

NUMBER 2

WWW.HARVARD-LA.ORG

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014 (a) 10:00AM Ivy Pride Alliance LA Presents... Stick to Your Resolutions Hike at Runyon

Location:Runyon Canyon Park, W. Hollywood, CACost:No charge

Saturday, Feb. 8, 2014 (a) 12:30PM Issues in Education - Educators' Roundtable Location: The Home of Priscilla and Michael Heim Cost: No charge (bring an item for potluck)

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014 (a) 7:00PMHarvard/Columbia Happy Hour NetworkingLocation:Lexington Social House (Los Angeles)Cost:Cash only for food & drinks

Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014 @ 10:00AM Asian American Alumni Alliance Presents - Ivy-Alumni Dim Sum

Location: NBC Seafood Restaurant (Monterey Park) Cost: \$20 per person

Sunday, February 23, 2013 (a) 3:00PM New Science Pub Series #2 - With D. Alan Shewmon, M.D. Location: Trattoria Neapolis (Pasadena)

Location:Trattoria Neapolis (Pasadena)Cost:\$25 per person

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2014 @ 7:30PM

Harvard Jeremy Lin Cippers EventLocation:Staples Center (Los Angeles)Cost:TBA

Sunday, March 2, 2014 @ 12:00PM

Lunar New Year BanquetLocation:Chosun Galbee Restaurant (Koreatown)Cost:\$35 per person

<u>Saturday, March 8, 2014 @ 12:00PM</u> Harvard in Los Angeles - A ReConnect and Your Harvard Program

Location:Dorothy Chandler Pavilion (Los Angeles)Cost:\$40, members; \$45, non-members\$30, recent grads (early bird rates)

Please visit www.Harvard-LA.org for a complete list of upcoming events and to register.



FEBRUARY 2014

(877) 99 HARVARD

Saturday, March 8, 2014 Harvard in Los Angeles - A ReConnect and Your Harvard Program

Join us for a daylong program, presented in partnership by the Harvard Alumni Association and the Harvard College Fund, that will bring together alumni, faculty, parents, and friends as we celebrate The Harvard Campaign and The Harvard Campaign for Arts and Sciences.



Featured speakers include **Drew Gilpin Faust** (pictured left), *Harvard University President and Lincoln Professor of History*, **Michael D. Smith**, *Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and John H. Finley, Jr. Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences*, and other outstanding faculty members. Please visit www.Harvard-

LA.org for complete details and to register. Early bird deadline is February 10th!

Date:	Saturday, March 8, 2014
Time:	Noon - 6:00 PM
Place:	The Music Center, Dorothy Chandler
	Pavilion in downtown Los Angeles
Price:	\$40 members; \$45 non-members;
	\$30 recent grads (early bird rates)
Contact:	Harvard Events Office, 617-496-2464
Register:	http://alumni.harvard.edu/harvard-in-la



Class of 2018 - Early Admit Reception - 1/12/14

On January 12, 2014, the Bradbury home of Dr. Miguel ('76) and Claudia Palos temporarily displaced

Disneyland as "the happiest place on Earth" when it hosted a reception for the newest admits to the Harvard Class of 2018. On a beautiful afternoon, the Palos family, along with current Harvard students and alumni, welcomed and celebrated with admitted students and their families. Gathering from locations throughout Southern California, the newest admits to the Class of 2018 were able to meet one another, share stories, ask questions of current Harvard students and alumni, and begin the lifelong friendships that arise through a shared Harvard experience.

Over 250 students from the greater Southern California area applied for admission to the Harvard Class of 2018, with 53 students admitted, a 21% acceptance rate. Overall, 4,692 students applied under Harvard's Early Admission program and 992 were accepted, a 21% acceptance rate. Southern California admitted students in attendance included athletes, debaters, journalists, student government and community service leaders, to name just a few of their interests; but they all shared an impressive list of academic and extracurricular achievements.

William Fitzsimmons (AB '67) commenting on the Class of 2018 stated, "This year's applicants are remarkable by any standard. Their academic and extracurricular strengths are impressive — as is their ethnic, economic, and geographic diversity. The larger number of admitted students is another indication that early admission is the 'new normal,' and that more of the nation's and the world's most promising students apply early to college." Dan Medina, VP-Schools and Scholarships, commented, "The effort by alumni to meet and submit reports on all of the applicants in the Early Action pool is such a vital component to the admissions process, and Dean Fitzsimmons and his staff are so grateful for our efforts." If you are interested in interviewing, please contact Dan Medina at dan@capknowledge.com.



HARVARD CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan (310) 546-5252, email: HarvardSoCal@gmail.com

This newsletter accepts items for publication. Materials must be submitted by the 12th of the prior month to appear in the following newsletter. Please include a phone number or email address with all submissions. Email submissions to: HarvardSoCal@gmail.com

The Harvard Club of Southern California Newsletter

Winternship Participants Gather at Verrone Home



For the second consecutive year, more than thirty Harvard undergraduates participating in January Winternships attended a reception and met with HCSC members and other alumni at the Pacific Palisades home of Patric M. Verrone '81 and Maiya Williams Verrone '84 on January 7, 2014.

The events, arranged in coordination with Harvardwood, were designed to introduce local alumni to Harvard students from all over the world who are interested in pursuing careers in Southern California. The overwhelming majority of the students were participating in the Harvardwood 101 "boot camp" which gave them a week-long intensive introduction to the Hollywood film, TV, online media, and music industries, followed by placement in a two-week Winternship at a media company.

The artistic and professional interests of the students were broad, including animation, comic book and graphic novel publishing, screenwriting, directing, and acting. Student nationalities were even more diverse including South Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, England, and Scotland. Attendees included Charlotte McKechnie '15, an internationally recognized soprano, Michael Shayan '14, known as "The Persian Stand-up," and Alexis Wilkinson '15, the first African-American president of The Harvard Lampoon.

The Verrones intend to continue this tradition next year but hope to expand the attendance roster beyond the entertainment industry. HCSC members who would like to sponsor a Wintership in January, 2015, should contact Patric any time at pverrone@aol.com.



Issues in Education — Educators' Roundtable — Common Core: Another Panacea?

At the next event, Harvard alumni will have the opportunity to discuss the controversial Common Core Standards and the many issues -- political and philosophical, as well as educational -- surrounding their adoption in California and 44 other states. The discussion will be moderated by JoAnn McKenna, '65. Dr. McKenna received her masters and doctorate in edu-

cation from UCLA. Her extensive career has included K-12 teaching, education research, and the evaluation of innovative education programs. She spent the last 10 years teaching in the LAUSD, retiring in June 2013. Her consulting firm, Gemini Education Partners, is currently conducting professional development workshops for teachers on implementing the Common Core, with an emphasis on the integration of technology into instruction.

Come to a pot-luck luncheon at the home of Priscilla Heim and learn more about the controversy surrounding the Common Core, hear all sides of the controversy, and offer your criticisms and your ideas.

Date:Saturday, February 8, 2014Time:12:30 - 2:30 P.MLocation:Home of Priscilla HeimCost:No charge (bring an item for the potluck)Contact:Priscilla Heim, priheim@verizon.netRegister:www.Harvard-LA.org



Harvard/Columbia

Happy Hour Networking Event in Hollywood



Join us for drinks and meet alums at the Lexington Social House in Hollywood. This event is free to attend but RSVP at the HCSC website so we know how many to expect. We'll have live music and entertainment, with specialty cocktails. This event will be co-hosted by the Columbia University Association of SoCal.

Thursday, February 13, 2014		
7:00 P.M		
Lexington Social House, Los Angeles		
Cash only for food & drinks		
Please RSVP at www.Harvard-LA.org		
Madeleine Mejia,		
Madeleine_Mejia@post.harvard.edu		



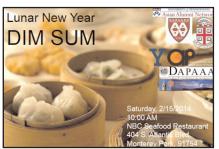
Science Pub Series #2 -With D. Alan Shewmon, M.D.

Current controversies surrounding the diagnosis of death and the ethics of organ transplantation. In this lecture, pediatric neurologist Dr. D. Alan Shewmon, one of the most influential critics of "brain death," will provide an overview of the debate and propose a resolution in the form of a conceptual and terminological paradigm shift.

Seating is limited. Ticket price includes Chef Wigger's gourmet pizzas, house wine and/or non-alcoholic beverages (free parking).

Date:	Sunday, February 23, 2014
Time:	3:00-5:00 P.M.
Place:	Trattoria Neapolis (Pasadena)
Cost:	\$25 per person
Contact:	Ethel Seminario Laczko,
	etheledu@gmail.com

Asian American Alumni Alliance Presents...



Ivy-Alumni Dim Sum

Come join the Asian Alumni Associations of the University of

Pennsylvania, Brown University, Dartmouth University, Princeton University, and Harvard University as we celebrate the Lunar New Year.

Please purchase your ticket by February 13 through the Penn Club LA website so that we know a proper headcount and save you a seat.

Date:	Saturday, February 15, 2014
Date: Time:	10:00 A.M.
Place:	NBC Seafood Restaurant (Monterey Pk) \$20 per person
Cost:	\$20 per person
Contact:	Kay Park at kayparkmd@yahoo.com
Register:	www.pennclubla.com



Harvard Jeremy Lin Clippers Event

For the price of a game ticket, you get early entry (5:30 PM for a

7:30 game) to see the teams practice, and exclusive access to our post-game event on the famous Staples Center court. In addition to Lin, Houston features All-Stars Dwight Howard and James Harden. The Clippers may be the most exciting team in the NBA, featuring All-Stars Blake Griffin and the hopefully soon-to-return Chris Paul.

Date:	Wednesday, February 26, 2013			
Time:	7:30 P.M.			
Tickets:	Contact Victor Yee, LA Clippers, at			
	(213) 763-2671 or vyee@clippers.com			
Location:	Staples Center (Downtown LA)			
Questions:	Maurice Levin, maurice@cycads.com			



Global Networking Night -January 13, 2014

On Monday, January 13th, 2014, nearly 300 graduates from across Harvard University congregated at the Viceroy Hotel in Santa Monica. Many new connections were made among the attendees, in addition to alums catching up with old friends. It was a fabulous event, with the weather in good form.

The next Global Networking Night will be this June. We look forward to seeing you then!



Sunday Musicale: Trio Céleste

Featuring Handbell Ensemble from Concordia University led by Nancy Jessup. Admission is free. A no-host reception follows.

Sunday Musicale Presents Trio Céleste:

- Haydn: Piano Trio No. 39 in G Major, Hob. XV: 25 "Gypsy"
- Jalbert: Trio for Violin, Cello, and Piano
- Beethoven: Piano Trio in D Major, Op. 70, No. 1 "Ghost"

Date:Sunday, March 9, 2014Time:3:00 P.M.Place:The Newport Beach Public LibraryCost:No charge, RSVP requestedContact:Betsey Gillis, newport1@flash.net



Join the Wellesley Club of LA and the Harvard Club in celebrating the Lunar New Year at Chosun Galbee, a popular Korean barbeque restaurant in Koreatown.

We are pleased to welcome as our guest speaker Dr. Virginia Moon, newly-appointed Assistant Curator for Korean Art at LACMA. She received her B.A. in art history at Yale, her Master's in East Asian Studies at Harvard, and wrote her Ph.D dissertation at USC on the system for designating Korean National Treasures.

Sunday, March 2, 2014
6:30 P.M.
Chosun Galbee Restaurant (Koreatown)
\$35 per person
Kay Park, kayparkmd@yahoo.com
http://www.Harvard-LA.org



LA Opera: Lucia di Lammermoor

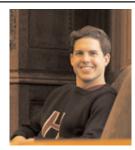
Join us for Gaetano Donizetti's darkly romantic tale of family honor, betrayal and madness with

Russian coloratura soprano Albina Shagimuratova as Lucia. We have seats in a new section this year in the Orchestra Ring.

Deadline to register is February 5, 2014. There are a limited number of tickets, which will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

Date:	Thursday, March 20, 2014
Time:	7:30 P.M.
Location:	Dorothy Chandler Pavilion
Cost:	\$83 (new - Orch Ring section)
Contact:	Kay Park, kayparkmd@yahoo.com

Q&A from 02138... Jonathan Michael Sparks '14



(These interviews are a regular contribution to the HCSC Newsletter and will spotlight students enrolled at Harvard who are from Southern California. Nominations to profile students from our region are invited.)

Jonathan Michael Sparks '14, a Kirkland House resident, was born in Pasadena, California and grew up in nearby La Cañada Flintridge. He graduated from La Cañada High School in 2010, where he competed on the track and field team as a high jumper. He set the school record at 6'8", achieved a second place finish

in the CIF championship as a junior, and competed at the national as well as Junior Olympic competition. In high school, Sparks also served as the director of Student Affairs within the Student Government, organizing four highly successful blood drives with Huntington Hospital. As a sophomore he attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference as an Ambassador, and as a junior he was selected as a California Boys' State Delegate.

At Harvard, Jonathan continued his passion for high jump, competing on the varsity track and field team, earning his letter sweater, and scoring at the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships his sophomore and junior year.

Jonathan is an English concentrator and has cultivated his interests in creative writing. He has found his most fulfilling courses to be his fiction workshops with Bret Anthony Johnston, where he drafted and revised three original short stories. As a junior, Jonathan was selected among applicants within the English Department to write a creative thesis as a culmination to his undergraduate experience. Jonathan's thesis is taking the form of his first novel. He is being advised by Darcy Frey on the project.

Jonathan is also a staff writer for the Harvard Lampoon. This year the Lampoon published a parody of The Hobbit, titled The Wobbit, and Jonathan was a contributing writer for the book.

The past two summers Jonathan has worked as an intern for Legendary Pictures where he worked with executives in creative development, physical production and marketing on films such as Pacific Rim and the upcoming installment of Godzilla.

Jonathan was recently engaged to his girlfriend Mary Hirst, '13 the current all-time Harvard record holder in the Heptathlon. They will be married in June of 2014.

HCSC: What surprised you most about being a student at Harvard?

JMS: As a Harvard student I have been most surprised by the fulfillment I have experienced by surrounding myself, constantly, with people of passion; passion for their interests, dreams, culture, and history - people with passion for life.

HCSC: When was the first time you visited Harvard and what were your impressions at that time?

JMS: I first visited Harvard on an athletic visit in the spring of my senior year in high school, and my first impression was that it was better than Yale.

HCSC: What was your favorite class and why?

JMS: Outside of my fiction-writing workshops, my favorite class was a course on narrative theory called "Dickens and The Wire." The class was relevant to my interests in television and film as it focused on the serialization of narratives, and how we think about the creation of character and plot in stories that proceed episodically. My final project in the course was a thirty-page investigation concerning the nature of suspense in the popular television series Breaking Bad and The Wire. I focused on the structure of suspense and the cliffhanger as they functioned within the plot of an episode, season, and entire series. I was primarily interested in the differences in how the narratives bridged the gaps of time between their installments. In my paper, I identify types of 'nested suspense': on the smallest scale, there is suspense that functions within a scene, at a particular moment; on increasingly larger scales, there is suspense that functions within seasons, and, ultimately, across seasons, carrying through an entire series. I argue that Breaking Bad is structured to capitalize on each of these types, or levels of suspense, while The Wire attempts to break free of these approaches by adopting a more novelistic structure, devoted to realism. I attempt to elucidate that suspense in Breaking Bad is in the ultimate interest of fulfilling a question: What will be the fate of Walter White; while, the ultimate interest of The Wire is predicated on the interest of revealing the city of Baltimore and the post-modern institutions that comprise it.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

JMS: My sophomore year, I took a course called Shakespeare After Hamlet, with English Professor Gordon Teskey. Professor Teskey is perhaps the most suave individual with whom I have ever crossed paths - even in his sixties he sports slim-cut Levi's, a black suit jacket with a slightly undone tie, black Ray Bans, and characteristic, disheveled, Conan-esque, grey cockatoo hair. Combine all of this with the demeanor of one of the world's premier Shakespeare experts, and the world's premier Milton expert...and you get the combination of a human you meet only once in a lifetime. One day, as I sat in Harvard Hall, eagerly awaiting what promised to

Continued on next page

Jonathan Michael Sparks '14, Continued from previous page

be yet another spectacular lecture, Teskey was later than usual - fifteen minutes late to be exact. He entered through the rear door, disheveled as expected, carrying nothing but his edition of the Norton Shakespeare. He apologized for his tardiness in a manner so debonair he immediately nullified any displeasure caused by the wait. As he pulled off his Ray Bans and tucked them into his jacket pocket, he leaned down toward one of the teaching fellows in the front row and whispered the question, "What play were we to have read for today?" The teaching fellow replied with some discomfort, "Antony and Cleopatra." Then, Professor Teskey, learning of his task for the first time, opened his Norton, and proceeded to lecture, on the spot, without notes, and he delivered a narrative so eloquent it was as if he had spent months in preparation.

HCSC: How did you propose?

JMS: My fiancé Mary and I met on the Harvard track team when I was a freshman and she was a sophomore. Harvard has been the home of our relationship, so I decided it was only appropriate to create a meaningful Harvard proposal. On September 14, 2013 I surprised Mary by taking her up to the top floor of the DeWolfe apartments, to the dorm room she had when we first met, and proposed to her outside, on the balcony overlooking Cambridge. It was nighttime, and the top of Memorial Church and Annenberg glowed in the distance. Following the proposal, we were suddenly made aware of a group of students watching us from the Quincy dorm windows across the street, banging on the glass and cheering for us with excitement. To conclude the evening, Mary and I celebrated a surprise engagement party with twenty-five of our best friends from our time at Harvard.

HCSC: What do you miss most about Southern California?

JMS: Southern California, is, always has, and always will be my home. There is an intangible about the locale that is difficult to put into words. There is something about Southern California that seems near the center of the world; especially living at the heart of entertainment in Los Angeles. Talent and pop culture reverberate out from the City of Angels in waves. When I am away from home, I don't feel the waves as strongly, and there is always a part of me tending toward the source.

HCSC: How do you think Southern California will figure into your future after Harvard?

JMS: While I am currently pursuing the possibility of attending an MFA program in creative writing in either the midwest or on the east coast, I ultimately plan on returning to the Los Angeles area to write within the context of entertainment, in television and film.



Interview with Alumni Interviewer... Cara Woodard, AB '06 - South Bay Chair

Each admissions season, alumni interviewers, under the leadership of our Club's Schools Committees, help the Admissions Office evaluate applicants to Harvard College. The Schools Committee is the Club's largest volunteering activity. Each year, over 700 graduates of Harvard College and graduate schools interview over 2,700 candidates from our region. In the process, alum-

ni participate in college fairs throughout the area and give presentations on Harvard, initiating and maintaining relationships with parents, guidance counselors, other alumni/ae, and the general public. Immediate Past President Daniel A. Medina, A.B. '79, M.B.A. '83 is our Club's vice president for Schools, and he coordinates the Schools Committee's work with the area chairs who divide up the interview assignments among alumni and manage the operations for their geographic area. The newsletter will feature profiles of the area chairs.

Cara Woodard, AB '06 is the Area Chair for the South Bay, a geographic area stretching from El Segundo to Long Beach and inland. She has interviewed over 50 students in her three years as area chair and her seven years interviewing. She was proud to have her first student admitted last year.

Cara particularly enjoys talking to her interviewees about her life as an Adamsian, psychology student, and as an outfielder for Harvard Softball. She encourages all students to study abroad and experience life outside of the Harvard bubble. When interviewing, she thinks it is important to ask students what they do for fun. So many of these students are so overscheduled and driven that it is important to know whether they are able to relax too. The student's answer can tell a lot about sociability, as well as open a route to different topics that may not have been covered. Cara tries to interview a student or two each year from her alma mater, West Torrance High School, and find out how the program has changed.

For the past six years Cara has been the assistant director of Rolling Hills Country Day School in Rolling Hills Estates, CA. Three years ago, she was instrumental in opening Experium Science Academy, an afterschool lab-based program for students in grades K-12. Outside of work, Cara likes to try new recipes in the kitchen, is starting to enjoy running, and stays in touch with Harvard by reading the Gazette.



c/o Membership VP 1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 204 Manhattan Beach, CA 90266



For more information on events and general Club news, visit the Club web site at

www.harvard-la.org CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs. Contact information can be found on page 2.

DATE/TIME	Event	less explicitly stated otherwise. <u>Unless sp</u> LOCATION	Cost*	Contact
Feb. 8, Saturday	Ivy Pride Alliance LA	Runyon Canyon Park	No charge	Wilson Yu,
1:30 P.M.	Resolutions Hike at Runyon	West Hollywood, CA		wilsonyu@post.harvard.ed
Feb. 8, Saturday	Issues in Education -	The Home of Priscilla Heim	No charge (bring an item for potluck)	Priscilla Heim,
12:30 P.M.	Educators' Roundtable	Los Angeles, CA		priheim@verizon.net
Feb. 13, Thursday	Harvard/Columbia Happy	Lexington Social House	No charge,	Madeleine Mejia,
7:00 P.M.	Hour Networking Event	Los Angeles, CA	cash bar/food Madel	eine_Mejia@post.harvard.ed
Feb. 15, Saturday	Asian American Alumni	NBC Seafood Restaurant	\$20 per person	Kay Park,
10:00 A.M.	Ivy-Alumni Dim Sum	Los Angeles, CA		kayparkmd@yahoo.com
Feb. 23, Sunday	New Science Pub Series #2	Trattoria Neapolis	\$25 per person	Ethel Seminario Laczko,
3:00 P.M.	With D. Alan Shewmon, M.D.	. Pasadena, CA		etheledu@gmail.com
Feb. 26, Wed.	Harvard Jeremy Lin	Staples Center	Cost TBA	Maurice Levin,
7:30 P.M.	Clippers Event	Los Angeles, CA		maurice@cycads.com
Mar. 2, Sunday	Lunar New Year Banquet	Chosun Galbee Restaurant	\$35 per person	Kay Park,
12:00 P.M.	in Koreatown	Los Angeles, CA		kayparkmd@yahoo.com
Mar. 8, Saturday	Harvard College ReConnect	Dorothy Chandler Pavillion	\$40, members	Harvard Events Office,
3:00 P.M.	Save the Date!	Los Angeles, CA	\$45, non-members	617-496-2464
Mar. 9, Sunday	Sunday Musicale:	The Newport Beach Public Library	No charge,	Betsey Gillis,
3:00 P.M.	Trio Celeste	Newport Beach, CA	RSVP requested	newport1@flash.net
Mar. 28, Thursday	L.A. Opera: Donizettis's	Dorothy Chandler Pavillion	\$83 per person	Kay Park,
7:30 P.M.	Lucia di Lammermoor	Los Angeles, CA	(orch ring section)	kayparkmd@yahoo.com