Dear ,

Well, I've got some bad news and some good news, and I'll start with the bad news. Former Harvard Club of DC director and officer, Bob Loeffler '65, passed away last week after a long battle with Parkinson's. Bob was my mentor and friend. He was a superb boss, and one of the smartest and kindest men I've ever known. We met through the Club's Schools Committee interviewing program. He gave me a chance when I needed to step back into lawyering after having taken a stay-at-home-momming break. He taught me how to be a better lawyer and a better person. I will miss him greatly.

On the good news front, there are celebrations in the air. Today is Lunar New Year, Mardi Gras, Paczki Day, and Random Act of Kindness Day. So, Xin Nian Kuai Le, Gong Xi Fa Cai, Laissez les Bons Temps Rouler, Wesolego Paczki Day, and Spread Kindness Like Confetti!

We've got some upcoming events at which you could spread kindness if you wish. For example, you could hang out with other young alumni at a happy hour on Friday, February 20th. Or perhaps you could jump in and get a ticket to our most popular event of the year, Global Networking Night (GNN). We haven't even posted it on our website yet, and we already have a big turnout for Wednesday, March 25th. It's a terrific opportunity to

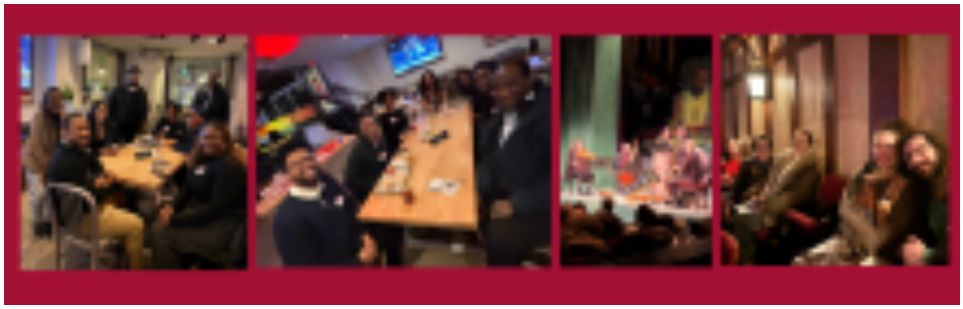
network across schools, industries, and interests, and to make the Harvard community your own.

Another way to spread kindness would be to attend our Books & Brews event on Thursday, February 26th. Come meet and support Johnisha Levi ’99, a first-time author, while she speaks about *Number’s Up: Cracking the Code of an American Family*. It’s a book that explores family secrets, systemic injustice, forgiveness, and the resilience of the human spirit. Resilience is a good thing these days. Johnisha was born and raised in DC. She’s coming back from Nashville for this event, so let’s give her the kind of kind welcome she deserves.

Check out our other events as well below. Also take a look at some pictures from our Black Alumni Happy Hour and our Valentine’s Day concert at the Folger. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Best,
Katherine

Katherine Zeitlin Haskell ‘79
President | Harvard Club of Washington, DC



Join the Harvard community in DC

Members receive access to exclusive events as well as discounted admission to many other events. Member dues support our Schools Committee and other programs to serve the Harvard community in the DC area.

2025 graduates of any Harvard school can join 1 year for free. 2021-2024 graduates of Harvard College and 1974 or earlier graduates of any school pay only $40/year. Joining

with your spouse? Their membership is half price!

• To check your membership status, please sign in, then click your name in the upper right hand corner, and select "Membership" and then "Subscriptions."
• To join or renew online, please click HERE
• To join or renew by mail, please click HERE to download an application. Please mail your completed form and check to: Harvard Club of Washington, DC | 2 Massachusetts Ave NE #2711 | Washington, DC 20002

If you have any questions about your membership or need assistance with registration, please email membership@harvard-dc.org

If you have any questions about events, please email events@harvard-dc.org

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Upcoming Events

Young Alumni Happy Hour

Fri., Feb. 20, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Continental Pool Lounge
1911 Fort Myer Dr
Arlington, Virginia 22209

We're back! Join fellow young alumni from Harvard, Yale, Stanford, and Princeton at our joint happy hour at Continental Pool Lounge in Arlington! The space has a lounge and plenty of bar games. Whether you're new to the area or have been here for a while, this is the

perfect opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

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Men's Hockey Gamewatch: Harvard vs RPI

Sat., Feb. 21, 6:30pm-9:30pm
Crystal City Sports Pub
529 S 23rd St
Arlington, VA 22202

Let's support Harvard Men's Hockey Team as they go head-to-head with RPI! Join us for a co-hosted watch party with RPI Alumni in Arlington, in Crystal City Sports Pub on February 21–wear your crimson, bring your cheers!

READ MORE

POSTPONED: Transatlantic Partnerships in a Changing World – Why US-Europe Cooperation Is Critical Now | A Dinner Conversation with Dr. Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer and Dr. Joe McCarthy

POSTPONED

Tues., Feb. 24, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Hogan Lovells
555 13th St NW
Washington, DC 20004

Join us for an engaging dinner-conversation as part of Harvard Club of Washington, DC's Passport to Diplomacy Series with Dr. Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer, president of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), with Dr. Joe McCarthy, former Senior Associate Dean and Director of Degree Programs at the Harvard Kennedy School.

As global power dynamics shift and shared challenges intensify, transatlantic partnerships are more critical than ever to maintain security, prosperity, and democratic resilience. In this conversation, Dr. de Hoop Scheffer will explore why close U.S.–Europe cooperation is crucial for safeguarding democratic values, economic stability, and collective security in an increasingly uncertain world, and how institutions like GMF serve as vital bridge-builders—connecting leaders, ideas, and policies across the Atlantic at a pivotal moment.

Dr. Alexandra de Hoop Scheffer is president of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). Previously, as acting president and senior vice president for geostrategy, she led GMF's geostrategy and geoeconomics policy initiatives across Europe, the United States, and the Indo-Pacific. With over 20 years of experience at the intersection of international relations, policy research, and public engagement, she is a leading authority on geopolitics, transatlantic relations, and global security. Her expertise has guided governments and businesses in shaping defense, diplomacy, and geo-economic strategies on both sides of the Atlantic. Prior to joining GMF, she held key advisory and policy positions in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, academia, and international organizations. A dual French-Dutch citizen, she holds a PhD in political science and two master's degrees in political science and conflict studies from Sciences Po Paris. She also studied at King's College London's War Studies Department. She is a frequent public speaker and writer on European affairs, transatlantic relations, and international security.

Please note that Harvard Club of Washington D.C. has a **no ticket refunds** policy.

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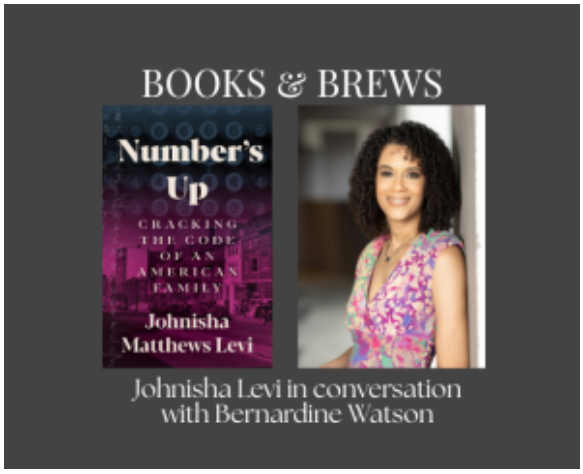
NUMBER'S UP with author Johnisha Levi in conversation with Bernardine Watson | Books & Brews

Thurs., Feb. 26, 5:00pm-7:00pm
Reservoir Center
301 Water Street SE
Washington, DC 20003



For February Books & Brews, we're inviting you to an intimate conversation featuring author Johnisha Matthews Levi AB'99, as she discusses her memoir *Number's Up: Cracking the Code of an American Family*. In this gripping work, Levi uncovers the hidden life of her late father—a Black WWII veteran who became a "numbers man" in Washington, D.C.—and uses her family's story to illuminate the racial and economic barriers that shaped underground Black economies. Blending personal discovery with social history, *Number's Up* explores family secrets, systemic injustice, forgiveness, and the resilience of the human spirit. Author and poet Bernardine Watson will also be our guest and she will have a conversation with Johnisha about *Number's Up*.

Join us for a compelling conversation about identity, truth-telling, and what it means to reckon with the past.

Refreshments and small bites will be served.

Born and raised in Washington, DC, **Johnisha Matthews Levi AB'99** (she/her) brings a critical eye to her writing based on her experiences as a development professional for social impact nonprofits, a former litigation attorney, and a culinarian. Johnisha graduated from Harvard University, New York University School of Law, and Johnson & Wales University. Her writing has appeared in *Yes! Media, Wildsam, the kitchn*, and *Northern Virginia Magazine*.

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March LGBTQ+ Happy Hour

Mon., March 2, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Licht Cafe
1520 U St NW
Washington, DC 20009

Let's celebrate the coming of Spring together at the Harvard Club LGBTQ+ March Happy Hour!

We're once again meeting at Licht Cafe on U Street to mingle, build friendships, build a community, and plan future events. Your ticket includes a yummy refreshment from the Licht Cafe menu. Everyone is welcome!

How to get there: 52, 54, 59, 90, 96, S2, S9 Buses, WP-AM Circulator, Green and Yellow lines to U Street/African-American Civil War Memorial/Cardozo. Some metered street parking available.

Accessibility: Licht Cafe is up a fairly steep flight of stairs.

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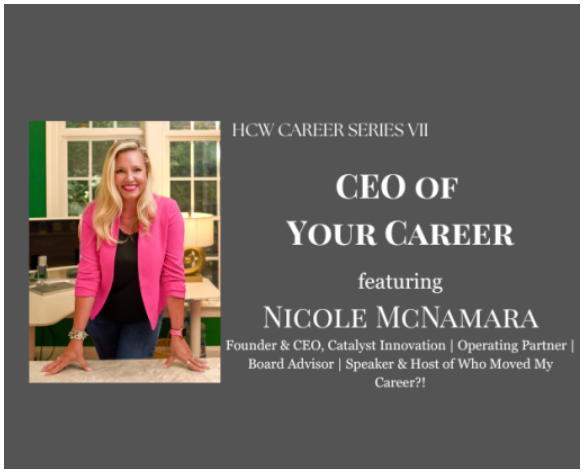
CEO of Your Career | Career Series VII featuring Nicole McNamara

Tues., March 3, 11:30am-1:30pm
Refraction Innovation Hub
7950 Jones Branch Drive,
8th Floor North
Tysons, VA 22102



The traditional career playbook no longer applies.

In a year marked by significant workforce restructuring—from federal layoffs to major corporate reductions—the path forward requires strategic thinking, not just tactical execution. Join Nicole McNamara, Founder & CEO of Catalyst Innovation and host of Who Moved My Career? (top 10% of podcasts globally with listeners in 59 countries), for a candid conversation about modern career management.

Drawing from her CEO of Your Career framework, Nicole will share how accomplished professionals are successfully navigating transitions—from building personal boards of advisors to exploring models beyond traditional employment that offer both flexibility and stability. You'll leave with a practical go-to-market strategy for your career, whether you're in transition or positioning for your next move.

This is a substantive discussion for leaders who understand that managing your career with the same rigor you'd apply to launching a product isn't optional anymore, it's essential.

We will be serving lunch, and there will be plenty of opportunities to network.

Nicole McNamara is the Founder and CEO of Catalyst Innovation, a boutique strategy and transformation consultancy that helps companies grow faster, work smarter, and build what's next.

A former executive at Salesforce, where she led the Innovation team known as Ignite, Nicole built a reputation for making transformation both fast and human—helping organizations including OpenAI, Marriott, the PGA Tour, and Samsung translate complex technology investments into real business outcomes.

Through Catalyst, Nicole partners with mid-market and PE-backed companies to bridge the gap between strategy and execution—turning systems into strategic advantage and unlocking the business value technology promised, but rarely delivers on its own.

Beyond her advisory work, Nicole is the host of the podcast Who Moved My Career?!, where she explores pivotal career moments, reinvention, and leadership in times of change. She is a frequent media contributor and commentator on AI, the future of work, and leadership transformation, with appearances including CBS News, WUSA9, and CRM Magazine.

Nicole also serves on multiple nonprofit and community boards, focused on women's leadership, social impact, and youth development. Known for her "Velvet Hammer" leadership style—warm, direct, and unapologetically results-driven—she brings clarity, empathy, and momentum to every boardroom, stage, and conversation.

Please note that Harvard Club of Washington D.C. has a **no ticket refunds** policy.

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She's Beautiful When She's Angry: A Conversations on Women's Movement with Mary Jean Collins and Janet Hughes '85

Thurs., March. 5, 5:30pm-7:30pm
Reservoir Center
301 Water Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

Join us as we celebrate Women's History Month with a Q&A with historian, women's history icon, and longtime Washingtonian, Mary Jean Collins.

Showing excerpts of the award winning documentary, “She’s Beautiful When She’s Angry,” Mary Jean Collins will discuss how history is preserved – how does it happen so we have the lessons for us to use in the future, the importance of institutions of preserving history. Collins has donated all her papers to the Schlesinger Library and University of Illinois and was instrumental in shepherding Schlesinger’s proposal for all of NOW’s papers, thus ensuring a home for future scholars and students to study pivotal moments in American history, from a feminist viewpoint.

As a second wave feminist, Mary Jean Collins went looking for the successes of earlier generations. Propelled into the women’s movement in the mid 1960’s, Mary Jean Collins became a key figure in the leadership of NOW, pushing for pay equity, childcare and opportunities for women to thrive. Building a movement from the Midwest to the East and West Coasts, Collins sought to inspire, empower and energize people to use their energy and power to create stronger, richer communities.

Janet Hughes, ’85, will lead a Q&A, diving into Ms. Collins’s career in activism, sharing stories of mobilizing women’s marches, fighting Sears to open up careers for women beyond low-wage retail jobs, working with religious groups.
“Other generations have put up the fight and we’re all in a better place for it – and now we need to push other generations and build on the foundation and accomplishments of the past. Progress needs to use the talents of all.” Please note that the event will start at 6:00pm, and we will enjoy a pre-event social hour with light snacks.

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Equinox x Harvard Club: Wellness Day + Social Hour at Equinox Anthem Row

Sat., March 7, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Equinox Sports Club DC
1170 22nd St NW
Washington, DC

In celebration of Harvard Club of Washington, DC's partnership with Equinox, we are delighted to invite you to a special event at Equinox!

You're invited to experience one of 3 EQX signature classes with fellow Harvard Alumni that'll jumpstart your fitness routine in the new year! Come for the class, stay for lite bites and refreshments in our member lounge.

In addition to the event, you're invited to enjoy a complimentary experience at an Equinox club of choice. 2-day membership. Spots are limited.

To learn more about our Harvard Club of Washington, DC x Equinox Partnership, click here.

To register for the Free Classes and Partnership Introduction RSVP here. Please note that spaces are limited.

Please plan to arrive 20 minutes early to check in..

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Speakers Bureau Spotlight: The Risk Environment for 2026 with Juliette Kayyem | Virtual Event

Wed., March 11, 7:00am-8:00am
Virtual Event

Join the HAA Speakers Bureau on Wednesday, March 11 at 7:00-8:00 am ET to learn from the Belfer Senior

Lecturer in International Security, Juliette Kayyem. Her lecture, “The Risk Environment in 2026,” is the second program in the Speakers Bureau Spotlight Series.

Juliette Kayyem AB ’91, JD ’95 is a national leader in homeland security and crisis management in academia, the private sector, government, and media. She is currently the Robert and Renee Belfer Senior Lecturer and faculty chair of the Homeland Security and Security and Global Health Projects at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. Professor Kayyem also serves as a national security analyst for CNN where she has been described as CNN’s “go to” for disasters. A frequent contributor to The Atlantic, she has a weekly security segment on NPR’s Boston station WGBH. Her most recent book, The Devil Never Sleeps: Learning to Live in an Age of Disasters, was described in a New Yorker profile as an “engagingly urgent blueprint for rethinking our approach to disaster preparedness and response.”

Professor Kayyem teaches courses on International and Global Affairs and Mitigating and Managing a Crisis at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Register HERE
Please contact HAA_speakersbureau@harvard.edu with any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

READ MORE

Global Networking Night 2026

Wed., March 25, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Penn Social
801 E St NW
Washington, DC 20004

Global Networking Night is almost here. Don't miss the greatest networking event of the year!

This evening will bring together Harvard alumni from across various industries and interests, local clubs and SIGs, offering a fantastic opportunity to grow your professional network, reconnect with familiar faces, and discover new ways to engage with the Harvard alumni community.

Join us at Penn Social to meet new friends and sign up for new groups that interest you – plus, your price of admission covers a selection of refreshments and snacks.

Whether you are new to the area or have called it home for years, the Harvard community is your community— we hope you will join us on March 25th!

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Events with Other Clubs & SIGs

Ask the Recruiters: A Zoom Discussion

Wed., Feb. 18, 6:00-7:30pm
Zoom link to be provided prior to the event.

This is an opportunity for Harvard alumni and friends to ask career development and job search questions of two fellow alumni who are executive recruiters.

Kelly McLaughlin (EdM '15) is a Managing Associate at Isaacson, Miller in Philadelphia. Kelly specializes in helping universities recruit senior leaders. She primarily focuses on higher education leadership searches, previously serving Boston University, Georgetown University, the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Virginia, William & Mary, and others in their searches for senior leaders.

Peter Gray (AB '91) is CEO of Peter Gray Executive Search in Madison, Wisconsin. He guides nonprofit organizations and social impact employers through strategic hiring. His placement experience includes 40 CEO leadership successions, many at nonprofit organizations in the affordable housing and social services sectors.

While Kelly and Peter each has a narrow focus in the types of positions they recruit for, they have broad expertise in topics of how to navigate career development and a job search, and how to engage constructively with recruiters.

Moderator: Harvard Club Board Member, Zachary Herrmann (EdLD '17), serves as the Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. Dr. Herrmann leads the Penn Leadership Education Institute, the Project-Based Learning for Global Climate Justice initiative, and designs partnerships and professional learning efforts focused on teacher and leader development, team effectiveness, negotiation, and creative problem solving.

Bring your questions!
Date & Time: Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 6 - 7:30pm

Location: Zoom link to be provided prior to the event

Cost: Free! RSVP required.

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Spring Trivia Night

Thurs., March 5, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Blackfinn Ameripub
1620 I St NW
Washington, DC 20006

Whether you're a trivia master or just seeking a fun night out, this event is for you. Gather your friends or come solo and make new connections as you dive into questions across diverse categories like sports, music, history, and beyond!

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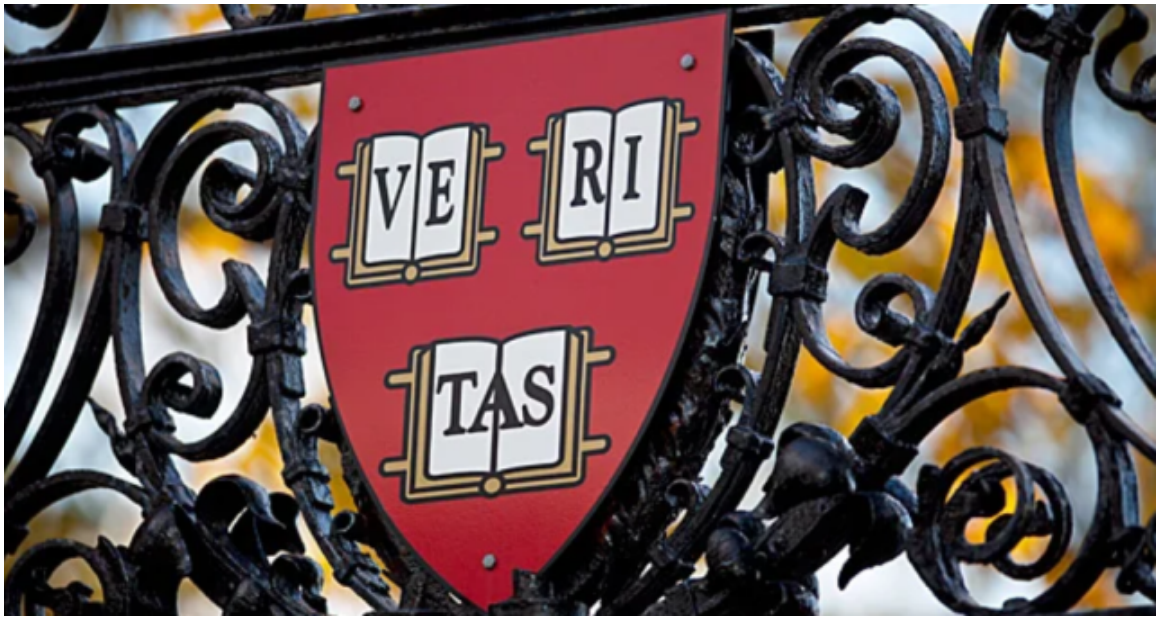

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