BEYOND THE GAME

"Come let's play a game"
BOOMIM JIMBO J

Lacking tickets, students plan workarounds

BY SASHA CABRAL AND ALIZA SHYOVITZ
STAFF REPORTER AND CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Nearly 57 percent of Yale undergraduates, or about 3,800 students, did not receive tickets through the lottery for the annual Yale-Harvard football game. But several students without stubs said they won't be prevented from celebrating the over 150-year-old rivalry.

This year's game will be held on Saturday at Boston's Fenway Park, which can seat about 37,000 people during football games. Native Bostonian Leili Singer '30 said she was disappointed that she did not receive a ticket, but said she has opted to meet up with friends who do have tickets, some of whom will stay at her family home.

She said, however, that she feels like she is "going to be missing out on a lot of the community engagement and connecting with my peers" since Yale-Harvard "showcases a lot of Yale's spirit."

"I feel like it almost gives the opposite result, where you're trying to force people to have school spirit throughout the year, only to force them to not have school spirit by not letting them come to the one game that everybody wants to go," Singer said, referring to Yale's encouraging students to attend other Yale sporting events to gain extra lottery entries.

Like Singer, Xander Faria '29 does not have a ticket but will still be taking part in The Game's festivities. While he described attending The Game last year at the Yale Bowl as "fun to experience," he decided not to enter the ticket lottery this year due to the uncertainty of the lottery and the cold weather that often engulfs The Game.

"Since I live south of Boston, I think during the day of The Game, I'm just gonna take the T up and visit some of my friends from Harvard," Faria said, referring to the Boston subway system. "All of my suitemates are going to be there as well."

Matan Greenfield '30 said he is spending the weekend with a friend from high school, and wishes to experience Boston and Harvard even without going to The Game. He said that he hopes to attend Harvard's Hillel or Chabad festivities.

Greenfield said he understood students' frustrations about ticket allocations.

"I can see why many of my friends are not going, because they didn't get tickets, which really sucks because it's definitely one of the main Yale bonding experiences as I've heard," Greenfield said.

Alana Gould '30 is one such frustrated student. After failing to obtain a ticket, she said she decided not to make the trip up to Boston.

"It wasn't worth the price for the trip to Boston and to buy a separate ticket, so I'm not gonna go. It's also in the opposite direction of where I'm going," Gould said, referring to her home of Nazareth, Pennsylvania. "I'm gonna go home and watch it on my TV."

The Game will take place at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, at Boston's Fenway Park.

Contact **SASHA CABRAL** *at sasha.cabral@yale.edu and* **ALIZA SHYOVITZ** *at aliza.shyovitz@yale.edu.*



LIZA KAUFMAN / PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Over half of Yale undergraduates did not win the lottery granting tickets to this year's Harvard-Yale football game. Five students without tickets detailed plans about how they are planning to celebrate The Game on Saturday, both inside and outside Boston.

Where to see performances on Friday

BY JOANNA CHANG
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

Before rival athletes take the field on Saturday for the annual Yale-Harvard game, performance arts groups from both schools will take the stage together on Friday evening, celebrating school spirit and friendly competition.

From a joint concert by the schools' oldest a capella groups to improv comedy to a Black talent showcase, here's where you can enjoy the rivals' collaborations in Cambridge on Friday.

Join Yale and Harvard's premiere choirs for a joint concert

The Yale Glee Club will collaborate with the Harvard Glee Club, a tenor and bass voice group, and the Radcliffe Choral society, a soprano and alto group, for their annual joint concert. The performance will be held at Sanders Theatre at 8 p.m. on Friday with a livestream available on the Harvard Choruses' YouTube channel.

The two glee clubs have presented a joint concert the night before The Game since 1901. This year marks their 125th choral collaboration and will consist of individual performances from each group, followed by "R-A-D," the Radcliffe Song, and each university's alma mater song, according to Anna Zoltowski '27, the president of the Yale Glee Club.

The Yale Glee Club will perform motets by 16th-century Spanish composer Francisco Guerrero and 19th-century German composer Felix Mendelssohn. The program will also feature new works by Yale Glee Club alumna Ayanna Woods '15 and composer and Yale School of Music professor Katherine Balch MUS '16.

Zoltowski, who is a former music critic for the News, said both groups come together to perform a closing piece, "Abendlied" by Joseph Reinberger. With over 200 people on stage for the piece, she said, the scene will be "beautiful."

The musical exchange between the two schools also has a tradition of playing lighthearted pranks with each other.

"Of course, some friendly rivalry is usually on display, but there is honestly a lot of mutual admiration between our ensembles — a testament to the way singing can bring people together," Jeffrey Douma, the director of the Yale Glee Club, wrote in an email to the News.

Though the Clubs will only get to rehearse the day of the performance, Zoltowski said members are familiar with the repertoires as many songs are sung repeatedly for each year's concert.

"It's nice to sing next to people who maybe don't go to the same school as you," she said.

Hear a capella groups sing comedic renditions of fight songs

Yale's senior a cappella groups, Whiffenpoofs and Whim'n Rhythm, will join The Radcliffe Pitches and the Harvard Krokodiloes for their annual joint concert. The two hour concert will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m in the First Church of Cambridge.

Despite the deep-rooted rivalry between the colleges, the concert provides a way for the two a cappella communities to bond over a shared passion of music, according to Daniela Rodriguez-Larrain Fernandez '27+1, the business manager for the Whiffs.

"It's a chance to celebrate the traditions of both universities, build new connections, and create something special beyond the Harvard-Yale divide," Rodriguez-Larrain Fernandez wrote in an email to the News.

Rodriguez-Larrain Fernandez wrote that the Whiffs have organized a repertoire including the Yale football medley, Yale fight songs and selective portions of the Harvard and Princeton fight song "sung in a comedic fashion."

Jas Hollis '27, the business manager of the Whims, said a key tradition of the concert is for the groups to end each set with their alumni songs. The Whims will perform the "Hammond Song."

"At the game where we have all these alums coming to town, it's cool to have them come up on stage and sing with us," he said.

Rodriguez-Larrain Fernandez encouraged audiences to come support their friends, celebrate a night of school spirit and hear "a fun mix of musical styles, personalities, and traditions."

Tickets are currently on sale for $11.5 for students and $27 for non-students.

Have a laugh at a joint improv show

Purple Crayon, a Yale improv group, and Immediate Gratification Players, a Harvard improv group, will host a collaborative showcase in Hall E of Zimmer Hall at 8:30 p.m. on Friday.

Campbell Lazar '27, the director of the Purple Crayon, said each group will perform a 20-minute "la ronde" set, in which two performers act out two characters within a scene and other performers continuously swap into the scene and out of the scene one at a time. Members of both groups will participate in a subsequent collaborative game.

"You get to build up an entire world of characters and wacky things while only ever seeing two people at a time," Lazar said. "So it's a fun exercise to world-build but within certain constraints."

Lazar encouraged the community to come support and expect laughter. She added that improv scenes are often driven by audience engagement, which brings the audience along for the ride.

"Purple Crayon, we pride ourselves in coming up with or finding bizarre, unique situations that the world sort of present as we're building it out, and then iterating on that," she said.

Explore Black community talents at "Body & Soul"

The Afro-American Cultural Center is collaborating with Harvard Kuumba Singers to host the biannual Black talent showcase, "Body & Soul." The event will take place from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Lowell Lecture Hall.

According to Timeica E. Bethel-Macaire '11, the director of the Afro-American Cultural Center, this year marks the first time the showcase is held on a Friday night instead of Saturday due to the late kickoff time for the game at Fenway Park.

"Body & Soul" has been a longstanding tradition for at least 34 years, Bethel-Macaire said in a phone interview with the News.

The organizer of the event shifts depending on which campus hosts the showcase. As the game is hosted at Harvard this year, The Kuumba Singers of Harvard College have been collaborating with the Afro-American Cultural Center for signups and planning details. When Yale hosts, the event is primarily coordinated through the Black Student Alliance at Yale, which recruits performing arts groups.

This year's lineup includes performances from Yale dance groups Rhythmic Blue, Dzana and Steppin' Out, as well as a cappella group Shades of Yale, spoken word poetry group WORD and fashion initiative Fashion Lifestyle at Yale. In addition to group performances, individual students from both campuses will also be performing, Bethel-Macaire said.

Bethel-Macaire said the showcase serves as a vital community-building activity that celebrates Black culture through the arts while having friendly competition.

"I also just enjoy seeing the students get together in these moments and be able to acknowledge the talent on both campuses, right?" Bethel-Macaire said. "There's never anyone booing one group over the other or one school over the other."

Bethel-Macaire said she emceed for the 2010 showcase when she was an undergraduate student at Yale College. She recalled enjoying watching the showcase and that the "sibling rivalry moments" are what connect the Yale and Harvard communities together.

The Yale-Harvard football rivalry dates back to 1875.

Contact **JOANNA CHANG** *at joanna.chang@yale.edu.*



ILLUSTRATION BY AKHIL RAO
As the Bulldogs head north for the 142nd rendition of The Game, the Yale Glee Club, senior a capella groups, improv groups and Black performance groups will join their Harvard counterparts to showcase school spirit and friendly rivalry.