

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Honoring

Nethea Rhinehardt '93

June 9, 2018

Each year the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association recognizes alumni who have rendered and performed a high degree of service to the College. This year, the Alumni Association Board has selected Nethea Rhinehardt '93 to receive an Alumni Service Award.

As a student, Nethea was a member of Warner Hall Eating House, Patterson Court Council and the Chapel Committee.

Graduating from Davidson with a biology degree and from Queens University with an MBA, Nethea pursued a career in professional communications in Atlanta and New York City. She may best be known through her dog Lily, the beautiful Italian Greyhound, who has catapulted her into television fame through the Dr. Oz show and many commercials and other television opportunities. Her 881 Facebook friends enjoy hearing from her almost daily about everything from pop culture to race and politics to the weather in New York and celebrity sightings to her life's ups and downs. Her Facebook intro quotes Freddie Mercury, "I won't be a rockstar. I will be a legend."

As class secretary, Thea has done an excellent job of telling the stories of the broad range of members of the class of 1993. She uses Facebook to keep the class informed of each other's lives, goings-on at the college, and other important topics. The class's appreciation for her work came into clear focus in early 2016, when classmate Sarah Sadowski was diagnosed with cancer and passed away. As one nominator writes, "Thea's posts brought us together in a way I can't imagine happening without her. She has emerged as a leader in our class, helping us all to connect and communicate more fully with one another."

Thea's work bringing our class together has culminated in this 25th Reunion, which she has co-chaired twenty years after participating on her first reunion committee in 1998.

Another nominator commented, "Thea is known for her many hairstyles, her dog Lily, her huge smile, and the fact that she has never met a stranger. She keeps in touch and keeps us in touch with each other. And, she never, ever lets us be complacent."

For your tireless efforts and the impact you have had on Davidson; for the ways in which you keep your fellow alumni connected with each other in body and spirit; for both your Rockstar and legendary status in our class, today we thank you, Nethea Rhinehardt, and present you with the Alumni Service Award.