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THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

JANUARY 2022

Upcoming Events

Harvard Recent Grads New Year Happy Hour

MON, JAN 3 @ 5:00PM

North Italia in Santa Monica

No charge, cash food and bar

A Cappella Double Feature - The Dins and Kroks Return to L.A.

SAT, JAN 15 @ 2:00PM

Westwood Presbyterian Church

\$15 members, \$30 non-members

Harvard Men's Tennis Visits Southern California

SAT, JAN 29 @ 1:00PM and SUN, JAN 30 @ Time TBA

David X. Marks Tennis Stadium at USC

Steam: A Multimedia Opera for Jazz Ensemble, Electronics, and Video

WED, FEB 23 @ 9:00AM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

HCSC Virtual Book Club - John Updike's 1986 Novel *Couples*

WED, MAR 9 @ 7:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required



The Dins and Kroks Return to L.A.

The Harvard Club of Southern California is pleased to offer the in-person return of one of our most popular annual events: the A Cappella Double Feature. The Harvard Din & Tonics and the Harvard Krokodiloes, two of Harvard's most prestigious singing groups, will be returning to Los Angeles for their fifth Wintersession visit. This in-person performance will take place at the Westwood Presbyterian Church at 2PM on Saturday, January 15.

The past four concerts were completely sold out, with people turned away at the door, so we encourage you to buy your tickets now. All tickets MUST be purchased in advance. Attendees will be required to show proof of vaccination at the door, and wear a mask during the concert.

Tickets are \$15 for members, \$30 for non-members. If you are not a member of the Club, this is an excellent opportunity to join us. Annual membership is just \$25 for recent graduates, and as low as \$45 a year for everyone else (with purchase of a three-year membership), so if you buy three tickets, it's like getting your membership for free. Tickets and Club membership can be purchased on our website.

We look forward to seeing you at this event, and we especially look forward to providing an in-person audience for these traveling troubadours, after a year of Zoom performances and YouTube videos.



President's Letter from Joan Chu Reese '85

Happiest Holidays to all Harvard Club of Southern California members from your club's board! With the end of the year approaching, it's time to take stock of one's life, frantically search the internet for a gift that actually might arrive in time for Christmas, continue to wait for that special Hannukah present to make it through the supply chain, and most importantly, eke out some precious time with family and friends in a safe and sane manner. And of course, to give as generously as possible to those who need help now and through the year. There are some possible ways to do so in this very newsletter!

Whatever your plans, consider this – it's never too soon to get involved with your club. We have so many ways to do so, and volunteers and board members are what keep your club vibrant and successful. Please consider joining us!

We particularly welcome recent grads and those who are new to the Southern CA region or to club activities. Even now as your President, I recall not that long ago when I was on the (perceived) outside looking in, asking a board member how to get involved. She suggested I start small and put on an event. Well, that didn't seem that small to me, but she offered to help and explained that something that attracted even 15 people would be a success. Little did I know that the HCSC had VPs of Programs (currently Madeleine Mejia EdM '00 and Maiya Williams Verrone '84) who were ready with ideas for possible events, speakers, or outings, and the club has always encouraged that members organize events that they themselves would love to attend.

Putting on an event (it was a Welcome to Your City gathering at my favorite local restaurant) turned out to be much easier than I thought, and actually a whole lot of fun reconnecting/meeting with other alums. And the board turned out to be an incredibly warm and welcoming group of smart and interesting people. How could it not? The board is simply a reflection of the Harvard community at large.

So...for your overachievers out there, I'd like to invite you to think about getting involved by putting on an event sometime in 2022, learning more about the board, and possibly running for a board director seat. The board process starts each fall, new members are elected in the new year, and start their terms in July.

If interested, please reach out to harwardsocal@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you and more importantly, working with you in the future (please! I'm tired!). Enjoy the rest of 2021 in the meantime!

President

Joan Chu Reese '85

Executive Vice President

Gary Barkin '86, JD '93

Vice Presidents Communications

John McHugh MD '94
Pooja Nair JD '11

Vice Presidents Finance/Financial Aid

John Luna '03
Corey Mazza '08

Vice Presidents Membership

Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81
Matthew Stasior '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 Gillis '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
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Joanna Chan '02
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Jade Le '10
Maurice Levin '78, MBA '84
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Andy Riemer EdM '18
Joe Rogers '86
Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84
Peter Shimamoto JD '85
Brittany Wang '17
Kenneth S. Williams '78

CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

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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
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 204
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Recent Events

Harvard Speakers Bureau: Professor Fiery Cushman

On December 2, 2021, HCSC joined the Harvard Clubs of Hawaii, Maui, Santa Barbara, and San Diego for a virtual lecture by Harvard Professor Fiery Cushman '03, Ph.D '08. Professor Cushman's research aims to organize the complexity of moral judgment around basic functional principles. His laboratory investigates these issues using a wide range of methods, including surveys, laboratory behavioral studies, psychophysiology, infant and child research, functional neuroimaging, economic games and formal modeling. The ultimate goal is to use the moral domain to understand phenomena of more general importance: the balance between learned and innate contributions to cognition; the human capacity to explain, predict and evaluate others' behavior; the relationship between automaticity and control; and the architecture of learning and decision-making in a social context.



Human Advantage in an Age of Technology and Turmoil

On December 9, 2021, Oxford professor Viktor Mayer-Schonberger spoke about his new book *Framers: Human Advantage in an Age of Technology and Turmoil* in a Zoom discussion with the HCSC community. He discussed the premise of the book that the power of human cognition lies in our ability to imagine actionable options beyond the obvious, and the way that this ability impacts innovation in business, science, and the arts.



Upcoming Events

Harvard Recent Grads New Year Happy Hour

Come ring in the new year with new friends! We'll be meeting at North Italia for Happy Hour. The Happy Hour menu ends at 6PM, so arrive early if you'd like to take advantage of the prices! We will be outside on their patio. Please wear layers. Just a reminder to please bring proof of vaccination to comply with Los Angeles County rules. Hope to see you!



MON, JAN 3 @ 5:00PM

North Italia, 1442 2nd Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

No charge, no host food and drinks

Upcoming Events

A Cappella Double Feature - The Dins and Kroks Return to L.A.

Join the Harvard Club of Southern California in welcoming two of Harvard's most prestigious a cappella groups as they return to Los Angeles. The Harvard Din & Tonics and the Harvard Krokodiloes will be performing at the Westwood Presbyterian Church.



SAT, JAN 15 @ 2:00PM

Westwood Presbyterian Church

\$15 members, \$30 non-members

Harvard Men's Tennis Visits Southern California

Building on a successful fall campaign, the Harvard men's tennis team will return to competition this winter, with a special tournament invite to play the top-ten ranked USC Trojans on January 29-30, 2022 at the ITA Kickoff Tournament at USC Marks tennis stadium. The Harvard men's tennis team is coming off of an excellent fall season, in which the Crimson saw multiple top finishes at tournaments.



SAT, JAN 29 @ 1:00PM AND SUN, JAN 30 @ TIME TBA

David X. Marks Tennis Stadium at USC

Prices vary

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.



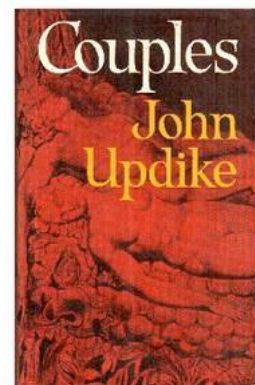
WED, FEB 23 @ 9:00AM

Virtual Event via Zoom

No charge (pre-registration required)

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)

Winter HCSC Holiday Open House

Goodbye 2021! Following a long-standing tradition, board members gathered for the December board meeting and combined the month's board business with a little holiday cheer! Given the pandemic, we moved the holiday festivities outdoors and were relieved to have a beautiful Southern California afternoon after the rains. Given the long and eventful year, it was so nice to be able to see each other for a taco lunch, dessert potluck, ugly/sparkly/creative sweater contest (proudly claimed by Karen Hernandez MBA '00, Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89, and Betsey Gillis '82, Vice President, Radcliffe, respectively) and recipe/favorite take-out restaurant recommendation exchange. Board members celebrated another year's worth of programming, committee work, and dedication to the growth and health of the Harvard Club of Southern California. Big thanks go to Madeleine Mejia EdM '00 (Vice President, Programs) and Gary Barkin '86, JD '93, Executive Vice President for planning the event, which was held at the home of Joan Chu Reese '85, President. The board wishes all HCSC members a healthful and happy holiday season!



HCSC President Joan Chu Reese '85, John Luna '03, and Michael Kline '88



Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15, German Enciso HMS Research Fellow '07-'09, and Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89



Dryden Pence '82, George Newhouse, '76, and Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84



Joe Rogers '86, Karen Hernandez MBA '00, and Jade Le '10



Jennifer Hsu '95, Kay Park '87 and Harry Kim '86



Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81 and Ken Williams '78



Laura Gomez '86 and Gary Barkin '86, JD '93

Q&A from 02138:

Mayowa Jolayemi '23



Mayowa Jolayemi '23, a concentrator in Economics, was born in Lagos, Nigeria and resided in Bellflower before college. She graduated from Richard Gahr High School in Cerritos where she served as Student Body President. She was an undersecretary general for the Model UN team and was the student representative for her district's finance and audit committee. She also participated in the Aspen Ideas Festival as a Bezos Scholar. She is a junior residing in Currier House. At Harvard, she is the Expeditions Chair for Women in Business and the Director of Sponsorships for Harvard Model Congress Middle East. She also works as a student coordinator for the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative in the Griffin Financial Aid Office and served on a few student liaison teams for the Institute of Politics' Fellows & Study Groups program. This past summer, she interned at the Boston Consulting Group's LA office, and conducted a medical mission trip to the Central African Republic with African Christian Fellowship.

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

MJ: My first time visiting Harvard was at Visitas. Initially, I thought how easy it would be to get lost because all the buildings were red brick! But my first major impression was sitting in my host's Canaday common room, looking through the window as students filtered around the yard. I thought to myself, "I could definitely spend four years here."

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

MJ: My favorite class was definitely Ec50: Using Big Data to Solve Social and Economic Problems," taught by Raj Chetty. It combined statistical analysis with relevant economic applications. The summer before my senior year, I went to the Aspen Ideas Festival and decided to attend a talk on economics and social mobility in the United States. Sitting in that room, I was enamored by the kinds of problems the speaker was using economics to address, and I decided then that I would major in economics, regardless of where I went. It was not until spring of my freshman year, as I entered Ec50 during shopping week, that I realized that Raj Chetty was that speaker that inspired me so long ago.

HCSC: Do you have any suggestions if you were president of Harvard?

MJ: I would suggest they make the quad sophomore housing, and have people move to the river for their junior and senior years. I'm a proud quadling, but I think much of the stigma associated with living in the quad comes from the fact that it's an experience that only affects a quarter of Harvard's population. The quad would be a great place to continue building community within classes, much like the yard is for first-years, and by junior and senior year students would have a close bond with those in their class. The quad would become a rite of passage for Harvard students, and housing would seem much more equitable.

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

MJ: I miss driving. Don't get me wrong – I so appreciate the public transportation around Harvard and I don't mind the walk from the quad anymore. But sometimes it's nice to be able to hop in a car, turn on the heat (more relevant here), put on my favorite playlist, and drive around.

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

MJ: I tried to structure my classes so I would take most of my lecture courses virtually (as the experience in those wouldn't be that different virtually and in-person).

HCSC: How did you spend fall and spring semesters last year?

MJ: I enrolled in classes both semesters. I spent fall semester in Los Angeles with my family (Harvard from home!), and got an apartment near campus with some of my blockmates, which gave us a taste of adult life (cooking for ourselves, taking out the trash, etc.) that we typically may not have experienced at Harvard.

HCSC: What do you intend to do this summer?

MJ: Last summer I did a consulting internship at BCG LA and I signed a return offer with them for post-grad, so I am looking to try something different and fun next summer. I'm studying abroad in Spain next semester, so I may extend my study abroad and stay in Europe for the summer. I'm also thinking of working with a global nonprofit focused on economic growth in the developing world. Next summer is the one thing not set in stone for me, so I am enjoying researching different opportunities and exploring my options.

Welcome to New Members...

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

Jean Barrett '77	Stefan Lukianov AM '19, PhD '19	Jonathan Smart '12
Karrye Braxton '82	Felicia Madrigal '89	Jessica Stansell ALB '21
Mai-King Chan '06	Edward Monahan '12	Sarah Smyth MUP '21
Kwame Granderson JD '96	Amir Radfar HMSEE '21	Chloe Soltis MLA '21
Phillip Himelstein JD '75	Pavel Raifeld '03	Laura Van Winkle '97
Wenjie Huang LITP '99, MPA '00	Kathryn Short EDLD '18	Bernadette Walsh-Gonzalez EdM '95
Christophe Kleinhen '10	Danielle Simmons JD '08	Yong Yoon '84



FIRST GENERATION HARVARD ALUMNI



Harvard's Shared Interest Groups

The First Generation Harvard Alumni

The First Generation Harvard Alumni (FGHA) Special Interest Group aims to support those who are one of the firsts in their family to attend college (both current students and alumni). FGHA

helps current students navigate Harvard through mentoring, advocacy, scholarship, and networking opportunities. FGHA also supports the advancement of the global network of Harvard first generation alumni. Members of the FGHA SIG are students/alumni who are/were first-generation college students themselves and/or those who support the needs of this community. To become a member at the national level, login with your key and sign up here: <https://firstgeneration.sigs.harvard.edu/memsub.html>. To stay updated at the local SoCal/LA Chapter level, sign up for the local listserve here: www.tinyurl.com/FGHALA. To learn more and/or get more involved in SoCal/LA, please contact Jade Le--HCSC Board Member and FGHA LA Chapter Leader--at jadele@post.harvard.edu.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information on events and general club news, visit the club website at www.harvardsocal.org.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
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