The Harvard Club of Southern California held its Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on Sunday, June 14, minus the awards and dinner. The event, held via Zoom, brought together board members and guests, each in their little squares. While it was a far cry from the meeting’s initially planned location (the Queen Mary), Club president Patric M. Verrone ’81 did note in his welcoming remarks that this would result in less rocking.

Verrone then introduced the chair of the nominations committee, Steven Arkow ’84, who announced the result of the election for the 2020-21 Board of Directors (see the new masthead on page 2). After welcoming its newest members, the board said a fond farewell to longtime board member and former Club president Albert Chang ’63, who is stepping down after 17 years of service.

The board then approved a motion to rename the Club’s long running Science Pub series after late Club president Myron Former Club president Albert Chang ’63 steps down after 17 years of board service.
Kayton MS ’56, who was a regular attendee of the pubs and no slouch himself when it came to science, having served as Deputy Manager for Lunar Module Guidance and Control at NASA’s Johnson Space Center in the 1960s. Through individual Zoom windows, attendees raised a glass in tribute to Dr. Kayton.

The “awards” portion of the evening was postponed until a time when we can safely gather in person, but the board still took a moment to recognize this year’s two worthy recipients. George Takei, social justice activist, social media superstar, Grammy-nominated recording artist, bestselling author, and pioneering actor, was recipient of the John Harvard Award for Distinguished Public Service. Austin Beutner, philanthropist, public servant, business executive, and current superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District, received the Educator of the Year Award. Verrone “pre-enacted” the awards presentation to the awardees in absentia, and in miniature, with the help of John Harvard himself. As with many Club events, you had to be there. The program concluded with “Zoomingling,” lasting until the last attendee finally clicked “Leave Meeting.”

Graduate School of Education Seeking Remote Internships

The Graduate School of Education is looking for remote internships to offer students for credit during the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters. Topics of Interest to students include:

• Social-Emotional Learning
• Equity and access (a priority is racial equity and LGBTQ equity)
• Technology projects that might include online education or user design
• School culture and climate
• Refugee and immigrant education
• Global Opportunities

More information can be found here: https://recruit.gse.harvard.edu/remote-internships
To the Harvard Alumni of Southern California,

Within this perfect storm of COVID-19, economic upheaval, and racial unrest over the spate of violence perpetrated against black people, a remarkable thing has happened. People are taking a hard look at racism - what we so quaintly refer to as America’s “original sin” - but now, instead of accepting it as some deeply ingrained aspect of our culture that is too difficult to tackle, people want to do something about it. People want change.

For many of you, this is an exciting time. For others it is confusing, perhaps even frightening.

In response to these events the Harvard Club of Southern California has formed an Anti-Racism Committee. The purpose of this committee is three fold:

- To EDUCATE Harvard alumni in Southern California about racial inequality
- To ENGAGE with each other on these issues
- SUPPORT efforts to dismantle systemic racism in all its forms and support the black community, particularly in Southern California

In the upcoming weeks we will be providing the Harvard community with opportunities to hear from experts, participate in workshops to recognize one’s own complicity, and engage with one another over these issues.

To that end we would like to invite you to our first webinar, ANTI-RACISM 101, featuring Tracie Jones ALB ’11, the Director of Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, who will facilitate a discussion about what Anti-Racism is, how to be an ally, and how to navigate these quickly changing times.

Be sure to check out the Harvard Club website for lists of resources to start you along your path of learning more about systemic racism and finding ways to address it.

This is a time for self-reflection but, more importantly, for action. We hope these resources and events will be helpful and welcome suggestions for future events and information that we can share with our community.

Maiya Williams Verrone ’84  
John Luna ’03  
Co-Chairs HCSC Anti-Racism Committee
Upcoming [Virtual] Events

HLAA Webinar Series: Latinx Alumni Vision and Advocacy Efforts

Participate in a stimulating discussion with current Latino board members as they work to grow HLAA, advocate on behalf of current students, and increase Latinxcellence across the country. This is part 2 of a 3-part webinar series.

MON, JUL 13 @ 5:00PM
No charge, registration required
Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance, harvardlatinoalum@gmail.com

HCSC Anti-Racism Committee Event: Anti-Racism 101

What exactly is Anti-Racism? How do you engage in awkward conversations? How do you progress from ally to anti-racist in this movement towards diversity, equity and inclusion? Join us as our Anti-Racism committee launches its premier virtual event with DEI facilitators Tracie Jones ALM ’11 and Andy Riemer EdM ’18, who will provide insight and aid in navigating through these changing times.

THU, JUL 16 @ 1:00PM
No charge, registration required
Maiya Williams Verrone, maiyawv@aol.com

HAA Virtual Event: Superheroes and Moral Leadership

Senior Lecturer Chris Robichaud of the Kennedy School will use superhero narratives to explore positive and negative lessons in moral leadership that these stories offer us. It will also examine several broad topics in ethics through a superhero lens.

THU, JUL 23 @ 4:00PM
No charge, registration required
Harvard Alumni Association, haa_alumnieducation@harvard.edu

Designing Your Life Workshop with Matthew Temple ’86

Still trying to figure out how your career and life fit together? Ready to shake things up? Are you willing to create 3 Odyssey Plans for the next 5 years in 15 minutes? Please join us for our Designing Your Life Workshop. This isn’t for the faint of heart.

THU, JUL 23 @ 6:00PM
No charge, registration required
Madeleine Mejia, madeleine_mejia@post.harvard.edu
SOLD OUT - *The Present* at the Geffen Playhouse (aka the Geffen Stayhouse)

The Harvard Club of Southern California has arranged a private performance of *The Present*, an interactive theatrical experience written and performed by master illusionist and storyteller Helder Guimarães, based on his own life experience with quarantine during childhood.

**SUN, AUG 16 @ 4:30PM**
$88, members; $98, non-members (one ticket is good per household)
John Luna, john.luna@gmail.com

Virtual Radcliffe: Conversation with Nikole Hannah-Jones, Creator of “The 1619 Project”

Nikole Hannah-Jones, Pulitzer Prize–winning reporter and creator of the 1619 Project, will engage in conversation with Tomiko Brown-Nagin, dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, about pressing issues of race, civil rights, injustice, desegregation, and resegregation.

**TUE, SEP 15 @ 1:00PM**
No charge, registration required and will open later this summer.
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University
HCSC: What surprised you about being a student at Harvard?
LA: I was surprised by the diversity of experiences amongst Harvard students. There’s no “right” way to be a Harvard student; everyone is on their own journey. Harvard provides so many opportunities that it’s seemingly impossible to follow a straight line and singular path. I appreciate the variety of experiences that my friends and I have had, and our ability to still remain close.

HCSC: When was the first time you visited Harvard and what were your impressions at that time?
LA: I applied to Harvard through Early Action, then visited a few weeks later during Thanksgiving break. I was amazed at the color of the leaves and the school’s colonial architecture, two things I hadn’t experienced growing up in Southern California. I attended an info session where I heard from two then-students. I remember my dad turning to me in the middle of the info session and whispering in my ear, “you sound like the students giving the presentation.” Having recently applied I was nervous throughout the visit, but with that small piece of assurance I was reminded that everything would be alright.

HCSC: What was your favorite class (or professor) and why?
LA: My favorite class has been The Crisis of Social Democracy taught by professors E.J. Dionne and James Kloppenberg. The class focused on changing social phenomenon and their affects on center-left parties in the United States and Europe. Professors Kloppenberg and Dionne exposed me to new forms of social thought and helped me consider new approaches to addressing the challenges of 21st century politics. The class has inspired me to pursue my interests in European politics and to begin writing a senior thesis in a related field!

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?
LA: There’s so many to choose from! I’ve made wonderful friendships at Harvard and have created so many unforgettable memories. One of my favorites is a Thursday night tradition amongst my friend group to watch a show on Netflix and order Dominos pizza. As simple as it sounds, our Thursday night tradition is filled with laughs and relaxation!

Lauren Anderson ’21, a concentrator in Social Studies, was born in Whittier, CA and graduated from California High School, where she was captain of her school’s track team. As a discus thrower, Lauren represented her school at the CIF State Track Meet and briefly threw for the Crimson. Lauren is a rising senior residing in Cabot House. Having been the director of the CIVICS program, Lauren is an active member of the Institute of Politics. Lauren is also a member of Harvard Model Congress and participates in the organization’s international conferences. Last summer, Lauren interned in the British Parliament for a Member of the House of Commons. This summer she is remote interning at the Department of State’s Office of European Union and Regional Affairs and will also begin remote research on her senior thesis, which is concerned with the theme of aesthetics and politics, specifically the contributions of Mexican Muralism to post-colonial social thought.

Note: This interview was conducted before Harvard decided to go virtual for the remainder of the school year.
HCSC: If you were president of Harvard, what would change?

LA: I think one of the principal issues at Harvard is the lack of socioeconomic diversity. Harvard is at a crux in its history; the school is struggling to maintain its usual practices and identity in light of the challenges brought on by the 21st century. Issues such as climate change, immigration, and gender are forcing Harvard to redefine itself as a modern institution. Common amongst these issues is socioeconomic and income diversity. Addressing socioeconomic diversity amongst faculty and administration would make Harvard a more equitable place for students while changing the university’s administrative structures and decision making. Considering socioeconomic inequality amongst students would combat issues of marginalization and adverse mental health often experienced by low-income students. For Harvard to address its challenges, the university will need to take an integrated approach, including people from its traditional ranks while integrating voices that aren’t always listened too.

HCSC: What do you miss most about Southern California (other than the weather and family)?

LA: I am of Mexican descent and grew up in a predominantly Latino neighborhood. Southern California invokes memories of my childhood, filled with the customs and traditions of Mexico. I miss the warmth of my family-oriented and loving culture. I miss the rich flavor laden in the food I grew up with. When I visit home, part of my journey is about reconnecting with my culture and learning how to apply it to my life at Harvard.

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

LA: Southern California will always be my home. By the last few weeks of the semester I can feel myself aching to come home. To this day I still respond “Los Angeles” to questions of where I come from or where my home is. After Harvard I see myself making frequent visits to Southern California, and potentially splitting time between Los Angeles and the city where I begin my career.

HCSC: Any questions you want to pose to yourself to answer?

LA: Looking back, I would ask myself what I would have done differently during my freshman and sophomore years. The answer to that is confidence. I wish I would have been more confident in my own thoughts and abilities. But this has been something learned during those first two years, and something I would not have learned without being a Harvard student.

Welcome to New Members...

The Harvard Club of Southern California welcomes the following new members:

Brandon Aust MBA ’18
Gaya Branderhorst ALM ’20
Adriana Chavarin-Lopez ’20
Charlotte Chiu ’86, AM ’92
Howard Cohen ’81
Sarah Connolly ’03
Helene Irvin, Parent
Martha Gilmore ’76
Chloe Belle Hooton ’20
Mary Manukyan JD ’20
Nathaly Martinez EdM ’20
Anthony Miera ’83
Carmen Puliafito ’73, MD ’77
Jonathan Rieke MAR ’17
Joshua Rodriguez MBA ’20
Arshpreet Sekhon ’23
Isabella Sledge MPH ’00
Steven Solana, Student
Manuel Tiangha ’96, MPA ’00
Stacey Yi ’20
Clara Yoon ’12, EdM ’15
Phelan Yu ’19
Lifan Zhang EdM ’19
## Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information on events and general club news, visit the club website at [www.harvard-LA.org](http://www.harvard-LA.org).

<table>
<thead>
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<td>Virtual Event Online via Zoom</td>
<td>No charge, RSVP required</td>
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<td>HLAA Webinar Series: “Leveraging Your Networks Authentically”</td>
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