2014

Alumni News

Linfield Magazine Staff

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Linfield College

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Hometown pride

Two recent polls reminded me how fortunate we are to be located in McMinnville. Parade Magazine held a poll to identify the Best Main Street in America. Although McMinnville did not win, we did come in second. The Portland Business Journal recently asked readers to select Oregon’s Best College Town. McMinnville wasn’t on the list, but Linfield and McMinnville fans responded in droves, claiming our town was the best. McMinnville may not have “won” either contest, but it clearly made an impact in both polls.

If you haven’t been to McMinnville in some time, you might be surprised at the changes. McMinnville is now known as a tourist destination, in addition to a great place to live and work. Yamhill County is home to hundreds of wineries, charming brew pubs and great restaurants. We have several boutique shops that will delight the avid shopper. Our parks are beautiful and in the summer months, the city is filled with live music at a number of venues, including right here on campus.

If it’s been a while since your last Third Street stroll, come for a visit. And when you do, be sure to stop by campus and say hello. After all, part of what makes McMinnville so special is Linfield College.

– Debbie Harmon Ferry ’90
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

For more information, contact Debbie Harmon Ferry ’90, director of alumni and parent relations, 503-883-2547, alumni@linfield.edu, linfield.edu/alumni.

Alumni Updates

New ALC members named

The Alumni Leadership Council welcomes four new members. New participants will work with the ALC to provide input and direction for alumni events, services, programming and communications. The group meets three times each year to discuss how to nurture lifelong connections with the Linfield community. New members are:

Marianne Mills ’72 of McMinnville; retired athletic director, McMinnville High School;
Kathy (Magana) Loving ’82 of McMinnville;
Roger Staples ’86 of Salem; budget and finance section manager, Oregon Health Authority; and
Kelsey Lyle ’06 of Washington, D.C., English language teacher.

Networking reception

Monday, Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m.

Join Linfield alumni for an event hosted by Greg Sparks ’95 at the Regus Business Center in the US Bancorp Tower in Portland. Bring business cards and meet others who understand the value of a Linfield education.

Coming to a city near you


Social media ambassadors #makeadifference

Sharing your love of Linfield is only a smartphone away.

In August, after McMinnville was left off the Portland Business Journal’s poll for Oregon’s Best College Town, Linfield Social Media Ambassadors, and many other alumni and friends, set the record straight about the connection between Linfield and McMinnville. Aron Carleson ’89 said, “McMinnville and Linfield College! Supportive and beautiful town!” Colin Jones ’11 chimed in with, “McMinnville, all the way!”

Join the Linfield Social Media Ambassador program, and spread the message of college news and events with friends and followers on social media. Launched in fall 2013, the volunteer program is meant to share key news, information and other announcements through your own social media channels. Currently, there are more than 30 alumni, faculty, staff and parent ambassadors posting on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or a blog at least monthly.


Contact Travis McGuire, assistant director of alumni and parent relations, 503-883-2387, tmcguire@linfield.edu to learn more.
Alumni honored during homecoming

Five alumni were honored at the Linfield’s Finest awards reception Oct. 17 during homecoming weekend.

Samantha (Schmehl) Hines ‘99 was named 2014 Outstanding Young Alumna for her achievements in her profession. Hines is director of the Missoula College Library at the University of Montana, an associate professor and accomplished academic. She has published two books and served in a variety of leadership roles in her profession.

Ashlee (Tucker) Moehring ’02 was a 2013 Outstanding Young Alumna but was unable to attend last year’s celebration. She is a director of Sellwood Consulting LLC, an investment consulting firm in Portland that she co-founded in 2012. She also sits on Sellwood’s Board of Directors and Investment Committee, and is the firm’s chief compliance officer. As a lead consultant, she provides investment advice to mid-size institutional clients such as endowments, foundations and retirement plans.

Cathy (Wark) Carnahan ’73 received the Distinguished Alumna Award for her passion and dedication to education. She is the principal of Duniway Middle School in McMinnville and was named the 2011 National Middle School Principal of the Year. Her innovative strategies have enabled Duniway to perform in the top 10 percent of all middle schools in the state.

Bob and Nancy (Steinbach) Haack, both ’69, received the Alumni Service Award for their volunteer contributions of time and energy to Linfield College. The Haacks are passionate about Linfield and both are members of the Hall of Fame. They are strong supporters of athletics, and Nancy has coordinated class and sorority reunions and served on the Alumni Leadership Council.

For more information on this year’s recipients, go to linfield.edu/homecoming.
Consider nominating someone for the 2015 awards, at linfield.edu/alumniawards.