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THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

OCTOBER 2024

Upcoming Events

Pre-Season Ski+Board Social at Santa Monica Brew Works

THU, OCT 3 @ 5:00PM

Santa Monica Brew Works (Santa Monica)
No charge, cash bar

Book Signing and Discussion with Kennedy School Prof Marshall Ganz

FRI, OCT 4 @ 10:00AM AND 2:00PM

USC Annenberg Hall & Creative Artists Agency
No charge

HKS and Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance Networking Event

MON, OCT 7 @ 6:00PM

The Rosegold Saloon (Los Angeles)
No charge

Edwards Lifesciences Tour

THU, OCT 17 @ 5:00PM

Edwards Lifesciences (Irvine)
\$30, members; \$40, nonmembers

Borrego Canyon Trail to Red Rock Canyon Hike

SUN, OCT 20 @ 9:00AM

Borrego Canyon Trailhead (Foothill Ranch)
No charge; children welcome



Harvard President Alan Garber '77 Visits Southern California

Harvard President Alan Garber '77 addressed over 350 members of the Southern California Harvard community on September 16 at the Four Seasons Hotel Los Angeles in a wide-ranging conversation.

The event was Garber's first visit to an alumni audience since he was appointed to a permanent role as the 31st President of Harvard University.

Harvard Corporation member Diana Nelson '84 held a fireside chat conversation with President Garber, covering Garber's days as a Harvard undergraduate, his work on Stanford's faculty, and his service to Harvard as its provost since 2011. Garber provided insight into the University's priorities, and reported on several of the key initiatives taking place on campus.

Garber became the interim president of Harvard on January 2, 2024, taking the reins after Dr. Claudine Gay's departure.

"The vibe in the room was enthusiastic and supportive," said Cynthia Torres '80, MBA '84, past president of the

Continued on page 2

Harvard Club of Southern California and past president of the Harvard Alumni Association. "I sensed that people in the audience were interested in what President Garber had to say. President Garber stayed long after the event was over to talk to alumni and listen to their concerns, and that left a positive impression."

Joan Chu Reese '86, HAA Director for Southern California and Hawaii, introduced Garber to the audience. Reese told The Harvard Crimson that Garber came across as "pragmatic" and "a realist."

HAA President Moitri Savard '93, MD, was on hand to meet with alumni and encourage their engagement with the university.

The Harvard Gazette reported that President Garber is urging the campus community "to seek opportunities for unity in a time of divisiveness."

As previously announced, Garber will serve as Harvard's President through the 2026-2027 academic year. A full-scale search for Garber's successor will begin in the late spring or summer of 2026.

Recent Events

OC Coffee & Networking

On Saturday, September 7, Orange County Harvard alumni met at Stereoscope Coffee for a fun and caffeine-fueled networking event. From the Harvard Dental School to the School of Design—with careers from film to finance—attendees schmoozed, connected on LinkedIn, bragged about their favorite beaches, showed off their art, and reminisced about living in Lowell House. Look out for more OC coffee events soon!



Recent Grads Event: Welcome To Your City

The Harvard Club of Southern California hosted a vibrant rooftop mixer, Welcome to Your City, at Mama Shelter Hollywood on September 11th. The event welcomed over 100 recent graduates and alumni, providing an opportunity to network, reconnect, and build community in the heart of Los Angeles. With panoramic views and lively conversation, attendees enjoyed a memorable evening celebrating their shared Harvard connection under the stars.



Day Trip to Catalina Island

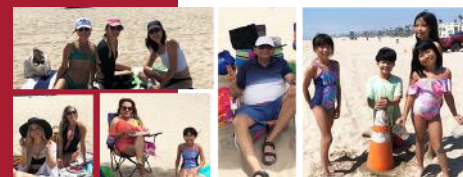
On September 14, the Harvard Club of Southern California embarked on an exciting trip to Catalina Island with 34 alumni attendees. The group hiked to the historic Wrigley Mansion, enjoyed snorkeling adventures, sipped piña colodas on the beach, and even spotted bison in the wild. The day was filled with exploration and camaraderie, offering a perfect mix of relaxation and adventure for everyone involved.



Recent Events

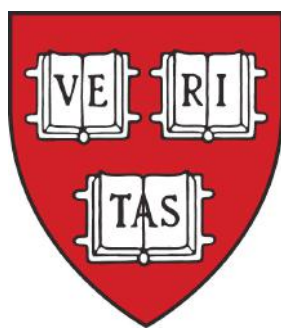
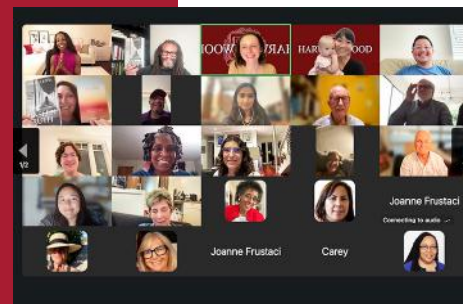
Harvard Club Beach Party 2024

On Sunday, September 15, about 60 Harvard alumni and their friends and families gathered at Huntington Beach to talk and enjoy an open buffet. It was a day filled with sunshine, friends, family, food, music, and laughter. As the event ended, Club members and guests came together in the spirit of community, pitching in to clean up the beach area. “I felt as if I made a lot of new friends that day,” said event organizer Karen Hernandez. “Thanks to everyone who attended. You made this a wonderful day, and I am so looking forward to seeing you all again at future events!”



Race, Media, and Justice: How Images Shape Our World

This webinar, which took place on Monday, September 23, explored the profound influence of visual culture—photography, media, and film—on shaping narratives of racial identity and social justice. Featuring Sarah Lewis '01 and Franklin Leonard '00, the event highlighted how historical and contemporary representations have framed issues of race and equity. Drawing from their groundbreaking work in academia and Hollywood, the speakers provided powerful insights into how images impact our understanding of justice and the pursuit of a more equitable society.



Volunteer to Serve as a Harvard Alumni Interviewer!

The Harvard Club of Southern California invites interested alumni to serve as Harvard alumni interviewers for the 2024-2025 admissions season. Each year, Southern California high school students apply by the thousands for admission to Harvard College.

The alumni interview serves as an important part of the admissions process, according to Harry Kim, chair of the Harvard Club of Southern California's Schools Committee. “The Admissions Office views the alumni interview as a critical component of a candidate's application,” he said. “This makes it crucial for our area to have sufficient numbers of interviewers to meet the demands of the applicant pool,” he added.

Mr. Kim said that the Southern California Schools Committee continued to receive a high volume of alumni interview requests this past year. New interviewers will be trained this fall by experienced members of the HCSC Schools Committee, who may have served as alumni interviewers for decades.

Mr. Kim urges alumni interested in serving as alumni interviewers to contact him at areachairsfvharvard@gmail.com. Both undergraduate and graduate alumni of Harvard University are eligible to serve as interviewers. Interviews may be conducted in person or by Zoom, at the option of the interviewer and the applicant.

Upcoming Events

Pre-Season Ski+Board Social at Santa Monica Brew Works

There's 10 weeks left till the first chair of the '24-'25 ski/board season! If you're looking for local co-skiers or snowboarders to go on trips with this season, or just wanting to meet others who share your passion, join us for a pre-season ski/board social!

THU, OCT 3 @ 5:00PM

Santa Monica Brew Works (Santa Monica)

No charge, cash bar



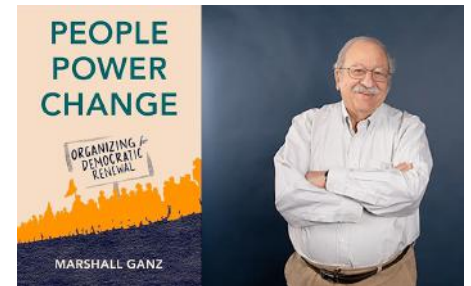
Book Signing and Discussion with Kennedy School Professor Marshall Ganz

Join Professor Marshall Ganz, Rita T. Hauser Senior Lecturer in Leadership, Organizing, and Civil Society at the Harvard Kennedy School, for a conversation on his latest book, *People, Power, Change: Organizing for Democratic Renewal*.

FRI, OCT 4 @ 10:00AM at USC Wallis Annenberg Hall (Los Angeles)

FRI, OCT 4 @ 2:00PM at Creative Artists Agency (Century City)

No charge



HKS and Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance Networking Event

This event will provide an opportunity to network and have casual conversations about the Harvard Kennedy School's master's degree programs, admissions processes, financial aid opportunities, the HKS student experience, and furthering your career in public service.

MON, OCT 7 @ 6:00PM

The Rosegold Saloon (Los Angeles)

No charge



Edwards Lifesciences – An Unprecedented Look into a Company Transforming Patient Care



We have a rare opportunity to see inside a billion dollar company that uses cutting-edge technology to save lives. Tour their facility, hear management's story, network with friends, & dine on high-end appetizers.

THU, OCT 17 @ 5:00PM

Edwards Lifesciences (Irvine)

\$30, members; \$40, nonmembers



The OC Orange logo designates a Club event in Orange County



Upcoming Events

Borrego Canyon Trail to Red Rock Canyon Hike

Join us and fellow alumni from the Harvard Law School Association of Orange County for a hike from the Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park to Red Rock Canyon. This is a 4-mile, family-friendly hike with beautiful scenery, rocky terrain, and a cool canyon view at the end.



MON, OCT 7 @ 6:00PM

Borrego Canyon Trailhead (Foothill Ranch)

No charge; children welcome

Harvard Alumnae Networking - Sunday Brunch in Pasadena

Join Alumnae-I Network for Harvard Women (ANHW) for Sunday brunch in Old Town Pasadena. Meet old friends and make new ones! All alumni are welcome.

SUN, OCT 20 @ 9:30AM

True Food Kitchen (Pasadena)

\$38, members; \$48, nonmembers



Network with Graduates from 15 of the Top Universities

Food brings people together. Meet graduates from 15 of the top Universities in the US while partaking from an all-you-can-eat buffet!

TUE, OCT 22 @ 5:30PM

Casa del Sol (Tustin)

\$30, members; \$50, nonmembers



Fiction Workshop

Exchange feedback with other fiction writers! Any level of experience is welcome. Looking for a fun, creative space? Trying to get published? Somewhere in between? Come share your writing!

SUN, OCT 27 @ 12:00PM

Play Coffee Orange (Orange)

No charge, RSVP required



The OC Orange logo designates a Club event in Orange County



Q & A from 02138:

Mason Hunt '26



Mason Hunt '26, a concentrator in biomedical engineering, graduated from Newport Harbor High School. He was captain of the Boys Varsity Water Polo team which won the Southern Section Open Division CIF Championship. He is a junior residing in Currier House. At Harvard, he is busy playing water polo and taking classes in the Science and Engineering Complex. He just finished his first Varsity water polo season with a second place finish in the Northeast Water Polo Conference after missing last season due to injury.

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

MH: What pleasantly surprised me about being a student at Harvard is the remarkable sense of community that transcends the academic environment. Despite the university's broad global impact, the tight-knit communities within the different houses and student organizations create a supportive and inclusive atmosphere. This communal spirit fosters meaningful connections, making the vast and renowned institution feel remarkably personal and interconnected.

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

MH: I first came to Harvard on an official visit for the water polo team in April 2022. I was instantly amazed by the sheer amount of history embedded in Harvard's campus and culture. The day I was leaving, my current teammate and I sat down on a bench outside of Adams House and turned around to see an inscription that read "Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 32nd President of The United States lived here in Westmorly Court." My mind was blown.

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

MH: My favorite class was a Gen Ed course called Sleep. This class was fascinating because it explored circadian rhythms and the impact that sleep has on overall health. I also learned numerous sleep tips that I have since implemented, greatly improving my quality of sleep.

HCSC: What was your funniest moment at Harvard?

MH: One morning, I was walking down Mass Ave after a breakfast at Annenberg, and I saw a huge congregation of people on the street. I was curious what had caused the mass of people to crowd the street, so I walked deeper into the crowd to figure out why. Out of nowhere, Jennifer Coolidge comes gliding down the street in a bright pink fuzzy hat atop a parade float. She had just won Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year.

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

MH: I would relocate Harvard to Southern California! Harvard is the most magical learning environment in the world and Southern California is the most magical place in the world, so it's a perfect fit.

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

MH: I miss the beach. For me, the beach was a sanctuary where I could be free from my stresses and worries. I've tried to replicate this serene feeling in Cambridge with the Charles River, but it is not quite the same!

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

MH: Southern California will play an integral role in my future after Harvard. The relaxed atmosphere, the unchanging 75 degrees and sun, and the vibrant beach culture are impossible to beat!



Welcome to New Members...

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

Timothy Anderson MBA '95	Jun Han MBA '14	Carlos Lopez-Abadia MBA '24	William Towne MBA '24
Crystal Bay ALM '24	Barbara Harrington ALM '87	Brady Merchant '03	Octavio Viramontes '15, MD '19
Gautam Bhattacharya MPH '24	Diego Ibarra MDS '09	Dylan Moses JD '24	Julian von Loesch '94
Kirsten Brownrigg ALM '25	Haeun Jee '18, JD '24	Vivian Nguyen '25	Jacob Walker JD '24
Sandra Burga PLDA '17	Delaney Jones '24	Clarke Patrone '21	Winnie Wu '03
Arthur Camara '28	James Kales MPP '92	Tessa Petrich '07	Andrew Wyner '16
Nancy Castenholz '84, JD '87	Gorhav Kanal EdM '23	Eva Rankin '26	Tiantian Xu MBA '24
Chongjia Chen '09	Vana Keshishian HMSEE '24	David Reese '85	Alyssa Zhang JD '24
Andrew Chung '25	Abia Khan '24	Adolfo Rodriguez Garcia ALM '24	Ke Zhang SELP '24
Elaine Dong '17	Kristopher Kozlowski ALM '24	Kyle Stokes ALM '24	
Calvin Duran '21	Jinna Kwak '04		

President

Gary Barkin '86, JD '93

Executive Vice President

Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02

Vice Presidents Communications

Pooja Nair JD '11
Cynthia Torres '80, MBA '84

Vice President Finance/Financial Aid

John Luna '03

Vice President Membership

Jose Sanchez '89

Vice President Orange County

Matthew Stasior '87

Vice Presidents Programs

Madeleine Mejia EdM '00
Ashley Turner '13

Vice President Schools

Harry Kim '86

Vice Presidents Technology

Jade Le '10
Joe Rogers '86

Secretary

Karen Hernandez MBA '00

Past President

Joan Chu Reese '85

BOARD MEMBERS

Steven Arkow '84
Aaron Blumenthal '15
Paul Bokota '87
Yule Caise '86
Joanna Chan '02
Kenny Chung SM '13
German Enciso HMS Research Fellow '07-'09
Elizabeth Gillis '82
Billy Kimball '81
Jennifer Lee '95
Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15
Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89
Neil Morganbesser AB '86
Glenn Nano AB '98
Vien Nguyen AB '86
Marie-Christine Nizzi '16, PhD '20, GSA '21
Kay Park AB '87
Liz Ryan AB '81

CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan
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email: info@harwardsocal.org

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: info@harwardsocal.org.

Harvard Club of Southern California
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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.harvardsocal.org.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Thu, Oct 3 5:00PM	Pre-Season Ski+Board Social at Santa Monica Brew Works	Santa Monica Brew Works Santa Monica, CA	No charge, cash bar
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Mon, Oct 7 6:00PM	HKS and Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance Networking Event	The Rosegold Saloon Los Angeles, CA	No charge
Thu, Oct 17 5:00PM	Edwards Lifesciences – Transforming Patient Care	Edwards Lifesciences Irvine, CA	\$30, members \$40, nonmembers
Sun, Oct 20 9:00AM	Borrego Canyon Trail to Red Rock Canyon Hike	Borrego Canyon Trailhead Foothill, Ranch, CA	No charge, children welcome
Sun, Oct 20 9:30AM	ANHW Sunday Brunch in Pasadena	True Food Kitchen Pasadena, CA	\$38, members \$48, nonmembers
Tue, Oct 22 5:30PM	Network with Graduates from 15 of the Top Universities	Casa del Sol Tustin, CA	\$30, members \$50, nonmembers