



The HARVARD FOUNDATION Newsletter

SPRING 1994

VOL. XIII, NO. 2

Mary Robinson, President of Ireland, Honored by Harvard Foundation

On Thursday, March 10, the Harvard Foundation and the Harvard Irish Cultural Society hosted a reception and dinner in honor of President Mary

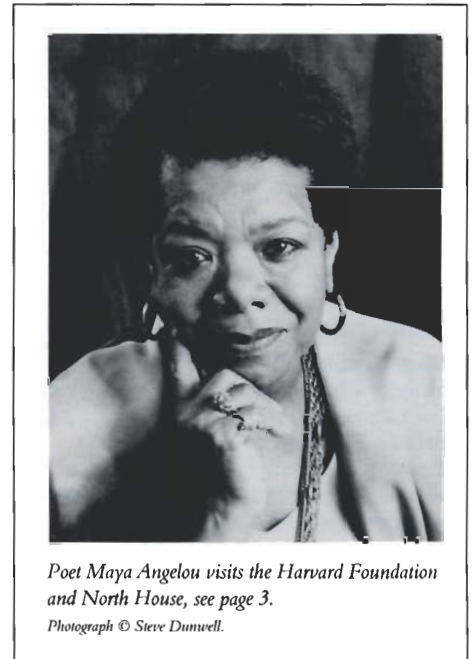
Robinson of Ireland at Winthrop House. The President and Mr. Robinson were announced at the reception by Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Founda-

tion, with a flourish of trumpets and the Irish national anthem played by students Bill Cook '95, Duane Stewart '95, B.J. Priester '96, and Camaron O'Connor '94. Cambridge Mayor Kenneth Reeves '72 welcomed the distinguished guests to Cambridge, presenting President Robinson with a key to the

(Continued on page 2)



President Mary Robinson receives the Harvard Foundation Award for her outstanding contributions to Public Service, Human Rights and Intercultural Relations.



Poet Maya Angelou visits the Harvard Foundation and North House, see page 3.

Photograph © Steve Dunwell.

Harvard Students Receive Awards for Race Relations Efforts

On Tuesday, April 26, the Harvard Foundation honored 18 undergraduates for their contributions to interracial understanding and cultural awareness at the University. The award dinner is presented annually in memory of David Aloian who served as Master of Quincy House and Executive Director of the Harvard Alumni Association during his tenure at Harvard. Dr. Aloian and his wife, Mimi, were early supporters of the goals and endeavors of the Harvard Foundation. The dinner is co-sponsored by Dr. Michael Shinagel, Master of Quincy House and Dean of the Harvard Extension School.

One student, **Jennifer D. Talbot '94**, nominated by the Director, Dean of Har-

(Continued on page 2)



Student Harvard Foundation awards recipients stand with faculty. First row (left to right): Dr. Michael Shinagel, Jennifer Talbot '94 (Director's Award recipient), Phillip Hyungjin Chang '94. Second Row: Melissa Kwee '94, Hyewon Teresa Chong '95, Finlay Lewis '94. Third Row: Xavier Alvarez Gutierrez '95, Richard Garcia '95, Inie Park '95, Sara LaRoche '95, and L. Fred Jewett, Dean of Harvard College. Fourth Row: Kimberley Pattillo '96, Anurima Bhargava '96, Kelley A. M. Bowdren '94, Alvin Bragg, Jr. '95, Scott Michael Finn '94, Blanca Estella Torres '94, and Dr. S. Allen Counter.

Mary Robinson*(Continued from page 1)*

City. President Robinson was then serenaded by the Kuumba singers, who sang a short repertoire of songs with a common theme of public service. Heather Feldmeth '94 also delighted guests with her Irish harp playing. Both the President and the audience appeared to thoroughly enjoy the performances. After thanking the student performers and guests, the President mingled very freely with students, faculty and staff, greeting them warmly.

After the reception, guests repaired to a formal dinner in the Winthrop House Dining Hall where the Callbacks, an a cappella

In this issue:

Mary Robinson, President of Ireland Honored/1; Students Receive Awards for Race Relations Efforts/1; Distinguished Author, Poet, Humanitarian Dr. Maya Angelou Lauded/3; L.A. County Supervisor Gloria Molina Advocates Community Leadership/4; Author Wendy Law-Yone Visits Harvard/5; Harvard Foundation Honors Dr. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr./6; Harvard Foundation Rewards Faculty and Staff Contributions to Race Relations/7; Andy Garcia Hosts Cultural Rhythms '94/8; Annual Student Leadership Workshop/12; Students Meet with Dean of FAS Jeremy Knowles about Ethnic Studies/13; STUDIES sponsors Ethnic Studies Teach-in/14; Cinco de Mayo Feast/15; Caribbean Carnival/15; HASA Sponsors an Conference on Africa/15; Intercollegiate Asian American Conference/16; Presentation of *The Legend of the Bluebonnet*/16; Eid Celebration/16; BSA and HILLEL Discussion/16; Actor Russell Wong Visits/17; Speaker on Post-war Iraq/17; Vietnamese Dance Performance/17; Discussion on Peace in the Middle East/18; South Asian Journal/18; Kuumba Mid-winter Concert/18; Korean Drumming/18; Black Faculty Reception/18; Art Exhibit on Vietnam/19; Black C.A.S.T. Performance/19; Panel Discussion on Ethnicity/19; Chinese New Year Banquet/19; *Revival Magazine*/19; *Kathak* Dance Classes/20; AAA Film Festival/20; Publication on Latino Issues/20; Japan Weekend/20; Second Year for *Roots & Culture*/20; Address by Rigoberta Menchú/21; CSA Dessert Party/21; Production of *A House Divided*/21; South Asian Regional Dinner/21; Latino Cultural Night/22; Conference on South Asia/22; Indian Film Screening/22; Black-Latino Forum/22; Al Sharpton Lectures/23; Ballet Folklórico Recital/23; Manuel Salazar Exhibit/23

group, delighted dinner guests. Dr. Counter then introduced the President to the gathering of Harvard students, faculty and administrators. He reminded them of President Robinson's compassionate work in Somalia and her long-standing dedication to individual rights and the bridging of religious and economic divides within her native Ireland. Before her election, the President had previously been a senator in the upper chamber of the Irish parliament and a lawyer who had successfully presented cases concerning human rights and individual freedom to the European Court of Justice. It was clear that many in the Harvard audience admired President Robinson both for her attempts to enhance the welfare of the community and for her personal achievement in becoming the first female president of Ireland. President Robinson was then presented with the Harvard Foundation award for her outstanding contributions to public service, human rights and intercultural relations.

Upon receiving this honor, the President gave a speech about her early experiences at Harvard Law School. She came to Harvard in 1968, "a somewhat climactic year." She touched upon both what it was like at Harvard at that time—when everything seemed

to be open to question and society was changing rapidly—and the excitement she felt at coming to Harvard from a rural part of Ireland. President Robinson said that she had been profoundly influenced by her Harvard experience and that it had affected the goals of her subsequent life in public service.

After dinner, brief speeches were made by the President of the Irish Cultural Society, Laurence Byrne '95; the Director of the Harvard International Office, Seamus Malin; the chair of the Celtic Department, Professor Patrick Ford; the Foundation representative for the Irish Cultural Society, Inie Park '95; and the Co-chair of the Foundation's Student Advisory Committee, Osvaldo Rubio '95. The speakers mentioned the significance of the President's visit for the Irish community at Harvard, for the Harvard community in general, and the inspiring example that she set for future Harvard graduates.

The Irish Cultural Society would like to thank all those who so generously contributed their time and effort, and especially the President herself for being so open-hearted towards the Harvard community.

—Laurence Byrne '95

Harvard Students Receive Awards*(Continued from page 1)*

vard College and her House Master, received the Harvard Foundation Director's Award for her outstanding contributions to the improvement of race relations and

intercultural life of the University. Her efforts to improve racial and cultural awareness were channeled through her undying commitment in theater productions and the annual Cultural Rhythms festival.

Students receiving the award were **Anurima Bhargava** '96, **Kelly A. M. Bowdren** '94, **Alvin Bragg, Jr.** '95, **Philip Hyungjin Chang** '94, **Hyewon Teresa Chong** '95, **Richard García** '95, **Xavier Alvarez Gutierrez** '95, **Scott Michael Finn** '94, **Melissa Kwee** '94, **Sara LaRoche** '95, **Finlay Lewis** '94, **Inie Park** '95, **Kimberley Pattillo** '96, **Osvaldo**



Recipients of the first annual Mack I. Davis II Award (from bottom left) Dat T. Lu '95 and Annette Kazmerski '95 stand with Dr. Rochelle Lazerson Davis, (back row left to right) Dean L. Fred Jewett, Dr. S. Allen Counter, and Dr. Michael Shinagel, Master of Quincy House and Dean of the Extension School.

Rubio '95 and **Blanca Estela Torres '94**. The awards were presented by Dr. S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation; Dr. Michael Shinagel, Master of Quincy House; and Dean Fred Jewett.

The dinner also hosted the first presentation of the **Mack I. Davis II Award**, which acknowledges the efforts of individuals who have demonstrated a remarkable personal commitment to community service and to facilitating issues of diversity. Created in memory of the commitment of the former Assistant Dean of Harvard College, the

award supports a summer experience that might include travel, volunteer internships, or other life enriching activities. Dr. Rochelle Lazerson Davis, wife of the late Mack I. Davis II, presented the first awards to **Dat T. Lu '95** and **Annette Kazmerski '95**.

A number of students received Honorable Mention for their work on the Cultural Rhythms Festival. Students deserving Honorable Mention were: **Solita Alexander '97**, **Marie Alfaro '97**, **Derrick Ashong '97**, **Kurtis Auguste '96**, **Michelle**

Baldon '97, **Jonathan Bell '97**, **Monica Coleman '95**, **Holly Foster '97**, **Kofi Kankam '97**, **Andrea Lewis '97**, **Nancy Maldonado '97**, **Paul Martín '94-95**, **Justin Massengale '96**, **Linda Maxwell '96**, **Rotonya McCants '97**, **Nivedita Misra '94**, **Odoi Odotei '97**, **Amanda Proctor '97**, **Alynda Wheat '96**, and **Carlos Whiteman '95**.

—*Andrea N. Taylor '95*
and *Paul Martín '94-'95*

(See related article on page 7.)

Distinguished Author, Poet, and Humanitarian Dr. Maya Angelou Lauded

On Monday, February 7, the Harvard Foundation and North House hosted Dr. Maya Angelou, distinguished author of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *On the Pulse of Morning*. A reception and luncheon that gathered more than 150 students, faculty, and Friends of the Foundation, were held in the North House Moors Terrace Room and Dining Hall to honor this inspiring literary genius.

Dr. Angelou—showered by camera flashes and excited smiles—greeted her admirers at the Moors Terrace Room reception, and a sense of awe seemed to permeate the room. She immediately captivated her audience by delivering an inspiring piece of poetry. In response, one first-year student sought the comfort of a friend's shoulder, tears running down her cheeks.

The piece was very much in the vein of

On the Pulse of Morning, which she recited at President Bill Clinton's inauguration. She reminded her multi-ethnic audience of a particularly important and appropriate message: "you have all been paid for" by the efforts of those that came before you. When asked about the feelings that the poem inspired in him, one third-year student responded: "It made me reflect on the past [and current injustices] that have been doled out to Blacks, women, Asians, Jews, the Irish, those who are 'different,' and realize that indeed we have all been paid for, and that in many ways the struggle continues."

Immediately following the reception, the guests moved to North House's Dining Hall where the honorary guest, surrounded by student leaders and University officials, again left her mark on many hearts and minds. Opening remarks were made by Dr.

S. Allen Counter, Director of the Harvard Foundation, who presented Dr. Angelou with the Harvard Foundation Award for her outstanding contributions to American Literary Arts and Intercultural Relations. Welcoming speeches were given by Professor J. Woodland Hastings, Master of North House, and Lawrence Buell, Dean of Undergraduate Education. Later, Cambridge Mayor Kenneth Reeves '72 presented Dr. Angelou with the Key to the City. She then captivated the audience by her recitation of a medley that she delivered in no fewer than five languages. In her keynote address, Dr. Angelou challenged the company of men and women to read, to:

go to the library, familiarize yourselves with those stacks.... Say to [the librarian], Dr. Angelou encouraged me to

(Continued on page 4)



Dr. Angelou signs the official University guest book, attended by Tonya Osborne '95; Dr. Richard Hunt, University Marshall; Belynda Bady, International Visitor Programs Coordinator, and Andrea Taylor '95.



Dr. Angelou is greeted by members of IMANI, Anita Williams '95, Mary Baker '95, Tonya Osborne '95 and Harvard Foundation Interns Angela Sun '96 and Andrea Taylor '95, upon her arrival in Cambridge.



Dr. Angelou chats with students at the reception held in her honor at North House.

Maya Angelou

(Continued from page 3)

come to you because I really don't know anything about Bengal; I'd like to know more about Rabindranath Tagore. Help me [to understand]...Go there men and women! It is your life. It's not your mama's; it's not your papa's; it's not your preacher's, or your teacher's, or your rabbi's, or your priest's; it's not your boyfriend's, or your girlfriend's—this is your life! And this is your only life...this is all you've got.

Dr. Angelou's inspirational remarks received a standing ovation. Her visit to the University presented testament to the perseverance of inner strength and virtue. The vigor of her personality, mirrored in the strength of her work, satiates those who are thirsty for inspiration. The Harvard Foundation would like to thank North House and the many students who made Dr. Angelou's visit a memorable occasion.

—Carlos R. Whiteman '95

L.A. County Supervisor Gloria Molina Advocates Community Leadership

On Monday, March 7 the Harvard Foundation, Cabot House and RAZA (the Mexican American students' association) hosted a reception and luncheon in honor of Gloria Molina, Los Angeles County Supervisor. The reception, which was held in the Cabot House Living Room, provided students, faculty, and alumni an opportunity to speak with Ms. Molina and to learn more about her experiences as a Mexican American woman in Los Angeles politics. Ms. Molina, pleased to share her experiences, spoke forcefully and poi-

gnantly of her struggle to become a political leader.

At the luncheon, Ms. Molina received the Harvard Foundation Award for her notable contributions to Government, Public Service and Intercultural Relations. Student leaders praised the example Ms. Molina offered as a community member striving to make a difference for all Angelenos. Kim Pattillo '96, co-chair of the Student Advisory Committee of the Harvard Foundation and a native of Los Angeles, welcomed Ms. Molina to Harvard. She also spoke about a Los Angeles whose changing face and topography challenge the perception of equality and diversity. Xavier Gutierrez '95, President of RAZA also welcomed Ms. Molina on behalf of the Mexican American and Latino students on campus who, according to Mr. Gutierrez, see Ms. Molina as a positive force in the greater Latino community. Finally, Steve Lim '97, vice president of the Asian American Association (also from Los Angeles), spoke about how he was inspired by Ms. Molina's example as a community leader.

Ms. Molina expanded on the theme of leadership in her remarks. Leadership, she said, was a quality inspired in her by others. She stressed that all of us must strive to be role models to others, whether it is by devoting one's whole life to public service



Supervisor Molina with RAZA members (left to right): Andres Irlando '94, Xavier Gutierrez '95, Alex Diaz '96 and Richard Garcia '95.



Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina tours Harvard Yard with RAZA President, Xavier Gutierrez '95.

or simply by registering to vote. Ms. Molina called for minorities to participate vigorously in the political process, reminding those present that, in her experience, it is not likely that we will be handed something out of altruism. She spoke of the importance of challenging communities to question existing governmental structures if their needs are not adequately being met.

Ms. Molina also talked about the increasing diversity of Los Angeles, which poses a new challenge for politicians and policy makers. There is a need, she said, to change the characteristics of our governing structures to reflect today's changing demographics, even though it might initially be a difficult process. For example, the Latino community in Los Angeles was forced to challenge the County Board of Supervisors' districting practices, which they felt did not confer equitable representation. The community was forced to take the case to the Supreme Court. The matter was

resolved by re-evaluating and re-districting the county and resulted in the election of a Latino representative.

Ms. Molina also said representation should not be the only goal of challenging the community and existing structures. Leaders must be chosen who are sensitive to the needs of the greater community. The

diversity that makes Los Angeles such an interesting place can create ethnic and cultural problems that could be averted by the right leaders through public policy. The real challenge for cities with such varied ethnic populations is to find answers that are more than temporary solutions. Ms. Molina did not shy away from saying that these com-

munities also have a responsibility to come together and truthfully examine their different needs. Above all, Ms. Molina said students need to return after college to help their communities find solutions to the problems they face.

—Oswaldo Rubio '95

Author Wendy Law-Yone Visits Harvard

On Thursday, April 28, the Harvard Foundation, the Asian American Association (AAA) and Leverett House hosted a reception and dinner in honor of the acclaimed Burmese-born novelist, Wendy Law-Yone. Ms. Law-Yone's visit was important as it presented a talented Asian American writer who through her new book, *Irrawaddy Tango*, is attempting to draw attention to the oppressive control of a military dictatorship in her native Burma.

The event began with an elegant reception at the home of Professor John and Mrs. Judy Dowling, Co-masters of Leverett House. Ms. Law-Yone's visit drew quite a crowd of students, and she gladly answered questions about her life in Burma and her start as a writer.

At the dinner, Dr. S. Allen Counter and Professor Dowling presented Ms. Law-Yone with a medal for her contributions to literature as an Asian American writer. Guang-Shing Cheng '96 then read a short poem she wrote in honor of Ms. Law-Yone's visit. Remarks were also made by the Co-chair of

the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee Kim Pattillo '96; Co-presidents of the Asian American Association Jennifer Ching '96 and Alex Cho '96; and Chair of the Harvard Foundation Academic Affairs Committee Hyewon Chong '95.

Ms. Law-Yone read three haunting excerpts from her new book *Irrawaddy Tango*, which tells the story of an ongoing revolt against the military government in a Southeast Asian country much like Burma, through the eyes of its rebel heroine. In response to a question, using an image of increasing layers of gauze, she commented with regret that her memories of Burma were becoming less detailed with the passage of time.

Ms. Law-Yone was born in Mandalay, Burma, and grew up in Rangoon, the nation's capital city. The daughter of a newspaper publisher who was jailed as a political

offender, she was forced to come to the U.S. in 1967. Unable to obtain her school records, Ms. Law-Yone enrolled at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, under a special arrangement, and graduated a year later. She has received fellowships from the Carnegie Fellowship Endowment and the National Endowment for the Arts. Ms. Law-Yone's first novel, *The Coffin Tree*, received excellent reviews from publications such as the *New York Times Book Review*.

—Jason Chen '97 and Alex Cho '96



Ms. Law-Yone enjoys the reception with Steve Lim '97 and Jennifer Ching '96.



Wendy Law-Yone visits with Merry Jean Chan '97, Alex Cho '96 and Steve Lim '97.



Leslie Lewis '95 and Guang-Shing Cheng '96 chat with Ms. Law-Yone at the reception.

Harvard Foundation Honors Dr. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.

On Thursday, April 21, the Harvard Foundation, the Office of the Assistant to the President and Adams House hosted a reception and dinner in honor of Dr. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr. '47 former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association-College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF).

At the reception in Adams House Lower Common Room, students, faculty and community members met with Dr. Wharton and his wife, Dolores Wharton to talk about his life's work and accomplishments. Dr. Wharton has received more than 51 honorary degrees in recognition of his devotion to education, international diplomatic affairs and foreign economic development. He served on the Presidential Task Force on Agriculture in Vietnam in 1966, the State Department's panel on East Asia and the Pacific from 1966 to 1969, and the Presidential Mission to Latin America in 1969. In 1970, Dr. Wharton became the first African American to head a major U.S. public university upon assuming the presidency of Michigan State University. He also served as Chancellor of the State University in New York, the largest state university system in the country. During this time, he worked with the Presidential Commission on World Hunger and the Rockefeller Foundation's Agricultural Development Council. In 1992, he was appointed Deputy Secretary of State by

President Bill Clinton. Mrs. Wharton has also been active in the professional community. She currently serves as Chairwoman and CEO of the Fund for Corporate Initiatives, Inc., a nonprofit organization that she founded to strengthen the role of minorities and women in the corporate world.

After the reception, the 180 guests joined Dr. Wharton and his wife in the Adams House Dining Hall. Adams House Master Professor Robert Kiely formally welcomed Dr. Wharton (a former resident of Adams House) and his wife, and thanked the Harvard Foundation for promoting intercultural and interracial harmony on campus. Dr. S. Allen Counter introduced the honorary guest, citing his numerous contributions to education, business, intercultural relations, and foreign economic development. Associate Vice-President James Hoyte personally thanked the Whartons for serving as an inspiration for so many people. Later in the evening, the Kuumba Singers captivated the audience with their vibrant rendition of two spiritual pieces, and the Callbacks received an enthusiastic response for their creative presentation of two a cappella songs.

Student leaders Kim Pattillo '96, Co-chair of the Student Advisory Committee; Alvin Bragg, Jr. '95, President of the Black Students Association, and Victor Constantino '95 of Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA, presented brief remarks in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Wharton. Ms. Pattillo quoted President Neil



Dr. Wharton receives the Harvard Foundation award for his "outstanding contributions to Education, Business, International Affairs and Intercultural Relations."

L. Rudenstine in referring to Dr. Wharton as "one of the greatest talents of our times," and spoke with admiration of his integrity and dignity as a natural leader. Mr. Bragg offered an emotional, heartfelt thank you to Dr. Wharton for developing and nurturing members of the current generation. In a time when his peers are besieged with the perils of Black-on-Black crime, drug abuse and teen pregnancy, Mr. Bragg said Dr. Wharton's example gives us a reason—in the words of the Negro National Anthem—"to sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us." He concluded by saying, "We pledge to build on your leadership so that when you hand the baton of leadership over to us...we will truly be able to accept it and turn and face the rising sun of the new day begun." Victor Constantino also acknowledged Dr. Wharton for his record of service and said that Dr. Wharton's example is one to which we all should aspire.



Dean Jeremy Knowles meets with Dr. and Mrs. Wharton for a discussion with undergraduate student leaders (left to right): Alvin Bragg '95, Odoi Odotei '97, Jaja Jackson '95, Mark Erikson '94, Dr. and Mrs. Wharton, Dean Knowles, Dr. Counter, Efraim Cortés '94, Mr. David Evans, Senior Harvard Admissions Officer



Dr. Clifton Wharton stands with Community Award recipients and Harvard officials (left to right): Dr. Wharton, Mr. Tom Saltonstall, Vice-President James Hoyte, Ms. Ruth Batson, Dr. Counter, Mr. Paul Parks and Mr. David Evans, Senior Admissions Officer.

Dr. Counter then presented the Harvard Foundation Award to Dr. Wharton for his work in American education, business and intercultural relations. In his remarks, Dr. Counter lauded him as a visionary whom all students should appreciate for his outstanding accomplishments. Dr. Wharton received a standing ovation as he accepted the award.

Dr. Wharton then recounted some of his wonderful memories of Harvard, and said that although he often is asked by young people, he does not have a magic answer for achieving success. Instead, he emphasized that students must not lose sight of three very important parts of life: family, friends and followers. Under the category of friends, he stressed the importance of lifelong friendships in forming mutually supportive networks. He thanked his father, the first African American Career Ambassador, and his mother for their nurturing support. He also thanked his wife, Dolores, with whom he recently celebrated his 44th wedding anniversary. Finally, Dr. Wharton

implored students to cultivate followers in order to build and sustain one's successes, particularly in those contributions made to the community. He concluded by stating, "As I look out and see the rest of you who represent the followers, I for one recognize that you will not be followers for long because soon each and every one of you will be leaders, and Dolores and I will be out there applauding you and cheering you on."

Vice-President Hoyte and Dr. Counter then presented Harvard Foundation medallions to three area leaders as part of the Harvard Foundation's Community Recognition Program. Honorees were Ruth Batson, head of the Museum of Afro-American History; Paul Parks, Chairman of the Boston Schools Committee; and Tom Saltonstall, former Regional Director of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, in recognition of their dedicated service to promoting intercultural



Dr. Wharton greets classmates Dr. Harold May '47 and Dr. Caldwell Titcomb '47.

relations in Boston. Finally, David Evans, Senior Director of Admissions, in his closing remarks, honored Dr. Wharton as an educator and instructor who has encouraged and inspired many Americans. Affirming his respect, Evans said to him "You are my leader. You are my brother." He said that he was proud to consider Dr. Wharton an esteemed colleague.

—Hui-Kyung Tina Kim '96

Harvard Foundation Rewards Faculty and Staff Contributions to Race Relations

Faculty and staff who have devoted their energies to creating a broader understanding of the world and Harvard were honored at the annual David Aloian dinner of the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations. The event commemorates the Harvard Alumni Association Executive Director and Quincy House Master who died in 1986.

Diana Eck, Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies, and Marvin Hightower '69, Senior Writer for the Harvard University *Gazette*, were feted at the April 26 dinner in Quincy House, the occasion of the annual Student/Faculty Race Relations award ceremony. Eck, a faculty adviser to the Foundation, served as lecturer and associate professor from 1975 to 1984, when she was promoted to the rank of tenured professor. A graduate of Smith College, she earned her master's degree from the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, and her Ph.D. from Harvard in 1976.

Eck was praised for her work with



Harvard Staff Honoree Marvin Hightower is serenaded by the Radcliffe Pitches.

churches and the theological and practical issues of inter-religious dialogues, including her best-known initiative, the Pluralism Project. The Project is designed to shed light on aspects of religion and religious differences through research that documents the growth of Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Zoroastrian communities in the United States.

"Throughout the Project, Professor Eck has instilled an appreciation of this crucial juncture in the development of the American religious landscape," said Sanjay Shetty '95, Secretary to the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee. "Her vision has anticipated what is and what will become an important facet in intercultural

(Continued on page 8)

Harvard Foundation Rewards

(Continued from page 7)

relations, and her work will no doubt play an important role in fostering the understanding and cooperation that is at the core of the Foundation."

On accepting the award, Eck said that the Pluralism Project reflected her observation several years ago that the Harvard student body was becoming more and more ethnically and religiously diverse.

"I realized that I couldn't teach comparative religion the same way I had for years, because the whole texture of the class had changed," she said. "It demanded that I start learning more about the culture of the United States."

Harvard, she added, "is an incredible place to be. The opportunities for exploring pluralism are part of the challenge of this University; it is an opportunity for engagement."

Hightower was applauded for writing about Harvard for more than 20 years as a reporter for the *Gazette*.

Coming to Harvard as an undergraduate

from Washington, D.C., where he was a high school honors student in science, Hightower planned to concentrate in botany but ultimately decided on English. After working at the Boston Redevelopment Authority for four years, he joined the University News Office in 1973.

Hightower was lauded by Carlos White-man '95 as a "masterful writer and a repository of facts," as well as an expert on all matters grammatical. He was also thanked for his service on the Foundation Advisory Committee when it was formed in 1981 and for his continuous support expressed in press releases and stories about the Foundation's numerous events.

It was as a reporter, in fact, that Hightower had come to the dinner, equipped with tape recorder and notebook. Although baffled by the sight of many current and former News Office colleagues at the dinner, he had never noticed his name on the evening's printed program.

Only when Foundation Director S. Allen Counter announced that "two special

guests" had arrived from Washington, D.C., was a visibly stunned Hightower coaxed from his obscure corner offstage to the front of the room, where he saw his parents.

"As a great lover of mischief, I have to confess that this was the best and funniest trick anybody has ever played on me," Hightower said afterward. "Everybody was certain that I would find out long beforehand, but I had absolutely no clue about what was going on!"

Although typically adverse to being recognized at public events, Hightower was a good sport when the evening's entertainment, the Radcliffe Pitches, engaged him in a '60s song and dance. He also seemed to enjoy the literary entertainment provided by the News Office. A heavily rhymed homage to him recounted Hightower's dramatic appointment by John Harvard, his command of Harvard turf "from the Arboretum to WHRB," and his subsequent legendary stature.

—Courtesy of the *Harvard Gazette*



Professor Diana L. Eck receives the Harvard Foundation faculty award for her "outstanding contributions to Academia, Inter-religious and Intercultural Relations."



Osvaldo Rubio '95 makes remarks at the annual Aloian dinner.



Marvin Hightower '69 stands with parents Marvin W. and Virginia Hightower at the Aloian dinner.

Andy Garcia Hosts Ninth Annual Cultural Rhythms Festival

On Saturday, February 26, the Harvard Foundation celebrated its ninth annual Cultural Rhythms Festival with honorary guest host, distinguished actor and humanitarian Andy Garcia. The festival provides a special opportunity for Harvard students to promote awareness, understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of Harvard's diverse community. The students and faculty of the

Harvard Foundation selected Mr. Garcia as its Cultural Artist of the Year for his outstanding contributions to humanitarian causes, the performing arts and intercultural relations.

Known best for his roles in *The Untouchables*, *Internal Affairs*, *Hero*, and recently *When a Man Loves a Woman*, Mr. Garcia received Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for his role as Vincent

Mancini in *The Godfather Part III*. Mr. Garcia actively supports humanitarian efforts throughout the United States. In the wake of the devastation of Hurricane Andrew in Southern Florida in 1992, Mr. Garcia assisted in the distribution of relief supplies and co-hosted a Hurricane Relief Concert with singer Gloria Estefan and actress Whoopi Goldberg. He has also assisted various children's organizations as well as

agencies that serve individuals with AIDS.

Mr. Garcia, accompanied by his 10-year-old daughter Dominik, arrived in Boston on Saturday morning, and was greeted at the airport by Harvard Foundation Director Dr. S. Allen Counter and Paul Martín '94-'95. Dominik, a Florida native, enjoyed the novelty of playing in the snow with students Marie Alfaro '97, Michelle Baildon '97, Jennifer Talbot '94, and Paul Martín and then joined her father, Dr. Counter, and the students for breakfast at the Inn at Harvard. That afternoon, Kirkland House Masters Professor Donald and Cathleen Pfister sponsored an elegant reception and luncheon in Mr. Garcia's honor, attended by approximately 150 Harvard-Radcliffe students, faculty, and staff members. The festivities began with a light-hearted skit, organized by Odoi Odotei '97. The presentation, which featured Mr. Odotei, Maame Ewusi-Mensah '97, Holly Foster '97, Dairo Moreno '95, and Michael Schur '97, set the tone for the afternoon, emphasizing the friendly, relaxed atmosphere of community. First-year roommates Kelli English, Laurie Sheflin, and Shar Van-Boskirk, a singing trio hailed as "The Roomers," also delighted the crowd with their humorous and talented musical renditions.

At the luncheon, Dr. Counter, Xavier Gutierrez '95, president of Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA, and Kimberly Pattillo '96, Co-chair of the Student Advisory Committee, addressed the audience, and the a cappella group The Radcliffe Pitches sang a variety of whimsical and heartfelt songs.

Mr. Garcia spoke with candor about his experiences in the entertainment industry. Despite the tremendous progress that has been made over past decades in intercultural and race relations, he said that it is important not to underestimate the many obstacles and negative stereotypes that remain today. He appealed to the students not to compromise their integrity for the sake of ostensible advancement and to retain their self-respect despite the pressures they may face. Mr. Garcia recounted an



Andy Garcia receives the Harvard Foundation award as Cultural Artist of the Year for his "notable contributions to American Performing Arts and Intercultural Relations" from Dean of Harvard College L. Fred Jewett.



Andy Garcia greets Mirabel Tineo's '95 family and friends, with students Elizabeth Bernal '95 and Zaire Dinzey '95.



Mr. Garcia performs an Afro-Cuban spiritual beginning-of-ceremony chant from traditional Yoruban culture to help open the Cultural Rhythms festival.

incident occurring early in his own career in which he was offered a film role that demeaned Latino Americans. Despite his agent's insistence that he accept the exposure, and the strong possibility of advancement that the role would have offered him, he decided to decline the role. Mr. Garcia implored students to maintain dignity in the face of prejudice. After the luncheon, Mr. Garcia led the attendees from Kirkland House to Memorial Hall for the Cultural Rhythms Festival.

The show opened in Sanders Theater with a Hawaiian chant from the Harvard Foundation's Student Project Coordinator, Manu Meyer, a doctoral student in the School of Education. It continued with an array of performances from 21 different groups. Kuumba and Imani gave singing performances; the Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán, Philippine Forum, and Society of Arab Students danced beautifully; the Black C.A.S.T. put on a dramatization of James Weldon Johnson's "The Creation"; and Charles Phillips of the Black Students Association shared a poetry reading.

Mr. Garcia was then honored with the Harvard Foundation Award presented by Dean L. Fred Jewett to the warm applause of students and faculty. Linda Maxwell '97, also presented Mr. Garcia with a Harvard sweatshirt, which he promptly put on, to the delight of the audience.

Later, Student Advisory Committee co-chair Osvaldo Rubio '95 took over as the show's emcee when the performances continued in Alumni Hall during the food festival. More than 1,000 people were delighted by the festival's varied cuisine and enjoyed the performances on the Alumni Hall stage. Performers included the Irish Cultural Society the Hillel Israeli Dance Troupe, the Russian Cultural Society, the South Asian Dance Organization and the Korean Americans for Culture and Community group. More than 20 student groups presented a wide variety of ethnic cuisine. The students, many of whom were clad in the attire of their cultures, served delicacies from Africa,

(Continued on page 12)



Cultural Rhythms 1994





Andy Garcia Hosts Cultural Rhythms

(Continued from page 9)

Asia, Europe, and Latin America from brightly decorated booths.

In addition to his acting ability, Andy Garcia has also gained prominence as a filmmaker. He recently produced a documentary concert film on legendary Afro-Cuban bass player and composer Israel "Cachao" Lopez, co-creator of the mambo. Mr. Garcia presented the film *Cachao* as part of the Cultural Rhythms festivities.

The Harvard Foundation's annual festival of awareness and diversity has once again succeeded in promoting the richness in racial and cultural diversity within Harvard and in the outer community, as well as in providing valuable assistance to a number of worthy charitable organizations through the donation of its proceeds.

—Michelle Baildon '97



Andy Garcia and his daughter Dominik (right) meet Education Professor Sarah Lawrence-Lightfoot, her son Martin, and daughter Tolani.



Mr. Garcia puts on a Harvard sweatshirt presented to him by Linda Maxwell '97 as the audience cheers.

The Harvard Foundation would like to thank the coordinators and planners for the 1994 Cultural Rhythms Festival: Show Coordinators Holly Foster '97 and Nivedita Misra '94; Food Festival Coordinators Marie Alfaro '97, Anurima Bhargava '96, Andrea Lewis '97 and Inie Park '95; Publicity Coordinators Michelle Baildon '97, Jonathan Bell '97 and Justin Massengale '96; Stage Managers Solita Alexander '97 and Linda Maxwell '96; Show Consultant Jennifer Talbot '94; and the festival production staff—Derrick Ashong '97, Kofi Kankam '97, Nancy Maldonado '97, Paul Martin '94-'95, Odoi Odotei '97 and Kimberly Pattillo '96 for their diligence and effort on behalf of the Harvard Foundation's ninth annual Cultural Rhythms Festival. It was a tremendously successful event that had an audience of more than 1,200 students, faculty, staff and their families from the University community.



Andy Garcia is roasted by master of ceremonies Odoi Odotei '97 as Maame Ewusi-Mensah '97, Holly Foster '97, and first-year singing roommates Kelli English, Laurie Sheljin, and Shar VanBoskirk wait to perform their skits.



Mr. Garcia presents a lecture prior to the special Harvard screening of his new documentary film, "Cachao."

Annual Harvard Foundation Student Leadership Workshop

On April 30, Rita Nethersole '74, Director of Student Affairs at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, facilitated the annual Harvard Foundation Student Leadership Workshop, *Finding Leadership Within Yourself: A Cross-Cultural Perspective*. The workshop attracted more than two dozen minority student leaders for a discussion focusing on how leadership is sometimes affected by cultural differences that can frustrate personal

communication and interfere with business relations.

In order to better understand the difficulties in cross-cultural leadership, students participated in several exercises. First, the group was divided into three "tribes" for a language exercise in communication. Each tribe created its own language to communicate hello, good-bye, male, female, and the tribe's name using unusual sounds and sign language. Each tribe was then dispersed and

was challenged to communicate with members of different tribes.

Second, a problem-solving exercise demonstrated the difficulty of teamwork and methods of dealing with conflict. The group was divided into two teams and each team was given an incomplete maze to complete and then solve. As part of the exercise, however, each group was undermined by covert saboteurs. The exercise illustrated how the leaders present tended

to avoid and work around conflict instead of confronting it.

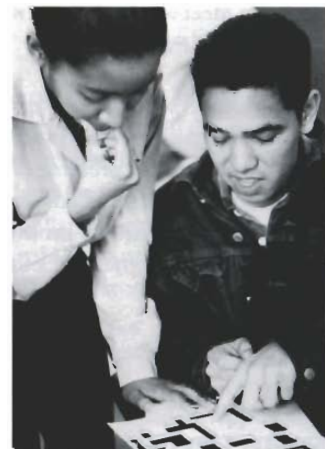
A third exercise focused on rank and power within groups and how the individual leaders dealt with it. The group was challenged to rank one another from the most important to the least important. The group, however, chose a random lottery, rather than height, SAT score, skin color or any other value-laden standard. The group was then asked to elect a spokesperson with each person allotted an inverse number of votes based on rank, with the lowest rank receiving most votes. This exercise was quickly ended, however, because the group unanimously elected a sole volunteer rather than form opposing voting groups.

The workshop opened students' minds to issues in leadership amidst diversity. By offering the students an opportunity both to listen and respond to issues not often openly addressed with respect to leadership, students were able to assimilate valuable skills that might help them in their different roles on campus. The workshop also served as a forum for student leaders to meet one another, share their experiences, and form important relationships that will aid them in the future.

—Mark Erickson '94



Kim Chainey '97 and Carmen O'Shea '97 enjoy the insights of the Leadership Workshop.



Andrea Taylor '95 works on a maze with Kurtis Auguste '96.



Rita Nethersole '74 conducts the annual Leadership Workshop



Juan Fernandez '97, Mark Erickson '94 and Merry Jean Chan '97 "talk" using new language created at the Leadership Workshop.

Students Meet with Dean of FAS Jeremy Knowles about Ethnic Studies

On March 24, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Jeremy Knowles met with students of the Academic Affairs Committee and student leaders of various minority groups about ethnic studies in the Harvard/Radcliffe curriculum and the lack of minority faculty. Dean Knowles initiated the meeting through Dr. S. Allen Counter and the Academic Affairs Committee of the Harvard Foundation. The meeting also included students from organizations such as La Organizacion (the Puerto Rican students' group), Native Americans at Harvard/Radcliffe, the Asian American Association, the Black Students Association, the Caribbean Club, RAZA and the Minority Students Alliance. Also in attendance were Dr. Lawrence Buell, Dean for Under-

graduate Education and Dr. S. Allen Counter.

The atmosphere of the meeting was one of direct communication. Students were able to voice their disappointment that the Faculty Council again rejected the proposal to upgrade the Ethnic Studies ad hoc committee (which mediates the visiting scholars program) to a standing committee status. Many students felt that the proposal for a standing committee was both a modest request and was the only tangible result of the months of intensive study done by a temporary subcommittee (of the Educational Planning Committee) that had been created in response to student activism in 1993.

Students stated their concern over the continued lack of a plan or standing com-

mittee for considering Asian American Studies, American Latino Studies, and Native American Studies course offerings. At the heart was students' concern that they not be shortchanged in their education. They expressed their frustration with the gaps and exclusions in the present curriculum and the obstacles that have arisen in trying to build a special concentration in ethnic studies, particularly since there are currently no permanent courses or faculty advisors specializing in ethnic studies. Additionally, students expressed concern about the absence of a single Native American senior faculty member.

Students proposed that the Visiting Scholars Program be strengthened by

(Continued on page 14)

Students Meet with FAS Dean Knowles*(Continued from page 13)*

adding more scholars, by distributing the scholars' appointments between both semesters, and by creating a program for continued dialogue and advising with previous visiting scholars to promote the continuity and development of ethnic studies at Harvard.

Students also expressed concern over whether a diverse candidate pool was cre-

ated for several of the administrative positions that opened up this past year and the over-all lack of undergraduate input or representation in the process researching the possibilities for ethnic studies at Harvard.

Dean Knowles expressed his concern. He explained that he was creating a new committee, with strong representation of faculty who are actively involved in ethnic studies as part of their scholarly focus. In response to other concerns students brought up, Knowles explained that although students'

intellectual needs change much more rapidly than faculty are hired, that, due to budgetary restraints, he could not increase the number of visiting scholars in the program, at least in the very near future.

The students were encouraged by Dean Knowles' empathy and willingness to meet with student leaders. We look forward to a productive 1994-95 academic year with much active and thoughtful dialogue between students and the administration.

— Hyewon Chong '95

STUDIES Sponsors Ethnic Studies Teach-In

On the evening of May 4, Students for Diversity & Ethnic Studies (STUDIES) sponsored a teach-in, "Less Yelling, More Discourse," that included discussions about Asian American Studies, American Latino Studies and Native American Studies. Organized to give a gentler voice to student activism, more than 55 students and faculty attended the teach-in that was presented at Union Parlor B.

During the day, more than 100 students, faculty, and alumni also stopped by a literature table that was set up in front of Widener Library as part of the event. Publications available included *What is Ethnic Studies*, excerpted from Evelyn Hu-DeHart's September 1993 article in *Phi Delta Kappa*, and a

flyer documenting the history (from 1968 to 1993) of Harvard/Radcliffe student activism and administrative responses to the issues of permanent ethnic studies courses and minority faculty hiring (including statistics from the *Harvard University 1993 Affirmative Action Plan*). In addition, students presented a large binder of syllabi from Ethnic Studies courses taught at other universities and colleges, documenting many of the more than 700 ethnic studies programs and departments in the United States.

That evening, the teach-in opened with the film "The Fight for Ethnic Studies," co-produced by Darby Li Po Price and Erik Meyer. The documentary highlighted UC Berkeley students' activism for the creation of separate departments from existing programs under Berkeley's Ethnic Studies Department and featured excerpts of interviews with UC Berkeley faculty such as Terry Wilson, Ling-chi Wang and Elaine Kim.

Hyewon Chong '95 then gave a short introduction, saying that although UC Berkeley and Harvard are at different stages in their development of ethnic studies, there is still the commonality of changing demographics and fair representation. Speakers for the event included: Dr. Jeffrey Hamley, Director of the Harvard Native American Program; Harvard sociology Ph.D. candidate Christina Gomez; EALC Ph.D. candidate Emma Teng; and Min Song, an English Ph.D. candidate at Tufts. The presenters discussed canon development, and theory about ethnicity, race, class and gender within the fields under ethnic studies. It also was noted by the speakers that there is not one full-time Native American professor in any

of the schools of Harvard University.

Jean Tom '96, head of the Minority Students Alliance, moderated a candid and informative discussion following the presentation.

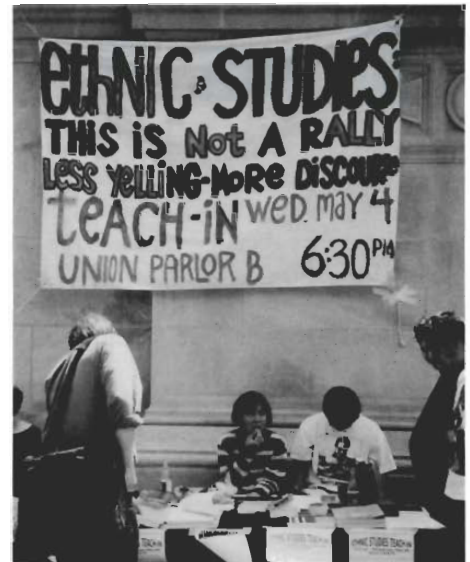
The tabling and the teach-in fulfilled STUDIES' hope to help dispel myths surrounding ethnic studies and increase awareness about the issue in the Harvard community.

STUDIES is an on-going joint effort by the Academic Affairs Committee and the Minority Students Alliance to pursue increased representation of minority faculty and the creation of permanent ethnic studies courses in the curriculum.

— Hyewon Chong '95



Hyewon Chong '95, Chair of the Harvard Foundation Academic Affairs Committee, spear-headed efforts this year to examine ethnic studies at Harvard College and cultural diversity in the Harvard Museums.



Jennifer Ching '96, Martin Chavez '96, Juan Fernandez '97 and Alex Diaz '96 staff the STUDIES literature table for the Ethnic Studies Teach-In.

Harvard Foundation Spring Grant Activities

RAZA's Cinco de Mayo Celebration

The fifth of May, which marks the day almost a century ago in which a few hundred poorly-armed Mexican *campesinos* successfully defended the city of Puebla against an invading French army, is truly a source of pride among *Mexicanos* and Chicanos alike. Beyond patriotic sentiments, however, Chicanos have made the day a celebration of culture. It is interesting to note that Cinco de Mayo is celebrated with greater fanfare by Chicanos in the United States than by *Mexicanos* in Mexico. In the spirit of affection for the day, more than 200 Latinos gathered in the Gutman Conference Hall to share a nostalgic evening of Mexican culture. The evening, planned by the Harvard School of Education's Latino Cultural Society, was complete with a catered dinner of *burritos*, *arroz* and *salsa picante*. Students and guests from the community enjoyed entertainment provided by the Harvard/Radcliffe Ballet Folklórico dancers and a *mariachi* band. The evening's festivities concluded with a dance in the John F. Kennedy School of Government Penthouse conference room overlooking the Charles River.

On Friday, May 6 RAZA hosted a well-attended semi-formal dinner in Mather House for its members and other invited guests of the community. The dinner not only proved to be an enjoyable evening of socializing, but was also an opportunity for the organization to recognize and honor the graduating Class of 1994. Later, *Organización Mexicana de Nueva Inglaterra* (Mexican Organization of New England, based in Boston) and RAZA co-sponsored a Cinco de Mayo dance. Held in Memorial Hall, it was attended by several hundred people, including students of Harvard and Radcliffe and other area schools and several community members. Music was provided by a Latino DJ, and supplemented with delightful entertainment by the local musical group *Mariachi Chapala*.

The following evening, Ballet Folklórico staged a memorable performance at Adams House open to the entire community. The performance consisted of 12 wonderful *bailles*, or dances native to Mexican folk culture. The *bailles*, all of which are regional in nature (each having costumes and culture particular to a distinct area of Mexico),

were artistic celebrations of ethnicity. Ballet Folklórico delivered a memorable closure to the days of celebration in honor of the historic affirmation of cultural pride on the 5th of May.

Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA is committed to not only promoting a discourse on issues that affect the lives of Latinos, but also fostering an understanding and appreciation of Latino culture. Several events each year provide the organization with the opportunity to showcase the culture and talent of Mexican Americans at Harvard. The annual Cinco de Mayo celebration is well-known for the range and diversity of its celebration in the Mexican American tradition, and is a star among the many events sponsored by RAZA.

—Pedro Orozco '96

Caribbean Carnival!

On Saturday, April 23, the Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club held its Fifth Annual Caribbean Carnival in the Radcliffe Quadrangle, with more than 200 faculty, staff and students attending this half-day event. "Carnival 1994" was co-sponsored by the Harvard Foundation, the Undergraduate Council and the Masters of Cabot and North Houses.

The Carnival featured a number of Caribbean foods and arts and crafts. There were dishes such as *roti*, curried chicken, Jamaican jerk chicken, fried plantain, Guyanese chow mein, roast corn, and oxtail stew. The arts and crafts included bone jewelry, African and Caribbean print shirts and bags, and beautiful wooden and marble statues. There was also a domino table set up for anyone who wanted to play and a face-painting table with students painting palm trees, sunshine and flags on faces and arms, helping to create a festive atmosphere.

DJ Jammin' Joe Johnson of WILD, Boston, emceed the event again this year. Entertainment included music by Jammin' Joe, Tropical Force, and a reggae band that included two Harvard alumni. The Filipino Forum was also on hand to do their bamboo dance and even taught eager people who wanted to try it.

Two contests of the day were also great successes. Most of the attendees joined the

limbo contest to see "how low they could go." A few daring individuals joined the dance contest in which they showed their proficiency dancing the butterfly, the donkey and the dollar whine. The dance contest was won by Alison Moore '97 who received a \$25 music store gift certificate for her valiant efforts.

The Carnival gave everyone a chance to enjoy Caribbean food, culture, music and company. Pre-freshmen had an opportunity to talk to undergraduates about Harvard, and the students welcomed a break before reading period and exams. Many people commented that they are looking forward to next year's event.

—Michelle R. Tull '94

"Reclaiming the Initiative in Africa" HASA Intercollegiate Conference on Africa

The Harvard African Students Association (HASA) hosted a 3-day intercollegiate conference at the John F. Kennedy School of Government on the weekend of April 8th. The conference focused on the various means through which Africans could reclaim the political, economic, cultural, technological, medical and artistic control of the continent's affairs. Almost 800 participants, including 500 African students from 70 American, Canadian and European colleges, attended the wide range of events.

The conference opened Friday evening with a reception for the main speakers and panelists. The reception was followed by a lively and high-powered panel discussion entitled "Implementing Change In Africa." Afterwards, a live *soukous* band provided entertainment in the ARCO Forum. On Saturday morning, Dr. Achola Pala Okeyo, Chief of the Africa Section of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and Professor Abiodun Williams, Dean at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, delivered two inspirational keynote speeches. Their talks focused on how a new generation might go about putting forward the African agenda in the international arena. Dr. Pala emphasized the importance of recognizing the significant contributions made by African women in the development of the continent and of encouraging the politi-

cal, economic and cultural empowerment of women in African societies.

The bulk of the day's activities consisted of workshops and group discussions led by 30 prominent African academics, distinguished professionals and senior officials of such organizations as the World Bank, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). Workshops included: The Role of Women; Economic Reform and Entrepreneurship; Education and Technology; The Changing Face of Politics; The Impact of a Non-Racial South Africa; Health Promotion; Famine and Environmental Degradation; and African Culture, Religion and Art. The high quality and focus of the group discussions were acknowledged by all participants.

The day's activities closed with a shared dinner and an electrifying cultural evening. This event featured many excellent performances, African dances, songs, poetry readings, drama and a fashion show. A closing session on Sunday morning served to round off the conference. The weekend's events provided concrete proof that, as the theme of the conference highlighted, a new generation of African students is well on its way to "Reclaiming the Initiative in Africa."

—Koranteng Ofosu-Amaah '95

Asian American Empowerment: The Forging of an Asian American Consciousness

On the weekend of March 11, the Harvard Asian American Association (AAA) hosted its annual Intercollegiate Conference. This year's conference entitled, *Asian American Empowerment - The Forging of an Asian American Consciousness*, centered on issues of identity, politics and affirmative action. Over 100 students from various schools throughout the East Coast, including MIT, Boston University, Wellesley, Hamilton, SUNY Buffalo and Duke were in attendance.

The conference began with a keynote address delivered by Charles Wong, Commissioner of the United States Commission on Civil Rights. Over 600 students were invited to *Empyrean*, an intercollegiate dance sponsored by AAA conference staff, held at the Marriott Longwharf. Packed with workshops and speeches, the conference continued on into Saturday. The day's

activities began with an address by Vivien Hwang, Chairperson and Founder of Asian American Bank, the only Asian American bank in the Northeastern United States. Other workshop speakers included Daphne Kwok, Executive Director of the Organization of Chinese Americans, and Michael Thorton, Acting Director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin.

On Sunday, the Conference came to a close with a speech by Harvard alumnus, Jeff Yang, Editor-in-Chief and Founder of *A Magazine*.

—Steve Lim '97

The Dramatic Club of Harvard Presents

The Legend of the Bluebonnet

On Thursday, February 17, The Loeb Experimental Theater found itself showered with bluebonnets and shaken by the rumbling of dancers' feet. This, accompanied by a stunningly exuberant light design and a poignantly stark stage, set the tone for *The Legend of the Bluebonnet*, a dance piece directed and choreographed by Yvonne Roemer '94 and produced by Megan Mathews '96. More than 160 members of both the Harvard and Cambridge communities came out for the play, which ran for two days.

The outline for the show was based on a Native American legend of the same name. Through movement and music, Roemer portrayed the trials of a Comanche tribe facing the horrors of drought and famine. Their shaman advises the tribe that, in order to regain the favor of the Great Spirits, they must sacrifice their most valued possession. All but one small girl, She-Who-Is-Alone, refuse to cooperate. She is named as such because her entire family had died, leaving her to find company and comfort in the one item she owned—a warrior doll named Bluefeather. After burning the doll in a modest fire, she flings its ashes into the wind in hopes that they will reach the Great Spirits in time to save her tribe. When she awakens the next morning, she finds the entire countryside covered in bluebonnets, flowers the exact color of the feathers in Bluefeather's head-piece.

For Roemer, preparation for the show was life long. The legend was first introduced to her in a children's book by Tomie

dePaola. *Bluebonnet's* theme of individual sacrifice for the good of all, as a child, is a valuable and timeless lesson. As an adult and experienced performer, Roemer realized the legend's beauty and simplicity were ideal for interpretive dance.

—Megan Mathews '94

Harvard Islamic Society's Eid Dinner

On Saturday, April 9, the Harvard Islamic Society held its second multicultural dinner of the year. The event celebrated the *Eid*, a holiday observed by Muslims around the world. The *Eid* is a biannual event marking a special day in the Islamic calendar—one *Eid* commemorates the yearly pilgrimage to Mecca and the sacrifice of Abraham; the other occurs at the end of the holy month of fasting, *Ramadaan*. On the two days of the *Eid*, Muslim communities around the world come together in celebration. Colorful costumes and spiritual music characterize these days as people gather to share specially prepared feasts. The Islamic Society has tried to bring the spirit of the *Eid* to the Harvard campus, and this year, with the help of the Harvard Foundation, the Society hosted a dinner and presentation.

The dinner, held in the Leverett dining hall, hosted 90 guests who enjoyed cuisine from South Asia, the Caribbean, and the Middle East; desserts from China and Pakistan, and music from Egypt and Turkey. In addition, a member of the local Boston Muslim community, Abdul Wali, gave a brief presentation on the nature and significance of the *Eid* and the events that they commemorate. The Islamic Society hosted the *Eid* presentation and dinner to educate Harvard students about the customs and culture of the one billion Muslims in the world.

—Masood Razaq '96

BSA and HILLEL Discussions

This past semester has been marked by encouraging inter-ethnic dialogue between the Black Students Association and Hillel. Coordinated by the boards of both groups and sponsored by the Harvard Foundation, three meetings were held to provide members with an informal setting to discuss issues affecting their relationship on campus and beyond. The goal of the meetings was to spark an open, honest dialogue between two groups whose relationship,

historically, has been one marked by striking similarities and vast differences.

In the first meeting on March 7, "Blacks and Jews in America: Integration vs. Nationalism—Black/Jewish Perspectives," members of both communities met to discuss issues of personal and national identity. At an introductory session, participants were provided the opportunity to examine the historical relationship their communities have had in America and how differences in the political agenda have put them at odds.

The second meeting on April 11, "Black Anti-Semitism and Jewish Racism," attempted to explore the tensions evolving from clashing politics between Black and Jewish communities. In this meeting, members tried to determine the extent to which misperception and misinterpretation have led to debate and contention between the two groups.

On May 9, the last meeting of the series was held to discuss "Where Do We Go From Here?" As the title suggests, members sought to determine what the future held for the Black and Jewish communities on and off Harvard's campus.

Throughout the meetings, the groups attempted to establish the beginning of a meaningful dialogue on topics sensitive in nature. Encouraged by the response of these discussions, both groups would like to continue the dialogue begun this year.

—Tayyab Walker '94

Russell Wong Visits Harvard University

Actor Russell Wong, who appeared in *The Joy Luck Club* and is one of the few Asian American actors with name recognition, was honored at a May 6 reception sponsored by the Asian American Association Players, the Harvard Foundation and Adams House.

Wong fielded questions on a number of subjects, including the pigeon-holing of Asian American actors into stereotypically Asian roles, the obligation of highly visible Asian Americans to be spokespersons for the Asian American community, and how his perception of what being Asian American means has been

affected by his profession—one in which, he said, it is common for Asian actors to experience discrimination through typecasting. Being considered a leading figure in the Asian American community was very new for him, he said, and he was learning to be comfortable with this new role.

As an actor, Wong is part of an Asian American media presence that is defying traditional limits on Asian American participation with increasing success. Its growth is marked by breakthroughs such as *The Joy Luck Club*, a movie that attempts to portray Asian Americans in a human, non-stereotypical light, and the upcoming series *All-American Girl*, featuring comedian Margaret Cho and a largely Asian American cast, again in non-stereotypical roles.

In addition to *The Joy Luck Club*, Wong has appeared in *Eat a Bowl of Tea* and *China Cry* and has a television series, *Vanishing Sun*, that will also be coming out in the fall.

—Alex Cho '96

Iraqi Speaker Talks About Human Rights Abuses in Iraq Under Saddam Hussein's Rule

On Thursday, April 28, the Harvard/Radcliffe Society of Arab Students hosted Ms. Rend Rahim, Executive Director of the Iraq Foundation in Washington, D.C., who is also a journalist and political activist. Ms. Rahim gave a lecture on the human rights abuses in Iraq under the rule of Saddam Hussein. Hussein has been a member of

the Baathist party since it came to power in 1968 and the supreme ruler of Iraq since 1979.

Ms. Rahim began her talk with a shocking and very moving description of the hundreds of thousands of people in Iraq who have been killed *en masse* by Hussein's brutal regime in its "ethnic cleansing" operations. Among Hussein's targeted victims are the Kurds of northern Iraq and, most recently, the Shi'is living in the marshes in southern Iraq. Known as the Garden of Eden, the area has been inhabited by the marsh people for thousands of years. Today, the marshes have dried up, and its people massacred or driven out.

Ms. Rahim believes the situation is desperate, and the Iraqis are asking the West for help to overthrow the regime. She claims that despite the promises made by President Bush to the Iraqi people, nothing has been done to stop the human rights abuses, killing, and crimes committed by the Hussein regime. Ms. Rahim believes that because of vested interests in maintaining the status quo in Iraq today, the Iraqi people are left to suffer under Hussein's cruelty. It is difficult to comprehend how such a ruthless dictator is allowed to remain in power, she commented, and how the people of Iraq can be killed as the world stands idle and watching.

Ms. Rahim's lecture took place in Emerson Hall with more than 40 people in attendance, including members of the Iraqi community in the Boston area. The event was also funded by the Undergraduate Council and the Radcliffe Union of Students.

—Radi M. Annab '95

Vietnamese Dance Troupe Shines at Cultural Rhythms

On Saturday, February 26, the Harvard Vietnamese Dance Troupe presented their latest dance performance at Sanders Theatre for the Cultural Rhythms Festival. The Dance Troupe was founded in 1991 by Minh Pham '93 and Annie Vo '93. The group offers the Harvard community a different and new aspect of Vietnamese culture. Pham considered the annual Cultural Rhythms Festival an excellent opportunity



Harvard Vietnamese Dance Troupe - Top row, left to right: Diep Nguyen '95, Thao Ngo '96, Betty Cong '97, Annie Vo '93. Bottom row: Minh Tu '97, Vietnam Dang '96, Huy Nguyen '96, Michael Tran '96.

to present the Vietnamese culture to a wider audience, and to inspire more undergraduates to become members.

The troupe presently consists of four men and four women who choreograph their own traditional Vietnamese dances. The women wear the traditional Vietnamese dresses, *ao dai*, and the men wear traditional farmer shirts and pants. The routine consists of a courtship theme with formations of hats and umbrellas and ends with a gift-giving scene between the men and women. The Vietnamese Dance Troupe is an enthusiastic element the Cultural Rhythms Festival, and this year's routine was both visually impressive and emotionally significant. Although the group is only three years old, they performed a spectacular piece and received much praise and support for their efforts at the Festival.

—*Thao Ngo '96*

Peace in the Middle East

On Saturday, March 12, the Society of Arab Students hosted a talk by Dr. Mohammed Rabie, expert and author of several books on the Middle East and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The lecture took place in Boylston Hall's auditorium and was attended by approximately 35 people, including students and faculty from Harvard and Boston-area colleges.

Dr. Rabie spoke on the peace process between the Arabs and the Israelis and the prospects for peace in the Middle East. Among the issues raised was the September 13, 1993, "Declaration of Principles" signed on the White House lawn between the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Israeli government. Dr. Rabie stressed the importance of dealing with critical issues such as the status of Jerusalem, the Palestinian refugees, and statehood for Palestinians.

—*Radi Annab '95*

South Asia Journal

Now in its second year, the *South Asia Journal* continues to serve as a source of the South Asian perspective on political, economic, social, and cultural issues, both in the United States and on the subcontinent of Asia. In the current issue, the *Journal* continues its ongoing series on the religions of South Asia with a piece that explores the misconceptions surrounding Sikhism. Our author attempts to address Western misrep-

resentation of the Sikh faith — molded primarily by the association of Sikhism with terrorist activities — by outlining its rich historical context. The issue also features an essay that explores Hindu mythology from a feminist perspective. In addition, the publication features several works that highlight the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association's events this year, including the highly successful South Asia Forum and our Regional Dinner, two events co-sponsored by the Harvard Foundation. The *South Asia Journal* will expand to include student poetry, photographs, and artwork in its Spring '94 issue.

—*Sanjay Shetty '95*

Harvard-Radcliffe Kuumba Singers' Mid-Winter Concert

On Friday, March 4, the Harvard-Radcliffe Kuumba Singers performed their 24th annual mid-winter concert. The multicultural group attracted a wide variety of people. The mid-winter concert reflects Kuumba's encouragement of creativity in its members, with the interspersion of original poetry within a main program of gospel music.

Kuumba opened the concert with an invocation by Reverend Claudia Highbaugh, a chaplain of the Harvard Divinity School. The program consisted of 15 songs, some of which featured soloists, Joy Gorham '95, Ouanza Pupilampu '97, Dana Doré '97, Abigail Nelson '95, Sara Thygeson '96, Michael Sleet '97, Aundrea Oliver '97, Valencia Thomas '96, Jamil Myrie '97, Herman Sanchez '97, Haile Adamson '96, David Hill '94, Ngozi Mba '96, Sheldon Reid '96, and James Shelton '97.

There was also a performance by the male and female groups in Kuumba known as Brothers and Sisters. Brothers sang an especially popular piece by the name of "Sinner," and Sisters sang "Give Me A Clean Heart."

The Kuumba concert was received by its audience with heartfelt appreciation for the rejoicing gospel music that is so much a part of the Kuumba tradition. The spirit of family emerges in their concerts with the many soloist pieces and poetry, reflecting the creativity that is Kuumba.

The concert took place in Paine Hall Auditorium and the audience numbered about 400 people.

—*C. Sonia Persaud '97*

KACC presents Poongmul

On April 30, 1994, the Korean Americans for Culture and Community (KACC) had two performances of *Poongmul: Songs & Rhythms of Korea*, as a part of the campus-wide Arts First Festival. *Poongmul* is a genre of Korean folk art that includes songs, dances, instrument playing and drama.

In the morning, KACC performed at a temporary stage set up near the Shops at Harvard Yard in front of Holyoke Center. About 60 people walking by the Square or eating breakfast at Au Bon Pain enjoyed the Korean folk arts presented by KACC. In the afternoon, KACC had its second performance of the day at Adolf Busch Hall with an audience of about 50 people. By learning this particular genre of art, KACC endeavors to gain an understanding of its past and of the process and interaction whereby history and culture shape the present and future. Through performances of *Poongmul*, KACC seeks to share the rich Korean heritage with the Harvard community and to preserve this living culture for Korean American communities and others.

These events were also co-sponsored by the Undergraduate Council and the Office of the Arts.

—*Jun Ki Park '95*

Black Faculty Reception

On Monday, February 28th, the Black Students Association (BSA) hosted a reception for Black faculty and Black students to provide a forum for reflection upon their common past and to celebrate their current diversity in honor of Black history month. The reception gave students, administrators and professors from the Afro-American Studies Department, Sociology Department, Anthropology department and the Divinity School an opportunity to meet one another and interact on a social level. Professors discussed differences and similarities in campus life between their own college days and today, and long-standing members of the Harvard community noted the changes in race relations over the past few decades. Students also heard a number of opinions on the purpose, role and challenges of being a Black scholar. The participants also enjoyed the songs of IMANI, a female a cappella group.

—*Alvin Bragg '95*

"Soul of Viet: Images of Vietnam" Touching the Foreign and the Familiar

On March 18 the Harvard Vietnamese Association sponsored a reception celebrating the opening of the art exhibit entitled "Soul of Viet: Images of Vietnam." The featured artist, Mr. Khoi Trong Nguyen, explained to the 25 guests present, "My paintings are for everyone—you do not have to be Vietnamese to understand what I try to communicate. Even though the subject matters and figures on my canvas are distinctly Vietnamese," he said, "the message is universal. If you have ever been away from a place that you love or sometimes in your life have experienced hardships, you will understand my paintings." Indeed, Mr. Nguyen's 12 paintings, displayed at Hilles Library Gallery from March 18 through April 7 left the more than 200 visitors with a sense of the familiar as well as the foreign. Mr. Nguyen's poignant images, executed in a broad range of styles, presented members of the Harvard and outside community with a glimpse into the issues and emotions surrounding the lives of the Vietnamese—those living in Vietnam as well as those newly settled in America. His works touched at common emotions and experiences that can be shared by all.

—Anh Hong Tran '97

Black C.A.S.T. presents *The Colored Museum*

Friday and Saturday, May 6 and 7, Black C.A.S.T. (Community and Student Theater) presented a student run production of George C. Wolfe's *The Colored Museum*, a collection of vignettes. The play is a collage of African American personalities—past and present and took place on a single set comprised of various exhibits depicting African American life. Combining both satire and melodrama, the play illustrates how African Americans reconcile their histories with contemporary life.

This play was the final production of Black C.A.S.T.'s semester-long theme of "Images." We sought through the play to inform as well as provoke thought about the many images of African Americans circulating today, and to disabuse the notion that African Americans are a homogenous group. The play addressed such issues as assimilation, homophobia within the Black community and developing a ground between Euro-centric and Afro-centric

standards of beauty. The vignettes ranged from monologues to interactive skits between two or three people.

The play was viewed by an excited and interactive audience of more than 175 members of the Harvard community. Despite the satire in the play, the thematic nature in the vignettes enriched the audience, performers and contributors, as well as being entertaining. The play was also supported by the Office for the Arts and the Harvard Undergraduate Council.

—Carmen Bryant '96

A Darker Shade of Crimson: *Odyssey of a Harvard Chicano*

On the evening of February 24, Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA hosted a panel discussion with Ruben Navarrette, Jr. '90, author of the controversial book *A Darker Shade of Crimson: Odyssey of a Harvard Chicano*. Also on the panel were Harvard Admissions Officer Aurelio Ramirez, RAZA President Xavier Gutierrez '95 former RAZA President Verónica Rosales '94 and former Harvard-Radcliffe Undergraduate Council Secretary Rene Reyes '95.

The panel addressed the presence of Chicanos at Harvard, including students' participation in ethnic organizations, Chicano students' greater involvement in the community, increased political activism and directions in which Harvard could move to meet the needs of Chicano students. Efforts students might make in order to strengthen the role of ethnic organizations at Harvard College were also discussed. Ethnic organizations were identified as valuable institutions in unifying their members socially and politically and in helping to break down stereotypes and interracial ignorance. Mr. Reyes recognized the role of ethnic organizations such as RAZA, but also stressed the importance of going beyond these cultural groups and becoming involved in other activities, such as student government.

Mr. Navarrette discussed the difficulties of returning to one's community after being separated from one's family and friends. Attending Harvard changed him in ways that strained his re-assimilation into his community. However, Mr. Navarrette and other students who attended the panel discussion felt that this distancing from home life has also led to a greater appreciation for their heritage. The event was a successful

effort by RAZA to increase public debate and discussion of issues concerning the Chicano community.

—Paulina Cárdenas '96
and Faustino Ramos '96

Chinese New Year Banquet Heralds the Year of the Dog

On the evening of Saturday, February 5, the Harvard-Radcliffe Chinese Students Association (CSA) held its annual Chinese New Year Banquet in Lowell Dining Hall, ushering in the Year of the Dog, 4692 on the lunar calendar. For the second straight year, the celebration was a huge success as more than 100 students, both CSA members and general members of the Harvard-Radcliffe community, arrived to enjoy an evening of Chinese food and entertainment.

Members of CSA served an all-you-can-eat buffet dinner funded in part by the Harvard Foundation and the H-R Undergraduate Council. The feast included orange beef, shrimp with snow peas, and Buddha's Delight—all catered from the Imperial Seafood Restaurant in Chinatown. In addition, there was *mapo tofu*, a tasty dish prepared by CSA's finest chefs earlier in the day. Served for dessert were *nian gao*, special New Year's rice cakes fried in a bit of egg intended to bring a prosperous new year. All in all, it was an excellent meal for just \$6.

A traditional cultural performance followed the dinner. Hosted by CSA's always entertaining educational and cultural co-chairs Jean Ou '94 and Angela Shih '94, the show included four performances. The Asian American Dance Troupe performed the ribbon dance that traditionally graced China's imperial courts. Next, Mu Zhu '95 played the Chinese violin, which has just two strings rather than four. Afterward, Cindy Tang '96 performed the plate dance and the night came to a close with the famous lion dance, an element essential to any celebration of Chinese New Year.

—Irwin H. Lee '95

Revival

Revival is a new journal of expository thought and discourse on topics relating to the African diaspora in the greater Harvard community. *Revival*, an annual publication, was designed to capture the ongoing campus discourse surrounding issues pertinent to Blacks around the world. This year's theme

is *Living Traditions: Embodiments of Kujichagua-lia*. The journal's debut issue consists of 14 personal and academic essays from undergraduates, graduates and faculty at Harvard, including critical works on topics such as the music of the Caribbean and Blacks in the New World and West Africa; reflections on identity, beauty, family and community institutions; a commentary on inner-city problems; and probing insights into dialect, film, female imagery and cultural heroes.

—Monica A. Coleman '95
and Charlene Morriseau '95

South Asian Dance Organization Teaches Beginner Kathak Classes

On Saturday, April 23, the South Asian Dance Organization held their last beginner *Kathak* class. *Kathak* is a dance of North India and Pakistan that involves quick footwork and lively gestures and expressions to convey the stories of the South Asian mythology. Originating as a form of storytelling in the Hindu temples, *Kathak* moved into the Mughal courts after the 16th century. Here, the style changed slightly from a slower, more expansive form of drama and incorporated fancy footwork to keep the court *darbar* amused and entertained.

The classes at Cabot House were open to all undergraduates and taught by world-renowned instructor and *Kathak* maestro Ustaad Bulai Talukdar. He has been teaching for more than 40 years and has performed before such world leaders as Emperor Hirohito, Queen Elizabeth II, Mao Tse Tung, and Nikita Krushchev.

The class for beginners met for an hour on each Saturday morning, beginning with a few minutes of warm-up, a short lecture on the philosophy of dance, and a few amusing tales. The students then learned new pieces and developed the graceful moves specific to the dance of *Kathak*. In addition to dance, beginners learned about the 16-beat rhythmic cycle of South Asian music and the different instruments used. Members of this year's beginner class have learned so quickly and well that they will soon be incorporated into the advanced classes.

—Natasha Bir '97

Asian American Association Annual Film Festival

On April 9th, the Asian American Association held its annual Film Festival. The

films shown included the critically acclaimed documentaries *Sewing Women*, directed by Deborah Gee, *Afterbirth*, directed by Jason Henry-Hwang, and *Slaying the Dragon*, directed by Arthur Dong. These documentaries address crucial questions of self-definition that face today's Asian Americans and illuminate the mechanisms by which modern society imposes its assumptions and definitions upon the group.

Slaying the Dragon focuses on the mass media's often disempowering and reductive promotion of Asian female stereotypes. From the entertainment industry to the news industry, Asian women continue to struggle for recognition as self-defining individuals.

Following the documentaries, *China Cry* was shown. The film portrays one family's struggle against the tyranny of China's communist regime in the early days of the Cultural Revolution.

The festival, held in Harvard Hall, joined together undergraduates, graduate students and several members of the Cambridge community. The festival sought to provide a "multi-sensory" experience and stimulate both mind and palate. Those who gathered for the evening of food and film enjoyed sampling refreshments of Asian cuisine, as well as the educational and entertaining aspects of the festival.

The Asian American Association welcomes all members of the Harvard/Radcliffe community to participate and in its numerous upcoming events!

—Sonna Moon '97 and Jason Chen '97

Voces Unidas Magazine

Voces Unidas is a publication of the Harvard Forum on Hispanic Affairs. Its publication began three years ago when the founders recognized that no group or publication addressed issues that affected both Hispanic Americans and Latin Americans. Since that time *Voces Unidas* has been committed to the representation of both regions. We wish to reach a balance by presenting varied perspectives and issues pertaining to the Latin American community and to the Hispanic American community living here in the United States.

Voces Unidas is a non-partisan publication focusing on issues of culture, politics, economics, history and literature that is very

much part of the Hispanic culture. In past issues we have addressed topics such as education in the Latino community, the role of religion in Latin America, the history of the feminist movement in Puerto Rico, and the plight of the Mexican Indian. In our latest issue, Spring '94, we address the issue of political party opposition in Mexico. The issue also features discussion of illegal immigration and includes an interview with Gloria Molina, a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

—José Tello '95

Harvard-Radcliffe Japan Society Sponsors First Japan Weekend Held at Harvard

On the weekend of April 15-16 the Harvard Japan Society hosted its third annual Japan Weekend, for the first time at Harvard. Harvard students, members of the Japan clubs from colleges that comprise the East Coast Japan American League and Boston area residents were presented with a broad range of Japanese culture in a weekend filled with events. The well-attended activities included a tea ceremony performed by the Harvard-Radcliffe Chado Society, two sushi dinners, *johakyu* dance performance and a *kyogen* puppet theater performance, and Japanese movies. Both the *johakyu* and *kyogen* performances were presented by Boston groups, and area restaurants donated their cuisine for the dinners. The sushi dinners were especially well attended, drawing in crowds of more than 150 people.

The Japan Weekend has hopefully given Harvard faculty and students a glimpse of Japan and the Japanese way of life. It was not only an opportunity for the Harvard community to enjoy different aspects of Japanese culture, but enabled the Japan Society to build relationships with other area and East Coast Japan-related college organizations.

—Jonathan Reznick '96

Roots & Culture Spring 1994

Roots & Culture, Harvard's only journal on African and Caribbean issues is celebrating its second year in existence with the publication of its fourth issue. Produced by the Harvard African Students Association and the Harvard-Radcliffe Caribbean Club, *Roots & Culture* aims to live up to the high

standards of previous issues with a new, larger and glossy format. Its parent organizations have launched year-long campaign to attract a broader advertising base and to solidify its position in the Harvard and Boston community. We hope to expand *Roots & Culture* to a quarterly publication to help ensure its continued presence for the benefit of future Harvard students.

This issue features many diverse articles reflecting the extensive range of interests of our readers. The centerpiece of this edition is a report on the recent conference hosted by the Harvard African Students Association that drew students from more than 70 colleges in the United States, Canada, and Europe, including summaries of the keynote speeches and the numerous workshops held. This issue also introduces a new series on the economies of Caribbean and African countries that critiques conventional notions of international finance institutions. As always, the magazine deals not just with issues in the political and economic arena, but also with more personal and cultural perspectives through poetry, fiction and lighter pieces.

We are pleased that the magazine has been able to continue to put forward an agenda for scholarship, commentary and intercultural dialogue. All are welcome to submit to this forum for discussion and multicultural exchange.

—Koranteng Ofosu-Amaah '95

Rigoberta Menchú hosted by the Harvard Organization for Latin Americans

Ms. Rigoberta Menchú, 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Winner, arrived from Mexico City on April 19 for a reception given in her honor at Taubman Hall at the Kennedy School of Government. Following the reception, she spoke to an audience of more than 400 at the Kennedy School's ARCO Forum. Introduced by Deborah Yashar, Assistant Professor of Government, and with translation by Bradley Epps, Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literature, Ms. Menchú's presentation lasted about two hours including a question and answer session.

Ms. Menchú spoke about discrimination and the cultural and economic oppression that indigenous groups in Latin America and elsewhere have long had to withstand.

She gave examples of her own experience with the struggle of the Mayan people in her native Guatemala and with the contact she has had with groups throughout the world in her role as the United Nations Ambassador for Indigenous Peoples. She held that the only way of resolving ethnic tensions is through understanding culture, language and tradition, and she rejected the efforts made worldwide to study minority ethnic groups and "educate" them in order that the dominant societies and cultures might absorb them peacefully. Only with the full recognition of the values, rights and cultural heritage of indigenous groups, she said, can the ever-widening social and economic gap with the rest of the world be bridged. Ms. Menchú's visit to Harvard was sponsored by the Harvard Organization for Latin Americans (HOLA). Rigoberta Menchú also was a guest of the Harvard Foundation in 1982.

—Esteban Piedrahita '94

Chinese Students' Association's Dessert Night A Delicious Treat

On Saturday, April 23, about 30 prospective first-year students and 15 undergraduates attended the Chinese Student Association Dessert Night held in North House's Comstock Living Room. Over the variety of pastries served, including egg custard pie, almond cookies, moon cake, Chinese pancakes, pineapple rolls and the ever-popular almond jello, undergraduates spent much of the evening counseling the prospective first-years on the merits of Harvard. The friendly, social atmosphere of the event was evident as several pre-frosh showed off their singing skills, taking advantage of the room's piano. By evening's close, many entertained the possibility of CSA having its very own a cappella group.

—Jennifer Fung '97

A House Divided

Throughout the spring semester, about 75 Harvard-Radcliffe undergraduates were involved in the production of *A House Divided*, an original musical by Randall Eng '94, Amanda Schaffer '95, and Julia Sullivan '86. The show, performed in the Agassiz Theatre May 5-7 and 12-14, was set in 1954 and tells the story of David Williams, a history professor who becomes a victim of the anti-Communist

hysteria of the McCarthy era.

A House Divided was conceived by its writers as an opportunity to introduce the developments of modern jazz into the musical theater tradition. Although the American musical theater has incorporated elements of early jazz, such as Dixieland, ragtime, and swing, many aspects of the music's more recent past have not been similarly adopted. Composer Randall Eng, who wrote the music for *A House Divided* as his senior thesis, was enthusiastic about the possibility of bringing to the theater the work of such figures as Charles Mingus, John Coltrane and Wayne Shorter—post-swing innovators whose accomplishments had yet to be widely recognized as belonging in a dramatic context.

The McCarthy era was chosen as the subject of *A House Divided* both for its dramatic possibilities and for its historical significance as a period when individuals came under fire for their personal associations. While these historical issues were of great importance to the project, the show's artistic goals were also constantly a part of everyone's thoughts, especially for the performers who had approached the challenges of the score's non-traditional rhythms and harmonies with enthusiasm and skill. It is a great accomplishment to syncretize the newest jazz traditions with that of the American musical theater.

—Joanna Pressman '95

South Asian Regional Dinner

On Friday, April 22, nearly 100 Harvard students, faculty and prospective first-years sampled ethnic cuisine at the South Asian Cultural Dinner held in Dudley House. The event also included graduate students from local colleges and members of the surrounding Cambridge community.

The Cultural Dinner—inspired by Tania Kapur '94, past board member of the South Asian Association—sought to expose the Harvard community to the rich diversity of the South Asian subcontinent. It featured the foods of Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and several regions of India. It was the second annual dinner to celebrate the epicurean melange of the Asian subcontinent.

Harvard undergraduates who wished to highlight the growing presence of the South Asian community at Harvard pre-

pared nearly half the dishes by hand. According to one student, "It was great to see friends and pre-freshmen learning [about South Asian culture] and comingling. I thought this was a worthy event, as it brought together college students, faculty and members of the community who may not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet."

—*Natasha Bir '97*

Students Gather for Latino Cultural Night

On Tuesday, March 22, members of La Organización Estudiantil Boricua, Fuerza Quisqueyana, CAUSA, and RAZA gathered in the spirit of Latino unity, for the Latino Cultural Night at the Briggs Living Room in Cabot House with an inspiringly large turn-out of 60 students. The informal atmosphere with food and drink created an opportunity for the groups to meet. Students talked about each other's interests and aspirations. There was also a little dancing to salsa and merengue.

The event was planned with the intention of promoting Latino unity at Harvard, demonstrated by the opening of dialogue between the groups, by the pledge of continual support to one another, and the promise to work closer together in the future. The opportunity was also taken to welcome the newest Latino group on campus, the Cuban-American Undergraduate Student Association (CAUSA).

The event showed that the presence of many specific Latino organizations does not necessarily imply divisiveness among the Latino community at Harvard. The cultural night ended on a very optimistic note with the hope for further cooperation.

—*Alex Díaz '96 and Faustino Ramos '96*

HRSAA Conference: "Prospects for Progress"

The "Prospects for Progress" conference started Friday night, April 8, when the Harvard-Radcliffe South Asian Association (HRSAA) hosted a reception for its distinguished guests, including United Nations



At the South Asian Association's Conference "Prospects for Progress" reception, Nikesh Parekh '95 talks with Bangladesh Minister Dr. Toufig Ali, from the Washington D.C. Embassy.



Students attending the South Asian Association's Conference: (left to right) Sahil Parikh '95, Karthik Chandramoulli '97, Mark Sheridan '95, Sapna Sadarangani '97, Shiela Sivaroop '97.

Sri Lankan Ambassador Dr. Stanley Kalpage; the Minister from the People's Republic of Bangladesh Dr. Toufig Ali; and Assistant Professor at the Aga Khan University in Karachi Dr. Zeba Rasmussen.

The next day in the Starr Auditorium at the John F. Kennedy School of Government speakers from the Harvard Institute of International Development, the Harvard School of Public Health, Boston University, MIT and Baruch College presented a highly concentrated appraisal of the present and future South Asia. Topics of discussion included Pakistani elementary education, the instability and violence in Sri Lankan universities, strategies for economic development in India, the effects of economic development on the South Asian environment, the difficulty of developing health care in rural areas, population control, the cultural institutionalization of female sterilization and the phenomena of female foeticide.

The conference successfully attracted more than one hundred participants from Harvard and the general public, establishing

HRSAA as an important organization within Boston's South Asian community. Furthermore, the conference foreshadowed better political programs to come in the future and a larger role for HRSAA on the Harvard campus.

—*Nikesh Parekh '95*

Indian Film Highlights the Dangers of Religious Intolerance and Misunderstanding

On the evening of April 14, the South Asian Association screened *Ram Ke Naam* (In the Name of God), a film directed by Anand Patwardhan of Bombay. The film focused on the critical and sensitive dispute over a mosque, *Babri Masjid*, as the sacred birthplace of the Hindu god, *Ram*. The film vividly depicts the actions and words of the participants, both Hindu and Muslim, surrounding the October 1991 attempt by Hindu militants to destroy the mosque and erect a Hindu temple dedicated to *Ram* in its place.

This conflict goes beyond a mere territorial dispute and illustrates the misunderstanding that often accompanies religious ignorance and intolerance. Some film viewers noted how hatred based on ignorance pervades many of the ethnic, racial and religious conflicts of our time. Viewers found that manipulation of this misunderstanding by self-interested political groups poses a challenge to every person to educate themselves by seeking greater awareness of other religions and cultures.

—*Paul Martín '94-'95*

Black-Latino Relations Forum

On Thursday, April 7th, members of the Black Students Association (BSA) and RAZA gathered for an informal discussion of Black-Latino relations. Members of both organizations recognized the potential power that both groups would have if a sustained nationwide alliance was developed. Citing the increasing diversity of our nation, many students noted the growing incongruity between the percentage of the population that has been historically underrepresented and their share of power in

government and the business sector. The discussion also provided an opportunity for members of both groups to become better acquainted with one another.

—Alvin Bragg '95

Al Sharpton Lecture

On Wednesday, February 9th, only a few days after he announced his candidacy for the upcoming New York Senatorial race, the Reverend Al Sharpton addressed a diverse audience in Emerson Hall. Reverend Sharpton, a guest of the Black Students Association (BSA) during its Black History month celebration, discussed the need for Black political mobilization. His candidacy represents an attempt to leverage the political structure by electing a community-based leader who would not be swayed by special interest groups and business interests. In addition, Reverend Sharpton emphasized the need for youth to build upon the legacy of past leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X. According to Reverend Sharpton, however, it is not merely enough to memorize a few quotes, hang up a poster and revel in the past. Rather, he urged that a proper understanding of the legacy of Black leadership requires thoughtful action today. Reverend Sharpton expressed concern about the inheritors of this legacy and in particular certain rappers such as Snoop Doggy Dog, whose lyrics degrade Black women. Reverend Sharpton issued a challenge to the members of the BSA, asking them to become involved in the community and actively build upon the Black community's legacy of leadership.

—Alvin Bragg '95

Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán Spring Recital

On the evenings of May 7 and 8, Ballet Folklórico de Aztlán presented its second annual Spring Recital at the Adams House Pool Theater. The concert included suites of dances from different areas of Mexico. Among other dances, the group performed "La Bamba," a traditional wedding dance from the state of Vera Cruz; "El Jarabe Tapatío," the Mexican hat dance from the state of Jalisco; and "Jesusita en Chihuahua," a Northern Mexican dance traditional of a Mexican Revolution suite. The concert was interspersed with short skits to introduce

several of the dances representing each region. Some of the performers also sang traditional Mexican songs with guitar accompaniment. Between regional dances, other students also read and interpreted poetry. Because of the enthusiasm of many of the participants, organizers will plan another event in the future.

—Barbara Espinoza '94

Paintings of Manuel Salazar at Hilles Library

Throughout the month of May, Harvard-Radcliffe RAZA sponsored *Luz Entre Rejas* (Light from Between the Bars), an exhibition of oil paintings by Manuel Salazar. The exhibition is significant in that it is one of the first shows by a Chicano artist ever displayed at Harvard. Critics applaud the insight his work gives into both indigenous Mexican culture and Mr. Salazar's own victimization.

As a result of a highly complex and controversial incident in 1984, a U.S. court sentenced Mr. Salazar to death. According to his supporters, Mr. Salazar is a victim of racism, police brutality and suppression of

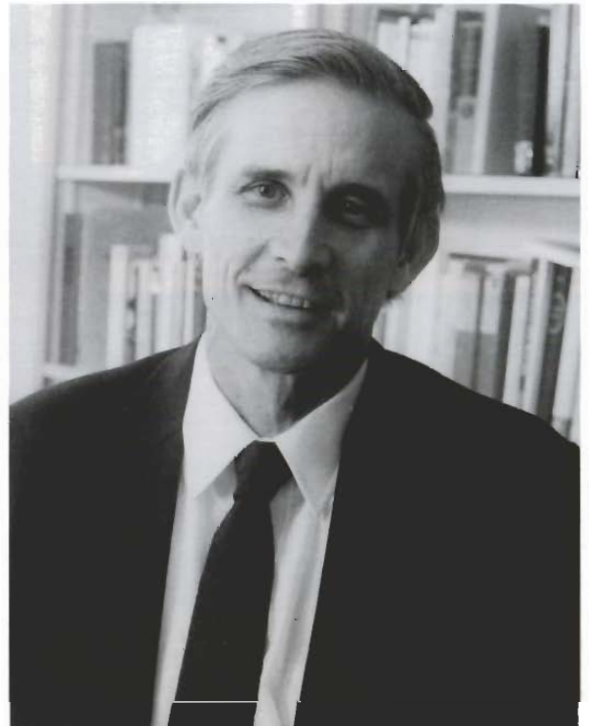
evidence, apathetic legal representation by a public defender, and the violation of international extradition laws and of his constitutional rights. Currently, his case is on appeal before the Illinois Supreme Court. His supporters include Pope John Paul II, members of the British Parliament, The National Black Police Association, and Rigoberta Menchú, 1992 Nobel Peace Prize Winner.

Although Mr. Salazar has no formal training in the arts, he has created an impressive body of work during his time on death row. Professor Susan Kraut of The Art Institute of Chicago applauded the "incredible vision and skill" of his artwork. His paintings reflect the three things which he holds most dearly: religious faith, pride in his indigenous culture, and respect and love for nature. His paintings are extremely expressive, vivid and awash in bright colors. Many viewers expressed that the exhibition increased both their appreciation of Mr. Salazar's artistic talent and their support for his innocence.

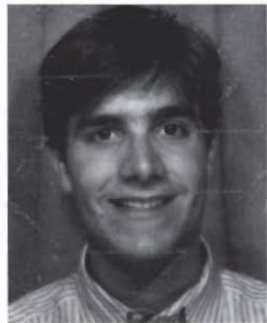
—Lilia Fernández '94

In Appreciation:

The students and staff of the Harvard Foundation would like to express special appreciation to Lawrence Buell, Ph.D., Professor of English and American Literature and Dean of Undergraduate Education for his support and notable efforts on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Harvard Foundation and for his sensitive and encouraging guidance in discussions of curricular affairs and increasing minority faculty.



Professor Lawrence Buell



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; Veronica Rosales '94, Student Assistant; Andrea Taylor '95, Student Assistant; Paul Martin '94-'95, Student Assistant; Iyewon Chong '95, Student Assistant; Carlos Whiteman '95, Student Assistant; Daniel Kim '97, Student Assistant; Jennifer Talbot '94, Student Assistant; Angela Sun '96, Student Assistant; Mark Erickson '94, Student Assistant; Odoi Odotei '97, Student Assistant; Radi Annab '95, Student Assistant; Victor Constantino '95, Student Assistant. Many thanks to our staff photographers (not pictured): Alozie Nwozu '95, Megan Mathews '96, Kristen Clarke '97.

The students and staff of the Harvard Foundation would like to express special appreciation to Tayyab Walker '94 (left) in recognition of his outstanding work as Foundation photographer. Mr. Walker has been a staff photographer with the Harvard Foundation since the spring of 1992.

Special thanks to Osvaldo Rubio '95 and Kimberley Pattillo '96 for their outstanding leadership as Co-chairs of the Harvard Foundation Student Advisory Committee.



THE HARVARD FOUNDATION

Harvard University
B4 University Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
617-495-1527