YDS Regional Bicentennial Event Toolkit

We appreciate your willingness to gather YDS alums and friends in your local area to celebrate the YDS Bicentennial and foster community with alums nearby. We hope you enjoy your time connecting with one another and with Yale!

**Your Bicentennial Event Toolkit includes:**

- Nametags & sharpie pens
- Suggested welcome talking points
- YDS Bicentennial facts to share and
- Yale Divinity cocktail napkins
- Yale Divinity School banner for a group photo
- “Step in for YDS students” promo handout offering YDS Bicentennial Socks with a qualifying Annual Fund donation

- For your guests:
  - YDS Bicentennial stickers (for travel mugs, laptops, etc.)
  - Color-changing YDS Bicentennial stadium cups (pour a cold beverage in them to see the color change.)
  - “Remembered Details” bookmarks, created by Ron Evans, ’70 B.D.
  - YDS Living Village bookmarks with project facts

- Optional activity:
  - “We are called” selfie placards and instructions on this project to collect alum stories

**The YDS Alumni Office will:**

- Reimburse up to $100 for event supplies or food.
- Promote your event to alums in your local region via email and the YDS monthly e-newsletter.
- Track RSVPs and update you periodically with attendance responses.
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Event program for once most guests have arrived:

- Welcome everyone, and introduce yourself and any notable guests.
- Share that this event is one of several being hosted around the country to celebrate the YDS Bicentennial. We have included some Bicentennial history facts from the recently published “This Grand Errand” bicentennial history of YDS.
- Depending on your group size, you can ask guests to introduce themselves and share their YDS affiliation (most commonly, academic program and year of graduation)
- You may also note that YDS has launched a capital campaign:

This fall, YDS has launched the “We are called” capital campaign as part of the larger Yale for Humanity campaign. The four YDS campaign goals are scholarship and financial aid, faculty strength and scholarship, social justice and the greater good, and the Living Village Project. The YDS Annual Fund is integral to this campaign, with all donations directed to student support. This past year, YDS was able to meet all demonstrated tuition needs with the assistance of thousands of donors like us. Looking forward, the school will expand student support to include funds for living and educational expenses.

The “We are called” campaign theme will lift up the myriad of ways YDS graduates have used their education to be leaders in their local communities. We are invited to share our personal callings by completing an “I am called” page and sharing a selfie here and with the YDS Alum Office.

- Please take a group photo, using the fabric banner in your box.

After your event, send the following to the Alumni Office (divinity.alumni@yale.edu):

- final attendance list
- receipts (can be a photo) for up to $100 reimbursement of gathering supplies or food.
- Your group photo and any other event photos to share on social media and in our monthly e-newsletter. If you share on your own social media, we encourage you to use #YDS200 and tag @YaleDivinitySchool and @YaleAlumni. Don’t worry if you don’t know how to do this. We will do this with posts of the photos you send us.