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THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

JUNE 2022

Upcoming Events

HCSC Crimson Book Club - *The Lathe of Heaven*

WED, JUN 8 @ 7:00PM

Virtual event via Zoom

No charge

East West Players Presents...

Interstate

SAT, JUN 11 @ 2:00PM

David Henry Hwang Theater (Los Angeles)

Members, \$35; Non-members \$45

H4A Book Talk: Discussion and Q&A with Kirstin Chen

SUN, JUL 10 @ 2:00PM

Virtual event via Zoom

No charge

The Return of the Radcliffe College Alumnae Luncheon

SAT, JUL 16 @ 12:00PM

Mountaingate Ridge Clubhouse (Los Angeles)

\$35 per person

President's Message: HCSC Annual Meeting (June 26, 2022)



It is hard to believe that it is almost time for our Annual Meeting once again! While for the past two years we've conducted the business capping the past 12 months of Harvard Club of Southern California work virtually via ZOOM, this year we plan to get

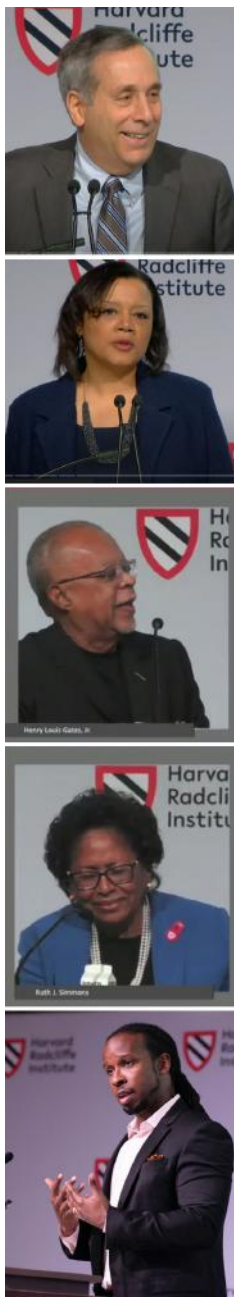
together in person at the beautiful Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area, adjacent to Baldwin Hills and Culver City. We will be meeting in the Garden Grove section of the park. In addition to picnic areas, the park has numerous sports facilities, a fishing lake, and 7 miles of hiking trails. A true pastoral respite (as close as one gets in the middle of Los Angeles, anyways)!

The Annual Meeting this year will be a casual family-oriented affair. We ask everyone who would like to attend to bring your own picnic lunch and a blanket to sit on. The HCSC has reserved picnic tables in the Garden Grove area of the park and will provide non-alcoholic drinks and kid-friendly activities.

Please see the website for all details and to register soon. Our park reservation is for 70 people total.

We will announce the new slate of HCSC officers and directors at the meeting as well as a few other announcements, but the main attraction will be all of you socializing and enjoying each other's company in the great outdoors. Note that since this event is outdoors, masks are optional. The HCSC encourages everyone to get vaccinated and boosted prior to attending and to social distance as appropriate. If this proves popular, we may plan another park or picnic event later in the summer, and welcome your ideas.

So shut down your screens, c'mon outside and spend Sunday, June 26th with fellow club members, panoramic views of the city, ducks, the site of the first Olympic Village (really, for Olympics X), a Japanese garden, and a yummy picnic lunch. What could be better? Registration will be available on the website shortly.



Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery

On April 26, 2022, Harvard President Larry Bacow released **The Presidential Committee on Harvard & the Legacy of Slavery** report published from the research conducted by a committee of distinguished faculty from across the university to uncover Harvard's links to slavery. The committee was appointed by President Bacow and was chaired by Radcliffe Dean Tomiko Brown-Nagin, the Daniel P.S. Paul Professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard Law School, and a professor of history in Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

This initiative builds on the work that took place under the leadership of Harvard President Emerita Drew Gilpin Faust. The report also includes the committee's recommendations for reckoning and repair, which President Bacow accepted in full and announced a historic commitment of \$100 million to fund their implementation. Marsha L. Minow, a law professor, and former dean of the Law School, will lead the process of implementing the committee's recommendations.

To accompany the report, Radcliffe Institute organized a day-long conference **Telling the Truth About All of This: Reckoning with Slavery and Its Legacies at Harvard and Beyond** and held on April 26, 2022. The conference was in-person and online and included opening remarks by Dean Brown-Nagin who stated: "We can't dismantle what we do not understand, and we can't understand contemporary injustice unless we reckon with our history. And we're doing just that at Harvard."

President Bacow, in his welcome remarks said: "All of us at Harvard—all of us—are heirs to all that Harvard is, and we cannot claim to stand for truth if we limit our view of the past." President Bacow highlighted the report's research findings: more than 70 people had been enslaved at Harvard; faculty members had given scholarly legitimacy to ideas of racial superiority; and that the University continued racially discriminatory practices for many decades after slavery ended. The conference included keynote addresses from former Brown University president Ruth Simmons, Ph.D. '73, and anti-racism activist and historian Ibram X. Kendi alongside several panels of speakers who provided ideas and steps for action.

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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

Recent Events

Alumni-ae Network for Harvard Women Mixer

On Sunday, May 1st, the Alumni-ae Network for Harvard Women met for an in-person networking mixer at EP/LP. Members enjoyed music and cocktails at the rooftop bar. For more information and to join ANHW, visit harvardwomensig.com/how-to-join.



Harvard Recent Grads Happy Hour

Is the Westside the best side? Judging by the May Recent Grad First-Mondays Happy Hour at North Italia, it may as well be true! On Monday, May 2nd, our group had a blast enjoying Pomogranate Mules, half priced wines, margarita pizzas, charcuterie boards, and more. This was the Recent Grads' last official happy hour until August. However, we may meet again as summer begins... You'll have to join our WhatsApp group to find out... <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FpRAeL1m6HDCyUCZ76j6mn>



HAA Speakers Bureau: Professor Juliette Kayyem — “Learning to Live in an Age of Disasters”

On Wednesday, May 11th, HCSC hosted a Zoom event featuring Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Senior Lecturer in International Security, Juliette Kayyem. Professor Kayyem discussed her new book, *The Devil Never Sleeps: Learning to Live in an Age of Disasters*. She offered a new framework to anticipate the “devil’s” inevitable return, highlighting the leadership deficiencies we need to overcome and the forward thinking we need to harness to learn how to use the tools at our disposal to minimize the consequences when disasters occur.



The War in Ukraine - How it Affects All of Us and What We Can Do

On Friday, May 13th, The Harvard Club of Ukraine and a global alliance of Harvard Clubs and HAA SIGs presented the second Allyship event on the war in Ukraine. Kevin Rudd, Former Prime Minister of Australia, and Vasyl Myroshnychenko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia, joined Ukrainian Harvard alumni to discuss local, regional, and global impacts and implications of the war.



Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian

On Saturday, May 15th, 30 children of Harvard alums visited the Elite Fencing Club in Los Angeles for a foil fencing class led by Tarek Ayad, a two-time Olympian. Elite is a state-of-the art, 10,000-square-foot training facility near Marina Del Rey, and Tarek opened his doors for the Harvard community to experience this unusual sport. After a demonstration of fencing by two of Elite's nationally ranked teenage competitors, it was the kids' turn. First came warm-ups. Then they advanced, retreated, and lunged as they learned the basics of fencing footwork. Finally they strapped on chest protectors and masks to engage in one-on-one dueling until only one team was left standing.



Recent Events

Los Angeles County Arboretum Visit

On Sunday, May 16th, over 50 Harvard alums visited the Los Angeles County Arboretum. They met for breakfast and coffee outside of the Peacock Cafe, and got up close and personal with several peacocks, peahens, and peafowl chicks. Arboretum CEO, Richard Schulhof, then led some of the group on an informative 90-minute tour of the grounds. Richard was previously the deputy director of Harvard's Arnold Arboretum, before becoming the Arboretum's CEO in 2009. Richard spoke about the Arboretum's peafowl, history, appearance in films, and conservation efforts. Other group members enjoyed a self-guided tour of the beautiful space.



Friends of Harvard Football LA Reception With Coach Tim Murphy

On Monday, May 16th, the Harvard Varsity Club hosted an LA reception at the Griffin Club featuring the Thomas Stephenson Family Head Coach for Harvard Football, Tim Murphy, Ryan Fitzpatrick '05, and the Friends of Harvard Football. The program included a 2021 season review, an update on Class of 2026 recruits, a 2022 season preview, and a Q&A with Coach Murphy and Ryan Fitzpatrick '05.



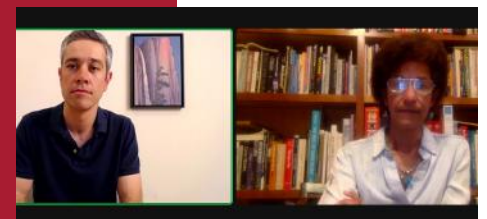
Virtual Classroom V1: Justice Today – Money, Markets and Morals

On Monday, May 16th, the Club hosted the first of a series of virtual classroom events. The group will meet every other week and take a class together. The format will be similar to larger classes taught at Harvard where we watch a lecture and read supporting materials "offline", and then meet as a virtual "section" to discuss. This virtual class is designed to take 8 weeks, so with an every-other-week meeting, last 16 weeks. This will be a great opportunity to discuss ways to think about some of the important issues affecting us today.



The Parent Trap: A Presentation by Economist Nate Hilger PhD '13

On Thursday, May 19th, alumni gathered to hear Economist Nathaniel Hilger Ph.D. '13 discuss his forthcoming book, *The Parent Trap: How to Stop Overloading Parents and Fix Our Inequality Crisis*, in which he showed why setting up children for success is harder and more important than previously understood, and explained what it will take to get more families the resources they need. Nate presented his research on the topic and then provided several ideas for rectifying the inequality in skills seen across socioeconomic divisions, include creating a government funded entity focusing on early childhood that would provide skill building opportunities for all children, and creating a parent group similar in scope to the AARP, to support and advocate for parent and family interests. A robust question and answer session followed the presentation.



Upcoming Events

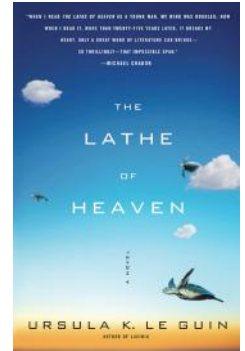
HCSC Crimson Book Club - *The Lathe of Heaven*

Do you love books? So do we! Join us for a discussion of award-winning author Ursula K. Le Guin's classic science fiction novel, *The Lathe of Heaven*. The book is an eerily prescient novel that masterfully addresses the dangers of power and humanity's self-destructiveness, questioning the nature of reality itself. Space is limited, so register early.

WED, JUN 8 @ 7:00PM

Virtual Event via Zoom

No charge



East West Players Presents... *Interstate*

Join us in the orchestra section for the new musical *Interstate* at East West Players in Little Tokyo. *Interstate* is an Asian-American pop-rock poetry musical that follows Dash, a transgender spoken word performer who becomes internet-famous along with his best friend Adrian, a lesbian singer-songwriter.

SAT, JUN 11 @ 2:00PM

David Henry Hwang Theater (Los Angeles)

\$35, members; \$45, non-members (4 ticket maximum)



H4A Book Talk: Discussion and Q&A with Kirstin Chen

Join fellow alumni for a book discussion and Q&A with bestselling author Kirstin Chen for her new book *Counterfeit*.

SUN, JUL 10 @ 2:00PM

Virtual Event via Zoom

\$5, members; \$30, non-members



The Return of the Radcliffe College Alumnae Luncheon

All Cliffies and Harvard alumni are invited to join us at beautiful Mountaingate (Ridge Clubhouse) to reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

SAT, JUL 16 @ 12:00PM

Mountaingate Ridge Clubhouse (Los Angeles)

\$35 per person



Q&A from 02138:

Spencer Freedman '22



Spencer Freedman '22, a concentrator in Computer Science, was born in Los Angeles, CA and graduated from Mater Dei High School where he played basketball. He was a 3-year captain of the basketball team which won the CIF Championship his senior year, and Spencer was named CIF Player of the Year. He is a senior residing in Lowell House. His maternal grandfather, Irving Fuller, was a resident of Elliot House and Class of '57. At Harvard, he plays on the Varsity Men's Basketball team and is a member of multiple clubs, including: HSAC (Harvard Sports Analysis Collective), SAAC (Student-Athlete Advisory Committee), and SAWL (Student-Athlete Wellness Leaders). Spencer spent his summer working on his start-up in the gaming industry called Clip It.

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

SF: There's so much that has surprised me about being a student at Harvard. One thing that has really surprised me is just how helpful everyone is. With the amount of work and the importance of jobs that both students and professors have, people are incredibly accommodating, responsive, and helpful. This extends beyond professors and students; alumni are also very accessible and helpful.

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

SF: The first time I visited Harvard was during January of my sophomore year of high school. We had a basketball game in Springfield, MA, and we decided to spend some time in Boston. I had some time to visit Harvard, and my first thought was "this is ridiculously cold." I had never been in weather this cold before, and I remember thinking there is no way that anyone could actually live in that weather.

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

SF: I've enjoyed many of my classes and professors here. It's really hard to choose one class or professor as my favorite. I loved PSY1 (formerly SLS20) with Dan Gilbert. I remember leaving PSY1 lectures with one of my teammates, and we would talk about the lecture for the full 20-minute walk from the Science Center to Lavietes Pavilion. Currently, I am taking an amazing class called Eng-Sci 95r, which is a research and development lab for startups. The class is taught by Paul Bottino, who is absolutely incredible.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

SF: There have been so many funny memories it's quite difficult to pinpoint one as the funniest or my favorite.

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

SF: If I were president of Harvard, I would build a tunnel that goes across the river. Winter is tough for athletes. Walking across the Charles in January is unbelievably cold--especially for an LA kid like myself. As Harvard's campus expands over the Charles into Allston, it would

Continued on next page

be really great for all students to have a tunnel that connects both sides of the river.

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

SF: Something I miss a lot about Southern California is, oddly enough, driving. I actually really enjoy driving. Being able to walk or take the T everywhere here is nice, but I enjoy the alone time in the car. Over the past few years, I have become a huge fan of audiobooks, and I don't listen to them as much when I am at school.



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

SF: If I had to take a guess, I'd say I'll end up back in SoCal a few years from now. Being in the New England area has been a great experience for me, and it has really made me appreciate many of the gifts SoCal has to offer. Waking up to the sun, blue sky, and warm weather is something that puts me (and probably everyone) in a better mood. It's hard for me to imagine myself living somewhere outside of SoCal, especially since many of my family and extended family members live there as well.

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

SF: The transition to virtual classes wasn't too difficult for me. I spent (and still spend) a good amount of time learning new skills via classes online (YouTube, KhanAcademy, Udemy, etc.), so doing school online was quite similar to those classes. The difficult part was the time difference. I was in LA during the virtual year, so my classes were 3 hours earlier. I was taking some 9am and 10:30am classes, which became 6am and 7:30am classes. Another tough part was being at home. Not being in the proper school environment made it a lot more difficult to get work done.

HCSC: How do you intend to spend the summer?

SF: This summer, I'll be spending the month of July in Israel playing in the Maccabiah games. Because I still have basketball eligibility left, I'll also be getting prepared for grad school and a new basketball experience. My non-basketball related summer plans will consist of working on Clip It, a social media platform for video game players that I've built, as well as spending time with friends and family, and hacking away at other interesting projects.

Welcome to New Members...

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

Wesley Acastre	Jee Won Lee EdM '09	Lisa Sugino MPP '89
Farhan Aziz '22	Gary J. LeGresley LLM '22	Fernando Villegas ALM '17
Cameo Brown MPP '14	Jack Li '22	Ping Wang MPA '21
Brandon Calderon '23	Joel McKuin JD '93	Daniel Yearwood MPA '14
Keith Cheong MBA '18	Linda Moody EdM '85	Pantelina Zourna MPH '09
Jonathan de Wolff MPA '22	Steven Ross '82, AMP '98	
Patrick Gookin ALM '12	Yun Shi MLA '17	



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1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd., #204
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
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Sun, Jul 10 2:00PM	H4A Book Talk: Discussion and Q&A with Kirstin Chen	Virtual Event via Zoom	No charge
Sat, Jul 16 12:00PM	The Return of the Radcliffe College Alumnae Luncheon	Mountaingate Ridge Clubhouse Los Angeles, CA	\$35 per person