

Margot Sims Class of 1964



Margot Sims was born and raised in Kansas City. After an adult life living in Berkeley, Boston and Seattle where she taught history for many years Margot has chosen (in retirement) to return to her home town. She has always enjoyed writing and last fall she published a suspenseful historical novel for Young Adults set in 1429 in war-torn France entitled *Her Brother's Keeper*.

Her first success as a writer (other than letters to Santa) came at a young age when her letter to the poor benighted children “behind the iron curtain” won a letter-writing contest her teacher insisted she enter. All she got was a certificate, but Sanford B. Ladd school received some books about American presidents and some classroom flags! In the fourth and fifth grades she was allowed to rest on her laurels, but in sixth grade, her teacher - *almost surely informed of her past glory* - insisted she write to former President Harry Truman and ask him to come out to speak to her class when it visited the newly opened Truman Library. She wrote, and the president spoke. She was two for two.

Margot’s writing career proceeded at this lightning pace for decades - (*every two or three years, there’d be yet another letter!*).

She has published a book-length feminist satire, humorous magazine pieces for *The Nation* and *Harper’s Bazaar*, an interview for *Mother Jones*, and other odds and ends for various periodicals. For two years she wrote, and delivered, weekly humor commentary for KPLU radio, the NPR affiliate in Tacoma, Washington, and wrote a series of short historical radio dramas for the Washington State Centennial Commission.

Margot has a number of other writing projects in the hopper, including a childhood memoir, another young adult historical novel, *and* letters to the Internal Revenue Service, the Claims Manager of Coventry Medicare Advantage, and Police Chief Darrel Forté (her traffic ticket for driving at night without headlights was so egregiously *wrong!*)

Margot will join us on October 26 as our special luncheon guest speaker and will talk about how and why she came to write the book.

** Copies of *Her Brother's Keeper* will be available for purchase for \$6 each after the program. Please indicate whether you would like to buy a copy so Margot knows how many to have on hand.