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# THE HARVARD CLUB *of* SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

WWW.HARVARD-LA.ORG

(310) 546-5252

SEPTEMBER 2017

## Upcoming Events

### Question + Create - A Harvard Alumni Gathering on the Arts

THU, SEP 14 @ 4:00PM thru SAT, SEP 16 @ 7:00 PM  
Harvard University  
\$140, alumni; \$100, recent grads, \$25, students

### HBSAOC Event: Retail Gets Tougher and Tougher Each Year

THU, SEP 21 @ 7:00AM  
Back Bay Conference Center  
\$30, HBSAOC Partners Pre-Registered Online

### Huntington Beach Air Show

SAT, SEP 30 @ 12:00PM  
PCH in Huntington Beach  
No charge, RSVP requested

### CicLAvia - Bike the Streets of Downtown Los Angeles

SUN, OCT 8 @ 9:00AM  
Broadway and 7th (Downtown LA)  
No charge, RSVP requested

### Speed Dating Event for Harvard Alumni

MON, OCT 9 @ 6:00PM  
West Hollywood, address will be sent after reg.  
\$10, members; \$20 non-members



## President's Message

*by Steven M. Arkow '84*

At the Harvard Club of Southern California Annual Meeting in June, we celebrated accomplishments of the past year. As we commence another school year, I am writing to highlight several initiatives of our Club's vision that may be of interest to the larger alumni community in the Southern California area.

The vision of the Club is to build a vibrant community where alumni can find value. We are structuring value creation (would this sentence have survived Expos?) around three major pillars: (1) opportunities to connect with Harvard and fellow alumni through interesting programs; (2) opportunities to contribute through interviewing students and community service; and (3) opportunities to learn through educational, cultural, and professional development events (and let's not forget, to be entertained, since we are in that capital).

The Club experienced the longest stretch of sustained membership growth in recent history. In the past year, we grew ten percent. Modest, but comparable to a discount at the Coop, and making us one of the largest and most active Harvard clubs in the world.

In the past year, we organized and/or sponsored over 100 events including the perennial Harvard-Yale Game telecast in Los Angeles and Orange Counties; a twin-bill performance by the Krokodiloes and Din & Tonics in January; Wintersession seminars hosted by local alumni for undergraduates; a dinner with the winningest coach in Crimson football history, Tim Murphy; a family-friendly private screening of *Trolls* hosted by one of its writers; an alumni

Continued on page 7

## Recent Events

### Family Game Day at Dodger Stadium



On July 23, 2017, 31 alumni, family and friends came out to cheer the Los Angeles Dodgers, baseball's dominant team this season, as they defeated the Braves by a score of 5 to 4 with a walk-off home run in the 10th inning. The group enjoyed the game, the Dodger Dogs, and meeting Ben Zauzmer '15 (at the bottom of the photo), an analyst in Research and Development (Baseball Operations) for the Dodgers and former play-by-play announcer for Crimson basketball and football at WHRB radio when he resided in Mather House.

### Summertime Happy Hour at Pelican Hill



On July 26, 2017, more than forty guests enjoyed wine, appetizers, and a stunning sunset at the Harvard Club of Southern California's Summertime Happy Hour at Pelican Hill Resort in Newport Coast. HCSC board members in attendance were Dr. A.J. Rogers '79, Vice President, Orange County; Elizabeth Gillis '82, Vice President, Orange County; German Enciso HMS Research Fellow '07-'09, Secretary; Chi H. Bui DMD '02; and Karen Hernandez MBA '00. Other notable attendees included a real estate developer recognized by Boston's mayor for developing low-income housing, a kidney transplant surgeon, and the quarterback of Harvard's championship football team.

### The Harvard Latino Students and Alumni Tardeada



On August 13, 2017, new and continuing Harvard Latino students, along with numerous Harvard alumni, attended the Harvard Latino Students and Alumni Tardeada at the home of Drs. Andres and Gloria Gonzalez in Altadena. The event included brunch, a performance by the student mariachi band of Eastmont Intermediate School, an introduction of Harvard students and alumni, and a recognition of several exemplary education and community leaders. The goal of this event was to introduce Harvard students to the local Harvard Latino alumni community and show them our commitment to support them throughout their journey at Harvard University. For further information, please contact Dino Barajas or Dr. Gus Frias at [dino.barajas@akingump.com](mailto:dino.barajas@akingump.com) or [dr.gfrias@gmail.com](mailto:dr.gfrias@gmail.com).

### Beyond Blockbuster: The Present & Future of Hollywood



On August 17, 2017, Disney/ABC Studios in Burbank hosted about 90 alumni to hear Ben Sherwood '86, Co-Chairman of Disney Media Networks, and Modi Wiczek '93, MBA '99, Co-CEO of Media Rights Capital, share their experiences in the entertainment industry. We heard first hand of the innovative approaches each company is taking to make media more accessible to the consumer, continuously help and develop new talent, provide advice, and "do good for the community." Attendee Joshua Daneshforooz MTS '10 said, "I've always been interested in learning more about the entertainment industry. Hearing directly from leaders in the industry in an intimate setting was incredibly valuable. I also made some new friends." Both Ben and Modi stayed after the talk to meet with alumni one-on-one. A special thank you to Shilla Kim-Parker '04, MBA '09, Disney/ABC Television Group and Harvard Alumni Association Elected Director (2013-2016).

# Upcoming Events

## Question + Create - A Harvard Alumni Gathering on the Arts

The arts ask us to look closely. To slow down. To reflect. To question. To imagine. Please join us at the Alumni Arts weekend, September 14-16, 2017, at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA.

**THU, SEP 14 @ 4:00PM thru SAT, SEP 16 @ 7:00PM**

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

\$140, alumni; \$100, recent grads; \$25, current students

Harvard University, haa\_alumniartsweekend@harvard.edu



## Harvard Business School Association of Orange County Event: Retail Gets Tougher Each Year

The classic retail model is under siege – 5,300 closing announcements through June of this year. Adam Gromfin HLS '03, President of ThreeSixty Group, will discuss the creative strategies and rapid tactical maneuvers that might provide the only path to survival.

**THU, SEP 21 @ 7:00AM**

Back Bay Conference Center

\$30, Pre-Registered Online with code HAAP921

HBSAOC, hbs@hbsaoc.org



## Huntington Beach Air Show

Join us for this annual event where the Snowbirds, US Navy Blue Angels, and F-16 Vipers, among others, put on a memorable show in Huntington Beach.

**SAT, SEP 30 @ 12:00PM**

PCH in Huntington, location will be sent after registration

No charge, RSVP requested

Josh Daneshforooz MTS '10, josh@langomobile.com



## CicLAvia - Bike the Streets of Downtown Los Angeles

Get your bikes, helmets, skateboards, and walking shoes ready and join us for a day filled with fun, meeting new friends. This is a family-friendly event.

**SUN, OCT 8 @ 9:00AM**

Broadway and 7th in Downtoan L.A.

No charge, pre-registration requested

Hyung Kim, hyung5kim@gmail.com



# Upcoming Events

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## Speed Dating Event for Harvard Alumni

Interested in meeting new people and a potential match? Join us for a Speed Dating event organized specially for Harvard alumni.

**MON, OCT 9 @ 6:00PM**

West Hollywood, address will be sent after registration

\$10, members; \$20, non-members

Rachel Weinstein, [rachel@mixalot.me](mailto:rachel@mixalot.me)



## Harvard Medical School Meet-the-Dean Event

Meet the 22nd Dean of Harvard Medical School, George Q. Daley '82, MD '91, PhD, and hear his vision for HMS, its reach, and our collective impact.

**WED, OCT 11 @ 6:00PM**

Four Seasons Los Angeles at Beverly Hills

No charge

RSVP requested: [hms.harvard.edu/meet-the-dean](https://hms.harvard.edu/meet-the-dean)



## Save the Date! Recent Grads Mixer at Caulfield's Rooftop Bar in Beverly Hills

Recent grads! New to Los Angeles? Join your fellow classmates for a "Welcome to Your City" mixer.

**MON, OCT 16 @ 6:00PM**

Caulfield's Rooftop Bar

No charge, RSVP requested

Madeleine Mejia, [Madeleine\\_Mejia@post.harvard.edu](mailto:Madeleine_Mejia@post.harvard.edu)



# Upcoming Events

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## Harvard Business School Association of Orange County Event: Edwards Lifesciences

Edwards Lifesciences is a global leader in patient-focused medical innovations for structural heart disease, as well as critical care and surgical monitoring. Speakers include CEO Mike Mussallem, CVP Catherine Szyman, and CFO Scott Ullem and the visit includes a tour of the manufacturing facilities.

**THU, OCT 26 @ 5:30PM**

Edwards Lifesciences Corp.

\$30, Pre-Registered Online with code HAAP1026

HBSAOC, hbs@hbsaoc.org



Edwards

## Science Pub Series #11 – Hunting Killer Asteroids

Join the search with Professor Edward L. Wright from UCLA as we discuss deadly asteroids. Can scientists predict the next big one? Can Earth stop an asteroid from colliding with our planet?

**SUN, OCT 29 @ 3:00PM**

Factor's Famous Deli

\$33, members; \$38, non-members

German Enciso, enciso@uci.edu



## Save the Date! instaHarvard at Caulfield's Rooftop Bar in Beverly Hills

Calling all alumni of the graduate and professional schools. Please join us for the 3rd instaHarvard event designed to bring us all together for a night of networking. Business card exchange encouraged.

**MON, NOV 13 @ 6:00PM**

Caulfield's Rooftop Bar

No charge, RSVP requested

Madeleine Mejia, Madeleine\_Mejia@post.harvard.edu



Q&A from 02138:

## Merrick Anthony Madsen '18



Merrick Anthony Madsen '18, a concentrator in Statistics, was raised in Acton, California. He was home schooled through most of his pre-college education in California, up until the end of his 10th grade year. He then traveled across the country to attend Proctor Academy, a preparatory school in Andover, New Hampshire, with the intent of furthering both his academic and athletic careers. He was the goaltender for the Varsity Ice Hockey team and earned the Lee Carvalho Award for Excellence in Mathematics, alongside the Spencer V. Wright Award for Athletic Achievement and Sportsmanship at his graduation in 2013. At Harvard he is a rising senior residing in Dunster House, and continues his hockey career as the goaltender for the Men's Varsity Ice Hockey Team, having been voted a captain for the upcoming season. This summer, he interned at a social media and communications consulting firm called Attention Span Media, in downtown Boston.

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

**MAM:** I was honestly a little intimidated, and not entirely because it's a very tough school to get in to. I grew up in the countryside for most of my life, and I was a little overwhelmed at first by living in more of a city setting. Looking back now, however, I wouldn't want it any other way.

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

**MAM:** My favorite class at Harvard would probably be Science and Cooking. It was intriguing to learn about all the science behind some of the largest parts of human culture: food and cooking. We all cook everyday, but we hardly ever think about how it all works on a microscopic level. Plus getting to make and eat food in our labs was always a bonus.

*HCSC: What has been your funniest moment at Harvard?*

**MAM:** Right after my sophomore year, I worked as a barback for many of the Harvard Reunion events. While some of the conversations I ended up having with the alumni were interesting, it was hilarious seeing many of their drunken antics as the night rolled on.

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

**MAM:** I would try to encourage the student body to be more involved at many of the athletic events. There have been many discussions at Harvard recently about creating social spaces, but many forget that we have 40 Division 1 sports teams here that have games, matches, and meets almost every weekend of the year. What better way to blow off some steam by cheering on your peers who are competing against the likes of Yale and Princeton for bragging rights?

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

**MAM:** I miss the countryside. While much of California is centered around the city and beach life, I grew up on 10 acres of arid land up in the hills off the 14 Freeway, where I could barely see my neighbors' houses. Sometimes I miss that quiet lifestyle.

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

**MAM:** As I aspire to take my hockey career as far as I can after college, it unfortunately would be tough to be set up in Southern California again soon. Maybe somewhere down the line, when my life lends more flexibility, I would be able to live there once again.

talk with Gene Sykes '80, who led the effort to bring the Summer Olympics to Los Angeles; another alumni talk on the future of Hollywood with Ben Sherwood '96, Co-Chairman of Disney Media Networks, and Modi Wiczyc '93, MBA '99, Co-CEO of Media Rights Capital; and our annual awards dinner honoring Morgan Chu JD '75, past president of the Harvard Board of Overseers.

As a complement to hosting large networking events like the bi-annual Global Networking Night, instaHarvard, and Welcome to Your City, the Club organizes programs around specific themes and collaborates with Harvardwood, the Harvard Business School Association of Orange County, and Harvard Shared Interest Groups (SIGs) such as the Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance and the HealthCare SIG (started by several Los Angeles alumni in the medical community.)

In addition to sponsoring events, the Club offers other ways to stay connected to Harvard. Alumni who volunteer on our Schools Committee interviewed virtually every candidate who applied to the College from the Southern California area and we held welcome and send-off get-togethers for admitted students. During the summer, there were opportunities to serve as mentors to undergraduates who intern in public service and the Club granted stipends to these students.

If you have ideas for events, how to defeat Yale, or would like to help organize a program or volunteer for community service, email [harwardsocal@gmail.com](mailto:harwardsocal@gmail.com).

Steven Arkow '84

President, Harvard Club of Southern California

### *Harvard Club of Southern California Officers*

**President**

Steven M. Arkow '84

**Executive Vice President**

Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi EdD '81

**Vice Presidents Programs**

Madeleine Mejia EdM '00

Lisa Watanabe-Peagler '02

**Vice Presidents Communications**

Jonathan Aibel '91

Patric M. Verrone '81

**Vice President Finance/Financial Aid**

Aaron J. Wilson '03

**Vice Presidents Schools**

Daniel A. Medina '79, MBA '83

Eva Plaza '80

**Vice Presidents Orange County**

Elizabeth Gillis '82

Dr. A. J. Rogers '79

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**Vice Presidents Radcliffe**

Beverlee Bickmore '64, MPA '74

Isabelle I. Fox '47

**Secretary**

German Enciso HMS Research Fellow

'07-'09

**Past President**

Dr. Kay Park '87

**HAA Regional Director**

Madeleine Mejia EdM '00

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Harvard College Recent Graduates**

Lindsay Lotie '11

**Asian-Americans Outreach**

Dr. Kay Park '87

**Prize Book**

Sonia Molina DMD '89, MPH '89

**Latino Graduates**

Ethel Seminario-Laczko EdM '84

Gus Frias EdM '94

**Early College Awareness**

Gus Frias EdM '94

**CLUB NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE**

Terry Nathan

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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](mailto:HarvardSoCal@gmail.com).

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## *Calendar of Upcoming Events*

For more information on events and general club news, visit the club website at [www.harvard-LA.org](http://www.harvard-LA.org)  
To recommend an event or volunteer for one, contact one of our Programs VPs.

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST
Thu, Sep 14 4:00PM	<b>Question + Create - A Harvard Alumni Gathering on the Arts</b>	Harvard University Cambridge, MA	\$140, alumni; \$100, recent grads; \$25, students
Sat, Sep 30 12:00PM	<b>Huntington Beach Air Show</b>	PCH in Huntington Beach location sent after reg.	No charge, RSVP Requested
Thu, Sep 21 7:00AM	<b>HBSAOC Event: Retail Gets Tougher and Tougher Each Year</b>	Back Bay Conference Center	\$30, Partner Club Rate
Sun, Oct 8 9:00AM	<b>CicLAvia - Bike the Streets of Downtown Los Angeles</b>	Broadway and 7th	No charge, RSVP Requested
Mon, Oct 9 6:00PM	<b>Speed Dating Event for Harvard Alumni</b>	West Hollywood, address will be sent after registration	\$10, members; \$20, non-members
Wed, Oct 11 6:00PM	<b>Harvard Medical School Meet the Dean Event</b>	Four Seasons Hotel	No charge, RSVP Required