collegiate members, the Ruth and Henry King Stanford and Estelle Greene awards.

Congratulations to the Miami, Florida Alumni Chapter!

Mortar Board alumni are making a difference

Alumna leads national campaign to reduce pregnancy among Latino teens

Ruthie Flores, a 1992 initiate at the University of California – Los Angeles, is leading the National Campaign’s Latino Initiative to decrease teen pregnancy in the Hispanic community.

According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 51 percent of Latina teens become pregnant at least once before age 20, a rate considerably higher than the national average for all ethnicities.

Flores has been named one of the most influential men or women impacting the Latino community in Orange County, California on the LATINO OC 100.

The campaign seeks a more effective cultural approach to teen pregnancy prevention, involving both male and female teens as well as distributing a savvy educational manual to schools, community groups and health facilities. This manual, a collaboration using the aptitude of 20 Latino community leaders, emphasizes the use of the traditional Hispanic values of family-centeredness, affection and respect as a compass. These unique manuals roll out across the country this month.



Editor’s note: The Mortar Board National Office wants to know all about you – accomplishments, new jobs, awards, life events, and more! Update us using an easy online form at www.mortarboard.org or by e-mailing mbforum@mortarboard.org.