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THE HARVARD CLUB of SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARDSOCAL.ORG

(310) 546-5252

OCTOBER 2019

Upcoming Events

Welcome to Your City: Los Angeles

WED, OCT 2 @ 6:00PM

6th & La Brea Brewery & Restaurant (Westside)
Tamayo's Restaurant and Art Gallery (Eastside)
No charge, RSVP requested

The Great Pacific Air Show

SAT, OCT 5 @ 11:00AM

Across from The Waterfront Beach Resort
No charge

Harvard Extension School Global Meetup - Los Angeles

TUE, OCT 8 @ 6:00PM

The Federal Bar
No charge, RSVP requested

Free Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian

SAT, OCT 12 @ 2:00PM

Elite Fencing Club
No charge, RSVP required

Private Tour of Light Installation at Chinese American Museum + Lunch

SAT, OCT 19, 2019 @ 10:00AM

Chinese American Museum
\$20, members; \$30, non-members

OC Ivy Plus Annual Top Colleges Mixer

MON, OCT 21 @ 6:00PM

Andrei's Conscious Cuisine & Cocktails
\$5, members; \$10, non-members



Message from Club President Patric M. Verrone

To My Fellow Alumni,

It's fall, and that means new things: A new school year at Harvard (its 383rd), a new fiscal year at the Harvard Club of Southern California (our 119th), and a new year on the board of directors for George Newhouse (his 63rd).¹

A few other new things I'd like to mention, aside from footnotes in the President's Message.² We have six new board members (Jeff Book '81, Joanna Chan '02, Jennifer Hsu '95, John Luna '03, John McHugh MD '94, and Jaime Mendez '04, MBA '09) whom I'd like to welcome by saying - it will only take you 31 years to catch George (but, then he will be in his 63rd year for real). Also, there's a new newsletter feature where we announce the new members of the Club (see page 7). I'm expecting big things from all these new developments.³

I'm also initiating a new feature called "The President's Challenge." Normally, the President's Challenge is just getting this column written, but this month, it means something else. I hereby challenge every Regular Member of the Harvard Club of Southern California to become a Lifetime Member of the Harvard Club of Southern California.

Lifetime Membership costs \$1,000. It's a bargain, and here's why: Right now, you pay \$55 per year in dues, so Lifetime Membership pays for itself after only 18 years. Who doesn't want to live for another 18 years? I know I do.

1 Actually, it's "only" his 32nd but, since George is one of the few people who actually reads this column, I thought he'd appreciate some affectionate ribbing.

2 Here's another one.

3 Except the footnotes. Those end now.

Continued on page 2

That's why I paid for a Lifetime Membership and I challenge each and every one of you to do the same.

Think of it. You will be able to attend all our fantastic events and programs *forever!*⁴ You'll never have to read those annoying "Time to Renew" emails that we send out every year. Instead, you'll have to read just one annoying "Congrats on Lifetime Membership" email. And I'll make sure it's personalized. Heck, I'll even come to your house and pick up the check.⁵

Here's an added bonus: Starting next month, all our Lifetime Members will get a profile in the Club newsletter written by me. I can't guarantee you'll live another 18 years, but surely a Club newsletter bio is the next best thing to immortality. But hurry – this bonus offer won't last forever. Unless I do.

Anyway, that's what's new here at the Club. What's new with you?

4 "Forever" only applies to those of you who are immortal. Sorry, I needed another footnote.

5 Not available if you live in Palm Springs. Last footnote. I mean it this time.



Call for Nominations for the 2020 Annual Dinner Honorees

The Board of the Harvard Club of Southern California is soliciting nominations for two awards we will present at next spring's Annual Dinner.

The John Harvard Award for Distinguished Service to the Community

- Active in public service
- An outstanding leader in his/her field
- Harvard connection a plus but not necessary
- Significant, innovative work to improve SoCal society
- Has high personal integrity

Excellence in Education Award

- Direct involvement in the field of education in SoCal, or in a role that affects the education of children or young adults
- Demonstrates excellence and substantial achievement in the field of education
- Has high personal integrity

Nominations are due October 19. Send nominations for the John Harvard Award to Maiya Williams Verrone at MaiyaWV@aol.com and the Excellence in Education Award to Joan Chu Reese at joanchu8@gmail.com.

President

Patric M. Verrone '81

Executive Vice President

Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81

Vice Presidents Programs

Madeleine Mejia EdM '00

Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02

Vice President Communications

Jonathan Aibel '91

Pooja Nair JD '11

Vice President Finance/Financial Aid

Joan Chu Reese '85

Gary Barkin '86, JD '93

Vice Presidents Schools

Harry Kim '86

Eva Plaza '80

Vice Presidents Membership

Matthew Stasior '87

Maiya Williams Verrone '84

Vice Presidents Orange County

German Enciso HMS Research Fellow '07-'09

A. J. Rogers MD '79

Vice President Radcliffe

Elizabeth Gillis '82

Kay Park '87

Secretary

Maryellen Gleason '84

Past President

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HAA Regional Director

Kay Park '87

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Book '81

Chi H. Bui DMD '02

Joanna Chan '02

Albert Chang '63

Karen Hernandez MBA '00

Jennifer Hsu '95

Shilla Kim-Parker '04, MBA '09

Maurice Levin '78, MBA '84

John Luna '03

Corey Mazza '08

Jaime Mendez '04, MBA '09

John McHugh MD '94

Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89

George B. Newhouse '76

E. Dryden Pence III '82

Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84

Claire Totten '11

Kenneth S. Williams '78

CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE

Terry Nathan

(310) 546-5252

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.

Harvard Club of Southern California
c/o Membership VP
1020 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 204
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Recent Events

Global Networking Night

On August 28th, Harvard alumni gathered for the annual summer Global Networking Night. Co-hosted with Harvardwood, Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance, H4A, Harvard Education, and First Generation SIGs, the event had full attendance. Alumni enjoyed panoramic rooftop views of West Hollywood and delicious cocktails and food. This event is held twice a year; join us at our next Global Networking Night event in January, 2020.



DANCE DTLA - In the Style of Cumbia

August 30th was the night when Harvard alumni met at the Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles to enjoy a night of dancing Cumbia—a pop-up event for the Club. Alumni were treated to dance lessons, live bands and DJs, food trucks, and a wine bar, which created a very inviting atmosphere, even for those who were a bit shy to dance. The evening was filled with dance, laughter, and new friends who all enjoyed the music and new dance moves.



Harvard Alumni Interviewers Event in OC

On September 4th, forty Orange County Harvard alumni interviewers met at Andrei's Conscious Cuisine for a social networking event. The event was hosted by area chairs Richard Cowan '86, MBA '88 and Patty Le-Narula JD '96. This was the second year for this gathering, and a lively crowd enjoyed getting to know each other. In attendance were many Harvard law school graduates, including Carrie O'Malley JD '08, who is running for Irvine City Council.



Joy Luck Club Stage Adaptation + Discussion

On Sunday, September 8th, a dozen Harvard alumni enjoyed the stage adaptation of Amy Tan's iconic novel *The Joy Luck Club* at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. The event was co-sponsored by the Harvard Asian Alumni Alliance, Stanford Asian Pacific American Alumni Association, Stanford Club of Pasadena, and the Harvard Club of Southern California. More than 90 guests enjoyed pre-show and intermission hors d'oeuvres, and beverages and desserts, which provided a festive backdrop for reconnection among long-term friends and the development of new ones. The touching performance weaved together four stories of Chinese-born mothers and their American-born daughters. Following the performance, an intimate discussion with the director and cast provided insight into the vision driving this superb rendition of a classic story.



Recent Events

Camp Pendleton Luau: The Sequel!

On September 21st, about 50 people said a last farewell to Summer 2019 at our second annual Beach Party Luau held at a private beach at Camp Pendleton. While relaxing in ocean-side cabanas, attendees dined on Hawaiian barbecue and imbibed cool cocktails. A refreshing dip in the ocean relieved the heat of this lovely summer day. After watching a glorious sunset, guests relocated to a beachside cottage where the fun continued around a bonfire where they toasted marshmallows and enjoyed s'mores. "We hope you do this again next year!" was a frequent comment among attendees. So, if you missed it this year keep your eyes open for this event next year.



Upcoming Events

Welcome to Your City: Los Angeles (2 Events)

Join us in welcoming the Class of 2019! Harvard alumni between the years of 2010-2019 will come together with local Harvard Clubs and Shared Interest Groups for Welcome to Your City. These events are a fun, informal way for recent graduates who are new to town to connect with other local Harvard alumni.

WED, OCT 2 @ 6:00PM

WESTSIDE EVENT - 6th and La Brea Brewery and Restaurant

EASTSIDE EVENT - Tamayo's Restaurant and Art Gallery

No charge, RSVP requested

Brittany Wang, brittlynnwang@gmail.com



The Great Pacific Air Show

Please join us to watch the Great Pacific Airshow in Huntington Beach. Enjoy the ocean breeze and sand while watching the incredible talents of U.S. and Canadian Air Force teams, as well as individuals like Mike Wiskus.

SAT, OCT 5 @ 11:00AM

Across from The Waterfront Beach Resort in Huntington Beach

No charge

Chi Bui, orthochi@yahoo.com



Harvard Extension School Global Meetup - L.A.

Your regional global ambassador, ALM degree candidate Gaya Branderhorst, cordially invites you to attend her upcoming Global Meetup event in Los Angeles, organized in partnership with the Harvard Extension School Alumni - Los Angeles Chapter.

TUE, OCT 8 @ 6:00PM

The Federal Bar

No charge, RSVP requested

Gaya Branderhorst, gayabrandhorst@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

Free Kids' Foil Fencing Class Taught by an Olympian

Elite Fencing Club, a brand new 10,000-square-foot facility near Marina Del Rey, is offering a FREE "Introduction to Foil Fencing" class for kids ages 5-14. This special class for the Harvard community is a great opportunity for your child to experience the sport of foil fencing.

SAT, OCT 12 @ 2:00PM

Elite Fencing Club

No charge, RSVP required

Jon Aibel, harvardsocal@icloud.com



Private Tour of Light Installation at Chinese American Museum + Lunch

Join us for a private guided tour of *Lightscares: Re-envisioning the Shanshui-hua* at the Chinese American Museum, with lunch afterward at Qin West in Chinatown.

SAT, OCT 19 @ 10:00AM

Chinese American Museum

Cost: \$20, members; \$30, non-members

Hannah Yang '18, hyang@camla.org



SOLD OUT - An Evening at the Magic Castle - A Members-Only Event

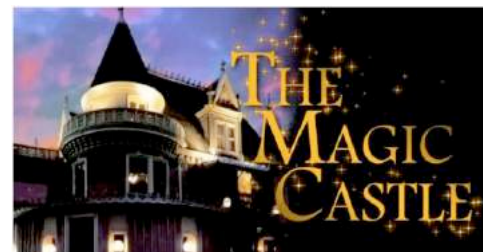
Enjoy a three-course meal in the dining room with fellow Harvard Club members followed by a magic show on the main stage. After that you will be free to enjoy smaller up-close magic performances and explore the historic castle.

SUN, OCT 20 @ 5:00PM

Hollywood Magic Castle

\$120 per person, includes dinner and all shows.

Maiya Williams Verrone, MaiyaWV@aol.com



OC Ivy Plus Annual Top Colleges Mixer

Join alumni from the Top 20 schools from *US News & World Report's* National University Rankings for this year's Top Colleges Mixer. Since 2009, alumni groups from these schools have cooperated on an annual event designed to bring the best and brightest from Orange County together for one night.

MON, OCT 21 @ 6:00PM

Andrei's Conscious Cuisine & Cocktails,

Cost: \$5, members; \$10, non-members

German Enciso, enciso@uci.edu



Q&A from 02138:

Diana Agdashian '22



Diana Agdashian '22 was born and raised in Glendale, California. She graduated as valedictorian from Ribét Academy and was the recipient of the Headmaster's Award. At Ribét, Diana was student body president, competed in county and state science fairs, and was also heavily involved in speech and debate. During her high school years, she interned for Congressman Adam Schiff, worked in the Burbank City Benefits Department, rose to the rank of Sergeant in the Burbank Police Explorer Program, and published a children's novel. A sophomore in Cabot House, Diana is presently on the executive board for both Harvard's and Boston's Armenian Students Association. She is also the former Outreach Chair for the Institute of Politics Campaign and Advocacy Program. During the summer before her second year, Diana worked as a law clerk at the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, the nation's largest prosecutorial agency, in the Target Crimes Division. She worked closely with Deputy District Attorneys on cases involving crimes against police officers, arson, child abduction and stalking.

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

DA: The main surprise would be that as a student here, I truly do feel like Harvard was able to facilitate a community around me that genuinely cares. From my amazing freshman year proctor Dan Lobo to the Dean of Harvard College, and my future Resident Dean, Rakesh Khurana, I as a student have always felt very supported by the college. Dan, from the very start of the school year, promised my entryway that he would always be there for us whether we simply needed advice for our futures or were just going through a rough patch. A promise that he has always kept. Rakesh Khurana is not only my Dean in terms of the College, but also he's the Faculty Dean of my new home, Cabot House! From just stopping him in the yard to chat about the little things to being one of the selected students to take part in the Gober Family Uncommon Fare Dinner with him and Dean Lauren Brandt, I know that he will do whatever it takes to make sure we as his students are happy and successful.

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

DA: Visitas weekend was the first time I visited Harvard and I was extremely, extremely excited. I remember it being the first time I had traveled by myself and my mind was just racing with thoughts about Harvard and the million overlapping activities I had put on my already packed schedule. The first impression I had was that Harvard really wanted to prevent students from coming in with already established ideas before even stepping on campus. As new students, we automatically came in with preconceived notions of what we expected Harvard to be. I understood during Visitas that Harvard wants you to make your time here your own, rather than what you think it needs to be in order to fit some sort of mold. The College aims to facilitate growth and learning in its student body.

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

DA: My favorite professor at the moment is definitely Professor Stephen Rosen who teaches Gov 1730: War & Politics. Here my interest in international relations was heightened as I learned about the many factors that

impact the relationship between war & politics. I gained a deeper understanding of some of the most decisive moments in world history by a lecturer who is truly invested in the subject. Not only is Professor Rosen an extremely engaging and experienced lecturer, but also very approachable and great to talk to.

HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?

DA: The funniest moment at Harvard would 100% be the week leading up to the big Harvard-Yale game. It started off with a “Yale Roast” by Professor Andrew Berry which was hilarious and then just a bunch of quips about Yale pretty much everywhere from Berg to Lamont. The situation was even funnier to me because growing up in Southern California you’re pretty used to the USC vs. UCLA rivalry (Fight On!) and the extreme school spirit that comes from following the football season, while here it was more so a week of making fun of Yale without really caring too much about the game.

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

DA: One thing that I and many other students have noticed during our first year here is that Harvard is doing its best to address some of the more delicate parts of its past and is making sure it’s taking the right steps for its future. Regarding both of these aspects, students have a lot to say and often have varying opinions about what they would like to see accomplished. I think one thing that would be very beneficial would be to constantly facilitate this discussion on campus and to ensure that students and administration are able to understand one another while still explaining their own points of view. A more public format to show the discourse to students and other campuses would be advantageous.

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

DA: The food!!! I understand that the Felipe’s versus Jefe’s debate is pretty big on campus and has the ability to break up friendships, but they both pale in comparison to SoCal’s authentic and local cuisine.

Welcome to New Members...

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

John Fallon ’18

Michael Gordon ’82

Charles Grandy ’97

Joseph Hari EDM ’17

Robert Helbling ’11

Kevin Jones ’09

Ryan Lee PHD ’15

Melinda Li ’19

Michael Martin ’20

John Miller ’19

John Nosco ’00

Liana Nourafshan MAR ’18

Steven Oakley (parent of Kayle V. Oakley ’17)

Anna Reinert ’08

Noam Saragosti MAR ’18

Monica Song ’19

Sharon Song ’12, JD ’12



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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.
To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Wed, Oct 2 6:00PM	Welcome to Your City: Los Angeles (Westside)	6th and La Brea Brewery and Restaurant	No charge RSVP requested
Wed, Oct 2 6:00PM	Welcome to Your City: Los Angeles (Eastside)	Tamayo's Restaurant and Art Gallery	No charge RSVP requested
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Sat, Oct 19 5:00PM	Private Tour of Light Installation at Chinese Am. Museum + Lunch	Chinese American Museum	\$20, members \$30, non-members
Mon, Oct 21 6:00PM	An OC Ivy Plus Annual Top Colleges Mixer	Andrei's Conscious Cuisine & Cocktails	\$5, members \$10, non-members