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Upcoming Events

An Afternoon Tea to Celebrate Alumni Day

SAT, JUN 3 @ 2:00PM

Ye Ol' King's Head (Santa Monica)

\$50, members; \$60, non-members

Breakfast Networking Event in Beverly Hills

TUE, JUN 6 @ 8:00AM

Brighton Coffee Shop (Beverly Hills)

No charge, cash coffee bar

2023 Harvard Club Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

SUN, JUN 25 @ 5:00PM

Huntington Library (San Marino)

\$125, members; \$150, non-members;

\$160, to join the Club AND attend the Annual Dinner, eligible non-members only;

\$75, recent grads (classes of 2019-2023)

HCSC Beverly Hills Power Lunch

MON, JUN 26 @ 12:30PM

Gourmando Restaurant (Beverly Hills)

\$38, members; \$50, non-members

Les Misérables at the Hollywood Pantages

THU, AUG 17 @ 7:30PM

Pantages Theater (Los Angeles)

\$80, members; \$95, non-members



Docent-Led Tour at The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture

On Saturday April 22, over 50 Harvard alumni, families, and friends traveled to The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art & Culture in Riverside, CA for a private docent-led tour and reception. “The event was a tremendous success and surpassed all expectations as it brought together a diverse group from all over Southern California who chose to learn about Chicano art and culture on a beautiful Saturday afternoon,” said Jose Sanchez '89 and the main organizer. The sold-out event also allowed alumni and board members to reconnect and make new friends.

Ofelia Valdez-Yeager, community leader, former local elected official, and current Board Chair of the Riverside Art Museum (RAM), which houses The Cheech, provided a warm welcome, sharing the history and importance of The Cheech: “The Southern California community wanted and needed this space as evidenced by the record crowds since its June 2022 opening.” The Cheech has the largest and only permanent collection of Chicano and Mexican American art in the country. It is a public-private partnership between the RAM, the City of Riverside and comedian Cheech Marin—one of the world’s foremost collectors of

Chicano art and part of the comedy duo Cheech and Chong. Featured artists in the museum's collection include: Frank Romero, Patssi Valdez, Wayne Alaniz Healy, Sandy Rodriguez, Carlos Almaraz, and Judithe Hernández.

We also had the privilege to meet Southern California artist Ignacio Gomez whose work titled "Zoot Suit" is featured in the museum and in the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Mr. Gomez shared his personal background, professional journey, and creative process. He created the poster for the Zoot Suit play which, according to him, would have turned out far less iconic had he not been willing to put his own money and reputation on the line to paint it in full color. Mr. Gomez is father of Harvard alumni John Greg Gomez AB '91 who also helped organized the event.



Featured Event

Harvard Club Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner

The Harvard Club of Southern California's Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner once again will be held at the lovely Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. Please join us on Sunday, June 25 as we honor distinguished members of our community.

The 2023 John Harvard Award for Distinguished Community Service will be presented to Antonia Hernández who serves as President and CEO of California Community Foundation, one of Southern California's largest and most active philanthropic organizations, which has served Angelenos for over a century. The 2023 Excellence in Education Award will be presented to former LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner, who is the founder of non-profit Vision To Learn, which has provided over 470,000 eye exams and glasses to children in need in 15 states and Washington DC. The 2020 John Harvard Award, delayed by the pandemic, will be presented to a representative of George Takei, the noted actor, author, and activist.



The Club's Fred Smith Award for Outstanding Service to the Harvard Club of Southern California will be presented to Patric M. Verrone '81 and Maiya Williams Verrone '84. Mr. Verrone is the Immediate Past President of the Harvard Club of Southern California. Ms. Verrone is a co-chair of the Club's Anti-Racism Committee and an Elected Director of the Harvard Alumni Association.

Event attendees are welcome to tour the Huntington on their own in the hours prior to our event's start at 5:00 pm. The event price includes a three-course meal with dessert and coffee. There will be a cash bar. Admission to the Huntington Library and Gardens during its operating hours is not included. Parking is available at no charge.



Date: Sunday, June 25, 2023

Location: Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens

Time: 5:00PM reception, 6:00PM dinner and awards ceremony

Cost: \$125 members; \$150 non-members; \$160, to join the Club AND attend the Annual Dinner, eligible non-members only; \$75 recent graduates ('19-'23), and current students

Recent Events

Orange County Happy Hour

On April 26, the Harvard Club of Southern California (HCSC), the Harvard Business School Association of Orange County (HBSAOC) and the Orange County Association of MBAs (OCMBA—which represents the top 15 business schools in the world), came together for an early Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

The event in Tustin, Orange County, was held at Casa Del Sol, home to the world renowned, multi-Grammy-nominated Mariachis, “Mariachi Sol de Mexico,” and America’s first all-female mariachi ensemble. Included in the price of admission, the sold out event featured an all you can eat buffet, free non-alcoholic beverages, and music, music, MUSIC!

One attendee commented, “Can you do this every month? Or maybe just every quarter if monthly is too much?” Well, we don’t know about doing this monthly but we’ll think about doing it quarterly. In the meantime, keep your eyes open for the HBSAOC’s Beach Party: “Fun in The Sun,” happening this summer in Huntington Beach!



Zoom Lecture: Harvard’s Quixotic Pursuit of a New Science

On the evening of May 9th, forty alumni gathered on Zoom to hear Washington D.C. lawyer Patrick L. Schmidt ('78) discuss his book, Harvard’s Quixotic Pursuit of a New Science. Patrick’s book details the history of the now defunct Social Relations Department, an experiment in interdisciplinary studies that was derailed for a variety of reasons, including blowback from psychedelic drug experiments performed on undergraduates. Several of the participants on the Zoom had concentrated in “Soc Rel” prompting a lively Q & A.



Bruce’s Beach Case – Alumni Event

On May 17th, HLSA and Foley & Lardner hosted a presentation by Bryon J. McLain '00, JD '07, of the Bruce’s Beach case, in which he represented the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in the legal process of returning land to the Bruce Family descendants. The County acted to return the beachfront property in Manhattan Beach, California to the descendants of Willa and Charles Bruce, whose land and resort business had been seized in 1924 through eminent domain. In 1912 the Bruces had established a resort, café and beach lodge which became a popular gathering spot for Black families during a time of segregation and restricted access. Although Manhattan Beach alleged at the time of the seizure that the public purpose for taking the land was for use as a public park, the California legislature in voting to return the land in 2021 found that the “true purpose of the Manhattan Beach Board of Trustees in condemning Bruce’s Beach . . . “was to shut down the Bruce’s Beach resort because the Bruces and their Patrons were Black.”



Recent Events

Tech in LA: Meet, Mingle and Fireside Chat

Over 45 people attended our first in an upcoming series of “Tech in LA” events on Wednesday May 17th, in the beautiful Segovia Room of the Ace Hotel in Downtown LA. Featured speakers Michelle Kislak (Machine Learning Product Manager, Netflix), Nick Krasney ('09, HBS '15, Senior PM, Google) and Tannuj Parikh ('09, Head of Partnerships, Cash App and Afterpay) shared stories about their internet and tech journeys here in Los Angeles, moderated by Glenn Nano ('98, SVP of Product, LA Times and former Netflixer).



The “fireside chat” discussion touched on themes of LA as an emerging tech town, its historical roots before consumer internet tech (e.g. aeronautics), actually explaining what Product Managers or Business Development leaders do, and comparisons and contrasts working for early stage vs massive stage internet companies.

Attendees ranged from alumni of Harvard College, HBS, GSAS and ran the gamut among folks working in consumer internet, B2B/enterprise, fintech – even some budding startup founders in their 20s and currently undergrads today. We look forward to more in this series of both in-person and virtual events to come!

Upcoming Events

Harvard Alumni Day - Live Event

Come home to Harvard to relive your days on campus and embrace new traditions with the all-alumni parade; a program featuring alumni speaker Mary Louise Kelly AB '93, final remarks from Harvard President Lawrence S. Bacow MPP '76, JD '76, PhD '78, the celebration of the 2023 Harvard Medalists, musical performances; and more.



FRI, JUN 2 @ 11:00AM

Harvard Yard (Cambridge)

No charge

An Afternoon Tea to Celebrate Alumni Day

Please join us for a traditional afternoon tea to celebrate Alumni Day! Limited space.

SAT, JUN 3 @ 5:00PM

Ye Ol' King's Head (Santa Monica)

\$50, members; \$60, non-members



Upcoming Events

Breakfast Networking Event in Beverly Hills

Join us for a casual networking event at Brighton Coffee Shop in Beverly Hills. Bring a friend and/or a colleague.

TUE, JUN 6 @ 5:00PM

Brighton Coffee Shop (Beverly Hills)

No charge, cash coffee bar



2023 Harvard Club Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

Spend an evening with the Harvard Club at our Annual Awards Dinner. All club members and their guests are invited to attend the club's Annual Dinner on Sunday, June 25, at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

SUN, JUN 25 @ 5:00PM

Huntington Library, Art Collection, & Botanical Gardens (San Marino)

\$125 club members; \$150 non-members; \$160, to join the Club AND attend the Annual Dinner, eligible non-members only; \$75 recent grads ('19 -'23) and current students



HCSC Beverly Hills Power Lunch

Enjoy an outing with the Harvard Club of Southern California We'll enjoy a prix fixe lunch including an appetizer, entrée of your choice, and non-alcoholic drink. Limited space!

MON, JUN 26 @ 12:30PM

Gourmando Restaurant, (Beverly Hills)

\$38, members; \$50, non-members



Les Misérables at the Hollywood Pantages

Join your fellow Harvard alums and guests for the touring production of Les Misérables at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre. Our seats will be in the center left orchestra, rows Q-U.

THU, AUG 17 @ 7:30PM

Pantages Theater (Los Angeles)

\$80, members; \$95, non-members



Q & A from 02138:

Joshua Kim '24



Joshua Kim '24, a concentrator in Neurobiology, was born in Corona, California and graduated from Santiago High School where he was the captain of the Wrestling Team. He is a junior living in Lowell House. At Harvard, he is a part of various clubs such as Athletes in Action, Harvard College Faith and Action, and the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative. This past summer, he was a GP Proctor for the Harvard Summer School where he got to help high schoolers from around the world experience college life at Harvard. He also spent time volunteering at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, worked on research for Dr. Yang at MGH, and prepared for the MCAT.

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

JK: At first, I was surprised by the number of amazing people and resources I am surrounded by. Getting to meet so many people, each with unique backgrounds, makes me feel so honored and starstruck. It is truly an experience I would not be able to find anywhere else.

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

JK: On my first visit to campus in 2017, I was surprised by how integrated the College is with the city of Cambridge. I expected Harvard to be in its own isolated bubble away from bustling urban life, but as soon as I entered Cambridge, I soon realized I was also stepping onto campus.

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

JK: - So far, my favorite class is with Professor Scott Lukas called "Your Brain on Drugs." The topic, as the name suggests, reviews the pharmacology of different classes of drugs on the mind, body, and brain. Prof. Lukas spoke sternly, but with enthusiasm and passion (and a bit of comedic relief) that made you appreciate coming to lecture.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

JK: During J-term (winter break) of 2022, all the wrestlers were back on campus for training and competition. There was a huge snowstorm on the weekend, but my friends and I were determined to get a Big Mac (the healthy kind). All five of us drove in a 2000 BMW station wagon, hoping we wouldn't get stuck going up the bridge. Fortunately, we made it to McDonalds safely, but it was closed.

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

JK: I would bring back "shopping week" which used to take place on the first week of school where we were allowed to explore different classes without being officially enrolled in them. I think it helped reduce the stress of finding classes before the term began.

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

JK: The thing I miss most is the weather and food. But I also miss the beach! I love going to Newport Beach or Huntington Beach to surf or bodyboard with my friends.

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

JK: I hope to find myself back in CA. I'd be happy if I can go to a medical school back home. I do know for certain that one way or another, I will find my way back to California!

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

JK: At first, I was very excited. To take classes from your bedroom is every kids' dream. Soon, unfortunately, I came to realize that I lost encouragement and drive, and that a virtual community could never replace face-to-face interactions and relationships. I was very lucky to be surrounded by a close community of friends and family during virtual classes.



Welcome to New Members...

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

Karen Bizzini JD '84

Paul Bokota '87

Consuelo Casillas MD '93

Elisa Fernandez '88

Karyn Haitz MD '17

David Gallacher ALB '12

Hanna Jaff ALM '14

Simon Maas '13

Raja Mahidhara '91

Jonathan Menkes PLDA '23

Calvin Naito MPP '90

Pedro Paulino '23

Ivette Pena Poventud JD '90

Marisol Ramirez '10

Tyler Runge '12, JD '15

Mary Thompson '83

Samantha Wang JD '23

President

Joan Chu Reese '85

Executive Vice President

Gary Barkin '86, JD '93

Vice President Communications

Pooja Nair JD '11

Cynthia Torres '80, MBA '84

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

Karen Hernandez MBA '00

Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02

Past President

Patric M. Verrone '81

BOARD MEMBERS

Steven M. Arkow '84

Catherine Bond '20

Joanna Chan '02

Jennifer Hsu '95

Michael Kline '88

Jade Le '10

Maurice Levin '78, MBA '84

Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15

Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89

Glenn Nano '98

George B. Newhouse '76

Andy Riemer EdM '18

Joe Rogers '86

Jose Sanchez '89

Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84

Peter Shimamoto JD '85

Brittany Wang '17

Kenneth S. Williams '78

CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan

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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.

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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
Fri, Jun 2 11:00AM	Harvard Alumni Day	Harvard Yard Cambridge, MA	No charge
Sat, Jun 3 2:00PM	An Afternoon Tea to Celebrate Alumni Day	Ye Ol' King's Head Santa Monica, CA	\$50, Members \$60, Non-Members
Tue, Jun 6 8:00AM	Breakfast Networking Event in Beverly Hills	Brighton Coffee Shop Beverly Hills, CA	No charge, cash coffee bar
Sun, Jun 25 5:00PM	2023 Harvard Club Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner	Huntington Library, Art Museum, & Botanical Gardens San Marino, CA	\$125, members \$150, nonmembers \$160, membership plus event ticket \$75, recent grads
Mon, Jun 26 7:00PM	HCSC Beverly Hills Power Lunch	Gourmando Restaurant Beverly Hills, CA	\$38, Members \$50, Non-Members
Thu, Aug 17 7:30PM	Les Misérables at the Hollywood Pantages	Pantages Theater Los Angeles, CA	\$80, Members \$95, Non-Members