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FEBRUARY 2018

Upcoming Events

HBSAOC Event: How to Get Your News into the News

WED, FEB 7 @ 6:00PM

Ngoi Viet (Vietnamese People) Daily News
\$25, Pre-Registered Online with code

2018 Inter-Ivy+ Mammoth Ski Trip

FRI-SUN, FEB 9-11

Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort
\$369, space permitting

An Evening with President Faust

THU, FEB 15 @ 6:30PM

Ebell of Los Angeles
\$35, alumni/guests; \$25, recent grads

Alumni Book Talk – Shelley Drake Hawks '86

SUN, FEB 18 @ 3:00PM

Diesel Bookstore, Brentwood Country Mart
No charge

Private Paint Party at Art Room LA

SAT, MAR 3 @ 2:00PM

Art Room LA
\$30 per person, includes all supplies

2018 HVC California Golf Tourney

MON, MAR 5 @ 10:30AM

MountainGate Country Club
\$200, members; \$250, non-members

President Drew Faust to visit Los Angeles on Feb 15. See page 4 for details.



Harvard Club Welcomes SoCal Early Action Admits

On January 21, 2018, Dr. Miguel Palos '76 and his wife Claudia hosted a reception for the newest admits to the Harvard Class of 2022 at their Bradbury home. Dr. Palos serves as the Harvard Club of Southern California Schools Committee area co-chair for San Gabriel Valley. Admitted students and their parents spent the afternoon meeting future classmates and asking questions of current students and alumni. The Early Action admits from



Southern California numbered 57, of which approximately 40 students attended, along with their parents, interviewers, and area chairs. More than 350 students from Southern California applied for early admission, an acceptance rate of 16 percent. Nationally, Harvard received 6,630 applications for Early Action. Harvard accepted 964 of those candidates (14.5 percent), roughly equal to last year's rate -- the lowest rate since the return of the Early Action program in 2011. The overall early applicant pool was the largest since the program's reinstatement. Regular Action applications currently are being evaluated in what is expected to be another record year.

Recent Events

Harvard Global Networking Night

On Tuesday, January 9, 2018 the Harvard Club of Southern California, along with Harvardwood, kicked off the new year with a gathering of over 400 alumni for Global Networking Night. The event was held at District by Hannah. Alumni from the college and graduate schools, as well as current students visiting Los Angeles during winter break, attended the event.



A Cappella Double Feature

Nearly 300 enthusiastic Harvard alumni and guests packed the Westwood Presbyterian Church on Friday, January 12, 2018 for the second annual visit by two of Harvard's most prestigious a cappella groups, The Din & Tonics and The Krokodiloes. Visiting Los Angeles on their Wintersession tours, the groups wowed the capacity crowd with their impeccable musicianship and irrepressible humor. Songs performed included such classics as "My One and Only Love," "Misty," "Loch Lomond," and a new take on Aha's "Take on Me." Proving that one's a cappella career needn't end after graduation, the Harvard Yardbirds (a group composed of a cappella alumni) opened the concert with a well-received set. A post-concert wine and cheese reception gave the crowd a chance to meet these talented undergraduates and purchase copies of the groups' latest CDs. Thank you to everyone who attended, and apologies to those who were unable to purchase tickets because the event sold out. Hopefully, the groups will return in January 2019 for a three-peat.



The Krokodiloes (with a volunteer)



The Din & Tonics

Harvard Undergraduates Visit Amgen and Learn About the Cutting Edge of Biotechnology

On January 18 and 19, 2018, ten Harvard "winternship" students joined David Reese SB '85 (SVP Translational Sciences and Oncology) and some of his colleagues at Amgen for a glimpse into the biotechnology field. Entitled "Science in Industry," the program consisted of a mixture of scientific presentations, laboratory and pilot plant tours, and an introduction to the business of biotechnology. Along the way students were able to see the wide range of careers possible in biotech and how science can be applied practically to develop new treatments for serious diseases.



Recent Events

San Fernando Valley Interview Fair at Village Christian School

On January 20, 2018, Maiya Williams Verrone '84 and Harry Kim '86, Harvard Club of Southern California Schools Committee area co-chairs for the San Fernando Valley, held an interview fair for applicants to Harvard from the northern and western areas of the San Fernando Valley. The event was held at the Village Christian School in Sunland, where Tom Konjoyan '90 is the Head of School. Sixty-eight applicants were interviewed by sixteen alumni, including Lara Ausubel '89, PhD '97, Joanna Chan '02, Ronald Cuccia '82, Alison Giordano '85, Shen-Kuo Hsu MPA '04, Alexander Kim '96, Birthe Lauchengco '91, Bub Joo Lee '88, Laura Martin MBA '83, Michael McConnell '88, Daniel Medina '79 MBA '83, Bianca Philippi EdM '00, Warren Sata EdM '04, Annie Suh '92, MD '96, and John Wang '88. Any alumni interested in interviewing applicants can contact Harry Kim at hhwk@yahoo.com.



Left to right: Kay Park '87, Harry Kim '86, and Tom Konjoyan '90.

Harvardwood 101 Participants Gather at Verrone Home

For the fifth consecutive year, twenty-seven Harvard undergraduates who were participating in the Harvardwood 101 "Boot Camp" attended a reception and met with HCSC members and other alumni at the Pacific Palisades home of Patric M. Verrone '81, Maiya Williams Verrone '84, and Patric C.W. Verrone '18 on January 3, 2018. Now in its fourteenth year, the Harvardwood 101 program gives selected undergrads a week-long intensive introduction to the Hollywood film, TV, online media, and music industries, followed by placement in a "winternship" at a media company. The artistic and professional interests of the attending students included writing for screen, television, and novels; film and TV directing, producing, and acting; music composition and performance; and live theatrical production. Among the industry alumni who attended and provided wisdom and counsel to the students were writers, producers, directors, and executives including producer/director/actor Yule Caise '86; showrunner Carleton Eastlake HLS '72; current writer/producers of *The Simpsons*, Rob LaZebnik '84 and Max Pross '79; screenwriter Jon Vitti '81 (*Alvin and the Chipmunks*, *The Angry Birds Movie*); and TV writer Alexis Wilkinson '15 (*Veep* and *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, as well as a past participant in the Harvardwood 101 program herself). More than fifty alumni and undergraduates shared pizza, cookies, and experiences. The Verrones expect to continue the annual event next year so, if other interested alums would like to attend, it's never too early to get your name on the invite list by contacting Patric Verrone at pverrone@aol.com.



Left to right: Hostess Maiya Williams Verrone '84, Harvardwood 101 organizer Amit Samuel '05, and Carleton Eastlake HLS '72.

Upcoming Events

HBSAOC Event: How to Get Your News into the News

Ever wonder how you might get coverage for your business, your campaign or important social developments? Join us for this special event hosted by the Harvard Business School Association of Orange County (part of their Inside the Company series).

WED, FEB 7 @ 6:00PM

Nguoi Viet (Vietnamese People) Daily News

\$25, Pre-Registered Online with code HAAP218

Harvard Business School Association of Orange County, hbs@hbsaoc.org



2018 Inter-Ivy+ Mammoth Ski Trip

Get ready for another fun-filled weekend of snow sports at Mammoth Mountain with alumni and friends from the Ivy League, Seven Sisters, and other top-tier universities. Adults of all skill levels are welcome.

FRI-SUN, FEB 9-11

Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort

\$369, space permitting

German Enciso, enciso@uci.edu



An Evening with President Faust

Join us for a special evening at The Ebell of Los Angeles with President Drew Gilpin Faust in conversation with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen, 2009 Radcliffe Fellow. This event is co-hosted by the Harvard Club of Southern California and Harvardwood.

THU, FEB 15 @ 6:30PM

Ebell of Los Angeles

\$35, alumni/guests; \$25, recent graduates ('08-'17)

Harvard Alumni Association, haa_alumnieducation@harvard.edu



Alumni Book Talk – Shelley Drake Hawks '86

Join us as we welcome Shelley Drake Hawks '86, who will speak about her new book published by University of Washington Press titled *The Art of Resistance: Painting by Candlelight in Mao's China*.

SUN, FEB 18 @ 3:00PM

Diesel Bookstore, Brentwood Country Mart

No charge

Amy Iorio, amyiorio@hotmail.com



Upcoming Events

Private Paint Party at Art Room LA

Mingle with fellow Harvard alumni at this private painting event. Enjoy crudité's while mingling and tapping into your artistic expression. Please feel free to bring additional wine - glasses will be provided. We will provide a sampling of adult drinks, non-alcoholic beverages, and appetizers.

SAT, MAR 3 @ 2:00PM

Art Room LA

\$30 per person, includes all supplies

Joanna Chan, docjochan@gmail.com



2018 HVC California Golf Tournament

Now that more Harvard alumni live on the west coast than in Massachusetts, we're long overdue to establish the Harvard Varsity Club California Golf Tournament. Don't miss out on the inaugural HVC California Golf Tournament at MountainGate Country Club.

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=1631>



2018 Lunar New Year Dinner – Save the Date

Join the Harvard Club of Southern California along with the Wellesley-in-Pasadena Club at our annual Lunar New Year dinner event, welcoming the Year of the Dog. Our guest speaker will be Jade Chang, author of *The Wangs vs. The World*, a comic debut novel about the Asian-American immigrant experience.

SUN, MAR 18 @ 6:00PM

Golden Dragon Restaurant (Chinatown)

Cost TBA

Albert Chang, AlbertChang@charter.net



Radcliffe on the Road - Save the Date

The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, the Harvard Alumni Association, and the Harvard Club of Southern California invite you to attend a reception and lecture by Jane Kamensky, Pforzheimer Foundation Director, Schlesinger Library.

WED, MAY 16 @ 6:00PM

SLS Hotel, Beverly Hills

Cost TBA

Registration will open soon



Q&A from 02138:

Patric Verrone '18



Patric Verrone '18, a concentrator in Psychology with a secondary in Women, Gender, and Sexuality, was born in Pacific Palisades and graduated from Harvard-Westlake School. He is a senior residing in Mather House. His parents are Patric M. Verrone '81 and Maiya Williams Verrone '84, whom Patric regularly allows to vicariously relive their carefree days as undergraduates through him. Most of his interests have remained the same since high school. At Harvard-Westlake, he participated in theater and served as a president of the Gay-Straight Alliance. At Harvard he is heavily involved in the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatics Club (writing, directing, stage managing, and producing) and is a "QuIntern" for the Office of BGLTQ Student Life. However, this past summer he discovered a love for humanities research while working with Professor Michael Bronski to compile an anthology of essays on LGBTQ history as part of Harvard's Summer Research Village.

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

PV: I was surprised by how collaborative everyone is. Coming to Harvard, I expected to have to compete a lot more, and not that Harvard doesn't have its share of competitive people and competitive environments, but I've found that students are much more excited to play to one another's strengths. I think theater, being so collaborative, is one place where I found that attitude to be especially prevalent.

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

PV: There's a photo of me in front of the John Harvard statue at three years old, but the first time I remember going to Harvard was for my mom's reunion. I remember thinking it was big and old and not all it's cracked up to be, but I was in middle school, so the whole world felt that way at the time. I remember my dad took us to Charlie's Kitchen (which has terrible burgers) because he seemed to think it was the only place open in the evening after our flight came in late (it definitely wasn't, see: everything on Mt. Auburn).

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

PV: I took a class taught by Amy Dent called Psychology of Academic Achievement and it was mind-blowing. As you can imagine, Harvard students have a lot of experience and opinions on the subject. She was a really engaging and exciting instructor and the class gave me a totally new perspective on my own experiences in school growing up. Some really interesting concepts that we learned about in that class are that there are non-cognitive traits like a student's grit that are near impossible to affect in a classroom but are, according to many studies, highly correlated with whether a student will stay in school. A student's feeling of belonging in a school environment is one of the most powerful things that can influence that student's academic perseverance. I also wrote a paper based on a few studies arguing that procrastination can be a positive psychological tool to improve academic achievement, and that was fun because I was actually analyzing my own experience having procrastinated on that paper.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

PV: I was an active member (now inactive but still avid soccer-mom-esque supporter) of the Harvard College Stand-Up Comedy Society. I have never laughed harder than when I was in those meetings.

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

PV: Am I being vetted already? I would work on the relationship between the college administration and the different houses, because the two are more separate than I think people realize and I believe that that degree of separation actively does harm to students' experience. Sorry, was this supposed to be an "ice cream all day in the dhalls" kind of answer?

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

PV: I miss driving down the PCH at sunset.

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

PV: I loved growing up here. I think SoCal is such a unique and beautiful place to be a kid, so I can definitely see moving back. Until then, a play that I wrote is being workshopped at Custom Made Theatre in San Francisco, so it'll be much easier to visit!

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Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84

Gus Frias EdM '94

Early College Awareness

Gus Frias EdM '94

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



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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.harvard-LA.org
To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Wed, Feb 7 6:00PM	HBSAOC Event: How to Get Your News into the News	Nguoi Viet (Vietnamese People) Daily News	\$25, partner rate pre-registered online
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