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(310) 546-5252

MARCH 2019

Upcoming Events

2019 Harvard Varsity Club Golf Tournament

MON, MAR 4 @ 10:30AM

MountainGate Country Club

\$200 for HVC members, \$250 for non-members

Guo Pei: Couture Beyond

SUN, MAR 10, 2019 @ 10:00AM

Bowers Museum

\$12-\$15, general admission

Harvard Yardbirds 10th Anniversary Concert

SAT, MAR 23 @ 2:00PM

Westwood Presbyterian Church

\$10, suggested donation

Top Colleges Alumni Mixer

THU, MAR 28 @ 6:00PM

The Jonathan Club, Downtown L.A.

\$25 per person + \$12 for parking

Guided Tour of Annie Leibovitz: The Early Years

SAT, APR 13 @ 11:00AM

Hauser & Wirth Gallery

\$5, members; \$15, non-members



Sunday, June 9, 2019 - Save the Date! Harvard Club Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

"Not the sun or summer alone, but every hour and season yields its tribute of delight." - Ralph Waldo Emerson, Harvard College Class of 1821, *Nature and Selected Essays*

The Harvard Club of Southern California's Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner once again will be held at the lovely Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens. Wander the historic grounds and appreciate the "tribute of delights," enjoy a delicious meal, and toast new friendships and old. Then join us in honoring two distinguished members of our community.



The 2019 John Harvard Award for Distinguished Public Service will be presented to **Supervisor Sheila Kuehl JD '78**, who represents Los Angeles County's Third District and currently chairs the Board of Supervisors. As the first woman in California history to be named Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly and the first openly gay or lesbian person to be elected to the California Legislature, Ms. Kuehl has been a model of courage and leadership throughout her political career. As Supervisor she has undertaken or collaborated on a number of initiatives to improve the

quality of life and reform systems in the County, including increasing the minimum wage, providing unprecedented funding and services for our homeless population, innovating on issues of water conservation and recycling, protecting the Santa Monica Mountains and the coast, reforming adult and juvenile justice systems to emphasize “second chance” and anti-recidivism programs, and establishing true universal health insurance in California, to name only a few.



The 2019 Educator of the Year Award will be presented to **Dr. Francis Su PhD '95**. Currently the Benediktsson-Karwa Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College, Dr. Su has received multiple awards from the Mathematical Association of America, including the Henry L. Alder Award and the Haimo Award, both for distinguished teaching. From 2015-2016 Dr. Su was the president of the Mathematical Association of America, the first Asian American to hold that post. During both of those years the U.S. won first place at the International Mathematics Olympiad for pre-college students, held in Hong Kong. Currently Dr. Su is designing an app to help teach and promote mathematics.



We Want to Hear from You!

The Harvard Club of Southern California seeks to provide opportunities for social engagement among Harvard Alumni throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties. We are currently assessing our performance and would be eager to have your input. Would you take a moment to fill out a brief online survey to help us better serve the Southern California Harvard community? It can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/hcscsurvey>. Thank you!

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CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan

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

Recent Events

Harvard GSAS in Los Angeles: Featuring Dean Emma Dench

On January 24, the Skirball Cultural Center in West L.A. hosted an event jointly sponsored by the HCSC and Harvard's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. GSAS dean Emma Dench, McLean Professor of Ancient Modern History and the Classics, was interviewed by UCLA professor Shane Campbell-Staton Ph.D. '15. Dench discussed the current research and scholarship environment at the GSAS and how she applies lessons from ancient Rome to her work as dean, as well as to topical issues in America governance. Almost fifty Club members attended the conversation and the reception that followed.



Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

On January 26, about seventy Harvard and Wellesley alumni celebrated the Lunar New Year with a 10-course Chinese banquet at 888 Seafood restaurant in Monterey Park. Dr. Leta Hong Fincher '90, author of *Betraying Big Brother: The Feminist Awakening in China*, spoke about the rise in women's rights activism in China despite governmental surveillance, censorship, and harassment, and she answered audience questions with the help of moderator Sophie Kim '23. Pictured (left to right): event organizers Jeannie Park (Wellesley), Sophie Kim '23, Dr. Leta Hong Fincher '90, Kay Park '87, Albert Chang '63.



2019 Inter-Ivy+ LA/OC/SD Mammoth Ski Trip

Is it possible to have too much snow? Perhaps so, as both the bus and lifts were delayed due to the weather. More than 70 alums from 30 colleges trekked to Mammoth Mountain on February 8th-10th for the annual Inter-Ivy+ ski trip. Despite the transportation dilemma, the alums enjoyed epic powder conditions and are already looking forward to next year's Inter-Ivy+ ski trip. Viva El Niño!



Science Pub Series Event: A Visit to Amgen

On Monday, February 11, more than two dozen Harvard and MIT alums received a private tour of the global headquarters of the biotechnology company Amgen, led by Executive Vice President of Research and Development David Reese '85. "How cool is to hear from the head of R&D and the researcher who led the team to come up with the first migraine drug!" said Tony Diaz '83. The tour was part of the ongoing Science Pub event series arranged by HCSC board member Ethel Seminario-Laczko GSE '84.



Upcoming Events

2019 Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament

Don't miss out on the 2nd annual Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament at MountainGate Country Club in Los Angeles. All Harvard alumni, family, friends, and golfing buddies are welcome.



MON, MAR 15 @ 10:30AM

MountainGate Country Club

\$200 for HVC members; \$250 for non-members

RSVP at <https://www.harvardvarsityclub.org/article.html?aid=1942>

Guo Pei: Couture Beyond with the Harvard Asian American Alumni Alliance

Join us along with the Harvard Asian American Alumni Alliance for this special exhibition showcasing the iconic work of world renowned couturière designer Guo Pei. Featuring more than 40 breathtaking pieces from her most bold runway shows, the masterpieces on view underline the artist's impact on the fashion world and beyond.

SUN, MAR 10 @ 10:00AM

Bowers Museum

\$12-\$15 per person (general admission)

Jennifer Hsu, jenniferhsula@gmail.com



Harvard Yardbirds 10th Anniversary Concert

Join us for this very special event featuring former members of the Kroks, Pitches, Dins, Opportunes, Glee Club, and Hasty Pudding, who will dazzle you with jazz standards and modern classics as well.



SAT, MAR 23 @ 2:00PM

Westwood Presbyterian Church

Suggested Donation of \$10

Ken Williams, kenneth_s_williams@hotmail.com

Top Colleges Alumni Mixer

Join fellow alumni from the Top 20 schools from *U.S. News & World Report's* National University Rankings for this year's Top Colleges Mixer, which will be held at downtown's Jonathan Club.



THU, MAR 28 @ 6:00PM

The Jonathan Club, Downtown L.A.

\$25 per person + \$12 for parking

Eva Plaza Mandel, evisland@aol.com or Sonia Molina, soniamolin@aol.com

Upcoming Events

Guided Tour of *Annie Leibovitz: The Early Years* at Hauser & Wirth Gallery in Downtown L.A.

Join us for the first comprehensive exhibition in Los Angeles devoted to the earliest work of this renowned American. *The Early Years* features more than 5,000 photographs taken between 1970 – 1983. Limited space!

SAT, APR 15 @ 11:00AM

Hauser & Wirth Gallery

\$5, members; \$15, non-members

Pooja Nair, pnair@troygould.com



SOLD OUT - LA Opera, *El Gato Montés (The Wildcat)* starring Placido Domingo

Join the Harvard Club of Southern California at the Los Angeles Opera for this very special performance of *El Gato Montés (The Wildcat)* with an optional pre-performance lecture one hour prior to showtime. This event is now sold out!

THU, MAY 16 @ 7:30PM

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

\$86, members; \$96, non-members

Kay Park, kayparkmd@yahoo.com



Annenberg Photo Space Group Tour and Optional Lunch

Join us for this special tour of the Annenberg Photo Space's new exhibit *Contact High: A Visual History of Hip Hop*, celebrating the photographers who have played a critical role in bringing hip-hop's visual culture to the global stage.

THU, JUN 6 @ 11:00AM

Annenberg Photo Space

No charge, RSVP Required (lunch on your own)

Pooja Nair, pnair@troygould.com



Help Harvard Identify Great Leaders - The Advanced Leadership Initiative

A collaboration of faculty at Harvard University has developed a bold, academic innovation that has become another facet of higher education, changed the concept of “retirement,” and helped change the world for the better. The process of identifying promising candidates begins approximately a year in advance and continues over 6-9 months in several rounds. The nomination period ends on August 31, 2019. For more details or to nominate someone, please visit <https://advancedleadership.harvard.edu/>.

Q&A from 02138:

Ronni Cuccia '19



Ronni Cuccia '19, a concentrator in Sociology with a secondary in Educational Studies, was born in Pasadena and graduated from South Hills High School where she was president of the California Scholarship Federation, a club that recognizes community service and academic achievement. She was a member of the varsity soccer team for 4 years and the captain during her senior year. She was also the Sports Editor of the school newspaper. She is a senior residing in Quincy House. Her father is Ron Cuccia, '82. At Harvard, she is the House Committee Chair of Quincy, she was a captain of the Women's Club Soccer Team, writes for the Sports Board of *The Crimson*, and is the Intramural Representative for her house. Over the summer Ronni did research with Harvard's Professor of History and African and African American Studies, Elizabeth Hinton.

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

RC: I was surprised most about the diverse interests of the student body. There are students here who are deeply passionate about a variety of subjects and are also very good at what they do.

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

RC: I visited Harvard once when I was about three years only and again when I was a freshman in high school. From my visit in high school I remember thinking that Harvard was not a typical college campus. I expected the campus to be more centralized and private. Now, I love how there are several shops and restaurants in the square and how Harvard sprawls across Cambridge.

HCSC: What was your favorite class (or professor) and why?

RC: My favorite class was called Sociology 140: Higher Education Policy and Service: On Campus and Beyond with Professor Manja Klemencic. I loved this class because it was about higher education policy, which is something I am interested in. The professor and my classmates were also very kind and also the final project for that class was a website, which every student contributed to with the service that they do on campus and how they thought that club could be improved.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

RC: My funniest moments at Harvard have come from playing intramural sports. There was never one moment that I remember being particularly funny, but I remember always having fun and laughing with the new friends that I meet when I am out there. The low-stress environment and my love of sports makes it one of the best ways for me to meet people.

HCSC: If you were president of Harvard, what would change?

RC: I would sort freshmen into their Houses immediately when they arrive on campus. They would still stay in their freshman dorms, but each dorm would be as-

sociated with a house. The reason why I would do this is because house life at Harvard vastly improved my experience in college because it provided me with a network of adults and fellow students whom I felt comfortable with. I did not really feel at home at Harvard until I was in a house and I feel like freshman could benefit from having a larger support network.

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

RC: I really missed the diversity of Southern California. Harvard itself is very diverse, but I did not realize how unique it was to live in a city that was as racially and socioeconomically wide-ranging as Los Angeles until I went to Harvard and talked to other students about where they grew up. I missed how these different groups of people often interacted with each other like they do in Southern California.

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

RC: I would love to move back to Southern California after graduation. It is easy to stay in Boston or New York after graduation because there are a lot of people from the Harvard network in both of those locations, but right now it is my goal to try and get a job related to education in Southern California after graduation.



Pictured above are Christopher Hughes (right), the 2018 Orange County School of Arts Harvard Prize Book Recipient, with Judy Joss JD '81

The Harvard Prize Book Program Needs Your Contribution

To inspire determined high school juniors in Southern California to apply to Harvard University, the Harvard Club of Southern California invites you to sponsor rising high school seniors through the Harvard Prize Book Sponsorship Program. Prize Books, which are crimson-clad and stamped with the University's seal, include an array of essays on the abundance of human intellection. The books introduce awardees to the academic rigor they can expect at our alma mater and, perhaps for the first time, a taste of the opportunities a Harvard education can provide.

For current and past sponsors, thank you for your ongoing support of the program. Your generous contributions have enabled us to provide books to Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, Loyola High School, Troy High School, Servite High School, St. Margaret Episcopal School, Claremont High School, and California High School.

Every Prize Book is an incredible surprise to awardees, and a fitting acknowledgment of their contributions to academic and social life in their communities. Please know how instrumental you are in opening the door to Harvard University for young graduates, and how grateful they are for your kindness.

If you would like to participate, please visit www.Harvard-LA.org or call 310-546-5252. For only \$37.50, you can send a promising junior a final nudge of encouragement. If you have questions about the program, please contact Sonia Molina at soniamolin@aol.com.



1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd., #204
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information on events and general club news, visit the club website at www.harvard-LA.org.
To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Mon, Mar 4 10:30AM	2019 Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament	Mountaingate Country Club	\$200, members \$250, non-members
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Sat, Apr 13 11:00AM	Guided Tour of <i>Annie Leibovitz: The Early Years</i> at Hauser & Wirth	Hauser & Wirth Gallery	\$5, members \$15, non-members
Thu, May 16 7:30PM	SOLD OUT - LA Opera, <i>El Gato Montes (The Wildcat)</i>	Dorothy Chandler Pavilion	\$86, members \$96, non-members
Thu, Jun 6 11:00AM	Annenberg Photo Space Group Tour and Optional Lunch	Annenberg Photo Space	No charge, RSVP Required