Dear Friends of Harvard Cheerleading,

On behalf of the Harvard Cheerleading Program, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support. I had the privilege of joining Harvard Cheer as the head coach in 2011, bringing eight years of competitive cheerleading experience to the program. Over the past two years, we have worked hard to grow the program into a stronger, more competitive team. We have seen many exciting firsts in the Harvard Cheerleading Program, from the first seniors to receive Varsity Letters for Cheerleading to the team’s first NCAA March Madness appearance. Last year, we were also able to return to the National Cheerleading Association’s National Competition for the first time in three years. Improving on our 7th place finish in 2009, the team placed 5th in the Challenger’s Cup and gained valuable experience as a competitive team. This year, we look forward to continuing to improve. We recently welcomed 15 talented athletes to the 2013-2014 team after two days of tryouts, and I am excited to see this new group grow as a competitive team.

As always, none of these accomplishments would have been possible without the generous support of our friends, family, and alumni. Thank you for always cheering on the cheerleaders, and I look forward to seeing you on the sidelines!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Iacovelli

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**Harvard Cheer in 2013 By the Numbers:**

- 5th Place in Challengers Cup at NCA Nationals
- 4th year competing in NCA Nationals and 1st time returning in 3 years
- 1st place in Bravo All Star’s Spring Classic
- 2nd year cheering at March Madness and 1st win in Harvard Men’s Basketball history
- 2 varsity letter winning seniors
- 14 Minor-H awards earned
- 70 hours of community service volunteered by Harvard Cheer
- $20,000 fundraised
- 850 Harvard H-tattoos sold
- 882 push-ups completed by each cheerleader during football season
Get involved! Support Harvard Cheer!

As a club sport with limited financial support from the University, the Harvard Cheerleading program relies heavily on the generosity of individual donors. There are many ways friends, family, and alumni can get involved and help support the program! Harvard Cheer organizes many fundraisers throughout the year, such as our bi-annual Kiddie Camps for budding cheerleaders and fundraisers with local Harvard Square businesses such as Boloco and Pinkberry. You can also find the team selling their Harvard H-tattoos for $1 before all football and basketball games all season long. You can show your support for Harvard Cheer and your school pride by pre-ordering tattoos in bulk for your tailgate or viewing party! Just contact us at cheer@hcs.harvard.edu. Additionally, you can make a tax-deductible donation to the Friends of Harvard Cheerleading by visiting our website under the “Support Us” tab and clicking on the link to “Make a Gift Online,” or by sending a check made out to the Friends of Harvard Cheerleading at Harvard Athletics, Attn: Friends of Harvard Cheerleading, 65 North Harvard Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. Any donation, no matter the size, is welcomed and appreciated! For news and more information on how to stay involved in Harvard Cheer, please look out for new updates on our website!

Join us for our annual Spring Exhibition!

On April 6th, the Harvard Cheerleading team will be holding their annual Spring Exhibition on the Harvard University campus. We invite all friends, family, and alumni of Harvard Cheer to come visit with the current team, as well as check out our routine before we head down to Daytona Beach for NCA Nationals! Please email cheer@hcs.harvard.edu for more information, and we hope to see you there!

The Road to Nationals

After three years marked by the challenges of finding a new head coach and re-establishing itself as a competitive cheerleading program, the Harvard Cheerleading Team finally returned to the NCA National Competition last spring. This year, preparations for the team’s fifth appearance in the National Competition are well underway. Looking to affirm its place as a competitive team among the best programs in the country, Harvard Cheer looks to place in the top five teams at Nationals this year and earn their first spot to compete in the Finals. This fall, Harvard Cheer welcomed 15 athletes to their 2013-2014 Cheerleading Team, and quickly began their preparations for the spring competitive season. In September, the team put together stunts and skills to impress the NCA Staff at a weekend-long workshop, securing a bid to the NCA Nationals competition in Daytona Beach, FL. After earning a spot to compete, the team dedicated two full weekends to learning choreography and putting together a competitive routine to compete in the All-Girl Division. As the football and basketball seasons wind to a close, the team looks forward to preparing for nationals by competing in local competitions. Their first performance will be at the New England Cheerleaders Association Competition at the University of Rhode Island on March 29th. We invite you to follow our season by supporting the team at competitions or by following our results on Facebook and our website under the “News” tab. In addition to all our work on the mat, the team has also organized fundraisers to raise the $20,000 needed to travel to and compete in NCA Nationals in April. Keep an eye out for how you can get involved and help us on the road to Nationals!