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# THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

APRIL 2022

## Upcoming Events

### Harvard Recent Grads April “First Mondays” Happy Hour

**MON, APR 4 @ 6:00PM**

Intercontinental Hotel Lobby (Downtown LA)

No charge - No host food and drinks

### *Pachinko* Q&A with Writer-Producer Soo Hugh

**THU, APR 7 @ 5:30PM**

Virtual Event

\$5, members; \$10, non-members

### *How to Be Perfect*: Author Michael Schur '97 Talks with Eric Kaplan '89

**TUE, APR 19 @ 7:00PM**

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

### Science Pub #20 - The James Webb Space Telescope

**SUN, APR 24 @ 3:00PM**

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

### Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian

**SAT, MAY 14 @ 1:00PM**

Elite Fencing Club

\$15, members; \$25, non-members



## Science Pub Hits Milestone

HCSC is honored to have Dr. Alan Dressler, Astronomer Emeritus at the Carnegie Observatories present Myron Kayton Science Pub # 20: The Past, Present and Future of the James Webb Space Telescope on April 24, 2022.

The James Webb Space Telescope originated in a 1995 proposal from the HST & Beyond Committee led by Dr. Dressler, as part of a quest to connect our human origins to the births of galaxies 13.4 billion years ago, and to search for habitable worlds like Earth within our Milky Way Galaxy. Dr Dressler will describe the history of this project to build what is arguably the most complex instrument ever, the challenges faced by thousands of engineers and scientists, the (so far) successful steps to activate and calibrate the telescope and spacecraft, and the commissioning of instrumentation that will deliver extraordinarily deep and powerful observations of stars and galaxies for scientific programs beginning in July 2022. He will explain his own scientific program to measure the growth of the first generation of galaxies from their infancies.

The Science Pub Series was created by the Harvard Club of Southern California board member Ethel Laczko, EDM '84 to give our members and friends the opportunity to interact with STEM scientists and discuss current scientific topics in an informal way. Ethel and her co-organizer German Enciso, HMS Research Fellow '07-'09, wish to thank all of the generous scientists who have made this series possible since it began in 2015.

Continued on page 2

The Science Pub series is named after former Club president Myron Kayton '56, who was a regular attendee of the Pub talks and had a deep commitment to science, having served as Deputy Manager for Lunar Module Guidance and Control at NASA's Johnson Space Center in the 1960s. Recent talks include a presentation by John Mulchaey, director of the Carnegie Observatories, and a lively lecture by 2020 Physics Nobel Prize winner Andrea Ghez. We have been able to continue regular talks during the pandemic by offering them virtually over Zoom. Other topics covered in our series have included science-based lifestyle medicine and computational biology, among many other fields.

The HCSC invites all members to participate in this program. If you are interested in suggesting topics or volunteering to present, please contact [etheledu@yahoo.com](mailto:etheledu@yahoo.com) or [enciso@uci.edu](mailto:enciso@uci.edu).



## Appeal from the Harvard Club of Ukraine

With the terrible events unfolding in Ukraine and the humanitarian catastrophe that has been created, many club members have expressed the desire to help. To do so the Harvard Club of Ukraine has asked the Harvard Club of Southern California to help Ukraine and its civilians as the Russian war continues by considering donating to the following organizations. The HCSC has reviewed these organizations and believes them to be credible; however, you should of course do your own research prior to donating.

- **Razom's Emergency Response** (<https://razomforukraine.org/>) is the SOS button that is pressed in times of need. The project was created to provide urgent help and support in the face of an extreme and unforeseen situation in Ukraine. Razom is responding to this by providing critical medical supplies and amplifying the voices of Ukrainians.
- **The Voices of Children Foundation** (<https://voices.org.ua/en/>) has been helping children affected by the war since 2015.
- **The Ukraine Humanitarian Fund** (<https://crisisrelief.un.org/t/ukraine>) is one of the UN's country-based pooled funds. Contributions are collected into a single, unearmarked fund and managed locally under UN leadership. As crises evolve, funds are made directly and immediately available to a wide range of partner organizations at the front lines of response.
- **HIAS** (<https://www.hias.org/>) works around the world to protect refugees who have been forced to flee their homelands because of who they are, including ethnic, religious, and sexual minorities. For more than 130 years, HIAS has been helping refugees rebuild their lives in safety and with dignity.
- **Icanhelp's** (<https://icanhelp.host/>) mission is to find homes in Europe and the U.S. for Ukrainian people seeking shelter. The platform was initiated by two Obama Foundation European Leaders: Farhad Shamo Roto, an Ezidi refugee in France and President of Voice of Ezidis, and Nick Antipov, a Belarusian LGBTQ defender and asylum seeker in Berlin.

Kostiantyn Lisnychyi, Secretary and Board member of the Harvard Club of Ukraine and Chairman of the Professional Government Association in Ukraine (the largest international university alumni association in Ukraine) suggests reading the Kyiv Independent (<https://kyivindependent.com>) for news about the Russian invasion, and has offered to try to answer any questions you may have about the situation on the ground in Ukraine. You may reach him at [harvardclubofukraine@gmail.com](mailto:harvardclubofukraine@gmail.com)

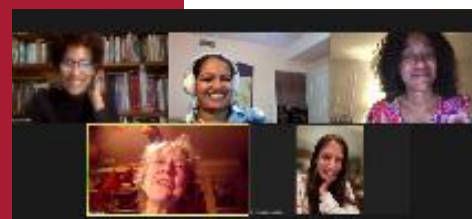
## Harvard Recent Grads Happy Hour

The HCSC Recent Grad Committee hosted its first post-pandemic, in-person happy hour on March 7. We recommend trying Shekarchi Restaurant in Downtown Los Angeles on the cross streets 9th and Olive. Order the Tadig, french fries, grape leaves, and skewers! Don't miss out on the next happy hour happening on April 4th 6PM-7PM at the Intercontinental Lobby Bar (70th floor). Please use this WhatsApp link to join our community and be notified of our meetups! <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FpRAeL1m6HDCyUCZ76j6mn>



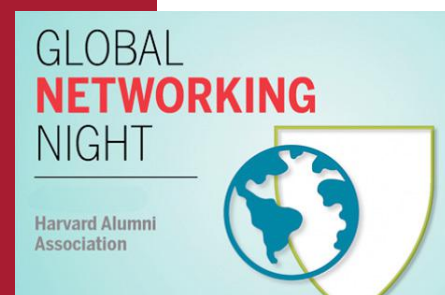
## Inaugural HCSC Book Club

On March 10, the newly-formed HCSC Book Club met over Zoom for a riveting discussion of John Updike's 1968 novel *Couples*, a book about multiple affairs in a small suburban town. The book club will meet quarterly over Zoom to discuss books by Harvard-affiliated authors. The next book club will be held on June 8 to discuss *The Lathe of Heaven* by Ursula Le Guin. The 1971 science fiction novel concerns a character whose dreams alter past and present reality.



## Harvard [Virtual] Global Networking Night

On March 16, the Harvard Club of Southern California and the Harvard Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) hosted the annual Global Networking Night. Over 200 alumni registered to attend the virtual event. During the event, alumni met the club president and board members. They also had the opportunity to connect with each other and to learn more about the Harvard community in Southern California.



## Harvard Celebrates Women's History Month

In March 2022, Harvard celebrated Women's History Month with virtual and in-person programming throughout the university highlighting the contributions of the women of Harvard and Radcliffe who paved the way for the next generation. These programs included an exhibit at Houghton Library on "500 Years of Women Authors, Authorizing Themselves" and a panel on the 50th anniversary of the U.S. senate's passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

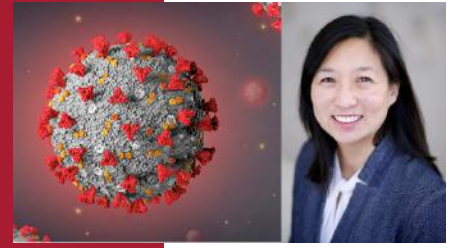




## Recent Events

### COVID Q&A with Pasadena Public Health Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh

On March 13, HCSC and the Stanford Club of Pasadena co-hosted a virtual event with Dr. Ying-Ying Goh, Pasadena's public health director and public health officer. Dr. Goh is a Stanford graduate and Harvard-trained expert of public health, who is leading one of Southern California's largest cities during these tumultuous times. Attendees had the opportunity to participate in an intimate discussion with Dr. Goh and ask deep questions about the COVID health crisis and the future of public health.



### The Fight for Fair Housing

On March 17, Reed Colfax, Esq., Partner at Relman Colfax, a civil rights litigation law firm that litigates challenges to discrimination in housing, public accommodations, and employment, spoke to the HCSC community. Mr. Colfax discussed the Fair Housing Act and the current types of housing discrimination. He spoke of the requirement that all cities, counties and agencies receiving federal funding "affirmatively further fair housing," and of California's own requirement that local agencies "further" fair housing in the face of the current housing crisis. The virtual discussion touched on how California's cutting-edge state-mandated housing goals attempt to bring us closer to "fairness" in housing. These California laws include efforts to: expedite and approve affordable housing developments; designate sufficient sites to meet local needs; authorize the payment of attorneys fees against persons who obstruct the development of affordable housing; prohibit discriminatory zoning; and apply significant sanctions on those who block the building of affordable housing.



### Harvard Baseball and Tennis Complete California Trips

The Crimson baseball and tennis teams completed Spring Break trips to Southern California in March. Harvard Baseball played a four-game series against Cal Poly on March 11-13, winning 2 games and losing 2 games. The team went on to win against Fresno State on March 15. They then played three games against UCLA, winning 1 game (a 5-0 shutout) and losing 2 games. Harvard Tennis played two matches at the Ed Collins Invitational in San Diego, California. The team beat the University of Utah with a score of 4-1, but lost a closely contested match to the University of San Diego, 3-4.



## Harvard W3D Looking for New Chair



**Harvard W3D: Women in Defense,  
Diplomacy, and Development**

*Global Leaders Working Together Towards Sustainable Peace.*

The Harvard Women in Defense, Diplomacy and Development (Harvard W3D) Los Angeles Chapter is looking for a co-lead to help engage the local community through social and educational events. If you are interested in the role, please contact Michele Perry, [michele\\_kawamoto@post.harvard.edu](mailto:michele_kawamoto@post.harvard.edu) and Alexa McCulloch, [alexa\\_mcculloch@icloud.com](mailto:alexa_mcculloch@icloud.com).

# Upcoming Events

## Harvard Recent Grads April “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 April. Please RSVP below and contact us if you have any questions.



**MON, APR 4 @ 6:00PM**

Intercontinental Hotel Lobby - on the 70th floor (Downtown LA)  
No charge, no host food and drinks

## PACHINKO Q&A with Writer-Producer Soo Hugh

Join us for a Q&A with writer-producer Soo Hugh, who serves as showrunner, executive producer, writer and visionary behind drama series *PACHINKO*, based on the international best-selling novel of the same name. The show will premiere March 25, 2022 on Apple TV+.



**THU, APR 7 @ 5:30PM**

Virtual Event via Zoom  
\$5 for Harvard Club, H4A, Harvardwood, and Partner club members;  
\$10 for non-members.

## How to Be Perfect: Author Michael Schur '97 Talks with Eric Kaplan '88

Please join us for what promises to be the funniest philosophical discourse since Plato and Socrates matched wits at open mic night at The Parthenon as TV showrunner Michael Schur discusses his new book with fellow writer-producer Eric Kaplan.



**TUE, APR 19 @ 7:00PM**

Virtual Event via Zoom  
No charge

## Myron Kayton Science Pub #20 - The Past, Present and Future of the James Webb Space Telescope

Dr. Alan Dressler, Astronomer Emeritus at the Carnegie Observatories, will speak for the second time at our Science Pub to describe the history and recent launch of this incredible space instrument featured in news articles around the world.



**SUN, APR 24 @ 3:00PM**

Virtual Event via Zoom  
No charge

# Upcoming Events

## Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian

Elite Fencing Club, a 10,000-square-foot facility near Marina Del Rey, is offering an "Introduction to Foil Fencing" class for kids ages 8-14. This special class for the Harvard community is a great opportunity for your child to experience the sport of foil fencing. To provide the best experience possible, we will be limiting attendance to 30 kids.

**SAT, MAY 14 @ 1:00PM**

Elite Fencing Club

\$15, members; \$25, non-members



## Los Angeles County Arboretum Visit

Self-guided group visit with an opportunity for coffee and socializing before exploring the gardens. The Arboretum has 127 acres of plants, natural landscapes, wildlife and historic buildings. Alumni will have the opportunity to discover plants and trees from all over the world as you wander along paths and learn about California history on your journey through the garden.

**SUN, MAY 15 @ 9:00AM**

Los Angeles County Arboretum

\$13, members; \$20, non-members; \$5, children (5-12); Free, children under 5



## Virtual Book Club: Discussion and Q&A with Vanessa Hua

Join fellow alumni for a Book Discussion and Q&A with bestselling author Vanessa Hua for her new book *Forbidden City*.

**SUN, MAY 22 @ 2:00PM**

Virtual Event via Zoom

\$5, Harvard Club members; \$5, H4A members; \$5, Harvardwood members; \$10, non-members



## Myron Kayton Science Pub #21 - Mathematical Models of the Spread of Diseases

UCLA Mathematics professor Mason Porter will describe how to model social networks, as well as how diseases and misinformation spread across them.

**SUN, MAY 29 @ 3:00PM**

Virtual Event via Zoom

No charge





Q&A from 02138:

## Alexandra “Ali” Medina ’22



Alexandra “Ali” Medina ’22, is a concentrator in History with a secondary in Film and Visual Studies, residing in Currier House. She was born in Pasadena, California and graduated from Polytechnic High School, where she enjoyed running cross country and the two days a year when it would rain. She was captain of the debate team which won the best team all four years and tripled in size under her leadership. She was the editor of the opinion section of the newspaper and successfully changed it to include more gender and racial minorities. Her sister, Laura ’19, lived in Leverett House. Her brother, Andrew ’15, lived in Quincy House and was featured in a student profile in the alumni newsletter. Her father, Daniel A. Medina ’79, MBA ’83, also resided in Leverett House. At Harvard, she is a member of Fleur De Lis, a Harvard recognized gender-neutral social club, Harvard Undergraduate Law Review, and a member of the debate team. This past summer she was a research analyst at the Technology Policy Institute. The prior summer, she was an intern in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Los Angeles.

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

AM: What surprised me most about Harvard was how it can feel so big and small at the same time. Considering its relatively small student body, there are so many different interests represented and Harvard is deliberate about building multiple communities so you get to meet more people. As a result, it’s so easy to find people you get along with and who push your thinking because they see the world in an entirely different way. It’s a really unique and exciting thing about Harvard that made turning to online and off-campus learning so devastating.

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

AM: Visiting Harvard the first time, I experienced it through the lens of my father who attended Harvard and loved it. I was a little suspicious because he was so positive and effusive, but I can genuinely say that my experience has made me love Harvard just as much as him.

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

AM: My favorite class at Harvard has been a history class I took as a freshman called The History of American Populisms with Professor Brett Flehinger. This class is the reason I’m a History major because it showed me how fundamentally the present and present-day issues are tied to and derived from the past. As someone who has always wanted to make change in the world, taking this class helped me realize how important it is to understand patterns, cause-and-effect, and how the complexity of all our current issues is informed by an intricate past.

*HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?*

AM: When I was a freshman I took a class on propaganda films with my sister, Laura, who was then a senior. She took the class so we could hang out, rather than out of deep interest for the topic; as a result, she didn’t do all of the readings week to week and so she would show up to our section and wing it. Meanwhile, I would read every single page of the assignments, watch every single minute of film, and take copious notes at lectures. But then my sister would saunter into section and impress our TF. There was this one time where she hadn’t done the reading but needed to participate so she made some point

Continued on next page

about how the discussion reminded her of her time at an all-girls school. I was rolling my eyes so hard but then our TF says, “That’s a very nuanced point, Laura. Thank you.” Meanwhile, getting our TF to say anything that complementary about me would have been like drawing blood from a stone. To this day, that is an inside joke in my family about how “nuanced” my sister is and how I probably didn’t get it because it was too “nuanced.”

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

AM: I’ll really excited how Harvard is divesting from fossil fuels and hope will soon divest from prisons as well. I think generally Harvard has so much money that I wish it would use more of it to affect positive change on the world around them or even be willing to spend more money on the student experience. For example, making students pay for laundry and their own detergent feels a little insane considering how much money Harvard has.

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

AM: West Coast culture is very different from East Coast culture. For the most part, I prefer East Coast culture but if there’s one thing that bothers me it’s how some people turn to pretentiousness to feel and appear smart. You don’t see that behavior rewarded on the West Coast like on the East Coast.

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

AM: I’m not sure. There’s a lot I love about Southern California and I think it’s very possible I end up here. That being said, I’d like to see and live in a little more of the world before I come back.

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

AM: Although I was sad to lose the on-campus aspect of learning and still find it objectively worse than in-person, I loved virtual classes. I liked not having to wake up early and walk to class. I liked being able to end class and immediately walk into my kitchen and talk to my friends about my thoughts. I enjoyed living with my friends in this unique, off-campus setting. Also, having taken the previous semester off, I just really missed school and was happy to be back.

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

I plan to work in public service and law.

**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 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  
Jonathan Aibel '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  
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.

Harvard Club of Southern California  
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 204  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266





# 2022-2023 CLUB ELECTION BALLOT

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 of the Club By-Laws, the Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following nominations for officers and directors of the Harvard Club of Southern California for the year 2022-2023:

## OFFICERS:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Joan Chu Reese '85
Executive VP	Gary Barkin '86, HLS '93
VP Communications	Pooja Nair HLS '11
VP Finance	John Luna '03
VP Finance	Corey Mazza '08
VP Membership	Marsha J. Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81
VP Membership	Matthew Stasior '87
VP Orange County	German A. Enciso, HMS Research Fellow '07-'09
VP Orange County	A.J. Rogers MD '79
VP Programs	Madeleine Mejia EdM '00
VP Programs	Maiya Williams Verrone '84
VP Radcliffe	Elizabeth Gillis '82
VP Radcliffe	Kay L. Park '87
VP Schools	Harry Kim '86
VP Schools	Eva Plaza '80
Secretary	Jennifer Hsu '95
Secretary	Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02
Past President	Patric M. Verrone '81

## DIRECTORS:

### Term Ending 2023

Director	Karen Hernandez MBA '00
Director	Maurice Levin '79, MBA '84
Director	Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15
Director	Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89
Director	Jose Sanchez '89
Director	Brittany Wang '17

### Term Ending 2024

Director	Steven M. Arkow '84
Director	Catherine Bond '20
Director	Jade Le '10
Director	Glenn Nano '98
Director	Andy Riemer EdM '18
Director	Kenneth S. Williams '78

### Term Ending 2025

Director	Joanna Chan '02
Director	Michael Kline '88
Director	George B. Newhouse, Jr. '76
Director	Joe Rogers '86
Director	Ethel Seminario-Laczko GSE '84
Director	Peter Shimamoto JD '85

*This slate of candidates has been approved by the Board of Directors. All candidates are running unopposed. Members may vote for every candidate on the Election Ballot should they choose to do so.*

Marked ballots must be delivered to the Club Secretary by May 28, 2022:

*Harvard Club of Southern California, 1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Suite 204, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.*



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

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## 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).

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Mon, Apr 4 6:00PM	<b>Harvard Recent Grads April "First Mondays" Happy Hour</b>	Intercontinental Hotel Lobby Downtown LA	No charge - No host food and drinks
Thu, Apr 7 5:30PM	<b><i>Pachinko</i> Q&amp;A with Writer-Pro- ducer Soo Hugh</b>	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	\$5, Members \$10, Non-Members
Tue, Apr 19 7:00PM	<b><i>How to Be Perfect</i>: Michael Schur '97 Talks with Eric Kaplan '89</b>	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge
Sun, Apr 24 3:00PM	<b>Science Pub #20 - The James Webb Space Telescope</b>	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	Prices vary
Sat, May 14 1:00PM	<b>Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian</b>	Elite Fencing Club Los Angeles, CA	\$15, Members \$25, Non-Members
Sun, Mar 15 9:00AM	<b>Los Angeles County Arboretum Visit</b>	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	\$13, Members \$20, Non-Members