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THE HARVARD CLUB *of* SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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(310) 546-5252

JANUARY 2021

Upcoming Events

Harvard Speakers Bureau: Professor Martha Schwartz Discusses Sustainable Cities

SUN, JAN 10 @ 5:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

Can Law Become a Science? A Discussion with Prof. Jim Greiner

THU, JAN 21 @ 12:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

Harvard [Virtual] Global Networking Night

THU, JAN 21 @ 6:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

Myron Kayton Science Pub #18 - *The Search for Life in the Universe*

SUN, JAN 24 @ 3:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required

Lunar New Year Celebration

SAT, FEB 6 @ 4:00PM

Virtual Event

No charge - RSVP required



Professor Martha Schwartz Discusses Sustainable Cities

Dive into a discussion with Martha Schwartz, Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, founding member of Harvard's Working Group for Sustainable Cities, and internationally-renowned innovator in design and climate change mitigation.

This Zoom event, which is part of the Harvard Alumni Association's "Harvard Speakers Bureau" program, will be held Sunday, January 10 at 5:00PM. There is no charge to attend, but preregistration through the Club's website is required.

Martha Schwartz is the founder and principal of Martha Schwartz Partners, with offices in New York, London, and Shanghai. She is a member of the Blue Ribbon Committee on Climate Change at the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and recipient of numerous national and international design awards. Examples of her prolific work include Grand Canal Square (Dublin, Ireland), Mesa Arts Center (Mesa, AZ), and Monte Laar Central Park (Vienna, Austria). She has revolutionized the way we think about urban sustainability. For instance, her firm contributed to the Seattle Mass Timber Tower Case Study in 2018, helping local architects develop strategies that balance LEED requirements, co-working amenities, millennial preferences, and cost of construction.

This event is being hosted by the Harvard Clubs of Southern California, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Hawaii, and Maui.



Global Networking Night Goes Virtual

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. This year's event will be fully virtual, meaning even more people can attend!

GNN will begin at 6:00PM on Thursday, January 21. There is no cost to attend, though registration via the HCSC website is required. The event is sponsored by the Harvard Club of Southern California, Harvardwood, Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance, Harvard Black Alumni Society of SoCal, H4A, Harvard Alumni for Education, First-Generation Harvard Alumni, and the Harvard Alumni Association.

Recent [Virtual] Events

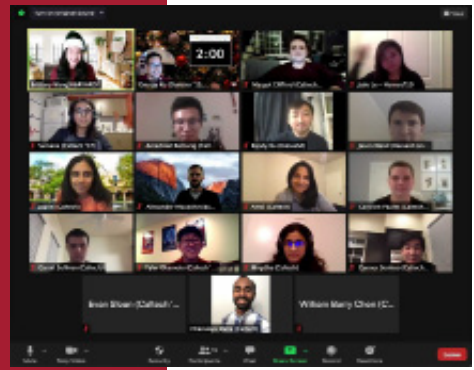
We Voted - Now Let's Build Bridges

On November 14, two weeks after Election Day, The Harvard Club of Southern California hosted "We Voted - Now Let's Build Bridges." The event featured president David Blankenhorn '77 and chief development officer Rachel Weinstein '00 of Braver Angels, a citizens' organization aiming to unite red and blue Americans in a working alliance to depolarize America. Braver Angels' name is inspired by Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address, on the eve of the Civil War, in which he said, "We are not enemies, but friends," and called us to be touched again by "the better angels of our nature." Almost 50 people signed up for the Zoom presentation in which David and Rachel discussed the political polarization of our era and how groups of people in local communities have come together to build bridges using Braver Angels' resources. More information can be found at braverangels.org.



Harvard-Caltech Recent Grad Holiday Mixer

On December 3, Harvard and Caltech recent graduates came together for a night of competition and fun! Hosted by the Harvard Club of Southern California's Recent Graduate Committee (Brittany Wang '17 and Jade Le '10), the Harvard Alumni Association Activities Chairs (John Matthews '19), and the Caltech Alumni Association (George Ko '15 and Margot Clifford, Occidental College '12), the night featured a home, team-based scavenger hunt - Caltech vs. Harvard style! Caltech stole the show, winning 44 to 25. The night concluded with themed breakout rooms. Topics included L.A. food, books, TV shows, safe COVID quarantine activities, and daily meditation practices! If you did not get a chance to join us, please do so next time. Harvard Recent Grads, next time is our turn to bring the heat.



Upcoming [Virtual] Events

HLSA-OC Event: Can Law Become a Science? A Test and a Discussion with Prof. Jim Greiner

The Harvard Law School Association of Orange County and the Harvard Law Access to Justice Lab invite you to an online presentation on fascinating and cutting-edge developments in criminal law and the potential for scientific techniques to fundamentally alter the legal profession with HLS professor James Greiner AM '04 PhD '07.

THU, JAN 21 @ 12:00PM

No charge, registration required

Harvard Law School Association of OC, orangecounty.hlsa.org



Myron Kayton Science Pub #18 - The Search for Life in the Universe

No topic is of greater interest to today's astronomers – and the public – than the search for evidence of life elsewhere in our solar system and far beyond. Dr. John S. Mulchaey, director of the Carnegie Observatories, will describe recent progress on the search for life beyond our home planet.

SUN, JAN 24 @ 3:00PM

No charge, registration required

Ethel Laczko, etheledu@yahoo.com or German Enciso, enciso@uci.edu



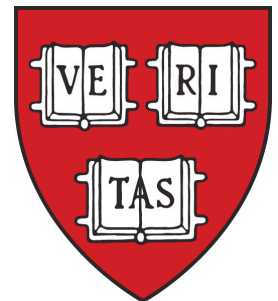
Lunar New Year Celebration

Please join us along with H4A and HBSASC for a virtual Lunar New Year celebration and potluck. All participants will be invited to contribute their favorite Asian recipe for food or drink, which will be compiled and distributed during the event.

SAT, FEB 6 @ 4:00PM

No charge, registration required

Kay Park, kayparkmd@yahoo.com



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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

Q&A from 02138:

Elijah “EJayy” DeVaughn ’21



Elijah “EJayy” DeVaughn ’21, a concentrator in History and Literature with a secondary in African American studies and a citation in Spanish, was born in Compton and graduated from Chadwick High School. Elijah performed in eight Chadwick theatre productions, winning the California Educational Theatre Association award for “Best Supporting Actor in California” in both 2015 and 2016. He received all-CIF distinction on the track and field team and as varsity football team captain. At Harvard, Elijah is a senior residing in Mather House. He founded EJayyTalks, a lecture series he conducts in the Compton Unified School District to inspire Compton’s youth. He served as the co-chair of the Fellows and Study Group Program at Harvard’s Institute of Politics, served as a research assistant to professor David Gergen, worked at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, and served as a Harvard Admissions Office Representative in South Central Los Angeles. During the summer of 2018, Elijah served as a legislative intern for Senator Kamala Harris. During the summer of 2019, he worked for the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union and in the summer of 2020, he served on the Clemency Team of Governor Gavin Newsom. Elijah is a Mellon Mays Fellow, an Edmund J. Safra Undergraduate Fellow, a Harvard Presidential Public Service Fellow, and a John Harvard Scholar. In November 2020, he won both the Marshall and Rhodes Scholarships. After graduation, he will pursue graduate studies at Oxford University, studying for an MPhil in history.

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

ED: Undoubtedly, I was most surprised by all the opportunities Harvard afforded me. From the opportunity to work with ambassadors and governors as the chair of the Fellows and Study Group Program at the Institute of Politics, to the privilege of learning from world class historians and public intellectuals, to the joy of performing in professional theatre shows, Harvard afforded me the chance to do so much. I feel so blessed to have experienced the full range of opportunities Harvard had to offer.

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

ED: The first time I visited Harvard was when I arrived for first-year move-in day in August of 2017. I had never visited Harvard’s campus before applying, as my mom and I could only visit a few schools. On that move-in day, I was taken with the grandeur of the buildings, the excitement of the moment, and the kindness of all the people I met. I felt as though I was entering a new world that held so much promise. I’ll cherish this memory for a lifetime.

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

ED: My favorite class was an independent study I conducted with my favorite professor, Martha Minow. In this independent study named “Forgiveness and Social Change in the Law,” we thought intently about how to create legal systems that center on forgiveness and mercy as a value, keeping track of the dignity of all those condemned no matter the worst thing they’ve ever done. Professor Minow, in her brilliance and commitment to justice, revealed to me that I wanted to pursue a career in law, advocating for those disenfranchised, disregarded, and condemned.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

ED: On our last day of class in a course named “The Historical Philosophy of W.E.B. DuBois,” taught by my beloved professor Cornel West, Professor West played a series of songs—ranging from Billie Holiday to Aretha Franklin to even Kendrick Lamar—that he argued revealed the love, joy, and commitment to justice at the core of the Black tradition. Though he played the songs for pedagogical reasons, he couldn’t fight the urge to dance and sing along. Soon, our final lecture in the class turned into a party—the class was on its feet, each person dancing to the songs that played. Notably, Professor West began dancing, to which the class responded with excitement and cheers. It was one of my most memorable moments in a Harvard classroom. Not to mention, Professor West won handedly in our dance battle.

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

ED: If I were president of Harvard, I would hope to create a mandatory public service requirement for college graduation. Serving others through Phillips Brooks House Association and the Institute of Politics was so critical to my experience: it reminded me even though I lived in the privileged world of Harvard, there were still so many others in need. Public service should be a requirement for each Harvard student, as it is the first step to becoming the “citizen-leader” our mission requires.

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

ED: At college, I missed my grandmother’s cooking immensely. Though I love Mather House and will vouch for its dining services indefinitely, nothing compares to my grandmother’s cooking. After breaks, I would often bring her homemade sweet potato pie back to campus in an effort to enjoy her cooking in Cambridge and share it with my friends. Her cooking is second to none.

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

ED: After my time at Oxford and law school, I hope to return to Southern California to hopefully pursue a career in public defense, teach the law, and do the important work of continuing to ensure my hometown of Compton has the necessary resources to thrive. Southern California will always be home for me. I can’t wait to return.

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

ED: The transition to virtual classes was challenging, as Zoom doesn’t quite support the usual organic, free-flowing conversation and exchange of ideas in a classroom. The best moments in any classroom occur in these organic moments when students build on each other’s ideas unimpededly. I missed those moments tremendously during virtual classes.

HCSC: How did you spend fall semester?

ED: I spent the fall semester in my home in Compton. My weeks were spent writing my thesis, applying for fellowships, and applying for law school. [ed: Elijah is writing a senior thesis that explores Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm as both a politician and a political theorist, with the hopes of articulating her unique contributions to the Black political tradition.] This fall was most rewarding because of the time I was able to spend with family. After three years away from home in college, it was so good to spend time with my family before graduation. It has been an unexpected but serendipitous end to my college experience.



Harvard (and Radcliffe) History Alumni Project

Harvard Professor Zach Nowak is looking for Harvard and Radcliffe alumni/ae who had a concentration, joint or secondary in history to take part in an oral history project.

Next semester, Professor Nowak will be teaching his course on the history of Harvard College, *HIST 1636: Intro to Harvard History*. While there are excellent first-hand narratives of college life in the 1800s, there are very few diaries and letters from students after the 1950s. As part of the course requirements, his current Harvard College students will record an oral history with an alum, transcribe it, and deposit a copy printed on archival cotton paper in the Harvard University Archives. This will give them a much better history of the last seventy years of our institutions (both Harvard and Radcliffe) and get more voices into the Archives. Recent graduates are also welcome. The expected time commitment is no more than two hours and participants can review the transcription before it is deposited.

If you are interested in getting your story added to the Harvard University Archives, please contact Professor Nowak at znowak@fas.harvard.edu.



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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.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Sun, Jan 10 5:00PM	Harvard Speakers Bureau: Professor Martha Schwartz Discusses Sustainable Cities	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required
Thu, Jan 21 12:00PM	Can Law Become a Science? A Discussion with Prof. Jim Greiner	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required
Thu, Jan 21 6:00PM	Harvard [Virtual] Global Networking Night - Save the Date!	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required
Sun, Jan 24 3:00PM	Myron Kayton Science Pub #18 - The Search for Life in the Universe	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required
Wed, Feb 3 9:00AM	[Virtual] Radcliffe: The Sisyphus Project	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required
Sat, Feb 6 4:00PM	Lunar New Year Celebration	Virtual Event Online via Zoom	No charge, RSVP required