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THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

MAY 2024

Upcoming Events

Happy Hour, Anyone?

THU, MAY 2 @ 5:30PM

Weary Livers (Santa Monica)

No charge, cash bar

A Night of Whiskey Tasting with Friends

THU, MAY 2 @ 6:30PM

Bacchus Bar and Bistro (Irvine)

\$52, members; \$62, non-members;

\$78, to join the Club AND attend the event

Breakfast Networking Event in Culver City

THU, MAY 9 @ 8:00AM

Philz Coffee at The Culver Steps (Culver City)

No charge, cash coffee bar

Crafting Community: Happy Hour and Networking Event

FRI, MAY 10 @ 5:30PM

Santa Monica Brew Works (Santa Monica)

No charge, cash bar

2024 Harvard Club Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner

SUN, JUN 23 @ 5:00PM

Huntington Library (San Marino)

\$125, members; \$155, non-members;

\$165, to join the Club AND attend the Annual Dinner, eligible non-members only;

\$75, recent grads (classes of 2020-2024)



Harvard College Admits 3.5% of Southern California Applicants

Following a surge in applications over the past several years, Harvard received 54,008 applications this year, down about 5% from last year, but still marking the fourth consecutive year Harvard received more than 50,000 applications.

Admissions to the Class of 2028 were sent out on March 28. Worldwide, Harvard accepted 3.6% of the applicants, up from 3.4% from the previous year. Southern California received approximately 2,980 applicants this year, a decrease of 8% from 3,242 last year. 35 out of 259 applicants were accepted in the Early Action process, eight Early Action applicants were deferred to Regular Action and then accepted, and 60 were accepted in the Regular Action process (out of 2,721), for a total of 103 acceptances and an overall acceptance rate of 3.5%, up from last year's 2.5%.

“Beyond another strong applicant pool, we are delighted by the stunning array of talents and lived experiences the Class of 2028 will bring with them from throughout the United States and around the world,” said William R. Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid.

Continued on page 2

The Harvard Club of Southern California hosted events for newly admitted students. On April 7, Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81, HCSC Vice President, Membership and Schools, organized a reception for students and their parents at the home of Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89. HCSC Vice President, Radcliffe, Kay Park '87 and HCSC board members Steve Arkow '84, Harry Kim '86, Glenn Nano '98 and Jose Sanchez '89 also attended the event. The event was attended by more than 60 admitted students and a total of more than 150 guests. Final decisions on accepting Harvard's offer of admission are due May 1.

The application process for the Class of 2029 will begin in the late summer. Alumni interested in interviewing applicants in the fall of 2024 should email Harry Kim at areachairsfvharvard@gmail.com.

Upcoming Harvard Elections - Vote by May 14, 2024:

Harvard Club SoCal Board Endorses Nworah Agoyu for Overseer, Madeleine Mejia for HAA Elected Director



Nworah Ayogu '10, MD '15, MBA '15



Madeleine Mejia Ed.M. '00

The Harvard Club of Southern California's Board voted to endorse Nworah Ayogu '10, MD '15, MBA '15, for Harvard Overseer, and Madeleine Mejia Ed.M. '00, for Harvard Alumni Association Elected Director. All Harvard degree holders are eligible to vote. Please vote in the Harvard spring elections!

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 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 President Programs

Madeleine Mejia EdM '00

Vice Presidents Radcliffe

Elizabeth Gillis '82
Kay Park '87

Vice Presidents Schools

Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81
Eva Plaza '80
Harry Kim '86 (recused 2023-24)

Vice Presidents Technology

Jade Le '10
Joe Rogers '86

Secretary

Karen Hernandez MBA '00

Past President

Joan Chu Reese '85

BOARD MEMBERS

Steven M. Arkow '84
Paul Bokota '87
Joanna Chan '02
Yule Caise '86
Billy Kimball '82
Jennifer Lee MAR '95
Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15
Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89
Glenn Nano '98
George B. Newhouse '76
Vien Nguyen '86
Marie-Christine Nizzi PhD '20
Jose Sanchez '89
Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84
Ashley Turner '13
Kenneth S. Williams '78

CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan
(310) 546-5252
email: info@harvardsocal.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@harvardsocal.org.

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



2024 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 23, at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. Tickets are now available for sale on the Club's website at <https://hcsc.clubs.harvard.edu/>

Sunday, June 23, 2024 @ 5:00 P.M.

Huntington Library, Art Collection, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

Our Annual Dinner is always one of our most popular events, where we bestow the John Harvard Award, our Club's Educator of the Year Award, install our new board members, and recognize alumni who have contributed to our vibrant community.

Event attendees are welcome to tour the Huntington on their own in the hours prior to our event's start at 5:00 pm (note you will need to purchase a separate ticket through the Huntington website if you wish to do so).

Date and time: Sunday, June 23 at 5:00 pm

Location: Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108

Event Pricing: \$125.00 (Members and their guests); \$155.00 (Non-Members); \$165, to join the Club AND attend the Annual Dinner, eligible non-members only; \$75.00 (Recent Graduates, Classes of 2020 – 2024 from Harvard College and current students)

Contact: Gary Barkin, garybarkin@gmail.com

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.



The 2024 John Harvard Award for Distinguished Community Service will be presented to Rick Chavez Zbur JD '83, California State Assemblyman serving the 51st District (representing 500,000 Angelenos from Santa Monica to Glendale) and formerly the Executive Director of Equality California as well as past president of the California League of Conservation Voters.



Excellence in Education Award will be presented to Deborah Prothrow-Stith MD '79, an accomplished public health educator and current Dean of the College of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in South Los Angeles, who transformed the institution from a two-year arm of UCLA Medical School into a full four-year MD-granting medical school serving one of the most underserved, disadvantaged areas in the nation.

Harvard Club Annual Dinner Program - Ads Sought



Would you like to advertise your business to the Harvard alumni community? All who are interested in advertising a business in the Club's Annual Dinner Program are welcome to contact either Lisa Peagler at lmwpeagler@gmail.com, or Dr. Sonia Molina at soniamolina@aol.com. The Club's Annual Dinner will take place on Sunday, June 23, and is our premier event each year.



2024-2025 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 2024-2025:

OFFICERS:

<u>Yes/No</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	President	Gary Barkin '86, HLS '93
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Executive VP	Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Communications	Pooja Nair JD '11
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Communications	Cynthia Torres '80, MBA '84
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Finance	John Luna '03
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Membership	Jose Sanchez '89
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Orange County	Matthew Stasior '87
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Programs	Madeleine Mejia EdM '00
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Programs	Ashley Turner '13
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Schools	Harry Kim '86
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Technology	Jade Le '10
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	VP Technology	Joseph Rogers '86
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Secretary	Karen Hernandez MBA '00
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Past President	Joan Chu Reese '85

DIRECTORS:

Term Ending 2025

<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Steven M. Arkow '84
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Paul Bokota '87
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Yule Caise '86
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Elizabeth Gillis '82
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Kay L. Park '87

Term Ending 2026

<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Joanna Chan '02
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	German A. Enciso, HMS Research Fellow '07-'09
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Jennifer Lee MAR '95
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Adia Matthews '10, MBA '15
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Neil Morganbesser '86
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Marie-Christine Nizzi '16, PhD '20, GSA '21

Term Ending 2027

<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Aaron Blumenthal '15
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Kenny Chung SM '13
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Billy Kimball '81
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Glenn Nano '98
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Vien Nguyen '86
<input type="checkbox"/> / <input type="checkbox"/>	Director	Liz Ryan '81

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 26, 2024:

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

Upcoming Events

Happy Hour, Anyone?

Join us for a happy hour networking event at Weary Livers in Santa Monica. Bring a friend and/or a colleague.



THU, MAY 2 @ 6:30PM

Weary Livers (Santa Monica)

No charge, cash bar

A Night of Whiskey Tasting with Friends

Enjoy an amazing night of whiskey, rye, and bourbon tasting with whiskey expert Erwin Mancilla, who will educate us on the various types of whiskey and provide us with a wide sampling of whiskey-related spirits, along with delicious food. A great chance to learn, relax and enjoy time with fellow alums in a private room in the newly remodeled Bacchus restaurant in Quail Hill, Irvine (and to enjoy great whiskey!)



THU, MAY 2 @ 6:30PM

Bacchus Bar and Bistro (Irvine)

\$52, members; \$62, non-members;

\$78, to join the Club AND attend the event.

Breakfast Networking Event in Culver City

Join us for a casual networking event at Philz in Culver City at the Culver Steps. Bring a friend and/or a colleague.



THU, MAY 9 @ 8:00AM

Philz Coffee at The Culver Steps (Culver City)

No charge, cash coffee bar

Crafting Community: Santa Monica Brew Works Happy Hour Networking Event

Join us for an evening of craft beer and networking at Santa Monica Brew Works. This will be a time to continue to connect with fellow alumni in a relaxed atmosphere while enjoying signature brews.



FRI, MAY 10 @ 5:30PM

Santa Monica Brew Works (Santa Monica)

No charge, cash bar

Upcoming Events

2024 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 23, at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.



SUN, JUN 23 @ 5:00PM

Huntington Library, Art Collection, & Botanical Gardens (San Marino)
\$125 club members; \$155 non-members; \$165, to join the Club AND attend the event; \$75 recent grads ('20 -'24)

Recent Events

Professor David Malan Inspires Crowd on “Embracing AI”

On April 4 the HCSC hosted Harvard professor David Malan, who delivered an enlightening presentation, “Embracing AI.” The HAA Speakers Bureau series event drew a large audience eager to learn how artificial intelligence is reshaping education and society. Professor Malan explored the innovative applications of AI at Harvard, and provided attendees with valuable insights into its transformative impact. The session offered a unique opportunity for direct interaction, allowing attendees to engage with Professor Malan and delve into the practical applications of AI technologies. The event, hosted by board member Sonia Molina, serves a testament to the vibrant intellectual community fostered by the Harvard Club of Southern California.



Santa Monica Networking Breakfast Event a Smash

On April 16 the HCSC had a great turnout at our second breakfast networking event at Tartine in Santa Monica. Hosted by Lisa Peagler '02 and Madeleine Mejia EdM '00, there were 50+ alumni who connected with each other over coffee and breakfast. The attendees also got to know Madeleine in person, who is running for Harvard Alumni Association Elected Director – don't forget to vote!



Q & A from 02138:

Adrian Pedroza '24



Adrian Pedroza '24, a concentrator in Psychology and Economics, was born in Los Alamitos, CA and graduated from Los Alamitos High School where he was the captain of his varsity tennis team. He is a resident of Winthrop House. At Harvard, he was the president of the Harvard Club Tennis Travel Team and will continue to play as a postgrad.

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

AP: I first visited Harvard in the summer of 2018 and immediately fell in love with the campus and the city of Boston. I made memories walking along the Charles River or on Beacon Street and started to imagine myself as a student in Boston.

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

AP: I was surprised by how much academic and professional flexibility was available to students, which allowed people to find their own niche or pocket within the school.

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

YL: My absolute favorite class has to be PS11 with Jim Anderson because Prof. Anderson deepened my love for chemistry and taught me how chemistry is intertwined in all aspects of life. (I also am a PSL for PS11, so that also speaks to how much I love PS11)

HCSC: What do you miss most about Southern California?

AP: Going to school across the country meant missing several family gatherings, which took some getting used to but has led me to appreciate more the time I am with extended family.

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

AP: Southern California will always have a big role in my life, and I hope to return to Southern California to build a career and to continue enjoying my life as much as I can. I hope to maintain a relationship after graduating with both coasts of the country since they were both critical to my identity today.

HCSC: What are your plans after graduation?

AP: After graduation, I hope to travel for a few weeks in Europe. I have been to Europe once before, when I was studying abroad my junior year in Lisbon, Portugal. There are so many beautiful countries in Europe, so I hope to continue my exploration of the continent. Eventually, I plan to pursue graduate school in clinical psychology.



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

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, May 2 6:30PM	Happy Hour, Anyone?	Weary Livers Santa Monica, CA	No charge, cash bar
Thu, May 2 6:30PM	A Night of Whiskey Tasting with Friends	Bacchus Bar and Bistro Irvine, CA	\$52, members \$62, nonmembers \$76, membership plus event ticket
Thu, May 9 8:00AM	Breakfast Networking Event in Culver City	Philz Coffee Culver City, CA	No charge, cash coffee bar
Fri, May 10 5:30PM	Crafting Community: Happy Hour Networking Event	Santa Monica Brew Works Santa Monica, CA	No charge, cash bar
Sun, Jun 23 5:00PM	2024 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