

Illinois Alumni Club of Greater Washington DC

2014 Illini of the Year—Michael Jaworek

In May, the DC Illini honored Michael Jaworek, Vice President of The Birchmere, as our 2014 Illini of the Year. Mr. Jaworek's career in the music industry began while he was a freshman at the U of I. He and three other guys started a student concert group called Blues Power to bring Chicago blues acts to campus. Their first act was Hound Dog Taylor & The House-rockers with special guest Blind Jim Brewer at the Illini Union Ballroom. They needed 500 people to attend in order to break even and well exceeded that number with 1,500 people in attendance. They continued to book Chicago artists for the next 4-5 years.

As a graduate student, Mr. Jaworek was also on the Board of Directors of Star Course, a live-concert promotion and production organization run by students for

fellow students and the Campaign-Urbana community. He also completed an internship for one year at Assembly Hall with the late (and great) Tom Parkinson.

Mr. Jaworek has continued on to be a concert promoter for over 40 years, presenting pop/jazz/blues/world beat music, as well as dance companies. His activities currently are focused in the Washington, D.C./Baltimore, Maryland markets, where he is Vice President of The Birchmere and books The Birchmere on a daily basis, along with other venues as needed. He has been nominated many times as "Nightclub Talent Buyer of the Year" by Pollstar Magazine, the publication of record for the concert promotion industry.

Mr. Jaworek is also a co-founder of the Washington Area Music

Michael Jaworek

Vice President of The Birchmere



Awards. He has been a member of The National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (NARAS) and has served on the Washington, D.C. Board of Governors for philanthropy of NARAS. Recently, he received the International Talent Buyers Association "Club Buyer of the Year" Award for 2013 in Nashville, Tennessee.

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Do you know of a DC-area alumni that should be considered for the 2015 Illini of the Year? If so, please send your recommendation to dcioty@gmail.com.

Flyin' Illini Visit to DC!

Stephen Bardo will be here in DC on Thursday, September 25th at DC Coast! Stephen had an outstanding basketball career and helped lead the iconic Flyin' Illini to the Final Four in 1989. The 1988-9 Flyin' Illini captivated the hearts of Illinois fans during their magical run to the Final Four. This season marks the 25th anniversary

of Lou Henson's beloved club that set a then school record with 31 victories.

At our event on the 25th, Stephen will share his perspective of the current sports scene and also his memories of the Flyin' Illini followed by Q&A. He will also be available at the end of the reception to sign his book, *The Flyin' Illini*,

which can be purchased at the event.

Following 10 years of professional basketball, Stephen started a broadcasting career with WBBM-TV in Chicago. Since then he's been a basketball analyst with CBS Sports, ESPN, Fox Sports and most recently with the Big Ten Network.

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

Checking in with a few of our past scholarship recipients...

Congratulations to all 3 of our 2014 Scholarship Recipients: Alex Aulabaugh of Fairfax, VA; Daniel Gardezabal of Warrenton, VA; and Bridgette LaFaye of Washington, D.C.



Bridgette Lafaye (2014 recipient)

Year: Freshman

Major: Material Science and Engineering

Dorm: Hendrick House

Most Difficult Class this semester: Physics 212 or Math 241 Honors—still too soon to tell!

Favorite thing about U of I so far: “Has to be the RSOs [registered student organizations]. There’s one in particular that’s exciting, the Student Aircraft Builders. They are the only student run organization in the country that puts planes into space.

More: I’m looking forward to learning about my major on the job and gaining experience outside of the classroom. I really enjoy going to the U of I so far. The academics and social aspect are both enriching, and UIUC is everything I expected and more.



Kieran Hampl (2013 recipient)

Year: Sophomore

Major: Leaning towards Finance and Supply Chain Management.

Favorite Class: RST 130, which was an introduction to sports management.

Hardest Class: Linear Algebra.

Favorite Thing about U of I: “Meeting so many new people and experiencing the very different culture of Champaign.

Activities: Daily Illini, Business Council, Block I and Orange Krush. These organizations have allowed me to find some of my best friends on campus.

More: My favorite part of the University of Illinois is the large amount of opportunities that are available. For example, last year over spring break I traveled to Costa Rica with the business school and it was an extraordinary experience.

Scholarship Donations

Help keep our scholarship program strong by donating to the DC Illini scholarship fund!

Choose your donation method:

- By check! Write a check payable to "Illinois Alumni Club of DC" and write "DC Illini Scholarship" in the check memo. Mail checks to the following address: DC Illini Club c/o Michael Shields 1200 N. Veitch St. #1032, Arlington, VA 22201
- Give online! Start at the DCIllini.org website, then click on “Scholarships” and then “Donate.” You’ll be re-directed to a UIF website with our club’s banner. Online donations will be processed through the UIF. Associated tax receipts will come from UIF. Additionally, any contributions to our scholarship fund through the UIF count towards your total giving to the University.

Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Description
<u>Arlington National Cemetery Tour</u>	Sep 21st	Join us on “the only authorized riding tour through Arlington National Cemetery!” ANC Tours recounts the history of key sites such as the Kennedy gravesite, Women in Military Service for America Memorial, and the Tomb of Unknowns. Our group will meet at 2pm for light refreshments and the 2-hour tour will begin shortly thereafter.
<u>An Evening with 'Flyin' Illini'</u> <u>Stephen Bardo</u>	Sep 25th	Stephen Bardo helped lead the iconic Flyin' Illini to the Final Four in 1989. This season marks the 25th anniversary of Lou Henson's beloved club that set a then school record with 31 victories. Stephen will share his perspective of the current sports scene and also his memories of the Flyin' Illini.
<u>Intern Welcome Receptions and Alumni-Intern Panel Discussions</u>	Oct 2nd	Each “semester” the DC Illini host a welcome reception with light refreshments for alumni to network with each other and the U of I students interning locally. Following the reception, a panel discussion with a pre-select group of local alumni discusses their experiences living in the area and starting their post-Illinois career. D.C. Illini and local U of I interns are invited. Near Foggy Bottom Metro stop.
<u>Make A Difference Day</u>	Oct 25th	Celebrate U of I Homecoming here in DC with fellow alumni by helping us prepare meals for the homeless at the DC Central Kitchen. (Limited spaces available)
<u>An Evening with Comedian</u> <u>Paula Poundstone</u> (Purchase tickets on website by 24 Sep)	Nov 21st	Come listen to comedian Paula Poundstone at The Birchmere, where our 2014 Illini of the Year, Michael Jaworek is Vice President. Paula is a well-known comedian who has appeared on HBO, BRAVO and Showtime. And is currently on NPR.
Wreath Pick-Up at Arlington National Cemetery	Jan 2015 (TBD)	Once again, we'll meet to help pick-up wreaths from the graves at Arlington National Cemetery.
National Library of Medicine Tour	Feb 12th, 2015	We'll be taking a private tour of the National Institute of Health's National Library of Medicine (near Bethesda metro stop). In addition to the tour and video presentation, there are multiple exhibits we will be able to visit.

For all events, please view the DCIllini.org website for additional details on the event such as cost, times, sign-up information, etc.

Previous 2014 Events

Just in case you missed some of our previous events, here's a quick listing of the events that took place earlier this year!

23 January – Alumni Happy Hour & Gamewatch at BlackFinn
25 January - Arlington National Cemetery Wreath Pick-Up
30 January - Intern Welcome Receptions and Alumni-Intern Panel Discussions
8 February - US Capitol Building Tour
9 February - Membership Drive and Basketball Game Watch
8 March - 2nd Annual DC Unofficial Pubcrawl
23 March - Admitted Students Reception
30 March - Cherry Blossom Cruise

19 April - Douglas Award Presentation and Reception
23 April – Alumni Happy Hour at Shake Shack
4 May - Illini of the Year Luncheon Honoring Michael Jaworek
5 June - Intern Welcome Receptions and Alumni-Intern Panel Discussions
11 June - Network and Learn: Lincoln's Meaning
5 July – Cubs vs Nats Baseball Game
23 August—2nd Annual “Not So Small” Barcrawl Fundraiser

Interns Networking in DC

U of I students advance their careers by coming to Washington DC for internships. The DC Illini reaches out to this next generation of alumni through a series of Alumni-Intern Networking Receptions and Discussion



Panels. The Club's third such event featured eighteen summer semester interns who had an opportunity to network with 21 alumni. In all, the group represented nearly 60 years of U of I classes — from 1958 through 2017. After the reception, a panel was held featuring five local alumni who discussed careers in the DC area. The DC Illini will



hold its fall reception and panel on Thursday, October 2. All Club members and local U of I interns are invited.

**REGISTER
ONLINE!**

www.dckillini.org

www.facebook.com/dckillini

The DC Illini strive to support the educational purposes of the University, cultivate friendship among club members, and express loyalty to the University. We are also committed to providing community service and giving back to the area as well as to the U of I. We do this through a variety of educational, social, cultural and athletic activities and programs. Graduates, former students, and friends of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, at Chicago, or at Springfield may join. Joining the DC Illini provides a great way to get to know the area and to expand both your social and professional networks.

Dues-paying DC Illini members receive discounts on club events. Club dues are \$30 per year. Additionally, two thirds of your annual dues go directly to the club scholarship fund.

Board Member Spotlight—Jennifer Gore

Current Board Position: Events Co-Chair

Graduated from Illinois: 1995

Major: Speech Communication and Aviation

Favorite U of I Spot: KAMS

Favorite DC spot: Guapos with the kids...and Estadio without the kids

Fun Fact: Jennifer never missed a home football game her entire 4 years at Illinois

Pursuing an aviation career, Jennifer moved to Washington the summer after graduation for an internship with United Airlines. While

Jennifer always planned on returning to Illinois and living in the Chicago-land area, her summer internship turned into a job offer and she has lived in Washington ever since. In addition to flying as a pilot for United, Jennifer has also been a flight instructor. She flew up until she was seven months pregnant with her first born and is now on a Leave of Absence with the company while she raises her now 8-year old daughter and 6-year old son.

Jennifer attended her first DC Illini board meeting in 1999. While not very involved starting out, she attended the game watches and intramurals with her roommates

who were also University of Illinois graduates.

Over the years Jennifer became more involved with the DC Illini-holding positions that included Events Coordinator, Recruiting Director, Web Developer, Vice President, and President from 2008-2010.

Jennifer's involvement in DC Illini started out as a way to give back to the University. While that still remains a motivation, she considers the club meetings and club events an opportunity to spend time with friends.