



The

# HARVARD FOUNDATION Journal

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**In Memoriam:  
The Reverend Professor  
Peter J. Gomes**



**Dr. Arthur Kleinman  
Named 2011 Distinguished  
Faculty Member**



**Harvard Artist in Residence:  
Archie Panjabi**



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**On the cover, clockwise from bottom left:** *The Good Wife* actress Archie Panjabi is Harvard University's 2011 Artist in Residence. Dr. Arthur Kleinman, Esther and Sidney Rabb Professor of Anthropology in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, is honored as the Harvard Foundation's 2011 Distinguished Faculty Member. Co-founder of the Harvard Foundation and Chairman of the Portraiture Committee, the Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes, remembered. Dr. S. Allen Counter and Dean William R. Fitzsimmons present Shakira with the award for Artist of the Year at the 2011 Cultural Rhythms Festival. Dr. Maggie Werner-Washburne is presented with the Scientist of the Year award at the 2011 annual Albert Einstein Science Conference: Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics.

### The Mission of the Harvard Foundation

In 1981, the president and deans of Harvard University established the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations with the mandate to "improve relations among racial and ethnic groups within the University and to enhance the quality of our common life." In pursuit of this mission, the Foundation seeks to involve students of all racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds in the ongoing enterprises of the University. The Foundation sponsors annual programs and activities that are designed to promote interracial and intercultural awareness and understanding in the Harvard community, as well as to highlight the cultural contributions of students from all backgrounds.



*The insignia of the Harvard Foundation consists of five interconnecting circles in the colors black, brown, red, white, and yellow, symbolizing the major recognized ethnic groups of the human race under the Harvard motto Veritas ("truth"). The symbol, "the unbroken circle of humanity," was designed by Dr. S. Allen Counter in 1981.*

The *Harvard Foundation Journal* has been produced semi-annually since 1982. The publication is designed to inform the Harvard family about the programs sponsored by the Harvard Foundation throughout the year that address a variety of salient topics related to intercultural, racial, ethnic, and religious understanding. The *Harvard Foundation Journal* is produced by the Harvard Foundation staff, interns, and director. For more information, or to be added to the Harvard Foundation mailing list, please contact:

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## Letter from the Director

To the President, Faculty, and Deans of Harvard University:

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to report to you that the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations have conducted a wide range of successful programs during the spring semester that served to advance our mission and charge. Over 100 student initiated programs were sponsored by the Harvard Foundation and supportive cultural groups, including a Vietnamese American film and panel discussion, a student-sponsored program entitled "Race, Gender, Sexuality, and Mental Health," a large student group gathering in Adams House with a noted speaker on gang violence in America, and a BSA sponsored program in Memorial Church commemorating Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday that featured noted youth leader Father Gregory Boyle.

The Harvard Foundation also hosted the annual Albert Einstein Science Conference: Advancing Minorities and Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics on April 9, 2011. The 2011 Scientist of the Year award was presented to Dr. Maggie Werner-Washburne, distinguished geneticist and professor from the University of New Mexico. Dr. Werner-Washburne was nominated for recognition by Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisor Professor William Gelbart. The honorary luncheon was graciously hosted by House Masters Erika and Nicholas Christakis. During her visit, Professor Werner-Washburne met with undergraduate women in science and delivered remarks at Pfortzheimer House where the 2011 Scientist of the Year award was presented. On the following day, Professor Werner-Washburne met with over 100 public school students from the Boston metropolitan area at the Harvard Science Center, where she encouraged them to pursue careers in science, engineering, and mathematics. Her presentation was followed by scientific talks and demonstrations by a number of generous Harvard faculty and staff, including Professor Robert Lue, Professor Andrew Berry, Professor Scott Edwards, Professor William Gelbart, and Mr. Daniel Rosenberg. We are grateful to each of these faculty members for their enthusiastic participation in our annual science conference. The public school students were also given counseling and science demonstrations by Harvard students called the "ExperiMentors." The chaperones and parents of the visiting students collectively expressed their appreciation of this annual outreach effort to the greater Boston community by the Harvard Foundation.

Our major flagship event is the annual Harvard Foundation Cultural Rhythms Festival, which has been described by former President Derek Bok as one of the most successful and impressive events at Harvard. It brings together well over 1,000 Harvard students, faculty, and families in Sanders Theatre each year, in a celebration of Harvard's rich cultural diversity. This year's Cultural Rhythms Festival was one of our most successful ever. It featured international singing star and noted humanitarian Shakira (Mebarak) of Colombia, South America. Shakira was nominated by the students of the Harvard Foundation primarily because of her many years of humanitarian contributions toward the education and uplift of poor Colombians and others through her Barefoot Foundation (Pies Descalzos). Shakira proved to be extraordinarily popular among the students, faculty, families, and others throughout the Harvard community. Upon her arrival, a luncheon was hosted in her honor by the Masters and students of Kirkland House. We are most grateful to Tom and Verena Conley for their generous support of the Harvard Foundation Cultural Rhythms Luncheon.

Near the end of the student cultural performances at Cultural Rhythms, Shakira was presented with the 2011 Artist of the Year award. Shakira's superb speech at Sanders Theatre regarding her views on the role young people can play in educating all members of society was the highlight of the semester. During her visit to Cultural Rhythms, she was joined by Howard Buffett (son of Warren Buffett), who conducted discussions with her foundation

about collaboration in educational projects.

On March 11, 2011 Japan was struck by a catastrophic earthquake and tsunami that killed many Japanese people and destroyed vast areas. There was an outpouring of sympathy and support for Japan from around the world. The students and the faculty of the Harvard Foundation participated in a number of programs to honor the memory of those who were lost in this tragedy and to express sympathy, solidarity and support for the Japanese people. In an effort to reach out to the surviving victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, I, as director of the Foundation, led an initiative to acquire badly needed blankets for displaced persons in the immediate area of the earthquake. I contacted my good friends Will and Jada Pinkett Smith and requested through their family foundation that we make an initial purchase of 1,000 high quality blankets to ship to Ibaraki Prefecture Japan to be distributed to the surviving victims of the earthquake. With the help of my colleague and Foundation Faculty Advisory Member Professor Robert Woollacott, I was able to contact his former student, Ms. Hiromi Ikezawa, and request her support in the collection and distribution of the blankets to the people of Ibaraki Prefecture. I then contacted Federal Express (FedEx) and requested support for the shipment of the entire load (5,000 kilos) of blankets to Narita Airport in Japan. I am pleased to report to the faculty and administration that the Will and Jada Pinkett Smith Family Foundation provided the Harvard Foundation with financial support to purchase the 1,000 blankets, which were shipped gratis to Narita, Japan by FedEx through the generous support of its C.E.O., Mr. Fred Smith. The blankets were transported from Narita Airport to Ibaraki Prefecture Sports Center by truck under the direction of Ms. Hiromi Ikezawa, and distributed to families in the area. In addition, the funds from the Smith Family Foundation enabled us to purchase science books for elementary school students in Japan who had lost all of their books in the earthquake and tsunami.

In April, the Harvard Foundation hosted a panel discussion in Emerson Hall entitled "The Color of Baseball." The discussion focused on the historical contributions of African Americans to the nation's pastime, baseball, and its institutional policies of racial discrimination up to the time of Jackie Robinson in the late 1940's and 50's. The program was well received by many students, who, because of age, have little knowledge of the time when baseball was all white males with official exclusions of blacks and Latinos. A featured speaker on the program was a former member of the Negro Baseball League, Mr. Reggie Howard, who spoke eloquently of the struggle for recognition and dignity by black American athletes as they played the nation's favorite sport.

Finally, I spent much of the entire academic year at the side of my good friend for over 35 years, the Reverend Peter J. Gomes. Unfortunately, part of this time included being at his bedside in the hospital or rehabilitation center, but I shall also remember the joyful times when we talked at length and he shared with me many of his ideas, thoughts, and hopes for Harvard. The Harvard Foundation, its students, and faculty were always close to his heart. I shall remember many things about Peter J. Gomes—his brilliance—his humility—his spirituality—his devotion to humanitarianism—and his dedication to Harvard—but I will also remember his eloquence. At one of his grand dinners that I attended at Sparks House, I particularly remember an evening that he hosted for Dr. Per Wästberg, Chairman of the Nobel Prize Committee on Literature. During his toast, Chairman Wästberg said, "If the Swedish Academy gave a Nobel Prize in eloquence its first would go to the Reverend Peter J. Gomes." Peter, it was a blessing to know you my brother. Thank you for the Harvard Foundation and your friendship.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. Allen Counter, D.M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Director of the Harvard Foundation

## Shakira Honored as 2011 Harvard Foundation Artist of the Year



*(Above, Left): Shakira waves to a sold out audience at Sanders Theatre after Dr. S. Allen Counter introduces her to the crowd. (Above, Right): Cultural Rhythms Co-directors Olamide Oladipo and Jessica Ch'ng present the afternoon show performers. (Bottom, Right): Shakira admires the Harvard College student group performances held in her honor.*

On February 26, 2011, the Harvard community was buzzing with excitement and anticipation for the 26th Annual Cultural Rhythms Festival, a day-long celebration of Harvard's diversity and the Harvard Foundation's commitment to race and intercultural relations in honor of the 2011 Artist of the Year, Shakira. As the Harvard Foundation's biggest annual tradition, student participation was imperative to its success: from the student groups performing in both the afternoon and evening shows to the cultural groups selling food and other goods at the Cultural Rhythms Food Festival Bazaar, from the undergraduate comedians, dancers, and musicians at the reception and luncheon to the Harvard Foundation student-interns running the activities behind the scenes.

The festivities began with a reception held in a packed Kirkland House Junior Common Room, where the Harvard University Band greeted our guest of honor, Shakira, giving her a warm welcome with great fanfare. Every seat was filled and standing room was at capacity as students welcomed the world-renowned singer. The reception featured a roast written and performed by the Immediate Gratification Players, one of Harvard's finest improvisational comedy groups. As the Pan-African Dance and Music Ensemble's drum circle followed with a performance, Shakira, a talented dancer herself, demonstrated a few moves of her own with the Middle Eastern Dance Troupe's belly-dancers.

The reception was followed by a luncheon in Kirkland House Dining

Hall. Kirkland House Masters, Tom and Verena Conley, welcomed attendees and the guest of honor in the annual tradition. The program featured tributes to Shakira by student leaders representing the Harvard Foundation, Kirkland House Committee, and the Colombian Students Association, who presented her with numerous floral bouquets and Harvard memorabilia. Distinguished faculty and guests delivered speeches praising the achievements of the Artist of the Year, including Dr. S. Allen Counter, the director of the Harvard Foundation, and María Emma Mejía Vélez, the former Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Education, and the current executive president of Pies Descalzos (Barefoot) Foundation, a charity founded by Shakira. Musical tributes were performed by Third Rail, a band composed of Harvard undergraduates.

Held in Sanders Theatre, the 2011 Cultural Rhythms Afternoon Show debuted for a completely sold out audience of Harvard community members and guests. An introductory video commemorated 26 years of student leadership and cultural performances and paid tribute to the achievements of the Artist of the Year. Cultural Rhythms Co-Directors Jessica Ch'ng '12 and Olamide Oladipo '12 opened the show with a rousing welcome address, expressing why Cultural Rhythms continues to remain a beacon of diversity in the Harvard community. The show featured 13 of Harvard's best cultural performance groups and included the Artist of the Year award ceremony. Dr. S. Allen Counter and Dean William R.

Fitzsimmons presented Shakira with the Artist of the Year honor, highlighting not only her distinctions as an artist, but also her achievements as a humanitarian. Shakira is a multi-platinum recording artist and the best-selling Colombian artist of all time, having won two Grammy Awards, seven Latin Grammy Awards, and 12 Billboard Music Awards. She is also a passionate and dedicated advocate of education: she founded the Pies Descalzos Foundation, a Colombian charity that develops special schools for poor children all around Colombia, when she was only 18; she also founded the Fundación América Latina en Acción Solidaria, a non-profit organization committed to comprehensive Early Childhood Development programs for the children in Latin America; and she has served as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador since 2003. The Harvard Foundation was honored to bring such an inspiring woman to the greater Harvard community.



## 26th Annual Cultural Rhythms Festival Celebrates Harvard's Diversity



(Above, Left): Colombian students celebrate in the grand finale to Cultural Rhythms with Shakira. (Above, Right): Shakira speaks about the importance of equal educational opportunities for all and her work to promote quality education throughout the world. (Bottom, Right): Shakira joins Harvard College students on stage during their rendition of her hit song "Waka Waka." Photos continued on pages 6 & 7.

In her acceptance speech, Shakira spoke of the disparity in educational opportunities for children around the world. She joked, "Now, normally when I get on stage, and for the audience's sake and sanity I'm allowed to sing and dance only. It's why you'll have to forgive me for making the most of this occasion, abusing the podium and sharing some of my thoughts." She expressed her gratitude that as an entertainer, she has been given a platform to voice a powerful message: education changes lives, and universal education is the first step toward eradicating poverty. She encouraged the audience to engage in activism, to demand that government leaders make education a top priority on the political agenda. She called upon Harvard students in particular, as future policy makers, business leaders, and educators, to contribute to the creation of a more just society. As she closed her address, Shakira declared, "By promoting education for all, and by giving every child the chance to make the most of their potential, you will take a huge step," as the Harvard Foundation urges, "to enhance the quality of our common life."

The afternoon show ended with a finale including all 13 student cultural groups and the Colombian Students Association, who brought dances from Shakira's homeland to the Sanders stage. The finale concluded with a rendition of "Waka Waka," Shakira's wildly popular single for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, arranged and performed by student musicians, as well as the song's signature choreography. In an

unexpected move, Shakira jumped out of her Artist of the Year seat and began dancing alongside the students on stage.

Following the afternoon show, the annual food festival and bazaar began in the Science Center, in which close to twenty student groups served delicious foods from their respective cultures. In a new initiative, student groups were able to sell other cultural items in addition to their food selections. Participants sampled bubble tea from the Asian American Association, jollof rice from the Harvard African Students Association and Nigerian Students Association, empanadas from RAZA, and spanakopita from the Hellenic Society, among many other delightful and delicious dishes.

To close the day-long celebration, an audience of students, both from Harvard and from many local public schools, gathered once again at Sanders Theatre

for the Cultural Rhythms Evening Show. This year's hosts were Byron Lichtenstein '11 and Mya Thompson '11, who charmed and cheered the crowd with their hilarious antics. The evening show featured 16 vibrant performances by cultural groups and ended the 26th Annual Cultural Rhythms Festival with a bang.

- Jessica Ch'ng '12 & Olamide Oladipo '12

### Performance groups

**Afternoon Show:**  
Ballroom Dance Team, Asian American Dance Troupe, Pan-African Dance and Music Ensemble, Mariachi Veritas, Harvard Intertribal Indian Dance Troupe, Kuumba Singers, Juan Carlos & His Band, Wushu, Deepam, Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan, Key Change, Corcairdhearg

**Evening Show:**  
Wenyaji, Vietnamese Dance Troupe, Under Construction, Hellenic Society, Syncopation, Clint Miller, Middle Eastern Dance Troupe, Breakers, Valleys of Neptune, Spoken Word, Bluegrass, Harvard Philippine Forum, Holoimua o Hawaii, ReckKlez, Candela Salsa, Bhangra



## The Harvard Foundation Welcomes Shakira and Honors Her Humanitarian Work



1.) The Harvard University Band welcomes Shakira with a musical tribute. 2.) The Harvard College Middle Eastern Dance Company invites Shakira to join in an impromptu dance. 3.) University Marshal Ms. Jackie O'Neill greets Shakira as she signs the Official Guest Registry of Harvard University. 4.) Kirkland House Masters Tom and Verena Conley welcome guests to the Artist of the Year Luncheon. 5.) Shakira laughs as she enjoys lunch with Ms. Maria Emma Mejia, Director of Pies Descalzos Foundation, and her manager, Ceci Kurzman '91. 6.) Shakira meets with the Harvard Foundation interns. 7.) Asian American Dance Troupe performs in front of an excited crowd at Harvard's historic Sanders Theatre.

## 26th Annual Cultural Rhythms Festival Celebrates Diversity in Sanders Theatre



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8.) Harvard Intertribal Indian Dance Troupe performs. 9.) Corcaidhearg perform traditional Irish step dancing for the crowd. 10.) Ballet Folklorico de Aztlan takes center stage. 11.) The Kuumba Singers of Harvard College perform. 12.) Shakira gracefully accepts the Artist of the Year award. 13.) Harvard Deepam presents a classical Indian dance. 14.) Mariachi Veritas sings to the audience. 15.) All of the performing Harvard student groups join Shakira on stage to celebrate her humanitarian work and the diversity at Harvard University.

## Harvard Artist in Residence: *The Good Wife's* Archie Panjabi

An audience of community members, students, and faculty gathered at the New College Studio Theater on March 10, 2011, to welcome Emmy Award-winning actress Archie Panjabi. The event featured a question-and-answer session moderated by students Sonia Dara '13 and Hemant Gandhi '13 of Eliot House and Leverett House, respectively. This event was the culmination of Ms. Panjabi's stay at the University as the 2011 Artist in Residence. The Artist in Residence program was sponsored by the Harvard Foundation, Office of the Arts, and Office of the Assistant to the President.

During her stay, Ms. Panjabi visited classes and interacted with Harvard students. Given her humanitarian work, she was very interested in Professor Orlando Patterson's class "Human Trafficking, Slavery, and Abolition in the Modern World." She had breakfast at Eliot House and Adams House with students from the houses, many of whom were interested in talking about the film and television industry. Panjabi also attended a show at the American Repertory Theater, *Prometheus Bound*.

During the afternoon, Ms. Panjabi attended a luncheon held in Ticknor Lounge with various Harvard Foundation interns and the South Asian Women's Collective. During the meal, Ms. Panjabi shared with students the challenges she has faced as both a woman and a minority in the entertainment industry. Another notable experience that Ms. Panjabi shared was what initially sparked her interest in acting. Her experiences and stories regarding first performing theater in high school, then moving to film and television were incredibly inspiring for the

students at the luncheon.

"The event was a great way for students to build community and learn more about minority representation in mainstream television. Ms. Panjabi was not only kind and humble, but she was also very knowledgeable and open to sharing her experiences with the Harvard community," said Eric Lu '14 of Pforzheimer House, Harvard Foundation intern and student coordinator of the 2011 Artist in Residence Program.

At "Conversations with Archie Panjabi," the actress answered questions about her career and current projects, her humanitarian work, and her aspirations. Ms. Panjabi, who now plays Kalinda Sharma on the wildly popular television drama *The Good Wife* and is also recognized for her roles in *Bend It Like Beckham* and *A Mighty Heart*, spoke about the meaningful work she has done with humanitarian organizations such as Amnesty International. Ms. Panjabi acted as a spokesperson for Amnesty International's campaign to allow immigrant women in the U.K. access to public resources for victims of domestic violence. Fans in the audience asked many questions about her current character on *The Good Wife* and the future of the show. Ms. Panjabi talked about the joys of playing such a complex character, who is empowered and smart yet mysterious. Ms. Panjabi remarked that while *The Good Wife* is the perfect project for her to work on, she would one day like to try her hand at directing.

To conclude the event, the Harvard Foundation, Office of the Arts, and Office of the Assistant to the President, presented Ms. Panjabi with a gift: a Harvard baseball bat—a reference to an episode of *The Good Wife* in which her character smashes a car using a baseball bat, a gesture which both Ms. Panjabi and her fans in the audience cheerfully appreciated.

—Jessica Ch'ng '12



(Left): Archie Panjabi thoughtfully answers a question from a sold out audience at New College Theatre. (Right): Ms. Panjabi participates in a question-and-answer session moderated by students Sonia Dara '13 & Hemant Gandhi '13 of Eliot House and Leverett House.

## The Harvard Foundation, a Living Tribute to Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes

Dear Fellow Members of the Harvard Community,  
The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation mourn the death of our beloved brother, pastor, and founder of the Harvard Foundation, Peter John Gomes, Minister in Memorial Church and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals. Reverend Gomes passed away on Monday, February 28, 2011, from complications due to a recent stroke.

Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes was a Harvard institution—a visionary who, perhaps more than most at Harvard, had a perspicacious understanding of the values, philosophy, and intellectual leadership necessary to move the college and university forward. A man of extraordinary erudition, he was devoted to his Christian faith, to academia, and to humanitarian imperatives. He understood the transcendent nature of human spirituality that encompasses all religious faiths, ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds. Reverend Gomes embraced the human race, and he exuded admirable tolerance. He was also urbane and witty, with a natural penchant for ironic humor.

Of his many contributions to Harvard, we are most grateful for his creation of the Harvard Foundation, the University's primary agency for the improvement of intercultural, international, and interethnic relations. Upon Reverend Gomes's advice and guidance, Derek C. Bok, President of Harvard University, established the Harvard Foundation in 1981, following the report of a committee headed by Reverend Gomes that recommended the Foundation's creation as an integral part of the college and the university. I had the honor of being appointed by President Bok and Reverend Gomes to serve as the founding director of the Harvard Foundation. In our initial meetings, Reverend Gomes shared with me his vision of a Harvard in which students and faculty of all ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds would come together in understanding and harmony, and develop friendships that would serve our students, the college, and the nation well. A man of courage and conviction, he rejected any idea of separating students into ethnic enclaves with designated buildings that would anchor them in the isolation of a single identity. Reverend Gomes served as the first Chairman of the Harvard Foundation's Faculty Advisory Committee. He was the essence of the Harvard Foundation, and lives on in its DNA.

For the past 30 years, Reverend Gomes has worked closely with the director, faculty, and students of the Harvard Foundation as a principal advisor and a guiding influence in its programs. In 1984, we established the "Harvard Foundation Humanitarian Lecture and Award." It was later named by the faculty and students of the Harvard Foundation the "Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian Lecture and Medal." Our first speaker and honoree, in 1984, was the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., or "Daddy King" as he was affectionately known. The annual Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian Lecture continues today, and has been delivered by a number of distinguished national and international figures, including the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Wilma Mankiller; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; Nobel Laureate John Hume; UN Secretary General Boutros-Boutros Ghali; Chairman of the Nobel Prize Committee on Literature, Per Wästberg; AIDS researcher Dr. David Ho; actors Ruby Dee, James Earl Jones, and Sharon Stone, and recently, heroic airline pilot Captain Chesley Sullenberger.

In keeping with Reverend Gomes' vision, the Harvard Foundation presently sponsors and conducts over 150 student programs each semester. These programs range in scope from a Harvard Armenian Students Association panel discussion on Armenian-Turkish history, to a Harvard Japan Society Tsukimi Workshop, a Harvard African Students Association Film Screening on African Development, a professional panel and photographic exhibition on "Prejudice and Violence against People with Albinism," to our flagship Cultural Rhythms Festival that features artistic performances and ethnic cuisines by Harvard students of many cultural, international, and religious backgrounds. This annual daylong cultural festival celebrates Harvard's rich cultural diversity, and reaffirms the kindredship of the Harvard family.

While Reverend Gomes was immensely fond of the annual Cultural Rhythms Festival, his favorite project was the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project. This project, initiated in 2002, aims to create portraits of primarily men and women of color, and place them among the panoply of Harvard portraits of mainly white men. The Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project has been supported from its inception by the Office of the President of Harvard University, and it seeks to honor those faculty and administrators who have served Harvard for more than 25 years with particular distinction. In 2003, a committee of faculty and students was formed to direct the portraiture project, and Reverend Gomes was selected to serve as its chairman. Following Reverend Gomes's recommendation, the Portraiture Committee decided that portraits of faculty would be placed in the Harvard College Houses, so that students of all backgrounds could have the benefit of viewing them as a part of the intercultural and academic life of the College and University. Reverend Gomes recommended that portraits of Harvard administrators be placed in libraries, and administrative buildings. Under the chairmanship of Reverend Peter Gomes, the Harvard Foundation Portraiture Project completed 11 oil-based portraits of men and women of all ethnic backgrounds, and placed them in the various Houses, libraries, and administrative buildings of the University. Reverend Gomes lived to witness our dream of placing on the historic walls of Annenberg Hall the portrait of Caleb Cheeshahteumuck, the first Native American graduate from Harvard College in 1665.

During the past year, it became known that Reverend Gomes was experiencing declining health. He announced in the Memorial Church in 2010 that he had suffered a heart attack, and had been given a cardiac pacemaker. However, his poor health notwithstanding, he continued to work at full steam at the Memorial Church and with Harvard Foundation projects. One of his last public appearances was in Winthrop House at the Harvard Foundation Peter J. Gomes Humanitarian Lecture on November 19, 2010. It was there with some 200 students and faculty that Reverend Gomes joined in presenting the Humanitarian Medal to Thorbjorn Jagland, Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee. It was a fitting, final Harvard Foundation tribute to the Reverend Peter J. Gomes, surrounded by the Harvard College students whom he so dearly loved.

*Dr. S. Allen COUNTER Jr., Director of the Harvard Foundation,  
Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School*

## Dr. Maggie Werner-Washburne Receives the 2011 Scientist of the Year Award



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1.) Pforzheimer House Master Erika Christakis graciously hosts the Scientist of the Year Luncheon. Christen Brown of Pforzheimer House and the Harvard Foundation, presents a bouquet of roses to the house masters for their generosity. 2.) Dr. S. Allen Counter congratulates Dr. Werner-Washburne for her notable work and presents her with the Scientist of the Year award. 3.) Dr. Werner-Washburne celebrates her award with the Harvard College students in attendance at the luncheon.

On Saturday, April 9, nearly 120 students from Boston's inner city schools and science programs arrived at Harvard's Science Center to participate in the Harvard Foundation's annual Albert Einstein Science Conference. The conference was the culmination of a multi-day celebration of student and faculty achievement in the world of science.

This fun-filled weekend commenced with a luncheon honoring the Harvard Foundation's 2011 Scientist of the Year, Professor Maggie Werner-Washburne. Professor Werner-Washburne is the Regents Professor of Biology at the University of New Mexico. She not only pioneered studies on the genomics of stationary phase in yeast, providing insights into biological processes from aging to stem cell biogenesis, but she has also consistently utilized her position as a high profile scientist to encourage the exploration of science among women and people of color. Since 2004, Professor Werner-Washburne has overseen 20 minority Ph.D.s. Since the purpose of the luncheon and the conference was to foster enthusiasm among youth to explore the sciences in the future, there is no doubt that Professor Werner-Washburne more than deserved the 2011 Scientist of the Year, as she embodied the ideals and goals of this conference.

Graciously hosted by the Pforzheimer house masters, the luncheon proved to be a great success. Faculty members from various fields of science attended to welcome Professor Werner-Washburne. Student representatives Beverly Pozuelos (president of Latinas Unidas) and Tiffany Smalley (leader of the Native Americans at Harvard College) provided heartfelt remarks expressing their appreciation for Professor Werner-Washburne's scientific mentoring of Latinos and Native-American graduate students in New Mexico.

At the science conference luncheon, Professor Werner-Washburne delivered the most memorable and heartfelt speech of the weekend. Light on scientific jargon, Professor Werner-Washburne's speech imparted invaluable advice and encouragement to budding scientists and future leaders alike. Never short on anecdotes, Professor Werner

Washburne shared her own personal stories of hitchhiking, intercontinental travel, and escapes from dangerous situations in order to encourage students to embark on their own paths of self-discovery. More importantly, she encouraged students to persevere through life's failures and challenges – as she explained that failure and challenges could only make one stronger to reach the successes that one desires.

At the conference, the student participants engaged in fascinating lectures and experiments presented by Harvard faculty. Some of the most memorable moments of the day include fearless seven-year-olds asking and answering highly-advanced questions about topics ranging from cancer cells to optical illusions.

At the end of the conference, Mr. Daniel Rosenberg mixed lessons on chemistry and physics to create awe among the student crowd with his attention grabbing explosions of sound and light. Mr. Rosenberg allowed students to volunteer to demonstrate concepts of motion and electricity on his bicycle, as well as concepts of combustion with his demonstrations of fire and balloons. At the end of these demonstrations, numerous students asked to return to the Science Center the following weekend for a continuation of the conference.

We are thrilled at the success of both the Scientist of the Year Luncheon and Conference. We hope that the students' enthusiasm for the academic sciences and higher education will continue to grow with each year of participation in the Albert Einstein Science Conference. Most importantly, we hope that the Science Conference will inspire Harvard students and the public school students to be leaders and role models in their classrooms and communities.

-Christen Brown '13

**\*\*Special thank you to all professors who presented at the conference, ExperiMentors, and student volunteers who graciously donated their Saturday to chaperone students\*\***

## Harvard Foundation Partners in Science Program Brings Public School Students to Harvard and Celebrates the Annual Albert Einstein Science Conference



4.) Dr. Andrew Berry lectures about DNA to an auditorium full of students. 5.) T.A. Daniel Rosenberg wows the crowd with scientific experiments and explosions. 6.) Professor Robert Lue lectures on biology to inner-city high school students. 7.) Professor Scott Edwards teaches an excited group of elementary school students about birds. 8.) Professor William Gelbart graciously welcomes the honoree, Dr. Maggie Werner-Washburne, to Harvard University. 9.) A group of visiting elementary school students from Boston Public Schools enjoy a full day of lectures from Harvard University professors. 10.) Dr. Werner-Washburne meets with visiting students from Roxbury. 11.) Harvard Foundation interns meet with the Scientist of the Year. 12.) Dr. Werner-Washburne embraces teaching elementary school students about science.

## *The Color of Baseball: Featuring Reggie Howard*

On Wednesday, March 30th, the Harvard Foundation explored the intersection between race and baseball through a photo exhibition and panel discussion, *The Color of Baseball*: From Birmingham to Boston. Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, opened the panel by citing baseball's historic importance as not simply a national pastime of Americans of all backgrounds, but also as a force in the African American civil rights movement. Dr. Counter affirmed continued commitment to engaging this important aspect of our past, one that began with a visit by Hank Aaron to the Harvard Foundation in 1995. Aaron is widely considered one of the greatest baseball players of all time and one of the last members of the Negro leagues to play in the major leagues.

David L. Halberstam '55 once stated that "behind every great sports story is the story of a nation"—the quote would frame well the ensuing discussion, moderated by Steven Biel, Executive Director and Senior Lecturer at the Mahindra Humanities Center. Bill Chapman, a renowned sports photographer, began the narrative from the perspective of the present with a photo exhibition documenting the diversity that baseball has come to embody. In his moving presentation, smiling faces of many colors highlight the now multiethnic nature of the sport, an important setting for groups of all backgrounds to come together in solidarity and cheer for their teams. Mr.

Chapman's exhibition was well received by the audience, many of whom remarked on the sincerity with which he captured the essential humanity of the sport.

However, this was not always the case. David Brewer, Director of Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama, took the story of baseball back into the past, a time when segregation forced African Americans to play in a separate league of their own—what would come to be called the Negro Leagues. Mr. Brewer showed original photographs from the archives of Rickwood Field that provided a stark contrast to those of Mr. Chapman: instead of the colorful intermixing of fans in the stands of today, we find segregated stands for whites and blacks, who would often be relegated to limited space off in a far corner of right field.

Another photo of the Birmingham Black Barons, a team in the Negro Leagues, depicts a young Willie Mays and his teammates enjoying the game despite the immense obstacles they faced from institutionalized racism. Indeed, panelist Reggie Howard, a former Negro League player and historian, pointed out that the Negro Leagues were well organized, serious about their love for the game, and filled with talented players, far from their second-rate depiction in popular culture. Such accomplishments are undoubtedly all the more impressive within a society that rejected the Negro Leagues' legitimacy

as a professional sports organization.

Yet times would change, and with the repeal of segregation laws in the 1950s baseball gradually became more open and welcoming to all. The popularity of the game would grow as communities crossed old racial boundaries to support their teams. Richard Johnson, Curator of the Sports Museum of New England, reflected on the great changes in the game that mirrored those of society, especially in the New England area. The integration of baseball would become a powerful symbol of the civil rights movement as it swept across the United States, and in this sense, the sport helped unite a nation during a time of great change and tension.

After having a lively discussion with the audience over many of the themes explored that evening, panelists and attendees headed over to Ticknor Lounge for a catered reception on behalf of the Foundation. Much to the approval of all involved, baseball-themed refreshments were provided. Whether fans of the game or simply those interested in such rich history, individuals of all backgrounds chatted over hot dogs and pretzels, strolling amongst Bill Chapman's beautiful photographs displayed on easel. If Mr. Chapman had taken a photograph of the moment, he no doubt would have captured the essence of what baseball is truly about.

*-Justin Banerdt '13*



(Left): Mr. Reggie Howard, former Negro League baseball player and historian, speaks to the crowd of students, faculty, and members of the community at Harvard. (Right): A panel discussion about baseball's historic past is held with Mr. Bill Chapman, Mr. Richard Johnson, Mr. Reggie Howard, and Mr. David Brewer serving as speakers. Panel moderated by Dr. Steven Biel.

## Harvard Foundation Writer's Series Presents Wayetu Moore

The Harvard Foundation, in co-sponsorship with the Association of Black Harvard Women (ABHW) and the Harvard African Students Association (HASA), hosted a discussion with acclaimed author Wayetu Moore on Friday, April 29. Ms. Moore received her BA from Howard University and an MA in creative writing from the University of Southern California, is The Coup Magazine's former publisher and editor, and authored an original off-broadway play *A Girl of Faith*. However, she is perhaps best known as co-founder of One Moore Book, which "provides culturally sensitive and educational stories that highlight the lives of children of countries with significantly low literacy rates." This literature both provides children with the opportunity to engage with narratives similar to their own and that may not be visible in the children's book industry, and lets them explore cultures from elsewhere in the world.

Ms. Moore's story began in Liberia, where as a small child she and her family had to flee their home after the outbreak of civil war. One of the few things she carried with her was a notebook in which she began to write her story. Liberia, like many developing nations, suffers from crippling illiteracy, and while

Ms. Moore and her family found success in America through education, many of these children would never learn to read and write. The few books that were available were often donated from Western countries with cultures very different from their own. This is where One Moore Book steps in, providing Liberian school children with colorful books that are about topics that the kids can connect to. Founded just a year ago, One Moore Book is partnering with the Liberian Literacy Foundation (LLF) to help raise national literacy rates.

After an inspiring account of her journey, Ms. Moore had the chance to chat with the audience. The timing of the event proved poignant, as Liberian President Ellen Sirleaf would be giving the commencement address the next month. This sparked a deeper discussion that highlighted not

only illiteracy but also other deep social and political issues affecting Liberia today. Turning once again to her work, Ms. Moore revealed that the next cycle of the series would be focused on Haiti. But One Moore Book not only reaches out to children internationally—the organization is working with immigrant communities within the United States as well.

A book signing brought the event to a memorable close as eager students lined up to receive signed copies of some of her most recent work, including: *J is for Jollof Rice*, *1 Peking*, *My Little Musu*, *A Gift for Yole*, *I Love Liberia*, and *Jamonghoie*.  
-Justin Banerdt '13

Photograph: Author Wayetu Moore meets with Harvard students and generously signs copies of her latest work.



## Harvard Foundation Film Series Presents *Desigirls*

On the evening of Saturday, April 23, in Sever Hall, the Harvard Foundation Film Series collaborated with the South Asian Association and the Queer Students and Allies (QSA) Events and Outreach Committee to welcome director Ishita Srivastava to Harvard and screen her recent documentary, *Desigirls*. Ms. Srivastava received her master's degree in Cinema Studies and documentary production at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where she directed and edited *Desigirls* in May 2009. The film is framed around a DJ named Ashu who runs Sholay productions, a company that throws social events for queer South Asians in New York City. Using Sholay productions as a lens through which to observe her subject, Srivastava explores how first and second-generation South

Asian Americans grapple with issues of sexuality through a series of interviews with members from the community.

*Desigirls* emphasizes that lesbianism tends to come under particular scrutiny and scorn among South Asians in New York. The film follows the stories of three lesbian South Asian women, "A," Priyanka, and Ishita herself as they struggle with accepting their sexuality and finding partners. "A" for example reported physical and verbal abuse from her parents when she was caught with girlfriends. Priyanka discussed how her Indian parents would allow her brothers to freely participate in American dating culture but dragged her to South Asian community events to meet men deemed appropriate for her. Others seemed to have had easier times accepting their

own orientation and finding acceptance from their families. The film suggests potential reasons for differences in the queer experience among South Asians in America may come from immigration status (South Asians brought up in India versus recent immigrants or first generations), gender (lesbianism versus male homosexuality), variant degrees of paternalism or sexism in South Asian culture, income level, religion, or even country of origin.

At the conclusion of the screening, Ms. Srivastava articulately answered several questions from the audience while attendees snacked on delicious Indian food provided by the co-sponsoring organizations.

-Alexa Rahman '12

## Harvard Foundation Honors Native American Leader Winona LaDuke



The Harvard Foundation was delighted to join the Harvard College Women's Center in welcoming back to campus distinguished alumna Winona LaDuke '82, executive director of both Honor the Earth and White Earth Land Recovery Project. Ms. LaDuke was a special guest of the Harvard College Women's Center to be recognized for her outstanding leadership.

Ms. LaDuke has a special status at the Harvard Foundation. She was the first Harvard College undergraduate student hired by Director Dr. Counter, as a student intern. She worked at the Harvard Foundation from 1981 to 1983 and contributed immeasurably to the building of relationships of Harvard College students of all backgrounds and the Harvard Foundation. Among the first student-initiated programs at the Harvard Foundation was a panel discussion sponsored jointly with the Harvard Law School, titled "The Rights of Indigenous People."

Throughout her time of association with the Harvard Foundation, Ms. LaDuke exhibited superb leadership skills, admirable intelligence, and impressive civility in her work. After graduation from Harvard, she remained active in Native American politics and communities throughout the country. In 1996 and 2000, she joined the ticket of U.S. presidential candidate Ralph Nader as the vice presidential candidate in a bid for the White House. As an alumna of Harvard College, Winona LaDuke has represented Harvard well, and we are very proud of her.

## Student Initiated Programs Sponsored by the Harvard Foundation

The Harvard Foundation collaborates with and provides grant funding to over 80 undergraduate cultural, ethnic, and religious organizations each semester. This section contains highlights of student-initiated programs and projects from the Spring 2011 semester.

## Harvard Students Sponsor Mental Health Awareness Event

On Monday, April 25, students from a multitude of cultural backgrounds gathered to address the implications of race, gender, and sexuality in regards to mental health at an event co-sponsored by the Asian American Association (AAA), Fuerza Latina, Black Students Association (BSA), Queer Students Association (QSA), Gay Lesbian or Whatever (GLOW), Harvard African Students Association (HASA), Association of Black Harvard Women (ABHW), Latino Men's Collective (LMC), and the Black Men's Forum (BMF).

Studies at Harvard found that many students who self-report depression were among minority groups, but these ethnic minority groups are the least likely to utilize the

psychological services available at the school. Dr. Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, started the event by stating, "We have great people here to serve you." Sam Myer '12, peer counselor for PCC and former co-director of the Student Mental Health Liaisons for Mather House, cited Harvard's available resources as well and shared that all of these resources were easily accessible at one website: <http://www.harvardsmiles.com>

However, while the university boasts a wealth of resources, there still remains the irreconcilable fact that many students do not seek or take advantage of these programs.

Students began brainstorming methods for ways to address the need to prioritize mental health and self preservation. They cited the challenge of changing the way many students view UHS in a negative light. Students agreed that PAFs should be reutilized to give freshmen a safe space and person to trust, because students may not always want to tell their entire story over and over again to numerous people in their search for help. Finally, students agreed that there must be a push for the mentality that if a student sees something, he or she should speak up -- that as students, they must not let peers suffer on their own watch.

-Soyoung Kim '14

## How to End Gang Violence in America

How does one approach the increasingly complex challenge of tackling the issue of gang violence in communities across the nation? On April 11, 2011, students and faculty gathered to discuss this issue in "How to End Gang Violence in America," an interactive discussion focusing on sustainable approaches to decreasing gang-related violence whilst empowering communities in susceptible areas. Mr.

Christopher Yanov, the keynote speaker, touched upon lessons learned while founding Reality Changers – a mentorship organization focused on increasing first-generation student attendance in universities. Moderated by Jesse Sanchez '13, the discussion highlighted the ineffectiveness of traditional gang prevention programs that merely focus on "prevention, intervention, and suppression."

Instead, dialogue emphasized constructive and positive approaches such as Yanov's "provide, understanding, and transcend" mantra. The well-attended event in Adams House was cosponsored by eight student groups from the Harvard Foundation's Student Advisory Committee and gave members of the respective groups a space to share their experiences and perspectives on topics related to gang violence.

-Abdul Ly '13

## Race Relations Advisor Activity Reports

The Harvard Foundation oversees the race relations advisor/tutor program, which aims to help promote positive and amicable relationships within the Harvard College community on a day-to-day level. Race Relations Advisors are House and first-year residence tutors and proctors. The responsibilities of the House Race Relations Advisors and Harvard Yard Freshman Proctors include facilitating discussions, coordinating House programs on race relations, and offering guidance during incidents of racial and ethnic conflict and distress. We are pleased with the effect and outcomes of these programs and the cooperation of the tutors who serve as House Race Relations Advisors.

### *Ethics in Medical Research* Quincy House

We collaborated with Wellness Tutors and pre-medicine advisers in Quincy House to teach students about issues related to potential racism and exploitation in research studies, in light of the recent exposure of the 1940s experiments in Guatemala. We discussed the Tuskegee syphilis experiment in the U.S. and the medical experiments in Nazi Germany conducted during World War II. We also spoke with students about the importance of Human Subjects protocols to prevent potential exploitation of marginalized groups in scientific research. The discussion proved to be very interesting and engaging for students.

### *Forum Theater* Freshman Dormitories in Harvard Yard

Forum Theater is a type of theater that promotes dialogue about controversial topics in a safe space. The purpose of this event was to allow students to discuss difficult issues and understand each other's perspectives. The students of Holworthy Middle (along with some of their friends) attended this event. There were 15 students in attendance. It was moderated by an upperclassman, Naseemah Mohamed, and lasted about 90 minutes. Students discussed issues including offensive racial humor and roommate dynamics. It was very well received and students actually asked if we could do more next year.

### *Wing Night Discussions* Mather House

We hosted several Wing Nights at the pub. The purpose of these discussions was to bring students from different backgrounds together to discuss specific issues of diversity, particularly dating. The events were moderated by freshmen. We focused on interracial, intercultural, interreligious, and inter-class dating. We also had a special conversation about interracial dating in the LGBTQ community. The events were well attended (5 – 20 students) and students provided good feedback. They particularly enjoyed the diversity of the attendees. Freshmen said they rarely get a chance to speak to students about such controversial issues with students from different ethnic/cultural groups.

## Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy Continued through Father Gregory Boyle's Work

In collaboration with the Black Students Association and Memorial Church, the Harvard Foundation commemorated the legacy of the compassionate service of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on February 7, 2011. In honor of Dr. King's legacy, the organizations hosted a community-wide reception followed by a keynote speech and brief service by gang youth humanitarian Father Gregory Boyle of Homeboy Industries.

Invoking Dr. King's call to service, Father Gregory Boyle delivered a well-received keynote address that stressed that "kindness is the only strength there is." Within the same hour, Father Boyle's sermon stirred both joyful laughter and reflective tears from an attentive crowd that filled the pews of Memorial Church. Expanding upon his opening statement that "we are a whole lot more than the worst we've ever done," Father Boyle

recounted many stories of tragedy and triumph endured throughout his years with Homeboy Industries. A dynamic speaker, and noted humanitarian, Father Boyle's book, *Tattoos of the Heart*, stressed the importance of putting a human face to a neglected poor subgroup in dire need, the gang youth of Los Angeles. His books were made available for purchase at the event, with all proceeds going to charitable causes.

Based in the heart of downtown Los Angeles, Homeboy Industries is the country's largest gang intervention, rehabilitation, and ex-gang member economic empowerment program. The ambitious intervention program serves approximately 12,000 clients each year, with the motto "Nothing stops a bullet like a job." Homeboy offers services including free mental health services, free tattoo removal, a charter school,

and quite interestingly, job placement in their in-house entrepreneurial endeavors—including Homeboy Bakery and Homeboy Café.

Father Boyle closed his speech in hopes that the glimpses of people's lives conveyed through the shared stories would help us discover a common sense of humanity. Furthermore, Father Boyle expressed his hopes for a community of kinship that recognized that "we belong to each other." The staff and interns of the Harvard Foundation hope to carry forward Father Boyle's message of compassionate humanity and unbiased public service.

-Miguel Garcia '12

## 2011 Annual David Aloian Memorial Dinner at Historic Quincy House



On the evening of May 3, 2011, the Harvard Foundation honored students and faculty for exceptional contributions to improving intercultural and race relations at Harvard College. Fifty students, two Race Relations Tutors, a distinguished faculty member, and a distinguished administrator were presented with awards at the annual Harvard Foundation Student/Faculty Awards Ceremony and David Aloian Memorial Dinner, held in Quincy House.

Dr. Arthur Kleinman, Esther and Sidney Rabb Professor of Anthropology and Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, was honored with the 2011 Distinguished Faculty Award. Through a career spanning more than 40 years, Dr. Kleinman has explored the intersection between psychiatry, anthropology, and culture, most especially in Chinese society. As a psychiatrist, medical anthropologist, and caregiver, his work exemplifies the Harvard Foundation's mission to "improve our common life," and as a mentor he has provided guiding inspiration to countless students.

Dr. Susan Marine was also honored with a special certificate of recognition for her notable work with the Harvard College Women's Center. The certificate acknowledges the immense respect she has gained from faculty and students alike in her efforts to create a welcoming, supportive environment at

the Women's Center for individuals of all backgrounds. Dr. Marine's steadfast support and mentorship of student efforts to improve gender life on campus will always be remembered—her presence in the Harvard community will be greatly missed.

Faculty, administrators, House Masters, and students nominated the student award recipients, who were then chosen by the faculty and student advisory committee of the Harvard Foundation. Students who have shown, during the entire course of their undergraduate years, outstanding commitment to improving intercultural life at the College and even beyond the University received Distinguished Senior Awards. Harvard Foundation Insignia Awards were given to students who have displayed a sustained effort to improving racial and ethnic harmony at the College. The Foundation also recognized students who have made notable contributions to the intercultural life at Harvard College with Certificates of Recognition.

Kevin Liu '11 was elected by fellow students to receive the Harvard Foundation Peer Recognition Award for commendable leadership, and Race Relations proctor Gregory Rudolph and tutor Sherry Deckman of Adams House, were also recognized with awards for their intercultural initiatives in the residence halls. Dr. Counter presented the Distinguished Senior Awards to

Elizabeth Eze, Amaka Uzoh, Sara Zaidi, Spencer Hardwick, Abdelnasser Rashid, Vidya Viswanathan, Marco Chan, Tiffany Smalley, and Kevin Liu, to honor their outstanding contributions to undergraduate student activities and four years of dedicated service to the Harvard Foundation's mission of promoting intercultural and race relations.

*-Justin Banerdt '13*

*Photographs: 1.) Race Relations proctor Gregory Rudolph and Race Relations tutor Sherry Deckman honored for their work. 2.) Dr. S. Allen Counter awards Dr. Arthur Kleinman with the Distinguished Faculty of the Year Award. 3.) Dr. Susan Marine honored for years of service to Harvard as Director of the Harvard College Women's Center. 4.) Bianca Okafor '14 and Soyoung Kim '14 coordinate the awards dinner. 5.) Students and faculty members are honored for their work promoting intercultural and race relations on campus. 6.) Dr. Counter and Dr. Kleinman celebrate the work of Harvard's distinguished seniors. 7.) The members of the head table at the Annual David Aloian Memorial Dinner celebrate the achievements of the Harvard community. 8.) Dr. Bruce Price speaks to the crowd. 9.) Harvard Foundation intern Kevin Liu '11 is honored with the Peer Recognition Award. 10.) Mr. David Evans advises students on how to make a difference in their community at Harvard and beyond.*

## 2011 Annual David Aloian Memorial Dinner at Historic Quincy House



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## 2011 Harvard Foundation Award Recipients

**Distinguished Senior Award:** Marco Chan, Elizabeth Eze, Spencer Hardwick, Kevin Liu, Abdelnasser Rashid, Tiffany Smalley, Amaka Uzoh, Vidya Viswanatha, Sara Zaidi

**Insignia Award:** Jessica Ch'ng, Christen Brown, Miguel Garcia, Hiroko Kumaki, Athena Lao, Reshma Lutfeali, Olamide Oladipo, Beverly Pozuelos, Alexa Rahman, Tia Ray, Nicolas Roth, Emma Wang

**Certificate of Recognition:** Ablorde Ashigbi, Yoseph Ayele, Daniel Balmori, Yolanda Borquaye, Chelsea Celistan, Hania Chima, Edward Escalon, Nadia Farjood, Octabio Garcia, Rachel Gholston, Hannah Habte, Laura Herrera, Akunna Iheduru, Soyoung Kim, Shanti Kris, Eric Lu, Elizabeth Matamoros, Tierney Morikawa, Yohei Oka, Bianca Okafor, Shankar Ramaswamy, Karla Reyes, Candance Samuel, Jesse Sanchez, Rajiv Tarigopula, Sofia Velazquez, Jessica Villegas



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## Monthly Student/Faculty Advisory Committee Meetings

The spring semester of the Student Advisory Committee kicked off with another record-breaking grant cycle. In total, \$57,095 was requested by a total of 45 SAC groups. We reviewed a total of 177 grants, with an average per-grant request of \$323. Over the course of both semesters, the SAC awarded nearly \$50,000 to SAC groups, and we hope to increase this number in the future as more funds become available.

As in the fall, the SAC met on the first Wednesday of every month in the spring. Our first meeting took place on Wednesday, February 9th, at 8 am in the PBHA Parlor Room. In the midst of preparing for our annual Cultural Rhythms show in the spring, our February meeting saw a special guest appearance by Race Relations Tutors from the Yard, Adams House, Lowell House, and Eliot House among others. Among other things, Race Relations Tutors presented to the SAC past house events that took place in the fall, events that they had planned for the spring, their goals for student participation in house cultural initiatives, and suggestions on what SAC members can

do in their houses to increase house participation in cultural events. In our group discussions, we discussed among each other suggestions for events that SAC members would like to see in their own residential communities.

During the next two meetings of the spring semester, our guest speakers presented on programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing the overall well being of students on campus, especially cultural organizations. On Wednesday, March 2, the director of the Advising Programs Office, Adela Penagos, explained the many resources that the APO has available for students to take advantage of resources beyond academic advising. She encouraged students to utilize their assigned advisors for guidance, and she also fielded suggestions for adjustments to the current advising system.

On Wednesday, April 6, Dr. Paul Barreira, the Director of Behavioral Health and Academic Counseling at University Mental Health Services, joined our meeting to discuss the state of mental health among students at the College, and resources that his

office has for students. Dr. Barreira urged SAC leaders to encourage their memberships to utilize the mental health resources available to them, despite the stigma attached to them. Dr. Barreira conducted this meeting as an informal conversation between the students in order to collect suggestions and feedback regarding mental health and mental health resources on campus.

Lastly, on May 4, 2011, the SAC board hosted its last meeting, and held elections for a new board. Justin Banerdt '13 and Yolanda Borquaye '14 were elected as Co-Chairs for the 2011-2012 board, Bianca Okafor '14 was elected Treasurer, and Leslie Montes '14 was elected Secretary.

Serving as a leader of the SAC has been one of the most rewarding and enriching experiences of my entire college career. I congratulate the new board, and I look forward to seeing the SAC continue to flourish and prosper in the future.

*Christen Brown '13*

## Harvard Foundation Student Grant Summary Reports

Each year in the fall and spring semesters, the Harvard Foundation distributes grant funding to organizations that comprise the Student Advisory Committee. Any undergraduate student organization officially recognized by Harvard College with a mission of improving race relations and promoting intercultural awareness and understanding may apply to join the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee. Once the organization has been voted in as a member of the Student Advisory Committee by a group of peer representatives and Faculty Advisory Committee members, the organization may submit grant applications for programs and projects that enlighten the Harvard community on aspects of race, culture, religion, and ethnicity.

The Harvard Foundation accepts grant applications once per semester. All complete grant requests received prior to designated deadlines are voted on in a two-stage review process. First, representatives from each of the Student Advisory Committee organizations review the grant applications during a series of grant review sessions. Under the supervision of the director of the Harvard Foundation and staff, the review process is organized by Harvard Foundation student officers, who are elected by their peers at the start of each academic year. The officers and Harvard Foundation staff make every effort to conduct the review in the most objective and comprehensive manner possible. After the Student Advisory Committee reviews all applications, members of the Harvard Foundation Faculty Advisory Committee then review the grant applications. Final funding totals for each Student Advisory Committee organization are determined, and funding is distributed.

At the end of each semester, student organizations that received grants from the Harvard Foundation are required to submit grant summaries. A diverse selection of these summaries is included in the biannual *Harvard Foundation Journal*.

### Latinas Unidas de Harvard LU-HIS Women's Event

*Consponsoring Group: Harvard Islamic Society*

This year, Latinas Unidas was very excited to host a new co-sponsored event with the Harvard Islamic Society. The previous semester, we held an event called Islamic-Latino Relations, which was one of the biggest hits of the semester, so this spring, we wanted to expand the event, and try something new, focusing on the women of both cultures. The first part of the event began with a panel of female speakers from both groups (Beverly Pozuelos and Ana Roda) who were willing to share about their cultures and religions. The moderator of the panel asked guided questions to start off, but then the members of the audience got into the groove of asking questions and creating a great discussion. The goal of this panel discussion was to foster unity between our two groups, which have many similarities due to our minority status. We discussed how each group deals with family and cultural traditions, and how to resolve the tension of maintaining your culture when living in the depths of a highly Americanized world. We wanted to provide an environment for enlightening discussions about the different (or similar) obstacles that both of our minority groups face in

today's society, and also talk about the similarities that both our groups share. After the panel discussion, there was a fun reception in which members of both groups mingled and addressed issues that they may have wanted to ask during the panel discussion. We also baked cupcakes and bonded together throughout the night. With funding from the foundation we were able to establish a newfound sisterhood bond between two seemingly different groups.

—Adrianna Stanley '13

### Harvard Polish Society Food Workshop

It is our tradition to host at least one cooking event every semester – after all, cuisine is one of the most easily recognizable (and always appreciated) aspects of Polish culture. On March 4, 2011, a group of 40 undergraduates and graduates from Harvard University gathered to prepare a selection of Polish sweets, including *nalesniki* (the delicious Polish alternative to crepes) and *paczki* (Polish doughnuts), a traditional kind of sweets prepared during Lent. The meeting had two parts: cooking in the Dunster student kitchen and eating in the Dunster Small Dining Hall. In addition to our homemade desserts, we served hot coffee and tea and a selection of generic desserts. Thanks to this wonderful workshop we were able to share our cultural traditions,

and the joy of cooking together with our American friends. Thanks to the Harvard Foundation for making this event possible!

—Malgorzata Dymerska '12

### Harvard College Kuumba Singers

#### 41st Annual Dean Archie C. Epps Spring Concert

*Co-sponsoring Group: Harvard African Student Association*

This year's Dean Archie C. Epps Spring Concert was held in Sanders Theatre, its annual venue. A group of 70 Kuumba members sang for an audience of about 1,000 in an exhibition that showcased traditional hymns, spoken word, and Negro spirituals that represented our theme, "Arise, my people." Our director, Sheldon K. X. Reid, narrated the evening for the guests, who, at certain points, got to their feet and sang and danced with us. In addition to full-choir songs, there were three small group performances—one male group, one female group, and one mixed group. The female group was particularly stunning in its rendition of an original piece by choir member Tsion Aberra '11 called "Beautiful." The Kuumband, our talented accompanying musicians, embellished our songs with jazzy saxophone and horn riffs, beautifully played string instruments, and amazing

piano and bass lines. Our drummer, still in high school, tore up the stage with a veteran talent that belied his youth. And of course, the choir was amazing. It was again a memorable night as Harvard's largest multicultural organization lit up attendees' spirits in celebration of the end of the year. Our concert was made possible through the generous donations of the Harvard Foundation, the UC, the OFA, and of course our many, kind guests. We would like to thank all of our supporters because we would not have been able to do any of it without you.

—Jason Flood '11

## Under Construction

### Spring Semester Concert, entitled "Cast Away: an A Cappella Jam"

Under Construction's Spring Semester Concert, entitled "Cast Away: An A Cappella Jam" occurred over two performances, one on the evening of March 25, the other during the afternoon of March 26, both in Adams Pool Theatre. Each concert featured a guest performance; the Friday concert featured Tufts's Christian a Cappella group Anchor, and the Saturday concert featured the professional Christian hip-hop/rap artist AMP Movement. Under Construction's performance consisted of a set-list of approximately 12 songs and an original dramatic skit. The significance of our performance lay in our unique goal, as Harvard's Christian a cappella group, of exploring Christian messages and ideas in selections from various genres, including contemporary Christian, mainstream pop, and traditional hymns. Since we did not ticket for this concert (as we were in Adams Pool Theatre and attendance for our concerts is always free), we do not have an exact number of attendees, but we estimate that between the two performances our audience comprised 150-175 community members, primarily undergraduates. We held a celebratory reception in the Adams Conservatory after our Friday concert to mark the release of our fifth studio album, "Quintessential."

—Eric Graves '14

## South Asian Men's Collective Alumni Networking Night

The event began with a few words from SAMC alumni, Tanuj Parikh '09, Roy Matthew '10, and Nimay Mehta '09. These three members who were integral to SAMC during their time here spoke about SAMC's involvement with ASHA and the role they played facilitating that relationship. In addition, they spoke about their position in the Indian community as a whole while they were students here and how they contributed to it. Thereafter they began talking about their professional paths and their plans for the future. They then moved on to talk about how they decided on these career paths and how they ultimately were able to secure their current careers. Following the casual speeches the event broke into a networking session of about 35-40 people. Drinks and appetizers were provided during this portion of the event. It seems that attendees benefited the most from this part of the event because they were able to get more targeted advice about careers and learn more about ASHA and other involvement they have had with India. This portion of the event seemed to be very valuable for underclassmen since they had virtually no contact with alumni before and took advice more seriously since most are still considering differing career paths. Overall, it seems like the event was a success. Alumni were able to get to know SAMC members and other attendees very well, and to such a degree that they would feel comfortable contacting one another. Our primary goal of this event was to foster relationships between current SAMC members and alumni.

—Shahil Mehta '14

## Harvard Hong Kong Society

### Hong Kong Society Hot Pot Night

On April 2, 2001, Harvard Hong Kong Society members introduced to the students of Harvard a delicacy in Hong Kong culture. Despite it being the beginning of spring, it was still a bit chilly that Saturday night and there was nothing better than to gather over a warm dinner! Filled with all

different kinds of sliced meats, fish balls, vegetables, mushrooms, and noodles, undergraduates gathered together and shared stories. It was an amazing turnout! We ran out of food within 45 minutes! Hong Kong Society hoped to have promoted the uniqueness of our culture and to have provided a medium through which members of different cultures could get to know one another over a warm meal.

—Karen Chiu '13

## United World Club at Harvard College

### What Now? United World Club Annual Conference at Harvard College

During the first weekend of April, the United World Club held its first annual international conference, titled What Now? Reflections of a Global Privileged Community. The conference was attended by over a hundred graduates of the United World Colleges movement from universities across the United States and Canada, and was open to the entire Harvard undergraduate community. The three days of the conference included panels by recent graduates currently working in various fields where they make use of their unique international education and apply values that the organization stands for. These panels included a session with professionals in the public sector, both from NGOs and governmental agencies, and a round-table session that allowed participant to discuss possible career paths in sectors such as the arts, finance, education, international service, and public interest, over lunch. For these two sessions we had a total number of nine guest speakers.

This event was the first in its kind for the United World Club at Harvard College and we expect it to start a tradition of using undergraduates' experiences at Harvard to support and promote the UWC movement's goals. We would like to thank the Harvard Foundation for funding this event, as well as the Office of Student Life and the Student Organizations Center at Hilles for assisting us in the process.

—Gili Vidan '13

## The Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes Remembered



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1. Rev. Peter Gomes hosts the Chairman of Nobel Prize Committee on Literature, Per Wästberg. 2. Rev. Gomes attends the reinterment of Matthew Henson in Arlington National Cemetery. 3. Actress Ruby Dee, presented the 2007 Humanitarian Award by Rev. Gomes & Dr. Counter 4. Svedish Ambassador Jan Eliasson greets Rev. Gomes. 5. Conservationist Bob Nixon with Rev. Gomes. 6. Dr. Counter and Rev. Gomes with astronaut Stephanie Wilson '88. 7. Alumnus Philip DuBois with Rev. Gomes. 8. Rev. Gomes welcomes Birgitta and Erik Borg. 9. Jamaica Kincaid and Rev. Gomes. 10. Rev. Gomes' mother, Aryssa. 11. Rev. Gomes and Harvard alumni Dr. Lisa Wong and Lynn Chang. 12. Rev. Gomes is laid to rest in Plymouth, MA. 13. Rev. Gomes remembered in Memorial Church. 14. Former Harvard University President Derek Bok speaks about the contributions of Rev. Gomes. 15. Harvard University President Drew Faust honors the memory of Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes.

## The Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes Remembered (continued)



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## Student Tributes in Honor of Reverend Professor Peter J. Gomes

I attended one of Professor Gomes' famous afternoon teas hosted in his yellow house across the street from Annenberg. Professor Gomes greeted me at the door with a warm smile and a firm handshake, asking where I was from and inviting me to explore the foyer. His jovial nature and easy laugh made all of us feel welcome in his home, and the room was – as usual – filled to the brim. Walking through the rooms filled with tea and cakes as well as old portraits and antique furniture, I felt as if I was experiencing a piece of old Harvard, appreciating its beauty and grandeur. I will always remember Professor Gomes as a peaceful and warm figure on campus and his house as a wonderful melting pot for students to gather and get to know one another amongst art and sweets.

–Alexa Rahman '12

I consider myself very lucky to have met Reverend Professor Peter Gomes before his unfortunate passing. I first learned of Rev. Gomes from my freshmen proctor who at the time was a Chaplain at Memorial Church; and I must admit that I was both intimidated and amazed by the descriptions I received of Rev. Gomes. Perhaps this was because every description of Rev. Gomes evaded convention: Baptist Minister, theologian, New York Times Best selling author, Republican, black, and gay. My proctor surprised me with an invitation from Rev. Gomes to "chat." I knew it would be in regards to my difficulty adjusting to campus as a minority, first generation college student who also happened to be gay, and coming to terms with faith. It would be an experience I'd never forget. In a smooth voice marked by both Southern and British cadence, he offered me tea and chocolate; and though I was initially too uneasy to have an appetite, I accepted both out of nervousness. I cannot put my finger on exactly what it was about Rev. Gomes that comforted me, but there was something truly peaceful about being in his presence. His gracious smile evaporated my uneasiness, and within a matter of minutes I felt we had known each other for years. While difficult to explain, this encounter would be the turning point of my undergraduate career. Before I even expressed to him my concerns, he warmly assured me that I belonged at Harvard, and that Harvard belonged to me; that I could make Harvard my own. I lost track of time and we must have gone on for over an hour. He begged me to bring to him anyone that felt misfit on campus. Our session concluded with a gentle pat on my shoulder, and a statement I carry with me everywhere thereafter: "There is love for you, and all of your friends here." I am glad I believed him, and I will always cherish this moment.

–Miguel Garcia '12

## Harvard Foundation Donates 1,000 Blankets to Japan After Earthquake

The Harvard Foundation has successfully delivered a gift of over 1,000 new wool blankets to the victims of the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami in Japan on March 11, 2011. The arrival of the blankets was announced by the Director of Health and Welfare in Ibaraki Prefectural Autonomy at a site where they are being distributed to families in need.

Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation and Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School, successfully raised humanitarian funds, in the name of the Harvard Foundation, to supply the blankets and other relief items to the survivors of this natural disaster. "From the moment we learned of the tragic earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation wished to assist the survivors in some meaningful way," said Dr. Counter.

"Some years ago, I worked on a biomedical project in an earthquake-devastated area in the Andes Mountains, and I learned from this experience that one of the first relief items requested by the survivors, especially children, was a blanket to keep warm. We agreed that providing high-quality blankets would be an excellent idea, and I am pleased that I was able to acquire the funds to purchase the blankets and ship them to the affected areas in Ibaraki Prefectural Autonomy, Japan, where colleagues and officials received them for distribution to families in need."

The students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation are grateful to our Japanese associate, Ms. Hiromi Ikezawa of Ibaraki Prefecture, colleague and former student of Professor Robert Woollacott of Harvard's Organismic and Evolutionary Biology department, for organizing our "Japan Friendship Blanket Project" in Ibaraki Prefectural Autonomy.

In support of this initiative, Dr. Counter acquired a grant from the Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith Family Foundation, on behalf of their children, Trey, Jaden, and Willow, "to enable the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation to purchase needed relief items for survivors of the tragic earthquake and tsunami in Japan." Dr. Counter and the students and faculty of the Harvard Foundation, as well as their associates in Japan, are thankful to the Smith family for their act of heartfelt kindness and generosity toward our friends in Japan. We are also grateful for the support of FedEx and its CEO, Fredrick W. Smith, who kindly agreed to transport the blankets from the manufacturer in the U.S. to Tokyo, gratis.

*Photos: 1.) Professor Robert Woollacott and Dr. Counter join the students of the Harvard Foundation to send relief to Japan after the earthquake/tsunami. 2.) Dr. Masayoshi Knai & Ms. Hiromi Ikezawa distributed the blankets to the victims of the disaster in Japan. 3.) The blankets arrive in Japan. 4.) The blankets are distributed to the people in the affected areas of Japan.*



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