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Police boost Halloween patrols

BY EVELYN RONAN
STAFF REPORTER

After two consecutive years of Halloween night shootings, New Haven police are cracking down on the city's youth nightlife scene.

Last Halloween, 18-year-old Alexa Acevedo was one of four young people caught in a shooting downtown. She died blocks from Gotham Citi Cafe, an Orange Street nightclub that also operates as a juice bar. Ward 1 Alder Elias Theodore '27 said at a Wednesday afternoon press conference that juice bars — clubs with sections for underage patrons that do not serve alcohol — "contributed to the unsafe conditions that led to this tragedy, and we have a responsibility to learn from it."

New Haven Police Department Chief David Zannelli said there would be "over 50" armed officers patrolling the downtown area this coming Saturday, an uptick from last year's 40.

"It's not just uniformed officers. Drones are going to be up; we have our federal partners that are going to be out helping us; state police and Yale PD are all going to be assisting," Zannelli said at the press conference.

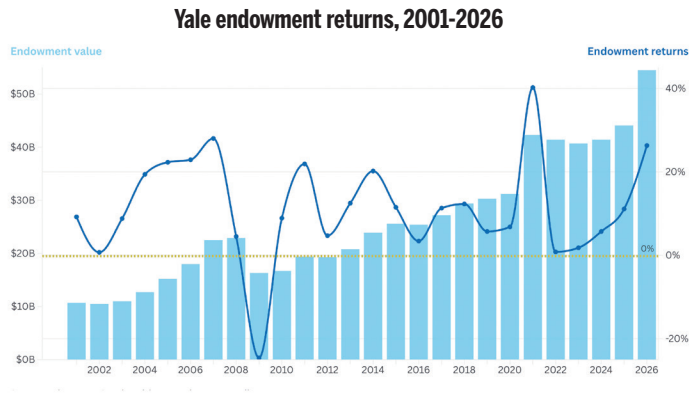
vBoth the 2025 quadruple shooting that killed Acevedo and a 2024 Halloween shooting that injured four people occurred near a cluster of Downtown juice bars, which Ward 7 Alder Christine Kim '99, who has been at the forefront of the effort to regulate New Haven juice bars, said is not a coincidence.

"For too long, operators have exploited the juice bar hole," Kim said at the press conference. "Alcohol ends up reaching kids under 21 and then they send these crowds out at closing time onto our streets."

Last week, New Haven passed a moratorium on new juice bars and a policy imposing new restrictions on existing ones — including requiring event per-

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Endowment soared to $54.5 billion



Adriana Petrizzo / Data Editor

BY SARA AGRAWAL AND LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTERS

Yale's endowment saw a staggering 26.3 percent return last fiscal year, outperforming expectations and reaching $54.5 billion, according to a Tuesday press release.

The 2025-26 fiscal year was the last period that was not impacted by the tax hike on Yale's endowment returns from 1.4 percent to 8 percent in President Donald Trump's signature One Big Beautiful Bill Act. While administrators increased their projection of the new tax costs following the higher-than-expected return, they said the gain, which is Yale's largest since 2021 and third-largest this century, will ease budgetary pressure overall.

"Last year's endowment return is a recent development, and university leaders are still considering how to deploy these resources," University Provost Scott Strobel, Senior Vice President for Operations Geoff Chatas and Chief Financial Officer Katrina Spencer, wrote in a Tuesday message to faculty and staff. "What is clear, however, is that schools and units will have additional funds to meet their budget targets or, where targets have already been met, to apply toward their strategic goals."

The 26.3 percent return on Yale's endowment corresponds to $11.3 billion in investment gains, $2.2 billion of which has been distributed to the operating budget, according to the press release. The 2024-25 fiscal year saw a 11.1 percent return, leaving the endowment at $44.1 billion. The target return rate administrators use to develop budgets is 8.25 percent.

The recent figure arrived after a year of belt-tightening at Yale, which saw the introduction of retirement incentives, a University-wide 90-day hiring pause and layoffs in some schools and units. In Yale College, budget pressures led to staff cuts, tightened faculty hiring and reduced summer experience awards for students.

In the University's recent

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What to expect at city polls

BY ISABELLE LING
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

In next Tuesday's midterm election, New Haven residents and Yale students will be able to cast ballots in races that shape Connecticut's state and local governments.

Voters can access a New Haven sample ballot on the Connecticut Secretary of State website. Early voting is open at City Hall and Southern Connecticut State University's Wintergreen Building from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Sunday. On election day, Nov. 3, polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at more than 30 locations across the city.



Logan Dinkins / Photography Editor

How and where to vote

Voters can look up their registration status and poll location on the Connecticut Secretary of State website. Yale dormitories' respective polling locations are listed on a document compiled by the Registrar of Voters' office.

Yale students in Berkeley, Grace Hopper, Timothy Dwight and Trumbull colleges or Farnam and Lawrance Halls can cast their ballots at the New Haven Free Public Library on 133 Elm St. Voters should enter the library through its Temple Street entrance.

The Yale Democracy Project is set to host poll walk groups to the library for the remainder of

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Nellie Kenney / Contributing Photographer

Attorney seeks to be 'bad mayor' in 2027

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER

As New Haven faces millions in settlement payments to men who were wrongfully imprisoned, an attorney who has led police misconduct suits against the city is running for mayor — an office he said he would use to sue Yale for more money.

Alex Taubes LAW '15 has pitched himself as a "bad" alternative to Mayor Justin Elicker, whom he characterizes pejoratively as a "good mayor." In an October social media post, Taubes wrote that when describing himself as "bad," he means bad "as in good." Last month, Taubes launched his campaign for the Democratic nomination in next year's mayoral election.

The office of mayor is "one of the best offices you can take to cause chaos and destroy structures and just change everything around," he said. "We're going to

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In 2024-25, McInnis was paid $890,194

BY ARIA LYNN-SKOV
STAFF REPORTER

Yale President Maurie McInnis was paid $890,194 in the first year of her tenure — the lowest salary among Ivy League presidents that year, according to Yale and its peer universities' most recent tax disclosures.

Filed in May 2026, the IRS Form 990 reports the compensation for Yale leaders in the fiscal year between July 2024, when McInnis stepped into her role, and June 2025. Higher education experts said McInnis' salary was generally in line with other private university presidents' salaries.

"McInnis' salary, given the prominence of Yale and the resources available at Yale, it's not high," Brendan Cantwell, a professor in Michigan State University's Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education program, said in a phone interview. "It's very high to an ordinary person, but it's not high in the world of university presidents."

Cantwell added that McInnis' salary is what he would expect for major research university presidents, who are often paid "somewhere around a million dollars now."

The second-lowest-paid Ivy League president was Cornell President Michael Kotlikoff, who was paid $1,405,700, followed by Harvard President Alan Garber, who received $1,642,838. University of Pennsylvania President J. Larry Jameson led the pack with a total compensation of $8,034,343.

McInnis made $803,448 in "reportable compensation" from the University and an additional estimated $86,746 in "other compensation from the organi-

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Ellie Park

Lobbyists spend for foreign students

BY LEO NYBERG
STAFF REPORTER

The University kept federal lobbying spending elevated in the third quarter of 2026 as it pushed back against a series of new Trump administration rules targeting international students.

Yale spent $340,000 on lobbying — more than any other Ivy League school — from July 1 to Sept. 30. The period was one in which federal agencies pushed a series of policy changes, some of which would restrict work authorization programs and duration of status regulations for international students, though many have been temporarily blocked in federal court. Yale doubled its lobbying spending in the first year of the current Trump administration.

"The university is working on several immigration issues in addition to the proposal to replace duration of status with fixed terms of admission for F & J visas," Richard Jacob, the University's top lobbyist, wrote in a statement to the News through Yale's central communications office. "These include proposals affecting

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Inside The News

As Connecticut reviews a proposal to run an Amazon Prime Air drone program out of a North Haven facility, some residents voiced concerns.

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TEA Geoff Chatas, who has served as senior vice president for operations since last fall, discussed his approach to his role at a Wednesday talk.

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NOVEL Alexis Krasilovsky '71, was part of Yale's first coeducational graduating class, published last month a novel that drew on her experience at the University.

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