Remembering John Frederick Bowman 1957-2021

The Harvard Club of Southern California mourns the passing of John Bowman ’80, MBA ’85, Emmy-winning television writer and producer, who passed away suddenly on December 28, 2021 at the age of 64. John was an active and enthusiastic member of the Club, serving as Vice President of Communications and editor of this newsletter. John was an Elected Director of the Harvard Alumni Association and rose to become a Vice President on the HAA’s Executive Committee. He was a past member of the Harvard Lampoon’s alumni board. John served on the Harvard Alumni Association’s Committee to Nominate Overseers and Elected Directors and was the committee’s chair during 2021-2022.

“John served the Harvard alumni community with distinction. As my college classmate and longtime friend, I know that John loved Harvard and had the greatest affection for his friendships among the Harvard alumni community,” said Cynthia Torres ’80, MBA ’84, past president of the Harvard Alumni Association and past president of the HCSC.

At Harvard, John wrote for *The Harvard Lampoon*, where he met his wife, Shannon Gaughan ’81. In the mid-80s, he worked as a junior executive at PepsiCo in New York, but his sense of humor pulled him into comedy writing. He was part of a wave of Harvard-trained writers who journeyed to Hollywood, where they would have a profound effect on the evolution of television comedy. He co-created
and executive produced the Fox series *Martin* with Martin Lawrence. His other credits included *Saturday Night Live, In Living Color, Murphy Brown, The Hughleys*, and *Cedric the Entertainer Presents*. John served as Chair of the Negotiating Committee for the Writers Guild of America during its 2007-08 strike, which for the first-time won a share of Hollywood’s internet streaming revenues for film and television writers. After retiring from writing, John joined the adjunct faculty at the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts, where he taught script form and sketch comedy writing.

In addition to his wife of 39 years, Shannon, he is survived by his children, Johnny ’11, MBA ’15, Courtney ’11, Nicholas, Alec ’17, and Jesse. The family asks that donations in memory of John F. Bowman be sent to KUSC, PBS Socal, or St. Monica’s Church in Santa Monica. Those who knew John will miss him dearly.

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**Calling All Recent Grads!**

I’m Brittany Wang ’17, and along with my fellow volunteers, Jade Le ’10, Edward Chen OMP ’20 and Catherine Bond ’19, make up the Harvard Club of Southern California’s Recent Grad Committee, serving all graduates of Harvard affiliated schools of the past 10 years, Classes of 2011-2021.

Deep in my heart, I love making friends. To me, this is truly the “stuff” of life. That’s why I found my way to the Harvard Club of Southern California. Come join the Recent Graduate family!

If you notice, our Committee is made of both Board Members and volunteers. If you’re a Recent Grad, I urge you to get involved! Anyone with the initiative to host an event is welcome to do so with the resources of the Harvard Club, such as a professional Zoom account and our marketing channels.

In the past, we’ve done collaborations with other Ivies, dinners at notable LA restaurants, movie nights, and game nights.

As the pandemic continues, we’re pausing programming until March 7th. Come join us then for our “First Mondays” Happy Hour event series. Has it been too long since you’ve met someone new? Come out and join us!
Upcoming Events

Should Alexa Diagnose Alzheimer’s?
A Health Policy and Bioethics Consortium

Please join us for this special event organized by The Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School.

FRI, FEB 11 @ 9:30AM
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge

Partner Club Event (HLSA-OC):
The Future of Cryptocurrency Law

Please join us for a program sponsored by the Orange County, Los Angeles, Northern California, San Diego, and Women’s Alliance Harvard Law School Associations on the future of the law of cryptocurrency with a panel of distinguished experts and HLS alumni.

THU, FEB 17 @ 12:30PM
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge

Harvard’s Global Community:
A Conversation with President Bacow

Join alumni from around the world for an interactive conversation with Harvard University President Lawrence S. Bacow JD ’76, MPP ’76, PhD ’78 moderated by Rebecca Woo Dwan ’89. During this special event, we’ll explore topics relating to Harvard and the world today. Open to all Harvard alumni, guests are welcomed to submit questions.

WED, FEB 23 @ 3:00AM
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge

Harvard Recent Grads March “First Mondays” Happy Hour

Start off your month with good food and new friends! We’ll be meeting at the below listed location for Happy Hour from 6-7PM on the first Monday of each month. Please RSVP below and contact us if you have any questions.

MON, MAR 7 @ 6:00PM
Shekarchi Restaurant (920 S Olive Street, in Downtown LA)
No charge, no host food and drinks
Upcoming Events

HCSC Virtual Book Club - John Updike’s 1986 Novel Couples

Join fellow HCSC members to discuss John Updike’s 1986 novel Couples. This is the first in a series of HCSC Book Club events, in which we will discuss the work of one Harvard-affiliated author every quarter. Attendance will be limited to ten people, so sign up early!

**WED, MAR 9 @ 7:00PM**
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge (pre-registration required)

COVID Times - Expert Q&A with Pasadena Public Health Director & Health Officer, Dr. Ying-Ying Go

Join us for the special event featuring Dr. Ying-Ying Goh, Stanford graduate and Harvard-trained expert of public health, who is leading one of Southern California’s largest cities during these tumultuous times. Co-hosted by Harvard Club of Southern California & Stanford Club of Pasadena.

**SUN, MAR 13 @ 3:00PM**
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge

Save the Date!
Harvard [Virtual] Global Networking Night

Twice a year, thousands of Harvard alumni make new connections at Global Networking Night (GNN) events in cities across the globe. The last GNN drew more than 5,000 alumni in 85 cities worldwide! The next opportunity to tap into your Harvard Network is on Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Join us!

**WED, MAR 16 @ 6:00PM**
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge (pre-registration required)

The Fight For Fair Housing

Join us for a candid conversation with Reed N. Colfax ’92, (magna cum laude), Yale University Law School (JD ’96) about the fight for Fair Housing and how California’s cutting edge state-mandated housing goals attempt to bring us closer to “fairness” in housing. California is not known for its housing afford-ability. How can low-cost housing make “moving to opportunity” possible for racial and ethnic minorities to gain a level playing field in the game of life?

**THU, MAR 17 @ 5:00PM**
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge
Admissions: Early Action

On December 16, Harvard College notified 740 students of their acceptance into the Class of 2026, representing 7.9% of the 9,406 students who applied for early admission.

In the Southern California region, Harvard admitted 35 students out of 340 applicants, an acceptance rate of 10.2%. The number of early applicants for the College as a whole decreased by 680, representing a 6.7% decrease from last year’s applicant pool.

So far, nearly 12 percent of the admitted students come from first-generation college backgrounds, compared with 16.7 percent last year. In addition, this year 10.8 percent are estimated to be eligible for federal Pell Grants which are designated for those demonstrating exceptional need. African Americans constitute 13.9 percent of those admitted (16.6 percent last year), Asian Americans 25.9 percent (23.4 percent last year), Latinx 10.5 percent (10.4 percent last year), and Native Americans and Native Hawaiians 3.7 percent (1.3 percent last year). International citizens comprise 12.6 percent of the admitted students to date this year, compared with 12.2 percent last year.

It appears Harvard was again taking a conservative approach to EA admissions, similar to their approach last year, when there was a record number of applications. A Harvard Gazette article about the early action admissions statistics is available at https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/12/college-accepts-740-students-to-class-of-26-under-early-action-program/.

Thank you to all the alumni who have volunteered as alumni interviewers. If you are interested in interviewing, please contact Harry Kim ’86, HCSC’s Vice President of Schools, at hhwk@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Event (Radcliffe) - Steam: A Multimedia Opera for Jazz Ensemble, Electronics, and Video

A presentation from 2021–2022 Frances B. Cashin Fellow David Dominique, who is a composer, performer, and music theorist. In the summer of 2020, he took a spontaneous break from music to cover the Black Lives Matter movement in Richmond, Virginia; now, he is synthesizing the journalistic materials he gathered to create a suite of works for electroacoustic jazz ensemble.

WED, FEB 23 @ 9:00AM
Virtual Event via Zoom
No charge (pre-registration required)
John (“Jake”) Alexander Marlo ’22 is a senior, concentrating in economics and residing in Adams House. He was born in Newport Beach, California, and graduated from Corona del Mar High School in Newport Beach, California, where he was the team captain of Newport Aquatic Center Varsity Men’s Crew, valedictorian, Eagle Scout, and National Merit Scholar. At Harvard, he is the chairman of the Harvard Investment Association and rows on the Varsity Lightweight Men’s Crew team. This past summer, he was an intern at One Equity Partners. His sister, Marbella Marlo, is a sophomore at Harvard.

**HCSC: What surprised you about being a student at Harvard?**
JM: I was surprised by the freedom to truly explore my academic interests. Not only am I developing a deep understanding of economics from one of the best economics departments in the world, but I am able to take classes in disparate topics such as ancient Chinese philosophy, calculus, architecture, and genetics from leading professors in those fields.

**HCSC: When was the first time you visited Harvard and what were your impressions at that time?**
JM: I visited Harvard in 7th grade in the middle of winter and thought it was cold (literally) and somehow uninviting. When I visited again my senior year of high school, my impression changed completely, and I knew Harvard was the place I wanted to spend the next four years of my life.

**HCSC: What was your favorite class (or professor) and why?**
JM: My favorite class was a public speaking seminar (Expos 40). I did not have much experience with public speaking beforehand, and this class was a great way to step outside my comfort zone. Thanks to my amazing teacher and supportive classmates, I feel much comfortable and confident in front of large audiences.

**HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?**
JM: Freshmen spring, I was woken up one night by loud instruments and people screaming. I get up and look out my window to see hundreds of my classmates running around naked in the Yard. Clearly, I had forgotten what happens on the last night of reading period.

**HCSC: If you were President of Harvard, what would change?**
JM: I would make it easier for international students to apply to Harvard. I have good friends from countries like Ethiopia, Spain, and Germany who have mentioned how difficult it was to hear about Harvard, let alone apply. I was fortunate enough to grow up in area with a straightforward application process and I hope that students from around the world can have the same opportunity.

**HCSC: What do you miss most about Southern California (other than the weather, food and family)?**
JM: I miss driving – although not the traffic! Once I got my driver’s license in high school, I loved being able to get my friends together in a car and drive a few hours to the beach,
the mountains, LA, or even the desert. Harvard’s campus is incredible and unique, but I do miss the ability to visit completely different scenery with only a relatively short drive.

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

JM: I’m not sure yet where I want to be after Harvard, but I would be very lucky to live in Southern California.

**HCSC: How did you manage the transition to virtual classes?**

JM: Moving to virtual classes was challenging but doable after a few weeks. I learned the importance of making an effort to communicate with my professors and classmates even when it does not come as organically as it does on campus.

**HCSC: How did you intend to spend the summer?**

JM: I will be living in New York working as an investment banking summer analyst at Bank of America.

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**Welcome to New Members…**

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

- Peter Dahabreh ALM ’19
- Alex Danso ’76
- Ramsey Day MPA ’12
- Tiantian He DMD ’21
- Ashley Herrera ’24
- Christel Jarrouj MDS ’20
- Matteo Joseph

- G. MacLaren ’90
- Caroline McInnis ALB ’04
- Glenn Nano ’98
- Johnny Ramey
- Leigh Richart ’04
- Jose Sanchez ’89
- Adam Sexton ’86

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**President**

Joan Chu Reese ’85

**Executive Vice President**

Gary Barkin ’86, JD ’93

**Vice Presidents Communications**

Pooja Nair JD ’11
Brittany Wang ’17

**Vice Presidents Finance/Financial Aid**

John Luna ’03
Corey Mazza ’08

**Vice Presidents Membership**

Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD ’81
Matthew Stasinov ’87

**Vice Presidents Orange County**

German Enciso HMS Research Fellow ’07–09
A. J. Rogers MD ’79

**Vice Presidents Programs**

Madeleine Mejia EdM ’00
Maiya Williams Verrone ’84

**Vice Presidents Radcliffe**

Elizabeth Gills ’82
Kay Park ’87

**Vice Presidents Schools**

Harry Kim ’86
Eva Plaza ’80

**Secretaries**

Jennifer Hsu ’95
Lisa Watanabe-Peagler ’02

**Past President**

Patric M. Verrone ’81

**HAA Regional Director**

Kay Park ’87

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Steven M. Arkow ’84
Jonathan Abel ’91
Joanna Chan ’02
Laura Gomez ’86
Karen Hernandez MBA ’00
Michael Kline ’88
Jade Le ’10
Maurice Levin ’78, MBA ’84
Adia Matthews ’10, MBA ’15
Sonia Molina DMD ’89, MPH ’89
George B. Newhouse ’76
E. Dryden Pence III ’82
Andy Riemer EdM ’18
Joe Rogers ’86
Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM ’84
Peter Shimamoto JD ’85
Kenneth S. Williams ’78

**CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE**

Terry Nathan
(310) 546-5252
e-mail: 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.

Harvard Club of Southern California
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 204
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
## Calendar of Upcoming Events

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

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