



The HARVARD FOUNDATION Newsletter

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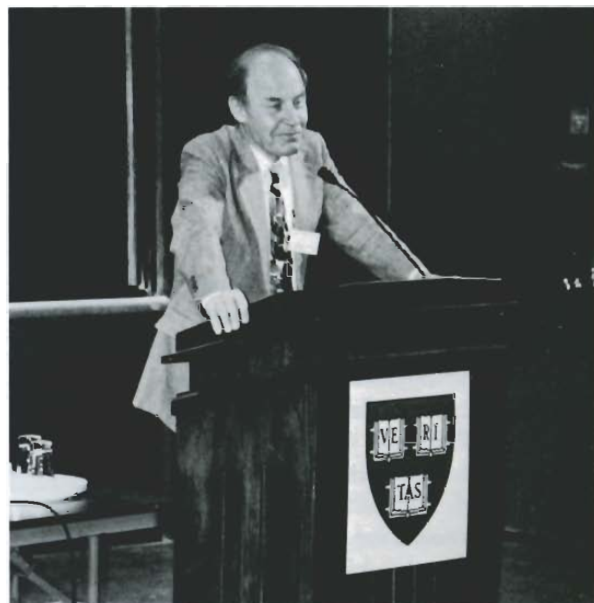
Academic Science: Research and Careers for Minority Undergraduates

A conference to promote minority students in the sciences

On Saturday, December 4, the Harvard Foundation and the Harvard Society of Black Scientists and Engineers (HSBSE) hosted an intercollegiate conference entitled *Academic Science: Research and Careers for Minority Undergraduates*. The day-long conference took place at the Science Center and attracted 65 students and the support of over 30 Harvard professors, physicians, and staff members. Dr. S. Allen Counter, Associate Professor of Neurology/Neurophysiology organized the event.

The conference's objective was to expose science students to the wealth of resources, career options, and opportunities available to them in academic science careers through interaction with University scientists and physicians. The conference also provided faculty and professionals with a forum in which they could more easily interact with students from diverse backgrounds. Students especially enjoyed the intimate setting that the conference offered and the one-on-one discussions with professors.

Conference highlights included the opening speech by Dr. Dudley Herschbach, Frank Baird Jr. Professor of Science and Nobel laureate, and a luncheon speech by



Dr. Dudley R. Herschbach, Frank B. Baird Jr. Professor of Science and Nobel Laureate, opens the Science Conference.

Dr. Kenneth Manning, Thomas Meloy Professor of Rhetoric and the History of Science at M.I.T. The lunch was hosted by Dr. Donald Pfister, Asa Gray Professor of Systematic Biology and Master of Kirkland House.

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Harvard Foundation Honors Los Angeles Mayoral Candidate, Michael Woo

On the evening of October 19 the Harvard Foundation and Quincy House hosted an honorary reception and dinner for Michael Woo, 1993 candidate for mayor of Los Angeles. Mr. Woo was a Los Angeles City Councilor for eight years, and is currently a fellow at the Institute of Politics.

Woo has made many contributions during his two terms as a member of the Los Angeles City Council. He was the first elected official in City Hall to call for the resignation of Police Chief Daryl Gates after the Rodney King beating and he worked with business owners and local res-

idents to initiate a 30-year redevelopment program designed to combat urban decay.

During the reception, Mr. Woo answered students' questions about the racial tensions between the Korean and African-American communities in Los Angeles, the employment obstacles facing Asian-Americans today, and his future political plans. Responding to a question about the pervasiveness of ethnic strife, he emphasized the importance for "leaders and community members to make an effort to communicate not only in times of rage, but also in times

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Dr. James McCarthy, Professor of Biological Oceanography, informally speaks with students during a morning session.



Dr. Richard Losick, Maria Moors Cabot Professor of Biology, discusses his field of study and research options with students.

Academic Science

(Continued from page 1)

In three morning sessions, students were able to interact in small groups with selected faculty from the Departments of Molecular Biology, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Neuroscience, Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics, Earth and Planetary Science, Organismic Biology, Applied Sciences, and Biophysics. During the first two sessions students were randomly assigned to professors in order to expose them to concepts and fields of science other than that of their immediate interest or concentration. Students were then allowed to choose which professor or discipline they would like to work with for the final session. Many students said that they ended up choosing professors outside of their concentration because their assigned professors for the first two sessions had been so interesting. Both faculty and students said that they found this approach refreshing; and faculty members were pleased with the insightful questions and interests students brought to the small group discussions.

Two afternoon panel discussions encouraged students to consider career options beyond their undergraduate studies and broadened their awareness for the application of their current interests. The first panel, "Careers and Current Issues in Life Sciences," offered a look into the vast and changing fields of biology and medicine. The second panel discussion, "Careers and Current Issues in Physical Sciences and Engineering," inspired students to find the support neces-



Dr. Michael Smith, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, speaks with students about his field.



Dr. Kenneth Manning '72, Professor of History of Science, MIT and Luncheon Keynote Speaker discusses issues with students.



Samantha Butts '94, Vice-President, and Andrea Thomas '95, President of Harvard Society of Black Scientists and Engineers, speak with Dr. David Potter, Robert Winthrop Professor of Neurobiology.

sary to succeed in this concentration. Both panels included individuals who could be inspiring role models for the students.

Several students indicated that the con-

ference had persuaded them to seriously consider careers in the academic sciences and that they were already pursuing further discussion with professors whom they had met at the conference.

The students and staff of the Harvard Foundation wish to thank the following faculty members who devoted their time and support on behalf of this conference:

Dr. Dudley Herschbach
 Dr. Kenneth Manning
 Dr. Paul Martin
 Dr. Donald Pfister
 Dr. Richard Losick
 Dr. William Gelbart
 Dr. David Potter
 Dr. Daniel Jay
 Dr. Carlos Rosario
 Dr. Fakhri Bazzaz
 Dr. John Hutchinson
 Dr. Jim McCarthy
 Dr. Michael Smith
 Dr. Desmond Murray
 Dr. Sheldon Glashow
 Dr. Melissa Franklin
 Dr. Howard Berg
 Dr. Michael McElroy
 Preceptor Robin Gottlieb
 Dr. Harry Lewis
 Dr. Victor Jones
 Dr. Anne Young
 Dr. Joan Reede
 Dr. Jocelyn Spragg
 Dr. Harold Amos
 Dr. Paula Pinkston
 Mr. David Evans
 Dr. Joseph Montoya
 Dr. Robert Kirshner

—Manu Meyer, HGSE



Michael Woo meets with students and guests at a reception hosted by Master Michael Shinagel in the Quincy House Junior Common Room.

Foundation Honors Michael Woo

(Continued from page 1)

of social harmony." Michael Woo received the Harvard Foundation award for his "notable contributions to city government and intercultural relations."

Mr. Woo then joined Dr. Counter, Quincy House Master Dr. Michael Shinagel, and student leaders in the Quincy House Griswald Room for a dinner and further discussion. Mr. Woo delivered a moving talk on issues related to race relations and politics. He emphasized three steps toward success: first, to be secure in one's identity; second, transcend this ethnic identity to reach out toward other ethnic groups; and finally, build coalitions across racial lines based on common goals and ideals.

Students asked him to talk about his political successes and disappointments. Through anecdotes about his political life he said that his ethnicity made a definite



Austin So '96 Korean Students Association Political Chairman, presents Michael Woo with a T-shirt from the Korean Students Association.

effect on his mayoral and city council campaigns. For example, when campaigning door to door in his district there were pockets of Asian-American communities where people welcomed him because they associated him with the stereotyped "smart, good boy." In other areas, people were resistant to his message because they associated him with the new immigrant groups perceived as taking away social welfare program funds away from native-born citizens. Mr. Woo pointed out that although stereotypes can sometimes affirm a positive image, it is important to challenge monolithic views



Dr. S. Allen Counter, presents Michael Woo with a Harvard Foundation Award.

which ignore complexity within a community and people.

Several student leaders gave brief speeches, including Copresident of the Chinese Students Association Steven Chen '94, political chair of the Korean Students Association Austin So '96, President of RAZA (Mexican American students association) Richard García '95, and President of the Black Students Association Alvin Bragg '95. Both Chen and So expressed appreciation for the role model that Mr. Woo provides for young Asian Americans. Garcia and Bragg discussed the importance of coalition building and thanked Mr. Woo for his insightful talk.

Mr. Woo was then presented with a plaque commending his work in race relations and intercultural affairs. Asian American Association extends its gratitude to Mr. Woo for his time and for sharing his experiences with the Harvard community.

—Hyewon Chong '95 & Angela Sun '96

Mira Nair Reception

On October 3, the Harvard Foundation and the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association co-sponsored a reception and discussion in honor of Mira Nair '79, director of films *Salaam Bombay* and *Mississippi Masala*. Held in the Fireside Room in Dudley House, the reception provided an informal opportunity for members of the Harvard community to meet the famed director.



Film director and producer Mira Nair talks with Sameer Bhargava '95 and Pankaj Tiwari '95, Copresidents of the South Asian Association, and receives a certificate for a donation to the Red Cross Indian Earthquake fund in her name.

Ms. Nair received the Harvard Foundation Award for her contributions to the arts and for helping foster awareness of multicultural issues. To many, she represents groundbreaking efforts in breaking down South Asian stereotypes and tackling racial issues from a unique perspective. In appreciation of her contributions to the South Asian community, Sameer

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Mira Nair Reception

(Continued from 3)

Bhargava '95 and Pankaj Tiwari '95, Copresidents of the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association, presented Ms. Nair with a certificate announcing a donation to the Red Cross Indian Earthquake Fund in her name. Ms. Nair then introduced her mother



Mira Nair has an informal discussion with students.

as the "producer of the director" and spoke briefly on her own impressions of the rapidly changing Harvard community. The remainder of the reception was devoted to giving students of all backgrounds an opportunity to discuss her inspiration and works in one-on-one conversations.

—Sanjay Shetty '96

Chair-Elect of the American Council on Education Visits Harvard

On the evening of November 3, the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) of the Harvard Foundation sponsored a reception in honor of Dr. Juliet Garcia, Chair-elect of the American Council on Education. Dr. Garcia is also the President of the University of Texas at Brownsville, and is the first Latina to hold either of these positions. The University of Texas at Brownsville, located on the U.S.-Mexican border, serves a primarily Hispanic community with an enrollment that is approximately 40 percent Hispanic.

The reception was followed by an intimate dinner including members of the AAC and representatives from RAZA, the Asian American Association and the Black Students Association. Dr. Garcia presented a talk entitled "Issues of Interest to Students of Color and Colleges and Universities." She focused on issues she has encountered as both a student and academic of color to a student and faculty audience of many different backgrounds and schools. She talked about the importance of sponsoring cross-cultural education throughout the nation's colleges and universities, in order to serve the needs of the growing ethnic communities and prepare all young people for a more diverse and competitive world.

Dr. Garcia stressed the importance of the



Estela Torres '94 thanks Dr. Juliet Garcia, President of the University of Texas at Brownsville and Chair-elect of the American Council on Education, for her visit to Harvard.

changing demographics of America and said that American society has a responsibility to its growing ethnic population. Focusing on the Hispanic population in the U.S., Dr. Garcia shared her belief that language and communication are key to the survival of change in the U.S. community. She spoke as an advocate of bilingual programs in the American education system. Dr. Garcia sees these bilingual programs as a step towards achieving the successful integration of eth-

nic communities into the U.S. population and thus increasing American competitiveness on an international level. Along the border, for example, she said that it is as important to speak Spanish as well as English and that bilingual workers will be increasingly in demand. The international business community favors people who can compete and communicate effectively in more than one culture and agencies will seek individuals who have the ability to interact cross-culturally. As a result, students of color will be at an advantage and institutions of higher education must foster an environment where this kind of cross cultural education is possible.

A question-and-answer session followed the reception. Students asked for further details about influencing institutions of higher education to promote this kind of educational curriculum. Other students, however, challenged the notion that cross-cultural education will help more minorities become further incorporated into mainstream society. Dr. Garcia's thought-provoking views seemed to be well received and appreciated by the students and faculty who attended.

— Monica Romo '96

Harvard Foundation Hosts Martin Yan

World renowned chef and host of the "Yan Can Cook" Show

On December 7, something was cooking in the Yenching Auditorium. During the opening event of Asian American Cultural Month, Martin Yan, chef and host of the syndicated cooking show, *Yan Can Cook*, gave a talk and demonstration before an audience of more than 200 people.

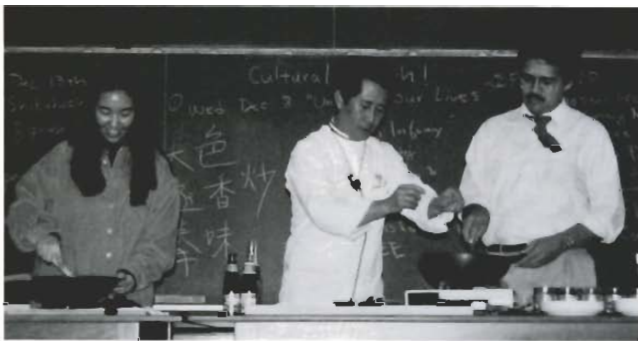
Claiming to have come to Harvard to ensure admission for his twin sons, Mr. Yan displayed his culinary skills with his own blend of humor that brought peals of laughter from the audience. While deftly

chopping ingredients and deboning a chicken in 18 seconds, Mr. Yan discussed his life as a student at University of California, Davis, where he began his career interest by giving lessons to students and professors. He said, however, that he came to Harvard not to "teach" but to "inspire."

In addition to running his television show, Martin Yan has published six books, including *The Well Seasoned Wok* and *Everybody's Wokking*, and has been actively involved in community service, including work with the End Hunger Network in 1989. In appreciation for all of his efforts, the Asian-American Association (AAA) presented him with a contribution in his name to Chinatown Adventure, a summer program dedicated to helping underprivileged youths in Boston's Chinatown. Mr. Yan immediately matched



Chef Martin Yan proudly shows off his gift from AAA.



Audience members help Chef Martin Yan cook.

the amount, doubling the contribution. He then announced that he would donate a quarter of the profits from books sold that evening to AAA.

The event was sponsored by the AAA and the Harvard Foundation. A reception and dinner for Martin Yan was held at Dunster House, where he complimented the quality of the University's dining hall food and services.

—Haewon Hwang '95

Harvard Foundation Honors Visiting Scholars in Ethnic Studies

On November 15, the Academic Affairs Committee of the Harvard Foundation held a reception to honor visiting scholars in Ethnic Studies. The Academic Affairs Committee was the student group that originally formed the Ethnic Studies Department and continues to help direct the choosing of incoming visiting faculty. This year's visiting scholars in Ethnic Studies are Drs. Maria Herrera-Sobek, Xiao-Huang Yin and Trinh Minh-ha.

Dr. Herrera-Sobek taught *Women of Color in America: Gender and Ethnicity in Chicana Writers* in the Women's Studies Department and *Society in Dialogue: Ballad and Corrido* in the Folklore and Mythology Department. She received her Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literature from UCLA and

teaches in the Spanish and Portuguese Department at the University of California, Irvine. Some of her publications include *The Bracero Experience: Elielore Versus Folklore*; *The Mexican Corrido: A Feminist Analysis*; and *Northward Bound: The Mexican Immigrant Experience in Ballad and Song*.



Dr. Xiao-Huang Yin, Dr. S. Allen Counter, Dr. Trinh Minh-ha, Dr. Maria Herrera-Sobek, Hyewon Chong '95, Charlene Morrisseau '95, and Estela Torres '94, at the reception to honor Harvard's Visiting Scholars in Ethnic Studies.

Dr. Minh-ha taught *The Politics of Difference* in the Women's Studies Department and *Images and Politics* in the Visual and Environmental Studies Department. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Urban-Champaign, in French and Francophone Literatures. Some of her recent publications include *When the Moon Waxes Red: Representation, Gender & Culture*; *Women, Native, Other: Writing Postcoloniality and Feminism* and *En Miniscules*.

Dr. Yin taught *Sociohistorical Aspects of Asian-American Writing* and *Asian Immigrants in American Society* in the History Department. He received his Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization from Harvard and is currently an assistant professor at Occidental College. His

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Harvard Foundation Honors Visiting Scholars

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research focuses on Asian-American studies, cross-cultural analyses and U.S.-East Asian relations.

Estela Torres '94, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, and Vice-Chairs of the Committee, Charlene Morisseau '95, and Hyewon Chong '95, presented the professors with flowers and expressed their appre-

ciation for the contributions they have made to the diversity of the University curriculum and climate.

Dr. Herrera-Sobek mentioned that Cesar Chavez, late President of the United Farm Workers, was an inspiration to her to pursue studies of her Mexican-American culture. She hoped that her semester at Harvard marked the beginning of more Chicano studies offerings at Harvard. Dr. Minh-ha talked about her ideas of different

film genres and on intercultural and interdisciplinary filmmaking. Dr. Yin then spoke about his research on the Asian-American experience and noted the lack of credit given to Asian-Americans in American history textbooks.

More than 50 members of the Harvard community attended to help officially welcome the three visiting scholars in Ethnic Studies.

—Jennifer Talbot '94

Arthur Ashe Memorial — A Monumental Tribute

Dr. Counter traveled to Richmond [Virginia] to unveil a memorial he designed in honor of tennis player Arthur Ashe. The monument, which stands in the cemetery where Ashe was buried after his death in February [1993], was dedicated on July 10, which would have been Ashe's 50th birthday. Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder presided over the ceremony. The Rev. Andrew Young dedicated the structure, and poet Maya Angelou delivered a memorial reading.

The first black player to win Wimbledon, Ashe, who was HIV-positive, was the Class Day speaker at the Medical School in 1992, and had been active in AIDS education efforts before his

death. He recently published a book, *Days of Glory*, on his experience with the virus. Counter is the chair of the Arthur Ashe

Memorial Committee. He was asked by the Ashe family to design the memorial.

The structure, said Counter, is approximately 5 by 4 feet, done in jet-black granite and gold, and bears a representations of Ashe's face in bas-relief in gold. The inscription 'Arthur Robert Ashe Jr., Distinguished Athlete, Scholar and Humanitarian' appears beneath, followed with a bas-relief of Ashe's book about the history of black athletes in American culture, *A Hard Road to Glory*. The book sits atop two crossed gold tennis rackets. "It's really a tribute to a great person—someone I knew as a friend," said Counter. "I was honored to have been asked to design the monument."

— courtesy of the Harvard Gazette



Left to right, L. Douglas Wilder, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia; Mrs. Jeanne Moutoussamy Ashe, and Professor S. Allen Counter.

Pachanga

Thanksgiving is a time for family reunions and homemade food. For Chicano students at East Coast colleges and universities, Thanksgiving is Pachanga time. Pachanga is the annual Thanksgiving conference of the East Coast Chicano Students Forum.

Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA, the Chicano student association on campus, hosted the 22nd Annual Pachanga Thanksgiving Conference entitled "Documenting Chi-



Professor Margaret E. Montoya speaks to students about "Mascaras, Trenzas, y Grenas" at Pachanga 1993.



Yolanda Lopez speaks on "Chicana Artists of the Bay Area" at Pachanga.

cano and Latino Experiences: Educating Our Youth About Their *Cultura*." According to RAZA President Richard Garcia, the theme arose from various discussions concerning the state of Chicano and Latino youth today. "The conference was intended to address issues of youth and the loss of identity which often occurs as our *raza* enter adulthood, college, and the job market," Garcia said.

The aim of the five-day



Teatro Latino performs at the Pachanga talent show.



Jesus "Chuy" Negrete performs some "Songs for Cesar Chavez" at Pachanga.



José Antonio Burciaga at Pachanga 1993.



Martin Chavez '96 and René Rojas '94 eat their fill at Thanksgiving Dinner.



Pachangeros



Richard Garcia '95, President of RAZA and Lilia Fernandez '94, Pachanga Chair

conference was to explore the many ways in which students can document, educate, and preserve their culture through mediums like painting, fiction, poetry, music, murals, and film.

Attended by over 270 *Pachangeros*, the program consisted of lively group discussions, dinners, a talent show, and performances by Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán and Teatro Latino. A number of prominent speakers from the fields of education, law, and the arts addressed the ways they have documented the Chicano experience. Among the speakers were Jacqueline M. Martincz, Maria Herrera-Sobeck, Gustavo Frias, Victor Villaseñor, Yolanda M. Lopez, Chuy Negrete, Margaret Montoya, Cecilia Preciado Burciaga, and José Antonio Burciaga.

José Antonio Burciaga, the keynote speaker, spoke about the Chicano experi-



Ballet performance at the Pachanga talent show

ence as a minority in a dominant culture. His address was entitled "The Chicano Experience of Living Within, Between, and Sometimes Outside of Two Cultures—The Damnation and Salvation, the Celebration of it All." Burciaga is the author of several novels, poetry collections, and collections of his artwork, among them *Weedee Peepo*, *Undocumented Love* (American Book Award, Before Columbus Foundation winner), and more recently *Drink Cultura*. Mr. Burciaga is also the co-founder of the Chicano-Latino

comedy troupe "Culture Clash." He has exhibitions, murals and presentations in many major American and Mexican cities. Mr. Burciaga is a Resident Fellow of Casa Zapata at Stanford University, where many of his murals are exhibited.

Pachanga provides an excellent opportunity for Chicano and Latino students to come together as a community, discuss important issues, and share their visions for the future of Chicanos in the United States. In assembling Chicano scholars, activists, and leaders, and in motivating *Pachangeros* to carry on the activities that document the Chicana/o experience, Pachanga 1994 was a great success.

— Veronica Rosales '94

Discussion on Separatism Empowers Students

Student Discussion—Separatism: United We Stand, Divided We Fall

On December 8 the Student Advisory Committee of the Harvard Foundation and the Minority Student Alliance co-sponsored a very successful student discussion on ethnic separatism. The discussion, which was held in Adams House, began with a talk by the Reverend Eugene Rivers of Dorchester. According to Rev-

erend Rivers, the language of separatism is actually that of autonomy, and minority groups should empower themselves and not submit to "ethnic thumb-sucking." Many students said they interpreted this to mean that integration and full acceptance in larger society is not always the key to success, and that minority groups can succeed on their own and should not use their minority status as a crutch.

Following Rev. Rivers' talk, moderators

from Students at Harvard Against Racism and Ethnocentrism (SHARE) led small discussion groups. The discussion groups covered a wide range of issues and allowed a genuine openness in the dialogue. These groups were composed of students from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds who were truly concerned about issues of race. All attending agreed that the evening was thought-provoking and stimulating.

—Osvaldo Rubio '95

Freshman Brunch

On Sunday, September 12, the staff and students of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations hosted the annual Harvard Foundation Freshman Brunch to welcome the class of '97. This brunch provided an opportunity for new parents and students to meet and learn about Harvard's diversity and to interact with future colleagues. The morning began with a greeting from Dr. Counter who spoke of the work and purpose of the Harvard Foundation. Students were encouraged to get involved in the Foundation's race relations and cultural activities and in the many other cultural groups on the Harvard College campus. Greeting parents and

new students at the brunch were Freshman Dean Elizabeth Studley Nathans (who spoke to parents and students about making adjustments to the Harvard community and the importance of meeting people of different backgrounds), College Dean Fred Jewett and Professor and Mrs. Donald Pfister, Masters of Kirkland House. Student hosts included Val Thomas '96, Amanda Proctor '97, and Kelly Bowdren '94.

—Valencia Thomas '96



A First-Year Student with her parents at the Freshman Brunch



First-Year Students and their parents meet with David Evans, Senior Admissions Officer



Dean Jewett talks with First-Year students at the Freshman Brunch

Harvard Foundation Fall Student Grant Activities

The International Food Festival

On Saturday, January 8, the Harvard Islamic Society hosted the first International Food Festival in Dudley House Cafe. Despite inclement weather conditions (including a snow storm earlier in the day) the event was well attended by more than 120 people representing the full spectrum of Harvard's diversity.

The International Food Festival was organized with the intent of attracting an eclectic mix of Harvard students. The South Asian Association, the Society of Arab Students, and the Harvard African Students Association—organizations which represent ethnic groups who have traditionally contributed to the global Muslim culture—collaborated in planning the event.

Foods representing four distinct Muslim cultures: Indonesian, Middle-Eastern, West Indian/Caribbean, South Asian, were featured at the Festival. Dishes served included shish-kebabs, vegetable and lamb curries, seasoned rice, and fried flat breads. The dining hall was set up with pictorial displays of Islamic architecture from around the world.

So many more people attended than was expected that extra food had to be rush-delivered from the nearest caterers. Because of the enthusiastic feedback of many of the participants, the organizers plan to host another such event in the future.

—Mohammed Asmal '95

La O Sponsors "Forming Community Liaisons" Discussion

On Monday, December 13, La Organización Estudiantil Boricua de Harvard y Radcliffe (the Puerto Rican Students Organization) honored Ramón P. Morales '76, founder of De La Salle Academy in New York and current Executive Director of PLAYING TO WIN, Inc. Mr. Morales was honored for the extraordinary contributions he has made to the Puerto Rican community and to the improvement of intercultural relations in society at large. Mr. Morales is currently involved with an extensive project to develop technology learning resource centers across the nation.

Mr. Morales was the first Puerto Rican from North House to graduate from Harvard College. He was also one of the few

Puerto Rican students in his class to survive the struggle of adjusting to life at Harvard; seven out of the eleven Puerto Rican students of the class of '76 failed to graduate. The evening was made most special, not only by hearing about his accomplishments but by his sharing of the experiences, many times painful, he had as a young Latino at Harvard.

—Jonathan Malveaux '96

Caribbean Club Jam

On a cold, freezing night, December 17, the Caribbean Club held a "Too Damn Cold Jam," a dance held in an Eliot House Dining Hall bedecked with flashing white light. Caribbean music such as soca, reggae, dance hall, and calypso was played as well as American hip-hop and rap. More than 80 people danced the boggle, the butterfly, or simply joined in their own way. Guests partook of a special treat, a traditional West Indian Christmas cake called black cake, which is a pudding made from fruit soaked in rum for a few months and then steamed. The party was a perfect ending to a week of last-minute papers and exams and a perfect beginning of the break for the holidays.

—Michelle R. Tull '94

The HASA/RAZA Reception and Cultural Festival

On Saturday, December 11, HASA, the Harvard African Student Association, and RAZA, the Mexican-American student association, held a joint cultural festival and reception in the Cabot House Junior Common Room. The goal was to foster cultural and educational exchange between the two student groups. HASA members performed the South African gumboots dance and the Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán performed two dances from the Mexican states of Jalisco, El Jarabe Tapatio, and El Gavilán. The evening helped foster a deeper understanding of cultural diversity and helped members of both groups to get to know each other.

—Adaora Chikwendu '94

Latino Unity Night

On November 6, the Harvard Forum on Hispanic Affairs (HFHA) sponsored a Latino Night in the Holmes Living Room

of North House to celebrate Hispanic culture. The event featured food and drink representing various Latin American regions and countries, including Guayava hors-d'oeuvres, refried beans, tacos, quesadillas, and mango punch, all prepared by the executive committee of the Harvard Forum on Hispanic Affairs according to recipes from home.

Many people came to Latino Night following the Latino Power Hour that was organized by the Concilio Latino for Latinos at Harvard. Officers and members of La O, RAZA, Latinas Unidas, and Teatro Latino, as well as graduate students from the Latino Caucus at the Kennedy School attended. The guests represented a variety of nationalities, including Puerto Rican, Mexican-American, and Latin American. The music played at the event reflected this diversity and consisted of Mexican cumbias and corridos, salsa, and pop music from Latin America.

Guests and members of HFHA discussed culture, their own experiences, and the meaning of being Hispanic or Latino/a. The social event was fun as well as important, in that it helped empower the Latino/a and Hispanic student community at Harvard.

—Edmundo Gonzalez '95

Latinas Unidas Sponsors the Latinas in Higher Education Series

This fall, Latinas Unidas was honored to help bring to campus Law Professor Margaret E. Montoya from the University of New Mexico. Professor Montoya was the first Latina accepted as a student to Harvard Law School in the late seventies.

During her visit to Cambridge, Professor Montoya delivered a lecture entitled "Mascaras, Trenzas y Greñas" (Masks, Braids and Loose Hair). She spoke about the importance of incorporating distinctly Latina perspectives in the courtroom and the need for more lawyers of Latino background who can add awareness about the issues that motivate and often shape actions by Latinas. Professor Montoya answered questions about her talk and her experiences as a law professor after her lecture. She stressed that many injustices occur in the court system and society because of cultural ignorance and she encouraged more Latinas and Lati-

nos to pursue graduate education.

Latinas Unidas de Harvard-Radcliffe is a support group for women of Latin-American background. Events sponsored by Latinas Unidas include a Latina/o film series, study breaks, and the "Latinas in Higher Education" lecture series. The series serves to bring prominent Latinas to campus to serve as role models and inspirational speakers for interested members of the Harvard community.

—Estela Torres '94 &
Verónica Rosales '94

Latino Writers Colloquium Sponsored by *Del Sur Latino Magazine*

Del Sur Latino Magazine, in an attempt to encourage undergraduates to write, sponsored a Latino Writer's Colloquium this fall. The Colloquium included presentations by professional writers, workshops on writing, and readings of works by both professional and undergraduate writers. The highlight of the Latino Writers Colloquium series was a public reading and question-and-answer session by Chicana writer Helena Maria Viramontes.

Helena Maria Viramontes writes about Chicanos and Mexicanos with a focus on women characters. As a fiction writer who has published several important works, and as one of the leading Chicana fiction writers in the nation, Viramontes shared her works with interested undergraduates at a public reading. She read an essay about writing in which she explained why writing is a political procedure for her. "I write," she said, "so that I can know how I feel about these things."

Her writing, through vignettes and short stories, comments on society and the role of the dispossessed. She has covered issues ranging from immigration, poverty stricken communities, Central American wars, and Vietnam to women's role in society and economic and political oppression. Viramontes also shared some passages of a novel she is scheduled to publish next year and answered questions about her writing addressing the role of minority writers in the United States. She said that minorities are in many ways at the forefront of literary endeavors and have started to set new standards for writers. Viramontes also encouraged undergraduates to write about their communities and experiences in order to

make others aware of the issues affecting them.

An informal reception followed and Viramontes delighted students by sharing stories about other famous writers she has worked with, including Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Mario Vargas Llosa. Her visit to the campus was informative, pleasant and helped to inspire many future writers.

—Verónica Rosales '94

Academic Efficacy Seminar by Dr. Jeffrey Howard

On Thursday, November 11, the Black Students Association (BSA) welcomed Dr. Jeff Howard '69 to speak at Harvard Hall 104. Dr. Howard is the founder of the Efficacy Institute, a non profit educational consulting firm that works with young people to help them develop the confidence and motivation necessary to succeed in a competitive academic environment.

Dr. Howard began the evening with personal anecdotes about his BSA presidency during his undergraduate years. He said that, at that time, Harvard had only 30 Black students, many of whom advocated for an Afro-American Studies department. He spoke as well of his graduate studies and doctoral research, which was dedicated to finding ways to bridge the gap between the academic performances of Black and White students. He received his doctorate from the Harvard School of Education in 1980.

Having examined the psychological foundations of intellectual development, Dr. Howard then enumerated the three ingredients necessary for that process: confidence, effective effort, and continued and sustainable development.

The audience, mostly comprised of freshmen, found this lecture to be a highly interactive and rewarding experience. At a reception that followed the talk, students expressed their praise and admiration for Dr. Howard.

—Kimberley Pattillo '96

Giao Diem Magazine

Giao Diem Magazine focuses on Vietnam and Vietnamese culture. Topics covered in the upcoming issue include a true account of a Vietnamese girl's perilous boat journey to freedom, translated by Vincent Ho '96. Also included are book reviews, research on the Vietnam economy, fiction on relation-

ships and ethnicity, and poetry by several Harvard students who speak about their childhood recollections of Vietnam and the loss of loved ones in the Vietnamese war.

—Betty Cung '95

Tian Magazine

Founded in the fall of 1991, *Tian* magazine provides a forum to discuss and to debate political, social and cultural issues that affect the Asian-American community while also maintaining a Chinese-American perspective. Published once per semester, *Tian* brings to the community contemplative articles which attempt to provide insight where mainstream media leaves off. Subjects that *Tian* has dealt with in the past include national issues, such as the proverbial glass ceiling, the dearth of Asian Americans in politics, and campus issues such as interracial dating and social separatism.

The theme of the 1993 fall/winter issue is Asian Americans in the media. The articles investigate the deeper roots and future of the much-hyped jump of Asian Americans into the mainstream media: is it just a passing fad or is it indicative of growing activism? This semester's *Tian* will also feature articles exploring the effect of the media on Asian Americans; for example, one article examines the self-images of younger students and the reaction of women in response to media images. In *Tian*'s expanded fiction and personal essay section, individual voices find a channel.

—Jennifer Ching '96

Roots & Culture Published by HASA and HRCC

Roots and Culture, the joint publication of the Harvard African Students Association (HASA) and the Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club (HRCC) is now four semesters old. The publication features articles and poetry written by members of HASA and HRCC and focuses on current issues in African and Caribbean countries. The Fall 1993 issue of the magazine includes articles on students' experiences traveling to South Africa and the West Indies, as well as poems by Nothando Ndebele and Adaora Chikwendu. Other pieces study government and policy in Somalia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and the countries of the Caribbean.

—Adaora Chikwendu '94

**Point of Reference Magazine:
The Journal of Hellenic
Thought and Culture**

On December 16, the second issue of *Point of Reference* magazine was distributed to Harvard students, students of other universities, and interested intellectuals around the world. This recent issue included articles on Nietzsche's interpretations of Ancient Greek culture and on the effect of Aristotelian thought on modern capitalism.

Point of Reference takes a unique look at Hellenic thought and culture. The magazine is sponsored by students and by institutions including the Harvard Foundation.

—Vassili Thomadakis '96

South Asia Journal

The *South Asia Journal*, a publication of the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association, is a forum for the discussion of issues that pertain to the South Asian subcontinent. The fall 1993 issue opens with a focus on religious pluralism in America. Dr. Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies at the Divinity School, writes about the rapid changes in the American religious landscape caused by the infusion of immigrants from the subcontinent. Issues arising from the introduction of Eastern religions, including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism are highlighted. Articles also touch on several spheres of the South Asian experience, including politics (activism and South Asian Americans), economics (a history of Indian economic policy), culture (the ritual of Sati widow burning), and a personal reflection entitled "A Weaker Sex." The fall issue of the *South Asia Journal* will include student artwork for the first time.

—Sanjay Shetty '96

Del Sur Latino Magazine

Del Sur Latino Magazine serves as a forum in which students express their views about the Latino experience. The magazine gives a voice to Latino issues that are often ignored in other media. *Del Sur* includes short stories, poetry, artwork, issue pieces, guest commentaries and feature stories.

For the fall/winter 1993 issue, the staff focused on Latino cities. The feature entitled "Latino City, USA" included articles



Kelly Bowdren '94 and Laurence Byrne '95 dance at an Irish Cultural Society event.

about Los Angeles, El Paso, Chicago, Albuquerque, and New York, each written by a Latino Harvard student from one of these cities. The articles focused on what it was like growing up Latino in their city and included a brief historical sketch. This issue of *Del Sur* includes more Spanish poems than any previous issue, and the staff hopes the magazine will continue to serve as a unique publication in which works in Spanish accompany English works.

Other sections of the magazine include editorials about the future of Latino politicians, misconceptions of racism by Hispanics, and the difficulty of uniting politically around ethnicity.

—Verónica Rosales '94

NAHR Publishes Native Voices

Members of the Native Americans at Harvard-Radcliffe (NAHR) have devoted their energies this semester to producing *Native Voices*, the first Native American publication at Harvard. The goal is to begin a series of magazines which will discuss native heritage and contemporary Native American issues.

Native Voices is the brainchild of NAHR, an organization at Harvard-Radcliffe established to provide a support network for Native American students. NAHR also helps to promote understanding and appreciation of Native American culture among

the members of the Harvard community. We hope that the magazine will give unprecedented visibility to Native Americans and their culture, exposure that both enriches the cultural lives of participating Native Americans and strengthens the interracial understanding between native and non-native students and scholars.

The first issue will include reflections by a native student on his experiences at Harvard, the ramifications of the use of Crazy Horse's name for the sale of malt liquor, discussions on sovereignty, an analysis of the plight of inner-city Native American children, a legislative update, poetry, and artwork.

—Jeremy J. Radtke '95

**South Asian Dance Organization
Dancers a Great Success**

On Friday, December 3, in the Lowell House Dining Hall, more than 150 people gathered for the annual Asian Cultural Month Celebration. Hosted by the Harvard-Radcliffe Asian American Association, the celebration featured ethnic food and several student performances from various Asian cultures.

The South Asian Dance Organization (SADO), one of many organizations co-sponsoring this event, provided samosas, potato-filled pastries, for the food court. SADO brought down the house with its Kathak performance and folk dance demonstration.

Kathak is a form of dance art that originated in the Hindu temples of Northern India. The Katha, or storyteller, used to perform the Hindu equivalent of the Greek morality play for a large audience who had come to the temple for worship and education. In transforming the story to dance, the storytellers were able to beautify the wonder of Hindu mythology, leaving the audience enthralled and educated. When the Mughals invaded, Kathak was transferred to the darbar, or court. In the court, the broad, flowing gestures of the temple dance gave way to the rhythm and precision seen today.

SADO receives instruction from Dulal Talukdar, an internationally acclaimed Kathak artist. The dance organization's semester performance was the culmination of practices and choreographic exposition by master, musician, and students that began in mid-October.

SADO closed the performance with Kathak, and a folk dance demonstration. The Kathak performance was a series of small stories, or *todas*. The dancers entered and paid their respects to the court with *Salaami toda*—a dance of greeting, and then performed several small pieces about Nature and Krishna, a Hindu god. The audience was both impressed and appreciative; five people expressed interest in classes next semester. SADO then demonstrated and invited the audience to perform a simple folk dance—*dandia raas*, from the region of Gujarat, India (similar to the dance *Ladi* in Pakistan). The audience also learned and performed an impromptu *bhangra*, a folk dance performed in Northern India and areas of Pakistan.

—Natasha Bir '96



Joy Gorham '95 sings during Kuumba's Christmas concert.



Joy Gorham '95 and Sheldon Reid '96 present flowers to guest vocalist Ms. Ruth Hamilton

Kuumba Singers Pack Memorial Church

On December 10, the Harvard-Radcliffe Kuumba Singers presented their 23rd annual Christmas concert in Memorial Church. More than 450 people attended, including many Kuumba alumni from the Massachusetts area.

The performance consisted of a variety of musical styles, including gospel, spirituals, and jubilees. A special contribution was made by guest soloist, Ruth Hamilton, who performed two of her own selections. Readings of religious passages and original poetry were interspersed throughout the concert to emphasize the spiritual message that Kuumba strove to send to its audience.

No admission fee is charged for Kuumba's Annual Christmas concert; it is Kuumba's spiritual gift to the Harvard and Cambridge communities. This ongoing tradition is made possible in part by donations from audience members and grants from organizations such as the Harvard Foundation and the Undergraduate Council.

—Nadeige Genece '96



Guest vocalist, Ms. Ruth Hamilton, joins Kuumba for their Christmas concert.



Kuumba singers give praise through song.

BSA Hosts Def Comedy Jam

On the evening of November 13, the Harvard-Radcliffe Black Students Association (BSA) sponsored a comedy show featuring five comedians from New York. The two-hour show, held at North House, unprecedented in the history of the BSA, represented a rare opportunity to combine

insightful social commentary and high-quality professional entertainment.

The comedians, part of Wil's Traveling Troupe, are rising stars who have appeared on such shows as HBO's Def Comedy Jam, Showtime at the Apollo, and Uptown Comedy Club. Drawing upon their experiences growing up African-American or Caribbean-American, the comedians critiqued and gently poked fun at society. They brought up issues such as racism, homophobia, and the importance of intercultural unity and unity within the black community. Afterwards, the three hundred people in attendance stayed for a party held at North House Dining Hall.

The evening provided an opportunity for a diverse audience to come together, listen to the performers, and mingle in a relaxed setting. This successful BSA event was co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Council.

—Oba McMillan '95

BlackBox Theater Sponsored by Black C.A.S.T.

On Monday, December 13, the Harvard/Radcliffe Black C.A.S.T. (Community and Student Theater) presented BlackBox Theater with students from North Cambridge Catholic High School (NCC). Impressive artwork illustrating the artistic talent of the teenagers—including many self-portraits of the NCC freshmen and sophomore artists—were presented in the North House Moors Terrace Room.

At 7 p.m., Black C.A.S.T. members performed monologues and read poetry, but the majority of the works were performed by NCC juniors and seniors. They were a hip, confident, captivating group of students. Some sang, others rapped, and a few delivered their own poetry. Harvard students and faculty in attendance were very impressed by the young performers.

Following the performances, members of the Cambridge school system's minority community met with Harvard minority students. Through this exchange, Black C.A.S.T. fulfilled one of its objectives: to help young students of color in Cambridge feel that Harvard University is accessible to them.

BlackBox Theater provided a forum through which some spectacular young talents were allowed to shine.

—Dana L. Willis '95

Exposing La Cultura: Teatro Latino Estudiantil

Teatro Latino Estudiantil, a theatrical group focusing on Latino/Chicano culture, recently gave two performances of the one act play *Los Vendidos* by Luis Valdez, the prominent Chicano playwright. The cast included Verónica Rosales '94, Laura Ponce '95, Estela Diaz '97, Ben Ceja '96, Ankarino Lara '97, and Jose Tello '95. The play was directed by Alejandro Contreras '95 and produced by Chris Martinez '96, with set design by Shea Van Boskirk '95.

The first performance was staged before an estimated crowd of 250 in Cabot House on November 26, as part of the *Pachanga* Conference hosted by Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA during the Thanksgiving holiday. On December 4, Teatro again performed *Los Vendidos* for about 50 people in North House, followed by a reception for the actors and audience.

Los Vendidos (meaning either "The Sell-outs" or "The Sold Ones") presents the stories of people who either "sell out" or are "sold" without regard to their humanity. This short work satirizes Chicano stereotypes and remains one of the most powerful, touching, satirical pieces reflecting the urban and rural realities of Chicano people.

Founded in 1990, Teatro Latino is the only Latino theater group at Harvard University and in the Cambridge area. The troupe consists of undergraduates who act, direct, design sets, tailor costumes, and sometimes write pieces to be performed. Each year Teatro selects pieces that reflect the social concerns and problems affecting Latino communities.

—Alejandro Contreras '96

The Annual HASA Food Festival

On Saturday, November 23, the Harvard African Students Association (HASA) presented a food festival in the Lyman Common Room at Agassiz House. The cuisine was prepared by members of HASA and reflected the diverse make-up of African students at Harvard. A wide assortment of foods were presented including dishes from such African nations as Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Zambia, and Ethiopia. This festival drew many faculty, undergraduates, and graduate students. Everyone enjoyed both the diverse food and the African music playing in the background. The association

would like to extend special thanks to all who participated, especially the Cabot House dining hall staff who graciously provided utensils and serving containers for this event. Many attendees said the evening was a complete success.

—Adaora Chikwendu '94

Kamayan Filipino Cultural Festival

Ninety years ago, 100 young, promising Filipinos arrived in California to study in the United States at the government's expense. These first Filipino and Filipina students in U.S. colleges were called *pensionados* because their education was subsidized by government scholarships.

On the night of November 16, in Quincy House dining hall, more than 100 students from several colleges congregated for a festival of food and dance to salute the educational path of the *pensionados*. The night began in typical Filipino fashion with a food buffet of indigenous Filipino cuisine prepared by collaborating Filipino organizations. Students were treated to *sinigang*, *lumpia shanghai*, *chicken adobo*, garlic rice, and *pancit*, as well as tasty desserts such as *bibingka*, *leche flan*, and *puto*. The festival culminated in a performance of cultural dances representing the diverse ethnic background of the Philippines. Students from Brown University amazed everyone with *Singkil*, a royal Muslim wedding dance. The Harvard group performed the elegant *La Jota Panggasinana*, a Spanish-influenced courtship dance. Boston University's group pleased all with the humorous and rhythmic *Magalitik*, an all-male dance performed while beating coconut shells tied around their bodies. Finally, the M.I.T. group capped the night off with *Tinikling*, the national dance of the Philippines. The unity of the Filipino organizations in this *Kamayan* festival was a fitting commemoration of the original 100 *pensionados* and an entertaining and educational night for all who attended. This *Kamayan* festival was co-sponsored by the Harvard Philippine Forum.

—Sharon Tiron '95 & Daryl Paraguya '96

Caribbean Club Food Festival

On Saturday, November 6, the Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club sponsored a Caribbean Food Festival. Caribbean Club members spent a large part of the day

preparing food which included such dishes as curried chicken, rice and peas with coconut milk, and fried yellow plantains.

The festival, held in the Lyman Common Room, was attended by approximately 88 people, including students from the Dominican Club, BSA, La O, and HASA, as well as other undergraduate and graduate students wanting to taste Caribbean cuisine. Many appeared especially happy to see fried yellow plantain and roti on the menu, as they are difficult to obtain in the United States. At the conclusion of the food festival the Haitian Alliance showed a film on the political situation in Haiti and sponsored a discussion.

—Michelle R. Tull '94

AAA Sponsors Annual Food and Cultural Festival

The 1993 Asian American Association (AAA) Food and Cultural Festival was held on Friday, December 3 in the Lowell House Dining Hall and attended by approximately 150 people. The event was sponsored by the AAA Cultural Committee to introduce the Harvard community to the great diversity of Asian culture through food and cultural performance. The menu ranged from the popular to the exotic. The Chinese Students Association prepared *Ma Po Tofu* and almond jello; the Korean Students Association prepared *kimbap* and *bulgogi*; the Japan Society prepared sushi; the Taiwanese Culture Society prepared beef noodle soup; the Hong Kong Club prepared barbecued pork buns, curry quiche and egg custard pastries; and the South Asian Association prepared *pakooras*. The food festival was both a culinary and cultural success.

The performance portion of the evening, hosted by Master of Ceremonies, Spencer

Lee, featured everything from the traditional to the unexpected. The Dunster House Anime Society presented a clip from *Kiki's Delivery Service*, Japan's 1989 top-grossing animated film. The Asian American Dance Troupe, decked in the traditional celebratory color of red, performed a graceful ribbon dance. Students then witnessed the slow, graceful movements of Tai Chi Chuan, a traditional Chinese internal martial art, performed in Yang Long Form. The Chinese Students Association burst through the dining hall with the ever popular Lion dance to the beat of fast, loud drumming. The Harvard Kendo Club performed a sword demonstration. Grace Shee '97 performed a festive tambourine dance originating from the Xin Jiang province. And finally, the South Asian Dance Organization (SADO) performed *Kathak*, a classical dance form featuring intricate footwork. The evening culminated in interactive dance lessons led by members of the South Asian Dance Organization.

Everyone enjoyed the tasty food and the many cultural performances.

—Jane Cha '96 & Joy Chen '96

Chinese Barbecue (Huo Guo) Dinner

On Saturday, December 11, 40 students attended the Chinese Students Association's first Chinese Barbecue (*Huo Guo*) dinner at the Dunster private dining room. The traditional Chinese *Huo Guo* dinner is characterized by cooking fresh meat, seafood, and vegetables individually in a boiling broth. This method ensures that the natural flavor of the food is retained. For seasoning, meats are often dipped in a special spicy *satay* sauce, which may be said to be the Chinese equivalent of the American barbecue sauce. For the more adventurous

eater, a raw egg is often mixed in with the sauce, which adds a unique texture to the dip.

The *Huo Guo* dinner is distinctly family-style. It is most often done during winter nights when the steam from the broth offers a welcome release from the cold outdoors. Moreover, because the dinner lasts for a long time, it brings family members together for long conversations. Thus, CSA was able to bring this kind of environment to the event. Many participants who were new to the *Huo Guo* dining experience were very happy to be included as this style of eating is rarely seen outside the Chinese household.

—Jim Cheung '95

Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán

Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán performs traditional Mexican dances from different regions of Mexico. Each region has its own unique music, dance, and style of dress. In order to authenticate the group's performances, it is important that the costumes be as close as possible to the traditional costumes of the various regions. Furthermore, since costumes are such an integral part of the beauty of the dances, it is important for the group's wardrobe to be adequately maintained. The Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán will supplement its current wardrobe holdings with costumes sewn by a professional seamstress who has experience in sewing Folklórico costumes. The group hopes that by improving its costume wardrobe, it can add to the quality of the performances that it has thus far been fortunate enough to be able to share with the Harvard community.

—Barbara Espinoza '94

Director



**The Staff
of the
Harvard
Foundation**

From top left to right: Manu Meyer HGSE, Student Activities Coordinator; Adrienne McLaughlin, Staff Assistant; Hui-Kyung Kim '96, Student Assistant; Verónica Rosales '94, Student Assistant; Andrea Taylor '95, Student Assistant; Hyewon Chong '95, Student Assistant; Carlos Whiteman '95, Student Assistant; Daniel Kim '97, Student Assistant; Jennifer Talbot '94, Student Assistant; Richard Garcia '95, Student Assistant; Angela Sun '96, Student Assistant.