

Dear Alumni, Fellows, and Friends,

We are delighted to introduce our first e-newsletter, made by and for you. We hope you enjoy keeping in touch and we look forward to your feedback and contributions!

Introducing the BAEF Alumni Committee in the US...

The BAEF US Alumni Committee was created in 2008 at the initiative of a few alumni and fellows. It is working on a spontaneous basis with the support of the BAEF Board of Directors. Our mission is to strengthen connections among BAEF alumni, fellows and friends through social and cultural events in the US. We believe the BAEF family to be one of the strongest and most diverse communities of Belgians in the US and abroad and we are dedicated to its liveliness and development.

Membership in the committee is open to any American or Belgian fellow or alumnus who is motivated and willing to further our networking goals on Uncle Sam's side of the Atlantic. You can reach any of the committee members at USAlumniBAEF@gmail.com.



fltr: Bill Moody, Alexandra Kreins, Tom Schouwenaers, Romanie Dendooven, Emile Boulpaep, Jean Malpas, Julie Van den Kieboom.

You can join the BAEF Family and Alumni Committee by...

- Attending the Annual Fall Welcome Reception in New York City where, each year, the President, Board and alumni committee welcome the 'boat' of fellows arriving from Belgium
- Connecting with local networks of alumni and fellows in your area
- Participating to our US "Host program" and welcoming a fellow arriving to study in your area
- Attending our social and cultural events throughout the year
- Reaching out to us and sharing your suggestions
- Or, better, joining the committee!

The 2010 Annual Welcome Reception...

It has become a true BAEF Fall tradition to welcome the new Fellows to the BAEF family upon their arrival in the United States. On October 15, the BAEF gathered at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's offices on Manhattan's Upper West Side to enjoy wine, cheese, chats, speeches and a brilliant musical performance by Stanislas Adam, a BAEF fellow, who played Bach's Chaconne. After the reception, many invitees joined the Alumni Committee for an informal dinner at "Le Monde" Restaurant. The pictures cannot lie... it was a great evening! Join us again next Fall!



Welcome Reception 2010

Connect with your local BAEF Network...

Alumni and fellows are present all over the country! Besides activities in New York, several events have been organized on the East and West Coasts. For instance, BAEF Northern California hosted events at the Berkeley and Stanford campuses in October 2010. The Stanford BBQ was particularly successful, with over 25 people in attendance. Future Fall plans include a trip to a local San Francisco brewery. As for NYC, please see below for a private tour at the MET on December 3rd! All BAEF alumni are welcome.

If you'd like to know about BAEF activities in your area, please contact:

- New York City: Romanie (romanie.dendooven@gmail.com) and Julie (julievandenkieboom@gmail.com)
- Washington, DC and MD: Koen Hoornaert (koenhoornaert@hotmail.com)
- Northern California: Alexis Krumme (alexis.krumme@gmail.com) and Stéphanie Dupont (sdupont@stanford.edu)
- Southern California: Lorenzo de Lichtervelde (delicht@scripps.edu)

If you are a Belgian or American Alumnus in the US and you would like to start building up a BAEF local network in your area, the BAEF alumni committee can help! Please contact Alexandra at alexandra.kreins@gmail.com

The US Host Program

After its launch last year, the BAEF Host program continues to bring together alumni and new Fellows in the US. The idea behind the program is to assign incoming Fellows to an alum who can act as an initial point of contact in the institution or region where the Fellow will be residing. The host can provide tips on housing, transportation, campus and city life, or even provide shelter for the first few days. The host may also be helpful in answering practical questions on studying or doing research at the particular institution, and help the Fellow get familiarized with the new academic environment.

Besides the more practical aspects of getting settled in the US, one of the goals is to also engage the Fellow in social and networking activities. This can include meeting for dinner or a drink, getting the Fellow involved in a student organization, an invitation to a Thanksgiving celebration, or providing contacts and tips for future professional opportunities. The host can fulfill the role as he or she chooses.

We try to match Fellows and hosts primarily by location, and secondly by field of study and institution. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to establish a feasible match, but as we are building out our database of volunteers, we strive to have complete coverage of the next incoming BAEF Boats. For more information, to volunteer as a host next year, or to share a success story for this newsletter, please contact Tom Schouwenaars (tomsch@gmail.com).

Mark your calendar: Upcoming Social and Cultural Events...

Join us for an exciting and private tour of the Jan Gossart Exhibit at New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET) on Friday, December 3rd 2010 at 6pm.

The event will take us to the special exhibition "*Man, Myth, and Sensual Pleasures: Jan Gossart's Renaissance*". Maryan Ainsworth – BAEF alumnus and curator of the exhibition - is kind enough to guide us through the works of this pivotal Old Master who changed the course of Flemish art from the legacy of its "founder", Jan van Eyck, and charted new territory that eventually led to the great age of Peter Paul Rubens. After the visit, a reception will take place in the museum. We look forward to welcoming you at this event.



News from Home: Alumni Activities in Belgium...

Alumnus Mona Chammas, President Emile Boulpaep, the Board and Marie-Claude Hayoit have been working hard on updating the BAEF Alumni contact database. Thanks to their incredible efforts, our database now contains several hundred alumni's details. Special thanks to Pieter-Augustijn Van Mallegheem for his logistical support in the venture!

Please keep us in the loop by:

- Joining the BAEF LinkedIn Group and keeping your location and contact details updated; and/or
- Sending us your new contact information if you change emails or if you move, at: USAlumniBAEF@gmail.com.

The Belgian Alumni Committee also organizes yearly receptions in Belgium. For more information, please contact the BAEF central office: mail@baef.be.

Send us your feedback, requests and updates!

We would be delighted to hear from you and incorporate your suggestions for future events and networking opportunities. If you wish to share a personal or professional update with the BAEF family, please send us a short text and we will be happy to include it in our next Newsletter (Sometime in 2011). We look forward to staying in touch with all of you!

The BAEF US Alumni Committee,

Mona Chammas (Boat 2007), Romanie Dendooven (Boat 2009), Alexandra Kreins (Boat 2008), Jean Malpas (Boat 2000), Tom Schouwenaars (Boat 2001) and Julie Van den Kieboom (Boat 2008).