



130 Years of Serving the Harvard Community of Northern California

# The Harvard Club of San Francisco

[www.harvardclubsf.org](http://www.harvardclubsf.org)

July 2006

*Edited by Kathy Rosenberg-Wohl, AB '83, JD '86. Layout by Yvonne Tsang, AB '99.*

415-621-3900 [info@harvardclubsf.org](mailto:info@harvardclubsf.org)

## Annual Dinner on July 11 featuring Mayor Gavin Newsom

**SOLD OUT**  
We are proud to announce the Harvard Club of San Francisco Annual Dinner on July 11, which promises to be one of the most exciting ever! The festivities will take place at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel in Union Square, San Francisco, and will begin at 5:30 pm with a reception (no-host bar) on the grand mezzanine, followed by dinner at 6:20 pm in the main ballroom.

At dinner, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom will be our featured speaker and the recipient of our award for Distinguished Citizen of the Year. We will honor the mayor for his commitment to equality and fairness, his strong support of education, and his dedication to enhancing the city's livability and economic vitality by drawing on innovation and creativity. Not one to shrink from controversy, Mayor Newsom rises to the challenge and sticks to what he thinks is right.

We will present two additional awards during dinner. Robert Klein, Chairman of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine; and Brooke Ellison, AB '00, MPP '04, the first quadriplegic person to graduate from Harvard College and an advocate for stem cell research, will be named Public Service Leaders of the Year. The Boys and Girls Club of San Francisco will be the recipient of our Educator of the Year award. Since the dinner also serves as our year-end membership meeting, new HCSF Officers and Board Members will be presented and officially elected.

After the dinner and awards, we invite you to stay for a post-dinner gathering (no-host bar).

Not to be missed!

Tickets can be purchased for \$75 to \$150 (\$55 to \$65 for recent grads). Seats are limited, and prices go up on June 27. Buy your tickets now! Go to [www.harvardclubsf.org](http://www.harvardclubsf.org) or call 415-621-3900. ●

## A Few Words from Our Presidents

### Outgoing President

**Gautham P. Reddy, AB '85**



It has been an honor and a delight to serve as president of the Harvard Club of San Francisco. The year has passed quickly, and there has been a whirlwind of activity by our officers, board members, and numerous volunteers, all working to make the Club better for its members. I owe all of you special thanks.

I am especially proud of the Club's renewed focus on community service, one of my priorities and a matter of great appeal to the membership. We have created a new office—VP, Community Service—currently held by Stephen Watkins, AM '96, who has developed a program for Club members to volunteer at the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Francisco. Ray Mertens, AB '94, MBA '03, led another highly successful endeavor—the Stanley Lynn Early College Awareness program for disadvantaged youth (see page 4).

Our new executive director, Kirsten Pickford, has helped us reorganize the Club administration and update our database, ensuring the accuracy of mem-

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bers' data. Kirsten is also continuing in her role as the executive director of the Harvard Business School Association of Northern California, which she has managed for eight years. We have been lucky enough to benefit from her long experience and her efficiency—she returns your phone calls and emails almost immediately!

I am privileged to have followed in the footsteps of Club Presidents Stephanie Evans, EdM '79, John Trasvina, AB '80, Michael Sears, AB '84-'85, Wally Sleeth, AB '65, and Modesta Garcia, EdM '79. During my tenure on the board, we have grappled with the transition from conventional to electronic communication. Each of my predecessors led the Club through positive changes, such as creating an updated and highly functional website and enhancing our email capability. We were able to culminate the transition this year by updating our database, gaining the ability to send email messages to 13,000 Harvard alumni and affiliates in the Bay Area, preparing to launch our online membership directory, and—as you can see—resurrecting the newsletter (thanks to Kathy Rosenberg-Wohl, AB '83, JD '86, and Yvonne Tsang, AB '99.) I am confident that our improved digital communication capabilities will serve our members well. At the same time, we will offer the newsletter and dues invoices in hard copy and continue event registration by phone or fax.

I have been fortunate to work with a fantastic leadership team who worked hard on behalf of our members, and I want to give special recognition to those who are stepping down as officers or leaving the board. Stephanie Evans, my immediate predecessor as president, was instrumental in the launch of our new website last year, has been incredibly generous with her time and financial resources, and over the course of the year has provided me with wise counsel. I am happy to report that she will continue on the board in an ex officio capacity. As VP, Activities, for the past two years Amy Hanson, AB '92, has led the amazing revitalization of the Club's social, educational, and cultural program, which now has the breadth and depth to appeal to the range of members' interests. The board is awed and impressed by the accomplishments of her enthusiastic and innovative committee. Amy also oversaw the creation of the new website. Club Secretary Eric

Behrens, AB '70, has been a tireless record keeper and, with his legal background, provided invaluable advice and was always the voice of reason. Both Amy and Eric will remain on the board for another year.

Wally Sleeth, the Harvard Alumni Association Regional Director, was a great source of advice and guidance. Wally has moved to Worcester, Massachusetts, but he returns frequently to the Bay Area to visit family, and I am sure that we will see him at Club events. Garrett Stone, MBA '67, and Rick Wales, AB '76, are retiring from the board after several years of dedicated service.

Our Annual Dinner on July 11th will mark the official transition to the next president of the HCSE, Spencer Rhodes, AB '00, MBA '04. Spencer came to us with stellar reviews from the Harvard Club of the United Kingdom, where he served as an executive committee member from 2000 to 2002 and was next in line to be president before he left to attend HBS.

Spencer has assisted me immeasurably over the past year as the Club's President-elect. His business experience and level-headed advice were great resources for me, and the Club benefited from his boundless energy, earnestness, and willingness to try new ideas. The membership's needs were always uppermost in his mind and were central to his ideas and efforts. From long-range and strategic planning, to recruiting new board members and officers, to event organization, Spencer has proved his managerial and leadership abilities time and again. As organizer of the Ivy League Young Alum Mixer, he held three mixers that drew over 300 attendees each and engaged all seven of the other Ivy clubs in the city.

At Harvard College, Spencer was a Psychology concentrator in Eliot House and earned a Citation in German Language. After working in venture capital in London, he earned an MBA from Harvard Business School, where he served as chair of his section's social committee. Professionally, Spencer is a Vice President at Merrill Lynch and focuses on institutional investment management.

I am pleased to pass the leadership of the HCSE to Spencer.

Thank you for a memorable year, and best wishes. ●

## Incoming President Spencer Rhodes, AB '00, MBA '04



I am very excited to be starting my term as your new president of the Harvard Club of San Francisco. We are ending a very successful year under the presidency of Gautham Reddy, AB '85, in which we doubled member-

ship; engaged a fantastic new executive director; greatly increased our administrative, e-mail, and website functionality; overhauled the Club's governing bylaws; devoted new energy to community service activities; executed a tremendous roster of almost 60 events; and resurrected the newsletter. Gautham spent countless hours working on Club business, attending events, and coordinating with Cambridge. We are fortunate that we will continue to benefit from Gautham's energy as he has agreed to accept the newly created position of "Immediate Past President", a role we created to assure continuity by keeping past presidents on the executive committee for an additional year.

Amy Hanson, AB '92, our outgoing VP of Activities, also deserves our gratitude for keeping the Club's calendar full of great events. The Club would not be where it is today without Amy, and her leadership will be greatly missed.

For those of you who are new to the Club or new to the Bay Area, I want to take a moment to describe the HCSF at the highest level. Our Club has three core missions: community service, interviewing candidates for admission to Harvard College, and organizing social and educational events. We serve all alumni of Harvard regardless of school or degree, and our board is composed of graduates from almost every school at Harvard, including the Law School, Business School, School of Education, Divinity School, Kennedy School, GSAS, and College. We also include former Harvard instructors, current students, and parents of current and past students.

Founded in 1873, The Harvard Club of San Francisco is the fourth oldest Harvard Club in the world. However, unlike Boston and New York, we do not have a physical location. Instead, we leverage venues

all around the city for our events and charge a very modest membership fee of only \$50 per year (\$25 or less for recent grads). This dues revenue is what keeps us going. Please see [www.harvardclubsf.org](http://www.harvardclubsf.org) or call us at (415) 621-3900 for information on upcoming events or to join the Club.

In the coming year, we have many goals. Beyond the clear mandates of maintaining a solid schedule of events and continuing to increase membership, some of our priorities include the following:

- 1) Our greatest assets are our leaders: the people who donate their energy to build the Harvard Community here in San Francisco. This year, we will greatly expand the Club's roster of leaders on all levels, from event organizers to board members and officers. If you would like to fill a leadership role, join a committee, or organize an event, please contact me at [rhodes@post.harvard.edu](mailto:rhodes@post.harvard.edu). You can make as large or as small a commitment as you would like.
- 2) We will build on our new relationship with the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Francisco and further expand our community service platform.
- 3) We will launch an online, searchable, members-only directory to facilitate social and professional networking. This directory will include employer information and will thereby be more informative than the directory at [www.post.harvard.edu](http://www.post.harvard.edu). To protect privacy, members will be able to opt out, and access will be restricted to paid members.

Thanks for your interest in and support of the Harvard Club of San Francisco!

## HCSF Hosts Stanley Lynn Early College Awareness Pilot Program Ray J. Mertens, AB '00, MBA '03

The HCSF recently hosted the Stanley Lynn Early College Awareness (ECA) seminar on April 29, 2006 at Aptos Middle School in San Francisco. The event included financial and academic experts from local colleges and community-based educational organizations as well as a panel of current students, all of whom shared their valuable insights with parent and student attendees. The interest we received in this

pilot program from students, parents, educators, and volunteers was encouraging. We plan to build on this first effort and expand the seminar to include students and parents at additional schools next year. The event was made possible by a large donation from the Lynn family and follows on a similar program held three years ago.

The mission of ECA is to encourage middle school students and their parents to consider and plan for a college education. ECA targets families from communities of limited means who may not be aware of the options available to them. In many cases, these students will be the first in their family to attend college. Understanding academic requirements as well as navigating the application and financial aid process can be overwhelming for any student, but it is particularly daunting for those who do not have access to a network of people with requisite experience and knowledge to assist in the process.

The ECA program was created with the goal of making the process less daunting. Local Harvard Alumni Clubs sponsored similar events in 10 cities across the country in 2006. As the name “Early College Awareness” suggests, our goal is to reach these students early, so that they can begin to prepare themselves properly for college during the first year of high school. Too often students begin to consider their college options very late in their high school career and thus earlier action/inaction may have already limited options. It is our hope that ECA can help students avoid this unfortunate pattern.

Special thanks to the planning committee: Lara Fox, AB '99, Stephen Watkins, AM '96, Carrie McGraw, AB '02, Holly Hogan, JD '05, Tom Holmes (Holly's husband), Charlene Nee, EdM '95, Kristin Agatone, AB '03, Jesse Martinez, HLS '74, MPA '90, and Ann Borja (of Summer Search).

## Upcoming Events

### An Inconvenient Truth Private Movie Screening & Party

Friday, July 7, 2006

7:00 pm

Landmark Embarcadero Cinema

1 Embarcadero Center, Promenade Level Corner of  
Clay & Battery Street, San Francisco

See below for ticket prices and registration  
information.

You are invited to see one of the most important movies ever made at an exclusive private screening for Harvard alumni and their guests.

\* 3 Standing Ovarations at Sundance

\* Rave Reviews across the nation

\* A Feast for the Eyes, Ears, Heart & Mind

#### AFTER PARTY:

The Holding Company, 2 Embarcadero Center,  
Promenade Level, San Francisco, CA 94111

A 20 second walk from Landmark Embarcadero  
cinema, celebrate the highly-anticipated movie An  
Inconvenient Truth at a very convenient After Party  
featuring Square One organic vodka cocktails, wine  
& beer, hors d'oeuvres, and cutting-edge solutions to  
global warming.

#### TICKETS:

Free for HCSF members + 1 guest each

\$10 for non-members & additional guests

#### RSVP:

Please register online at [www.hbsanc.org/events](http://www.hbsanc.org/events)

Seats are limited, please register now. ***Your tickets will  
be held at Will Call.***

#### ABOUT THE FILM:

The Paramount Classics global warming documentary  
“An Inconvenient Truth” is taking the nation by  
storm, breaking per-screen records and receiving rave  
reviews. San Francisco Chronicle Mick LaSalle said,  
“An Inconvenient Truth is the most important movie  
anyone will make this year.” Roger Ebert exclaimed,  
“In 39 years, I have never written these words in a  
movie review, but here they are: You owe it to yourself  
to see this film.”

#### MOVIE WEB SITE:

[www.climatecrisis.net](http://www.climatecrisis.net)

## Hike Along Land's End Coastal Trail

Saturday, July 15, 2006

10:00 am: Meet at trailhead

10:15 am: Hike begins

Trailhead: North end of Merrie Way parking lot

Point Lobos Avenue and Merrie Way, SF

FREE

What is the wildest place in San Francisco? It might be the Land's End Coastal Trail. Natural and remote, it features million-dollar views of crashing surf, offshore outcrops, the Golden Gate Bridge, and the Marin Headlands.

Walking is a great way to see our fair city, so join the HCSF on an afternoon hike to the famous Land's End. The trail begins near Ocean Beach and winds its way north and east along the ocean bluffs to China and Baker beaches. In its entirety, Coastal Trail is 11 miles long, although it's not contiguous. A favorite stretch is a 3.5-mile round-trip that follows the most "wilderness-like" section from above the Cliff House Restaurant to 32nd Avenue and El Camino del Mar.

Starting with the ocean views from the Merrie Way trailhead, take the trail from the north end of the lot that dips into a canopy of cypress trees. You'll connect to a wide main path, the remains of an old railroad roadbed.

The path finishes up at Eagle's Point, a spectacular overlook near 32nd Avenue and across from Lincoln Park Golf Course. Follow its winding staircase down the bluffs for the best views of the day.

For more park information, call the GGNRA/Presidio Visitor Center, (415) 561-4323. Or contact the GGNRA/Cliff House Visitor Center, 415-556-8642 ([www.nps.gov/goga](http://www.nps.gov/goga)).

Getting There: Take MUNI bus #38 or #38L to Point Lobos and 48th Avenue. Walk west on Point Lobos for a short distance to the Merrie Way parking lot, just above Louis' Restaurant. The trail leads from the north side of the parking lot.

The more hikers, the merrier for this free event. RSVP to [july15@harvardclubsf.org](mailto:july15@harvardclubsf.org). Arrive promptly and bring hiking shoes, water, and appropriate clothing.

The hike will last approximately two hours. Attendees can decide to share lunch afterwards.

## The Great Treasure Hunt

Saturday, July 22, 2006

12 noon

Portsmouth Square, San Francisco

Members: \$20 until July 7; \$30 after July 7

\$30 for non-members (includes lunch)

[www.harvardclubsf.org/events/index.html](http://www.harvardclubsf.org/events/index.html)

415-621-3900

Come join the Harvard Club for an exciting Treasure Hunt/Scavenger Hunt—designed exclusively for our Club—through one of the most fascinating communities in the country. This is no ordinary tourist jaunt, but an unfolding series of clues and riddles designed to take you into and through Hidden Chinatown, to the places that you might miss if you didn't know where to look. Designed for both those who know Chinatown, and those who are newcomers to the area, we will explore the back alleys and exotic spots, and finish with a lunch in one of the better restaurants in Chinatown.

We will meet at Portsmouth Square in Chinatown on Saturday, July 22, at high noon. MUNI lines 12, 30, 41, 45 are all nearby; 15 stops right in front. Parking is available in the Portsmouth Sq. garage for \$2.50 an hour. Cost for the event, including lunch, will be \$20 per person for members (members may bring one guest at member rates) if you register by June 15. For non-members, and members registering after June 15, cost is \$30. The entire event, including lunch, should last about three hours. Please join us for what should be a fascinating, fun-filled and eye-opening experience.

Register by Paypal or by calling 415-621-3900.

No refunds after July 7.

## Desert to Dream: A Decade of Burning Man Photography

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

6:30 pm: Presentation

7:30 pm: Book signing

San Francisco Public Library, Koret Auditorium

100 Larkin Street, San Francisco

FREE

The new book *Desert to Dream: A Decade of Burning Man Photography* is an unprecedented look at this Bay Area phenomenon—from its infancy as a performance

art exhibition on Ocean Beach twenty years ago to its explosion as a pop culture celebration, which now attracts 40,000 people to the Black Rock Desert the week before Labor Day, and becomes the fifth largest city in Nevada.

Photographer Barbara Traub captures the sacred and profane, from otherworldly structures to fantastic costumes. Featuring contributions from filmmaker Les Blank, Burning Man founder Larry Harvey, Star Trek's Mr. Spock, Leonard Nimoy, and beat poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti, the book was published by Oliver Chin (AB '91). On hand will be Harvey and editor Tracy Swedlow who will help illuminate Traub's unique perspective on this dynamically evolving event.

### **Green Architecture and Building**

**Wednesday, August 9, 2006**

**6:00 pm: check-in/dinner**

**6:30-8:00 pm: lecture; Q&A**

**UC Berkeley Extension School**

**95 Third Street, 2nd Fl, San Francisco**

**NOTE: please check with security guard for exact room number**

**Cost (includes lecture & dinner): \$15 for members; \$25 for non-members**

**Registration required by August 8**

**[www.harvardclusf.org/events/index.html](http://www.harvardclusf.org/events/index.html)**

**415-621-3900**

Join HCSF for an energetic and lively discussion on green architecture and building from one of the pioneers in the field. Eric Corey Freed is an award-winning green architect and principal of organic-ARCHITECT, a research and design firm based in San Francisco. Through lecture and Q&A, you will learn the history of the nascent field of green architecture and building, see examples of some of the most innovative designs and buildings from around the world that embody ecological & social responsibility, get a glimpse of the inevitable future of our buildings, and learn what you can all do right now to support sustainable design and development.

Cost includes lecture and dinner. If you would like to pay with a credit card over the phone, please call our office at 415-621-3900. Members may bring one guest at member price. Registration and payment required by 8/8/06. No walk-ins. No refunds after 8/7/06.

### **Private Tour of SF Botanical Gardens and Arboretum**

**Sunday, August 13, 2006**

**11:15 am**

**SF Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum**

**9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, SF**

**\$8 for members; \$12 for nonmembers**

**Reservations required by July 21.**

**[www.harvardclusf.org/events/index.html](http://www.harvardclusf.org/events/index.html)**

**415-621-3900**

We have planned a private tour of the SF Botanical Garden and Strybing Arboretum. Escape with us to a unique urban oasis of exceptional beauty and fragrance! We will experience a variety of climates as we stroll through the grounds of the Old World Cloud Forest, Japanese Takamine, Moon-Viewing and California Native Gardens.

After the tour, we will gather on the side lawn of the Arboretum to picnic and mingle with other alums and their families. Please bring your own lunch or your favorite dish or drink to share with others. HCSF will provide the cups, utensils, plates and napkins. (Note: if you bring alcohol, please carry it in a handbag or backpack so as not to attract the attention of Park staff. Thank you.)

Tour 11:30 am–1 pm

Picnic 1 pm–3 pm

### **Young Alumni**

Young Alumni (20s/30s) are encouraged to join our Young Alum Yahoo group at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hcsf-recentgrads/>. This yahoo group has been around since 1998 and has over 720 members. Share party info. Stay in the loop!

Look for our regular Ivy League Young Alum Mixers that draw over 300 Ivy Leaguers from all 8 schools! We're building a Young Alum Committee! Come plan fun stuff with us over beer and pizza! Contact [rhodes@post.harvard.edu](mailto:rhodes@post.harvard.edu) if you'd like to join!

## Current Board Members

### *Officers*

President	Gautham P. Reddy, AB '85
President-elect	Spencer G. Rhodes, AB '00, MBA '04
Secretary	Eric K. Behrens, AB '70
Treasurer	Andrew D. Cohen, AB '92
VP, Activities	Amy M. Hanson, AB '92
VP, Communications	Katherine A. Rosenberg- Wohl, AB '83, JD '86
VP, Community Service	Stephen T. Watkins, AM '96
VP, Diversity	Alicia C. Wang, MPA '88
VP, Membership	Marvin F. Kasoff, AB '64
VP, Schools	Bruce E. Jackson, AB '66
VP, Strategic Partnerships	Lin Zhu, MPA '02

### *Directors*

Susan G. Alexander, JD '67  
Amanda H. Beck, AB '00  
Elizabeth A. Brown, AB '91, JD '96  
Tania Condon, MTS '93  
Ronald E. Davis, PhD '67  
Stephanie Evans, EdM '79  
Greg R. Groeneveld, MPP '88  
Cecil I. Hale, MPA '95  
Paul D. King, AB '88  
John P. Lozano, EdM '94  
Laurie J. Manning, EdM '93  
Kenneth J. Marshall, MBA '94  
Raymond J. Mertens, AB '94, MBA '03  
Charlene Nee, EdM '95  
Christopher J. Nicholson, AB '97  
Shelby J. Song, KSG '96  
Garrett B. Stone, MBA '67  
Paul R. Toulmin, AB '59  
Richard D. Wales, AB '76  
Lin Zhu, MPA '02

### *Ex Officio Directors*

Gary M. Arsham, AB '63  
Modesta Garcia, EdM '79  
David L. Ratner, AB '52, LLB '55  
Walter J. Sleeth, AB '65  
Michael J. Sears, AB '84-'85

### *Executive Director*

Kirsten Pickford

## Become a Member of the Harvard Club of San Francisco Today

If you are not currently a paid member of the HCSE, we hope that you will consider joining—or re-joining—the Club. By doing so, you will receive the following:

- 1) The deeply discounted member price on all Club events; within as little as two events, the discount can pay for the membership
- 2) Special notices and access to members-only events
- 3) A hard copy of our newsletter in the mail to complement our electronic communication
- 4) A membership card (coming soon)
- 5) Access to the online searchable membership directory (coming this summer)
- 6) Networking opportunities
- 7) The satisfaction of knowing that you've done your part to help support Harvard in San Francisco, our interviewing activities, and our community service work

Dues are what keep us going!

To join or renew, please see:

<http://www.harvardclubsf.org/membership/>

**Harvard Club of San Francisco**

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*Return Service Requested*

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