



Friends of Historic Robinson School

Friends of Historic Robinson School Off and Rolling

As an organization the Friends of Historic Robinson School is off and rolling. We have an email address and a blog. We have a checking account and a Board of Directors. We have a logo and a newsletter. We have a great start on a collection of historical photos of Robinson School. And, we now have our non profit 501 (c) (3) status. So, what are we missing? We need members of this wonderful organization known as



Original School Building

the "Friends of Historic Robinson School". We have several ways to be a member and supporter. If you take a minute to peruse the Getting in Touch panel and a level of involvement that fits your commitment to Historic Robinson School.

Getting in Touch

Currently there are several ways to either contact the Friends of Historic Robinson School or keep up to date on important activities. Below are the contacts points for reaching the Friends of Historic Robinson School board of directors. To date the board of directors have incurred expenses to set up the 501 (C) (3) and the board has established an account at Bryant Bank. The next activity that will require funding is the application for a National Register of Historic Places designation for the building. So if you would like to contribute you may send a check to the address listed below or if you would like to be added to the email list drop us an electronic note or log in and leave a memory on the blog. Thank you for your support.

Historic Robinson Email

HistoricRobinson@gmail.com

Historic Robinson Blog

www.historicrobinson.blogspot.com

Friends of Historic Robinson School

8300 1st avenue south

birmingham, alabama 35206

Board of Directors

Current

Carol	Clarke
David	Fleming
Rebecca	Dobrinski
Mike	Malone
Mitchell	Nash
Linda	Nelson
Steve	Ostaseski
Terry	Oden
John	Rivers
Sandy	Rivers
Virginia	Volker
Jeff	Willoughby

Past Members

Ed	Abernathy
Joselyn	Harper
Sarah Ann White	
<i>(In Memorium)</i>	

Off and Rolling 1

Getting in Touch 1

Class Reunions 2

Adaptive Reuse 2

Class Reunions

Class of 1961 Reunion

True to our precocious ways, the Robinson 8th grade class of 1961 met for its 49th reunion. The truth to our ways relates to our consistent behavior celebrating uniqueness, curiosity and over-achievement. (To wit: Why else would we have a 49th reunion?) Our beloved 8th-grade teacher, Frances McDonald, often referred to us as "very different" but "truly exceptional." Ms. Mac's description was brought to life when our class came together in May for a day (and night) of fun and recollection.

Thanks to the yeoman efforts of Birmingham Board of Education member Virginia Volker, "mountains were moved" to allow our gathering of 31 to view and review the remnants of the old Robinson School edifice that prepared us so well. It took a generator running for at least five hours to provide us light to view and review our 8th_ grade classroom; Mr. John L. Tarrant's (Principal) office; the infamous "basement" where we received our polio shots (and were convinced bodies were buried!); and, in our 2010 mentalities, we were awed at the remarkable craftsmanship of the stairwells!

The Robinson Elementary School class of 1961 produced wonderful parents and grandparents and along the way produced psychiatrists and pharmacists; Army, Air Force and Marine officers; a college president; corporate and financial CEOs; and thousands of hours given back in volunteer and community service.

Suffice it to say, a great time was had by all (1953-61), and our 49th reunion was good too!

Robinson Adaptive Reuse

The recently completed plan for the Historic Robinson School recommended using the building to house a Pre-Kindergarten program for the children of families in the area.

Why pursue Pre-K?

There is ample evidence that Pre-K/Head Start Programs have a substantial positive influence on a child's educational future.

Children who attend high quality Pre-K are more likely to succeed in school and in life than those who do not.

They are:

- 57% less likely to drop out of school.
- 74% less likely to become teen parents.
- 41% less likely to require special education.
- 33% less likely to be arrested for juvenile

offenses.

When examining population trends for the neighborhood it is important to note that the 0-4 age group is sufficiently large enough to justify and support a Pre-K program many years into the future.

There can be no better use of Historic Robinson School.



Photos - If you have photos of yourself, others or the school itself, please share them. The Friends of Historic Robinson School will scan each item received. The Friends of Historic Robinson School will save the items as a record of the site. The Friends of Historic Robinson School will return your originals.