

YOU ARE INVITED

29th ANNUAL IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LEAP YEAR EVENT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024

ADDITIONAL CONVERSATIONS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 2 & THURSDAY, APRIL 4

In-Person Cocktail Reception
Dixwell Community "Q" House
197 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven
(parking available on site)

HONORING
TONY
SCILLIA

LEAP Year Event Cocktail Reception 5-7 p.m. EST
LEAP Year Event Dinners 7:30 p.m. EST
An Elegant Evening of Fine Dining and Conversation
Hosted at homes and restaurants in Greater New Haven and Virtually

See old friends and make new connections at our in-person cocktail reception, where we will honor Tony Scillia with the LEAP Community Leadership Award.

Following the February 29 (actual LEAP Day!) reception, you may proceed to one of 17 in-person dinner parties or one Zoom Conversation. Additional conversations will take place on Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. and Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.

We thank everyone—our Hosts, Sponsors, Guests of Honor, and our dinner guests—who make this event possible. We expect in-person dinner parties to fill quickly, so sign up early! For updates, please see our website and emails. All proceeds benefit LEAP.

BUY TICKETS ONLINE
www.leapforkids.org/LYE

● BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW ●
Thursday, February 29, 2024
 Additional dinners on Saturday, March 2 & Thursday, April 4

We hope you will join us for our first in-person cocktail reception since 2020 where we will honor **Tony Scillia**. Dinner conversations to follow.

LEAP Year Event Invitation

Creating A New Haven For Our Children

31 Jefferson Street
 New Haven, CT 06511
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leapforkids.org
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ABOUT THE EVENT

LEAP Year Event is a cherished New Haven tradition: an evening of camaraderie, dining, and a chance to make a difference in the lives of youth in New Haven. In these challenging times, your investment in children, teens, and families is more important than ever. Some of the value of LEAP Year Event is that it sheds light on the importance of coming together—as a community—to do good things for children and make a difference in New Haven.

The 29th annual LEAP Year Event begins with an in-person cocktail reception at the Dixwell Community "Q" House, after which guests will attend conversations hosted by generous LEAP supporters in their homes, other elegant venues, or virtually. Delicious dinners will be served at in-person conversations.

LEAP Year Event is LEAP's most successful fundraiser. One hundred percent of your ticket price goes directly to LEAP's programs. Your support ensures that LEAP continues to Create a New Haven for All Our Children.

ABOUT LEAP

LEAP was established in 1992 to advance racial equity by providing free social and academic enrichment, mentorship, and leadership opportunities for children and teens in New Haven's low-income neighborhoods. In addition to a focus on literacy and phonics, LEAP provides children opportunities in art, swimming, camping, cooking, team building, and more. As the largest employer of youth, LEAP trains high school and college students to be mentors to the children, while also expanding their college and career options. LEAP provides year-round programming at eight community-based sites, including the Roslyn Milstein Meyer LEAP Community Center in Wooster Square and the Dixwell Q House.

In 2023, LEAP worked with more than 1,300 children and employed over 200 young people, expanded our phonics program, hired a full-time social worker, expanded internship experiences for teens, and bolstered college access with more free college tours and a new academic success coordinator to assist with college applications and applying for financial aid.



LEAP YEAR DINNERS 2024

OPTION 1 ● In-Person Dinner Parties

- Each dinner party will be limited to approximately 20 participants including the Hosts and Guest(s) of Honor.
- Tickets are first-come, first-served, so sign up early!
- Participants will dine together and share conversation following a presentation by the Guest of Honor.
- Participants may be required to test for Covid before in-person dinner parties.
- It is possible that some in-person dinner parties may shift to virtual events if circumstances require. We will notify you by email if there are changes to your dinner.

IN-PERSON DINNER PARTIES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 at 7:30 p.m. EST

1. THE PEABODY RE-EMERGES!

Gain insights into the redesign of the Peabody Museum guided by lead architect **Mark Simon** of Centerbrook Architects. The first major changes since it opened in 1925 are nearing completion, and the reopening in Spring 2024, after ten years of master planning, will reveal a complete transformation of the space and exhibits.

Hosted by JoAnn & Tony Scillia at Adriana's Restaurant, New Haven

2. LIFT EVERY VOICE

Swing and sway to music performed by the **Monk Family Jazz and STEAM Collective, Inc.**, founded by Thelonious S. Monk III (son of Thelonious Monk, prolific composer of jazz), Marcella Monk Flake, and local members of the Thelonious Sphere Monk Family. You'll share an uplifting evening of jazz and inspirational music while learning about the family's work to inspire, educate, and cultivate a multicultural and intergenerational community.

Hosted by Lindsay Wright & Braxton Shelley, New Haven

3. DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

Join the fight for healthy communities led by **Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith**, Yale Medical School Associate Dean for Health Equity Research and C.N.H. Long Professor of Internal Medicine. In dialogue with dinner guests, Dr. Nunez-Smith will describe her research and advocacy, promoting healthcare equity for marginalized populations and examining social and structural determinants of health disparities.

Hosted by Barbara Chesler & Maureen Weaver & Rob Leighton, Hamden

4. SING US A SONG, PIANO MAN

The dinner menu is set, but the playlist is not. Cozy up in an intimate Cabaret setting with piano virtuoso **Andy Rubenoff** for an evening of melody and cheer with selections from the Great American Songbook. Baby, it's cold outside, but this promises to be a warm and lively gathering.

Hosted by Drs. Deborah Dyett Desir & Gary Desir, Woodbridge

5. QUANTUM REVOLUTION

A. Douglas Stone, Deputy Director of the Yale Quantum Institute, will offer a layman's introduction to the "second quantum revolution," which has changed our understanding of physics and may be the greatest advancement in theoretical physics in half a century. You will share his excitement about the new discipline of quantum information science that promises to produce computing and sensing technologies unlike any previously envisioned.

Hosted by Craig Crews, Guilford

6. SHARING STORIES

Share an evening of stories with New Haven native **Rachel Kauder Nalebuff**, author and nonfiction writing instructor at Yale. Exploring oral history, performance, and public health, she weaves community tapestries of books and theater. Her most recent work, *Stages*, combines the varied perspectives of nursing home residents and staff, providing universal reflections on caregiving, loss, and feelings.

Hosted by Kasia Lipska & Jake Halpern, New Haven

7. SOCIAL Q'S? ASK THE TIMES

Faced with difficult, awkward social situations, readers often turn to **Philip Galanes**, weekly contributor to *The New York Times* "Social Q's" advice column. He will discuss how the changing social and political landscape has changed his work and how it may affect your life too.

Hosted by Karen Pritzker & Francine Sears, Branford

8. PORTRAIT OF (A LOCAL) ARTIST

You will have a picture-perfect evening when you join Yale Art Gallery Director **Stephanie Wiles** and Curator **John Stuart Gordon** for a tour of the first monographic exhibition of the work from Sheila Levrant de Bretteville, graphic designer, public artist, and champion of inclusion. The rich array of materials drawn from the extensive archive of her work highlights pivotal moments of de Bretteville's remarkable career of early and important contributions to feminist design and education.

Hosted by Susan Kerley & Union League Cafe, New Haven

9. MONUMENTAL CHOICES

Join **Christopher Hawthorne**, Senior Critic at Yale School of Architecture and longtime architecture critic for the *LA Times*, in the ongoing discussion on American cities about public monuments and memorials—what to do with controversial existing ones and how to design new ones. A trailblazer in this work, Hawthorne was a leader in *Past Due: Report Recommendations of the Los Angeles Civic Memory Working Group* and in making recommendations for a newly commissioned memorial in Los Angeles to honor victims of the 1871 Chinese Massacre.

Hosted by Rachel Fine, New Haven

10. NEXT GENERATION ARCHITECTURE

Hear from local and internationally recognized architects **Lisa Gray** and **Alan Organschi**, Director of the Berlin-based Innovation Lab at Bauhaus Earth, about their vision for transforming the building sector from a source of climate degradation into a regenerative and ecologically sensitive means for meeting global housing and infrastructure needs. The team focuses on the deep ecological synergies between natural systems like forests and the building design and construction process, seeing timber construction as a way to help combat climate change.

Hosted by Jack Ciccolo & Sid Phillips & Firehouse 12, New Haven

11. ENTREPRENEURIAL EVENING

Stimulate your thinking in conversation with New Haven native **Josh Geballe**, Yale's Senior Provost for Entrepreneurship & Innovation and Managing Director, Yale Ventures. Previously Governor Ned Lamont's Chief Operating Officer, Josh now supports the launch of startups across Greater New Haven and provides training in entrepreneurship and innovation.

Hosted by Shelley & Gordon Geballe, Branford

12. REIMAGINING THE ECONOMY

Consider strategies to advance a new economy that puts people first, with **Jacob Hacker**, Stanley Resor Professor of Political Science at Yale. Hacker works with the cross-partisan, interdisciplinary Commission to Reimagine the Economy, seeking bold ideas to make the economy work for the people who make it work, elevating the human stakes of our economic and political systems.

Hosted by Patricia & Davis Gammon, Hamden

13. A HISTORIC NIGHT: The Power and Politics of African American History

Join the conversation with **Crystal Feimster**, Associate Professor of African American Studies and the American Studies Program at Yale; **Nell Irvin Painter**, author, artist, and Edwards Professor of American History Emerita at Princeton; and, **David Blight**, Professor of History and Director of the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery at Yale. Their wide-ranging discussion will consider a host of topics, including slavery and Yale; Civil War and sexual violence; Critical Race Theory and AP African American Studies; and the racial politics of art and history.

Hosted by Crystal Feimster at Leitner House, New Haven

14. WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN

Welcome to an evening of local history—focusing on the little-known bold proposal in 1831 for the nation's first Black college—and what it means today. Beinecke Library's **Michael Morand** and **Tubyez Cropper** will guide time travel to 19th-century New Haven using archival research in conjunction with the exhibition "Shining Light on Truth: New Haven, Yale, and Slavery" at the New Haven Museum. The exhibition complements the new book, *Yale and Slavery: A History*, with a chapter by Morand on the 1831 college proposal.

Hosted by Lary Bloom & Beinecke Library at the Yale Visitor Center, New Haven

15. A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC

Enjoy a musical performance by **The Haven String Quartet**: Gregory Tompkins, violin; Cristofer Zunun, violin; Riana Heath, viola; and, Philip Boulanger, cello. Learn about the mission and vision of the quartet to provide music lessons, instruments, and other services to students while performing at venues such as laundromats, senior centers, and Yale's Sprague Hall. Music will include works by Luis Gustavo Prado and William Grant Still.

Hosted by Lely & David Evans at Berkeley College, New Haven

16. REDISCOVERING AMERICA

Join **Ned Blackhawk**, Howard R. Lamar Professor of History and American Studies, to reconsider five centuries of U.S. history from the perspective of Native Peoples. A member of the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians and winner of the National Book Award for Nonfiction for *The Rediscovery of America: Native Peoples and the Unmaking of U.S. History*, he will share his scholarship documenting the central role of Native Americans in the political and cultural life of the country.

Hosted by Christine Kim & Doug Kysar, New Haven

17. CHIP WAR: The Battle for the World's Computing Power

You'll get the inside story from **Chris Miller**, author of *Chip War: The Fight for the World's Most Critical Technology*, a geopolitical history of the semiconductor. He will lead a lively discussion on a technology that is more indispensable than oil. Miller is Associate Professor of International History at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, where his research focuses on technology, geopolitics, economics, international affairs, and Russia.

Hosted by Cynthia Farrar & Paul Kennedy, New Haven

IN-PERSON DINNER PARTIES SATURDAY, MARCH 2 at 7 p.m. EST

18. AMERICA UNFILTERED (Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m.)

Gain new perspectives on our fractured country from **Horacio Marquínez**, immigrant filmmaker from Venezuela who embarked on a cross-country listening and recording tour of America during the pandemic. His unflinching portrait, *America Unfiltered (2023)*, captures raw and emotional stories and encounters, touching on politics, race, love, and immigration.

Hosted by Alva Greenberg & Roxanne Coady, New Haven

19. HEAR YE! HEAR YE! (Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m.)

Discover the evolution of podcast journalism with **Kaari Pitkin**, Senior Editor in Opinion Audio with *The New York Times*, and consider the contributions of audio journalism, from radio to television to podcasting, and where it may be heading during a time of significant competitive pressures in the news media. With over 25 years in audio journalism, Kaari worked as a news producer at WNYC, including the Peabody award-winning youth journalism program *Radio Rookies*.

Hosted by Miriam Gohara & Marcus McFerren, Woodbridge

20. THE WISDOM OF OWLS (Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m.)

Your heart will soar as **Carl Safina**, Endowed Professor for Nature and Humanity at Stony Brook University, MacArthur Genius, and founder of the Safina Center, shares the moving account of raising, then freeing, an orphaned screech owl, whose lasting friendship illuminates humanity's relationship with the natural world. His recently published book *Alfie and Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe* illustrates this bond.

Hosted by Roz & Jerry Meyer, Guilford

IN-PERSON DINNER PARTY THURSDAY, APRIL 4 at 6:30 p.m. EDT

21. RESILIENCE REVEALED (Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m.)

Join **Andrew Solomon** for a discussion of the progress in explorations of resilience and mental health in young people. Offering insight and hope for those connected to struggling teens, he delves deep into understanding why some commit suicide and others pull through. Dr. Solomon is a writer and lecturer on psychology, politics, and the arts; winner of the National Book Award; a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and an activist in LGBT rights, mental health, and the arts.

Hosted by Katherine & Matt Glendinning at Swensen House, Hopkins School, New Haven

OPTION 2 • Conversations on Zoom

- Guests of Honor will present to attendees in a meeting format.
- Depending on the group size, attendees may ask the Guest(s) of Honor questions verbally or via chat during the Q&A following the presentation.
- First-Time Attendee/Student Tickets and Virtual Conversation Tickets are available.

ZOOM CONVERSATION THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29 at 7:30 p.m. EST

22. THE TRUST PLATFORM (Thursday, February 29 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom)

Enter the future of financial technology with **Greg Kidd**, Co-Founder and Director at GlobalID and early investor in Twitter, Coinbase, and Square. At the cutting edge of his field, he will explore the intersection of privacy, financial transactions, the tools we use online, and the value of our information. He will reflect on how new technologies can benefit but also exploit us and potential solutions to protect everyone, especially the most vulnerable.

Hosted by Michael Ranis on Zoom

ZOOM CONVERSATIONS SATURDAY, MARCH 2 at 7 p.m. EST

23. PLUMB THE OCEAN'S DEPTHS (Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. on Zoom)

Follow **Paul Sullivan** as he dives deep into the ocean's impact on global climate and environment, energy resilience, and economic and national security. Senior Fellow with the Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center, his many strategic advisory and teaching engagements include a popular Yale Alumni course focusing on global energy, water, food, climate, and environmental issues.

Hosted by Allie Perry & Charlie Pillsbury on Zoom

24. GALVANIZE CLIMATE (Saturday, March 2 at 7 p.m. on Zoom)

Tom Steyer invites you to discuss where we are now in the transition from fossil to renewable energy as he provides context for our ability to make this global transformation. Are you discouraged by the constant negative headlines surrounding climate change? Tom will explain how the energy transition is going better than projected—and how those in the private sector can take action. He will also share what he has learned to help him become a "climate person" and why, how, and where to look if you'd like to become a climate person as well.

Hosted by Ellen Shuman & Doug Rae on Zoom

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If you are unable to join this year's event, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support LEAP's free programs. Mail a check to LEAP (31 Jefferson Street, New Haven, CT 06511) or donate online at leapforkids.org/donate.

TICKET INFORMATION

Seats will fill quickly, so we urge you to buy tickets as soon as you can! Please purchase tickets online at www.leapforkids.org/LYE.

If you need assistance purchasing tickets online, please call us at 203-767-7413 or 203-773-0770 or email Alison at abonds@leapforkids.org and we can help you complete your reservation.

Choose between two **Conversation Options**:

OPTION 1 • In-Person Dinner Party

- This is a traditional LEAP Year Event dinner.
- Each dinner party will be limited to approximately 20 participants including the Hosts and Guest(s) of Honor.
- Dinner will be provided by the hosts.
- Tickets are first-come, first-served, so sign up early!
- Participants may be required to test for COVID-19 before in-person dinner parties.
- It is possible that some in-person dinner parties shift to virtual events due to COVID-19.
- For testing updates and any COVID-19-related changes, please see our website and emails.

OPTION 2 • Conversations on Zoom

- Guests of Honor share their expertise with attendees followed by an open Q&A with the audience.
- First-Time Attendee Tickets are also available.

TICKET TYPES

All tickets include admission to the in-person cocktail reception.

Reception Only Ticket • \$50 (sliding scale if needed, \$10 minimum)

Just want to chat with friends old and new, meet some of our amazing Guests of Honor, and hear from LEAP Staff and our honoree, Tony Scillia, without attending a dinner conversation? Join us for our first in-person reception in three years!

First-Time Attendee/Student Ticket • \$75 (Virtual Conversations only)

Are you curious about the LEAP Year Event but haven't joined before or a student who wants to engage in thought-provoking discussion? We are offering a First-Time Attendee/Student Ticket at a significant discount for Conversations on Zoom.

Virtual Conversation Ticket • \$95

Want to join LEAP Year Event without dinner? Tuning in from far away? This ticket will offer you the LEAP Year Event Experience, sans dinner with a conversation on Zoom.

Dinner-Included Ticket • \$150

You love LEAP, you love the event, and you love sharing a meal in someone's home. This ticket will provide you with the traditional experience of fine dining and engaging topics! For a dinner party, you will eat dinner at the host's home or restaurant.

Tax-deductible portion of Ticket Types:

Reception Only: \$10-\$50
First-Time Attendee/Student: \$75
Virtual Conversation: \$95
Dinner-Included: \$125

Contact the LEAP Development Office with questions at 203-767-7413 or 203-773-0770 or abonds@leapforkids.org

Ticket purchases based on availability.

Tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and your placement will be confirmed immediately. Please provide contact information for you and your guests.