



134 Years of Serving the Harvard Community of Northern California

The Harvard Club of San Francisco

www.harvardclubsf.org

December 2008

Newsletter editor: Yvonne Tsang, AB '99.

415-621-3900 info@harvardclubsf.org

Letter from the President

Amy Hanson, AB '92



Dear HCSF Members and Friends,
Greetings! The holidays are upon us, and it is a time for reflection, celebration, and planning for the New Year.

We are in for a treat with this year's Holiday Party (our third annual). Thanks to Vice President of Membership Marv Kasoff, who has organized the party every year, we will be gathering at the Old Mint in downtown San Francisco on Thursday, December 4, for an evening of food and drink, networking, and merriment. The Old Mint has been closed to the public for over twenty years, and we have arranged for tours of the facilities—as well as an appearance of the HCSF Beach Blanket Babylon Harvard Yard Hat! If you haven't registered yet, do so now! The event is just days away, and space is limited. Please see our Web site, www.harvardclubsf.org, and inside this issue for details.

2008 has been a great year for the Club. We have nearly 1,400 members—representing Harvard College and all graduate schools—and have offered more than 100 events in this year alone! Thanks to Jen Shin (PhD '08), Vice President of Activities, and her committee for continuing to build upon the programming momentum generated by her predecessors, Charlene Nee (EdM '95) and Sheela Zemlin (MBA '98).

Looking ahead over the next few weeks, keep an eye out for your membership renewal form in the mail. Be sure to renew early to keep receiving the benefits of being of an HCSF member and to stay part of our dynamic community.

We will soon start organizational planning for next year and interviewing candidates for open officer

**REGISTER NOW for the
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

Thursday, December 4, at
the Old Mint in San Francisco

Sign up at www.harvardclubsf.org

positions. This is a great opportunity to increase your involvement with the Club and to be part of a friendly, close-knit group. Open positions will include the Vice President of Information Technology, Vice President of Partnerships, Treasurer, and Annual Dinner Chair. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for a full list of positions.

I would like to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors. Elaine Black (AM '74, PhD '81) has organized events for HCSF for many years—most notably, our annual outings to see Shakespeare outdoors as well as *The Nutcracker* ballet. Also joining us is Katherine Dowling (JD '98) as our new Vice President of Communications. Katherine contributes to our weekly e-mail blasts and will focus on how best to share information with our members and the larger commu-

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nity. We welcome both Elaine and Katherine and are thrilled to have their involvement and enthusiasm!

Would you like to become more involved with HCSF? Please contact me directly. I would be delighted to talk with you about how your background and passion can translate into a role that can contribute meaningfully to our Club.

I wish you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Amy Hanson, AB '92

President, Harvard Club of San Francisco
president@harvardclubsf.org

Annual Holiday Party

The Harvard Club of San Francisco Annual Holiday Reunion Party will take place this year on Thursday, December 4, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Mint. This historic landmark, one of the oldest structures in the city, was one of the few that survived the Great Earthquake and fire of 1906, and has been closed for over twenty years. This will be a rare treat for us as the building will be open for us to see and tour this fascinating edifice—our thanks to Erik Cristoffer-son, husband of member Alyssa Lee, for making this possible.

Included in the evening will be our official welcome to the new graduates of the College, the class of 2008, a free wine-tasting featuring a number of local wine-makers, guided tours of the Mint, abundant hors d'oeuvres—and an appearance of the HCSF Beach Blanket Babylon Harvard Yard Hat, created specially for us for the 350th anniversary of the founding of the College. There will be alumni from all the Graduate Schools, the College, Radcliffe, and all classes, from the newest to the most veteran. You are sure to meet old friends, make new acquaintances, and have a marvelous evening socializing and networking in one of the city's most interesting venues.

The last couple of reunion parties had over 400 attendees each, so don't miss out—everyone will be there. We hope to see all of you at this fabulous Harvard Club blowout!

Leadership Opportunities with the Harvard Club

The Harvard Club of San Francisco seeks energetic, creative, and committed alumni/alumnae to share their time and ideas as members of the Board of Directors.

Having experienced phenomenal growth over the past four years, the Club is now looking to strengthen our existing programs, grow our membership base, and explore new ways of serving the Bay Area's diverse and dynamic Harvard Community.

We're especially seeking candidates for the following roles:

- Treasurer
- Vice President, Information Technology
- Vice President, Partnerships
- Annual Dinner Chair
- Directors, HCSF Board

If you're interested in leveraging your strengths, talents, vision, and skills to make a meaningful contribution to your fellow alumni, we invite you to take the first step and contact the Board at hcsf.officer.positions@gmail.com for more detailed information on roles, responsibilities, terms, and the path to leadership. You're encouraged to include a few sentences about your background, motives, or a favorite project or event you'd like to lead, etc.

Community Service: Resolve to Get Involved in 2009!

The HCSF Community Service Committee has set the stage for a great start to 2009!

In support of our 2008–2009 service pillars, HCSF members will be able to participate in a wide range of exciting projects this spring.

Education

In our educational initiatives, we will continue to focus on students with disadvantaged circumstances. HCSF has expanded our past efforts in several important areas:

- In March, HCSF volunteers will participate in a city-wide project in conjunction with World Savvy, whose mission is to educate and engage youth in community and world affairs, and prepare them to learn, work and live as responsible global citizens in the 21st century.
- The Early College Awareness Program (ECAP) is in its fifth year, and in addition to deepening our relationship with the San Francisco Unified School District, we have expanded to include a number of local non-profits. The mission of the program, as it

has been since its advent, is to raise awareness of the benefits of a college education among potential first-generation attendees. Our goal this April is to expand SF Unified participation and increase HCSF volunteer participation to fifty members.

- In April, HCSF will again join with the Boys & Girls Club in support of their team building/mentoring programs, Boys Night Out and Girls Day. Our goal is to have twenty HCSF volunteers for each.
- In the spring, HCSF will co-host our third Career Panel for potential first-generation college attendees in conjunction with the Stanford Club and the nonprofit group First Graduate.

Environment:

This spring, HCSF is planning a Ocean Beach clean-up event in conjunction with the Surfrider Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our oceans and beaches.

Homelessness

HCSF is expanding our relationship with Glide Memorial Church's food bank and have initiated a relationship with the San Francisco Food Bank.

Housing

Stay tuned for opportunities this spring with Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together.

Academic (Salon) Series

The Committee plans to partner with the highly popular Harvard Club Salon Series to develop topics that support a deeper understanding of community service issues. Look for these salons starting in January.

Interested volunteers should check our Web site, www.harvardclubsf.org, for event information and dates of our upcoming Community Service Committee meetings. We will have a fundraiser in January, so stay tuned for the date, location, and time. Thanks!

Upcoming Events

For details and registration information on the following events, please visit www.harvardclubsf.org/events.

Green City/Resilient City: Designing San Francisco for the Next Century

A Quarterly Design Salon

Wednesday, December 3, 2008

6:30–8:30 p.m.

MFLA Studio

577 Second St. #204

San Francisco

\$12/member; \$15/non-member

Registration required by November 28

This is a quarterly series featuring speakers actively engaged in the design and transformation of San Francisco's urban form. Speakers will present plans for changes across the city. This forum provides the opportunity to consider and discuss the crucial urban and natural systems and spaces that create one of the world's most livable and beautiful cities.

The topics for December are New Urban Neighborhoods and Green Streets.

Designing Neighborhoods: Believing that the landscape is one of the most lasting forms of cultural expression, the Marta Fry Landscape Associates (MFLA) design practice intentionally blurs boundar-

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Take advantage of a special offer for members of the Harvard Club of San Francisco! As an introductory rate, you can enjoy a one-year subscription for only \$40—that's a discount of 33%. Contact Aparicio Davis at ajdavis@fas.harvard.edu or 617-576-6600. Be sure to identify yourself as an HCSF member.

ies between design disciplines. Based in San Francisco, MFLA places primary importance on exploring contextualism, with many projects in redevelopment areas or urban infill sites with preexisting histories. The designers will discuss the design process, remaking urban spaces and the plans they created for the master plan for the currently-under-development 303-acre Mission Bay, the soon to begin 40-acre Transbay District surrounding the proposed Transbay Terminal and the redesign of the 12-acre Golden Gateway mid-century development.

The featured speakers are:

- Marta Fry, MFLA Principal, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design
- Mary Muszynski, MFLA Landscape Architect, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design
- Jamie White, MFLA Designer, University of Texas

Great Streets. The Great Streets Program, created in September 2005 by the city of San Francisco, has a simple goal: to create high-quality, well-maintained streets that will bring new economic vitality, sustainable design practices and build community in neighborhoods. This program will be completing nine streetscape improvement projects in the coming years. Taking this model, the Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Works, the Planning Department, and the Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) have worked together to develop a guidelines document, called the Better Streets Plan, which defines how city streets will be designed throughout San Francisco. The project manager in charge of getting these projects designed and built will discuss how our city streets are planned to demonstrate the best practices in street design including landscaping, lighting and pedestrian safety.

The featured speaker is Kris Oprok of the Great Streets Program, City of San Francisco, Department of Public Works.

Celebratory Luncheon in Honor of President Drew Faust

Thursday, December 4, 2008

11:30 a.m. Registration

12:00 noon Lunch

12:45 p.m. Remarks by President Faust

Sheraton Palo Alto Hotel

625 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

\$50 Alumni and Guests

\$45 HCSF Members

\$30 Recent Graduates (College '04-'08)

Registration required by November 28

To register, call 1-800-654-6494

The Harvard Alumni Association, the Harvard Club of Silicon Valley, and the Harvard Club of San Francisco cordially invite you to a celebratory luncheon in honor of Drew Faust, President of Harvard University and Lincoln Professor of History. Please join us in welcoming President Faust to the Harvard community of Northern California.

Space is limited. Reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Advance registration is required and must be received by Friday, November 28.

To register, call 1-800-654-6494. Questions? Please contact the HAA at clubs@harvard.edu or at 1-800-654-6494. This event is hosted by the Harvard Alumni Association.

The Harvard Club of San Francisco Annual Holiday Reunion Party

Thursday, December 4, 2008

5:30 p.m.

San Francisco Mint

88 Fifth Street (at Mission), San Francisco

\$25 members; \$35 non-members

Registration required by December 2

No refunds after November 25

The Annual Harvard Club of San Francisco Holiday Reunion Party will take place this year on Thursday, December 4, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the San Francisco Mint. This historic landmark, one of the oldest structures in the city, was one of the few that survived the Great Earthquake and fire of 1906, and has been closed for over twenty years. This will be a rare treat for us as the building will be open for us to see and tour this fascinating edifice. Our thanks to Erik Cristofferson, husband of member Alyssa Lee, for making this possible.

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Limited parking is available, and all the MUNI lines that run along Market Street stop there, including the trolley lines that run on Market.

Classic Fiction Book Club

Sunday, December 7, 2008

4–6 p.m.

San Francisco (exact address will be e-mailed to those who RSVP)

Free. RSVP required by Thursday, December 4

Join a friendly, opinionated group of literary enthusiasts for a lively book club discussion! Our December book is *The Trial* by Franz Kafka. We meet once a month at the home of one of our members. In previous meetings, we've discussed *The Moon and Sixpence* by W. Somerset Maugham and *Pale Fire* by Vladimir Nabokov.

Do you have suggestions for books you'd like to read and discuss? For more information or to RSVP, please e-mail Yvonne Tsang at ytsang@post.harvard.edu.

HCSF Activities Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 2008

7–8:30 p.m.

North Beach, San Francisco (exact location will be e-mailed to the registrants a few days before the meeting)

Dinner will be served.

Free. RSVP required by December 8

Are there any events (or types of events) you like to see HCSF host? HCSF is a volunteer-run organization and all activities are organized by our members. How

about organizing an activity around a topic of your expertise or passion?

Some suggestions for future events include social and cultural activities, lectures and panel discussions on current events and topical issues, book talks, book clubs, outdoor events, and recreational and sporting events.

Bring your event ideas to this meeting!

If you cannot attend the meeting, but would like to suggest a new event, please e-mail activities@harvardclubsf.org. Thanks!

San Francisco Ballet's *Nutcracker* Co-sponsored by the University of Chicago Alumni Club

Saturday, December 13, 2008

7 p.m. curtain. Attendees must be seated by

6:50 p.m. Performance ends at approximately 9 p.m.

War Memorial Opera House

301 Van Ness Avenue at Grove Street,
San Francisco Civic Center

\$106 per ticket for members; \$116 for non-members

Registration required by November 21

Join us to celebrate another holiday season *Nutcracker* ballet performance. This stunning *Nutcracker* production has played to national critical acclaim and sold-out audiences every season. The San Francisco Ballet brings the beauty and wonderment of Clara's Christmas dream to life with fabulous choreography, scenery and costumes.

A Sugar Plum Fairy world of holiday magic awaits our guests inside the resplendent Opera house lobby. No-host beverages are available for purchase at intermission. The *Nutcracker* performance begins at 7 p.m. Our group must be seated by about 6:50 p.m.

Street parking may be available. The most convenient paid parking lot is the Performing Arts Garage located about one and a half blocks behind (west of) the War Memorial Opera House on Grove Street.

Reservations may be paid for by check or online through PayPal. Please mail check payments to the event sponsor, Elaine Black, at 2 Harbor Point Drive, Apt. 202, Mill Valley, CA 94941. Paid tickets will be mailed to attendees approximately 10 days prior to the December 13 performance. Questions may be

directed to Elaine by phone (415) 389-9043 or e-mail (emblk@hotmail.com).

Pay by PayPal through the Harvard Club Web site, www.harvardclubsf.org. 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 November 21. No walk-ins. No refunds.

SAVE THE DATE

What Might We Know: What Science Could Uncover in the Next 20 Years

A Harvard Faculty Forum

Thursday, January 29, 2009

6:15 p.m. Registration

6:45 p.m. Program

8:15 p.m. Reception

California Academy of Sciences

55 Music Concourse Drive

Golden Gate Park

San Francisco

For more information, e-mail HAA Clubs

(clubs@harvard.edu) or call 1-800-654-6494

Kat Taylor AB '80, the HAA, the Harvard Club of San Francisco, and the Harvard Club of Silicon Valley invite you to hear a Harvard faculty panel discuss such exciting topics as stem cell science, energy and the environment, and global health. As moderator, Provost Steven E. Hyman will ask the panel to respond to the question: "What might we know in ten or twenty years that we don't know today?" Enjoy a reception and conversation with the faculty at the conclusion of the program.

Moderator:

Steven E. Hyman, Provost of Harvard University and Professor of Neurobiology

Panelists:

Jeffrey D. Macklis, Professor of Surgery and Neurology at Harvard Medical School

Daniel P. Schrag, Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences and Professor of Environmental Science and Engineering

Dyann F. Wirth, Richard Pearson Strong Professor of Infectious Disease in the Faculty of Public Health

Call for Venues

Have a meeting room that is seldom used? With its full roster of activities, the Harvard Club of San Francisco is always looking for venues of all sizes, especially those for 40–50 people. Free venues help us keep our event prices low. For more information, please contact HCSF Executive Director Kirsten Pickford at 415-621-3900 or info@harvardclubsf.org.

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Are you receiving the HCSF weekly event e-mail updates? If not, please check your spam filter setup or make sure we have your most up-to-date e-mail address. Sign up at www.harvardclubsf.org.

Would you like to contribute an article to the newsletter? What kinds of articles are you interested in reading? Send feedback to newsletter@harvardclubsf.org.

Current Board Members

Officers

President	Amy M. Hanson, AB '92
President-elect	Sheela G. Zemlin, MBA '98
Immediate Past President	Stephen T. Watkins, AM '96
Chairman	Spencer Rhodes, AB '00, MBA '04
Secretary	Greg R. Groeneveld, MPP '88
Treasurer	Andrew D. Cohen, AB '92
VP, Activities	Jen Shin, PhD '08
VP, Communications	Katherine Dowling, JD '98
VP, Community Service	Preston T. Dodd, EdM '94
VP, Diversity	Alicia C. Wang, MPA '88
VP, Membership	Marvin F. Kasoff, AB '64
VP, Schools	Bruce E. Jackson, AB '66

Directors

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Amanda H. Beck, AB '00
Eric K. Behrens, AB '70
Elaine Black, AM '74, PhD '81
Elizabeth R. Cryer, AB '97

Kelly M. Gushue, AB '99
Cecil I. Hale, MPA '95
Paul D. King, AB '88
Kenneth J. Marshall, MBA '94
Charlene Nee, EdM '95
Christopher J. Nicholson, AB '97
Jing Nie, AB '06
Shelby J. Song, KSG '96
Yvonne Tsang, AB '99

Ex Officio Directors

Gary M. Arsham, AB '63
Stephanie Evans, EdM '79
Modesta Garcia, EdM '79
Anne Knight, AB '66, AM '71
David L. Ratner, AB '52, LLB '55
Walter J. Sleeth, AB '65
Michael J. Sears, AB '84-'85

Executive Director

Kirsten Pickford

Who We Are

The HCSF 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, Kennedy School, GSAS, and College. We also include former Harvard instructors, current students, and parents of current and past students.

Founded in 1874, 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 modest membership fee of only \$60 per year (\$30 or less for recent grads). This dues revenue is what keeps us going. Please see www.harvardclubsf.org for information on upcoming events or to renew your membership.

Harvard Club of San Francisco

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San Rafael, CA 94901

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Membership Benefits

Dues-paying member benefits include:

- 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
- 5) Access to the online searchable membership directory
- 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! Regular membership is only \$60; recent grad membership is only \$30.

To join or renew, please see:

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

Join or renew today!