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*Winter*  
**in Cambridge**

Inside: Arguments, Advice, and Advancements

# The Harvard Independent

02.21.2019

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The Indy is slipping and sliding!

Photo by Andrew Haimovici '21

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As Harvard College's weekly undergraduate newsmagazine, the Harvard Independent provides in-depth, critical coverage of issues and events of interest to the Harvard College community. The Independent has no political affiliation, instead offering diverse commentary on news, arts, sports, and student life.

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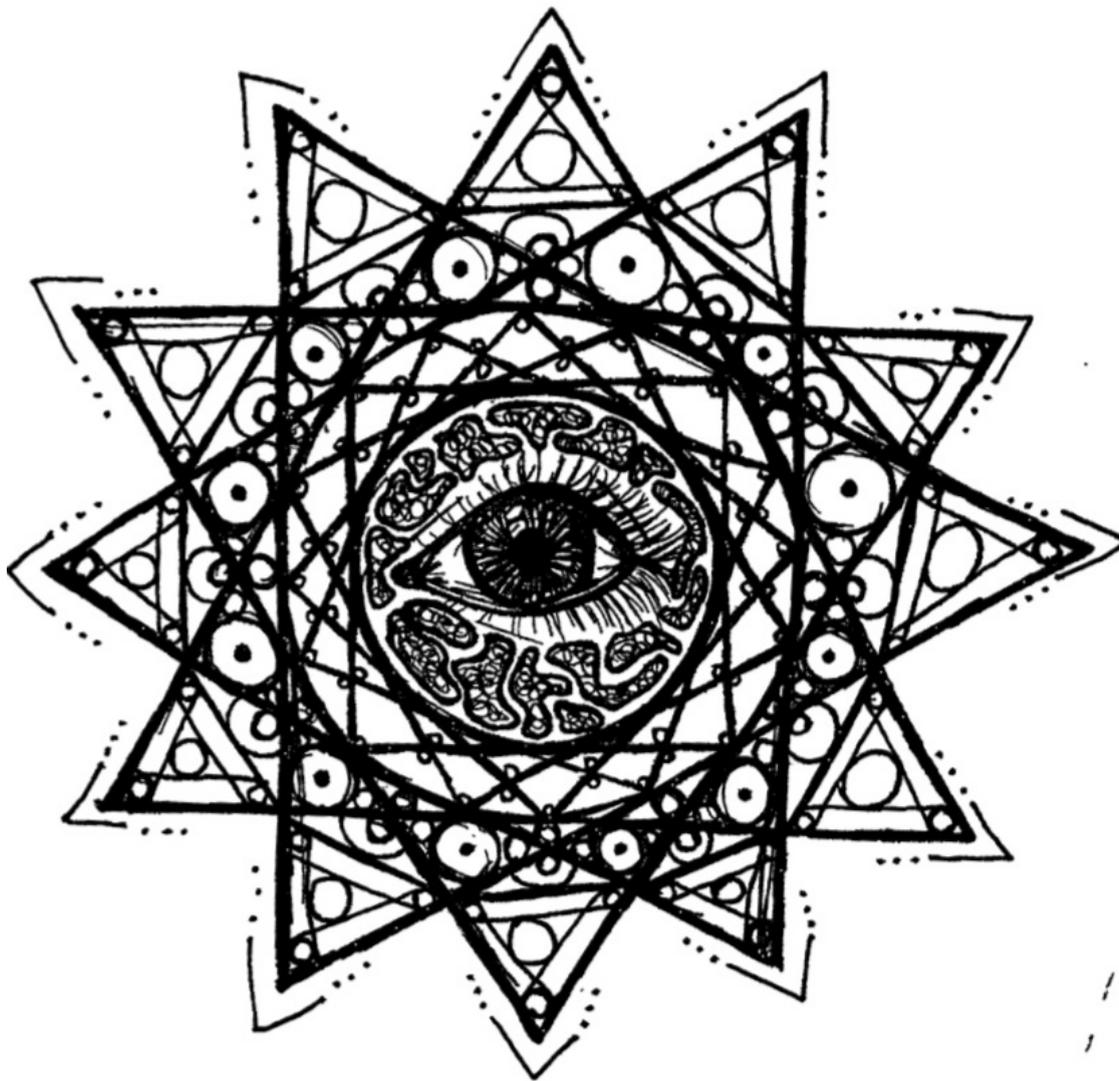
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## The Harvard Science of Psychedelics Club

*The new Harvard Science of Psychedelics Club  
had their first meeting last Tuesday*

By AIDAN FITZSIMONS

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Natalie Sicher '21

The Harvard Science of Psychedelics Club held their first meeting last Tuesday, February 12, at 8 p.m. in Boylston Hall. According to its mission statement, the new club “is dedicated to an interdisciplinary, philosophically motivated, and scientifically rigorous study of psychedelics and, more broadly, human consciousness. Our club aims to be a forum for the discussion of psychedelics and consciousness research, integrating perspectives from neuroscience, philosophy, spirituality, physics, art, psychology, and medicine. In addition, club members will be welcome to participate in drug-free activities and workshops with the intention of exploring altered states of consciousness.”

The club’s first meeting was a success; over two dozen people filled the Boylston Hall meeting room. The club’s three leaders--- JJ Andrade 19’, Kenneth Shinozuka 21’, and Andrew Zuckerman 21’--- led the event, which began with a presentation on the club’s goals and broad plans for the first semester. They plan on holding frequent meetings to discuss scientific research, philosophical ideas, and literature related to altered consciousness. The group also plans to host open-to-the-public talks with prominent thinkers in psychedelic science and mindfulness, such

## The Harvard Science of Psychedelics Club, continued.

as Michael Pollan, who taught at Harvard last term, and they also would like to host discussions between meditators, philosophers, and “psychonauts” (people who have experimented with a wide range of psychedelics.) Finally, the group plans on experimenting with a number of drug-free consciousness-altering group exercises; at this first meeting, Zuckerman led a 5 minute group meditation, followed by the prolonged, mindful eating of pieces of chocolate. Many attendees expressed their enjoyment of this peculiar experience, which made them appreciate the chocolate much more intensely than usual.

The group’s leadership is excited for the new venture, and made sure to highlight the value they see in psychedelic science. Andrade stated that they founded the group because “we really believe in the power of psychedelic medicine for transforming not just the field of psychiatry, but the world in a very real sense.” The medicinal use of psychedelics is still in the early stages of being rigorously researched, due to decades of criminalization started under the Nixon Administration, but the initial findings indicate extraordinary potential. Andrade bemoaned the underdeveloped state of psychedelic research, claiming that “any scientist worth their salt has the obligation to stand with the progress of science and against dogmatism that impedes it for no good reason.” The group is particularly excited to host a talk with Rick Doblin,

the head of MAPS (Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies), who, according to Andrade, is “spearheading the remarkably promising trials to use MDMA to heal treatment-resistant PTSD.”

Shinozuka is particularly interested in the use of psychedelics to investigate still-unanswered questions about consciousness. He said that “consciousness is one of the least well-understood phenomena in the universe, but rigorous scientific research on psychedelics can advance our knowledge of this fascinating enigma, since psychedelics open up dimensions of the human mind that we normally cannot access in day-to-day life.” He plans to balance the scientific aspects of the group with a more philosophical angle.

The group has lofty visions of the potential for human change through psychedelics; in an interview, Andrade referred to psychedelics as “tools for exploring our own minds and for building a healthier, more open, and less oppressive human culture,” and expressed hopes that psychedelic research “could contribute significantly to the end of war and human suffering.” However, the group was careful to distance themselves somewhat from their spiritual forebears, the infamous Harvard Psychedelic Club centered around psychologist and psychedelic evangelist Timothy Leary. Leary ran a number of famous tests with psilocybin and LSD at Harvard in the 60s, before cutting ties with the university to become a full-time activist

promoting the use of psychedelics; this led him to a prophet-like role in the hippie movement, with positive and negative consequences. He was present at the hearings during the Nixon Administration that eventually led to the criminalization of psychedelics. While Leary’s messianic belief in the world-changing power of psychedelics may have had merit, now supported by emerging research into these substances, many critics accuse him of possibly setting research *back* by pushing psychedelics in the wrong way as their unofficial spokesman, leading to establishment backlash. While the new Harvard Science of Psychedelics Club owes a lot to Leary and his movement, they made sure to emphasize that the official club will *not* be using drugs, and that they will focus on scientific research, expert talks, and group discussions. There will be no Kool-Aid served at HSPC events. However, there will surely be a lot of interesting people to meet. Those interested in learning more, attending future meetings, or joining the group chat can email Andrade at [jandrade01@college.harvard.edu](mailto:jandrade01@college.harvard.edu), Shinozuka at [shinozuka@college.harvard.edu](mailto:shinozuka@college.harvard.edu), or Zuckerman at [azuckerman@college.harvard.edu](mailto:azuckerman@college.harvard.edu).

*Aidan Fitzsimons '20 ([aidan\\_fitzsimons@college.harvard.edu](mailto:aidan_fitzsimons@college.harvard.edu)) swears that even though he has not yet drunk the Kool-Aid, he isn't, you know, a narc or anything.*

## Climate Change

*New exhibit engages visitors at the Harvard Museum of Natural History*

By MARISSA G. &  
CHIDAMBARAM T.

*“The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction...”*

When Rachel Carson accepted the National Book Award of 1963, she delivered this prudent peroration in response to the ever-increasing urbanization of man, urging the audience to consider the gravity of their sinking footprint upon the environment. Likewise, by evoking Carson’s words, the new Climate Change exhibit at the Harvard Museum of Natural History—which opened at the beginning of

February—exhorts these same sentiments. Upon entering this Climate Change exhibit, built in collaboration with the Harvard University Center for the Environment, visitors are immediately met with these words of Carson printed on one of the initial placards lining the exhibit.

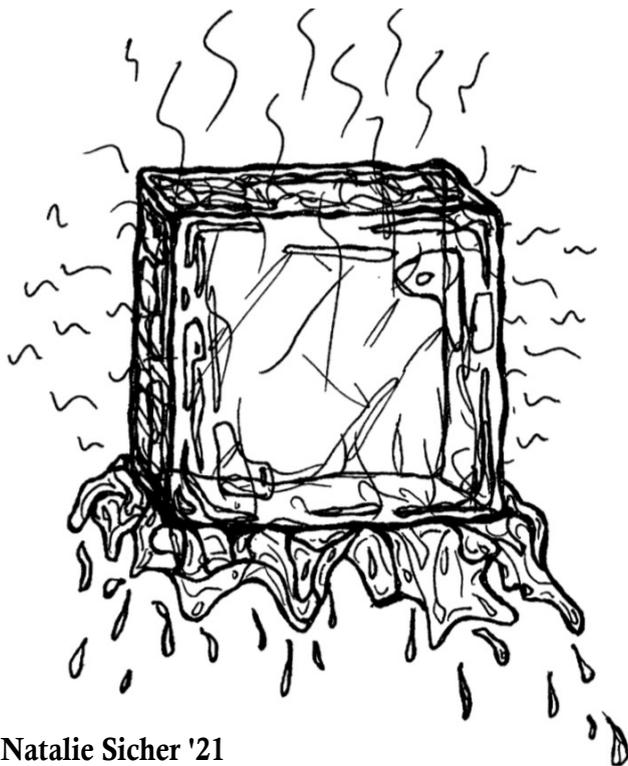
The nature of the exhibit’s location is transient. Situated between the Earth and Planetary Sciences gallery and the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, the central space echoes and embodies this Carson quote. The layout is tactfully adroit.

When the visitors walk through the EPS gallery, geodes and crystals communicate the splendor of our mantle’s natural geological processes. When they cross into the Climate Change exhibit, they are inundated—through intense imagery of hurricanes and storms—by the inevitable degradation of this splendor. And as they pass over into the Peabody, they are then surrounded by artifacts of American ancestors, instilling an enduring urgency to preserve these histories of humanity and to take action to protect future generations.

The exhibit begins with a large screen cycling through headlines extracted from several publications, spanning from the Wall Street Journal to the Los Angeles Times, documenting extreme weather events during 2018. Each headline is swiftly followed by stark footage

of these deafening events. Storms rain down floods sweep through cities, collectively leaving behind vast expanses of sunken suburbia. These powerful images elicit an intractable awe at the sheer force of the recent chaos in all too familiar of settings. The visceral scenes strive to draw forth a desire in the viewer to mitigate the damage of these catastrophes while they still have the luxury of actionability.

The walls of the exhibit are lined with an array of placards, each one documenting increasingly problematic phenomena and contextualizing them through images and descriptions—written in a conspicuous red font—of the damage they inflict. One placard details the rapidly spreading rash of coral bleaching. Visuals of vibrant and colorful reefs are sharply juxtaposed with bone-white, bleached coral—lending emphasis to the nuances of how rising ocean temperature are laying claim not only to our coral reefs but also to the robust, unique ecosystems that reside within. Another placard, explicating the correlation between global warming-induced droughts and wildfires, seems unexpectedly small compared to the scale of the wall-encompassing, ravenous forest fire image that it is laid upon. Yet another placard explains how rising temperatures contribute to increasing intensity of nor’easters, while stunning images provide a more direct insight into the utter magnitude of these powerful storms threatening New England. Ultimately, these carefully curated images and writings provide an overview



Natalie Sicher '21

## Climate Change, continued.

of the global consequences of modern man-made climate change that is distinctly approachable. Despite the theme that climate change is a global responsibility, the exhibit still succeeded in localizing the changes, connecting trends back to the very real concerns here in Massachusetts.

The exhibit closes with a curious semicircular screen in the shape of an earth, with pixelated geographical continents upon it. At the push of a button on the signboard, this device begins a skillfully narrated digitalized demonstration of shifting glacial patterns and rapidly receding land ice. Decades and centuries of slow incremental change are condensed into mere minutes in this effective and engaging presentation.

This earth-modeled screen clearly visualizes for visitors important trends and changes so large and gradual in scope that they can often lose their meaning when abstracted into conventional forms of transferring information. It is easily the hallmark of the exhibit.

The exhibit was overall textually-heavy, and although it included three interactive screen-oriented activities, the language used in the educational videos much exceeded elementary-level literacy-- an insight into what audience this exhibit was catered toward. Though it is crucial to familiarize the youth with the concept of climate change, it remains perhaps even more pertinent to educate adults about the reality of our planet's future, as adults are consumers with the autonomy of capitalistic

choice; they choose which climate-forward industries to support, they choose which fisheries to sustain, and they choose if they want to invest in sustainable-energy sources. Effective measures against climate change resides in the choice of the educated consumer, and, with this exhibit, the Harvard Museum of Natural History is taking active strides toward ameliorating any of these educational gaps.

*Marissa Garcia '21 (marissagarcia@college.harvard.edu) & Chidambaram Thillairajah '21 (cthillairajah@college.harvard.edu), through their studies of the biological sciences, are intrigued by how their role as future scientists will evolve along with the changing climate.*

## News Brief

### Final Arguments Presented in Harvard Affirmative Action Case

By EVELYN GRAY

The final briefs have been submitted in a Boston courthouse by both sides of Harvard's well-publicized legal battle over a 2014 lawsuit regarding discrimination in admissions against Asian Americans. The case is now in the hands of U.S. District Judge Allison D. Burroughs, although the ruling it is expected to be appealed regardless of its resolution and eventually reach the Supreme Court.

In their final arguments, Harvard focused on pointing out that the Students for Fair Admissions group behind the lawsuit has failed to point out a single student as being

clearly discriminated against. In previous Affirmative Action cases that have come before the Supreme Court, there has been an individual who has stepped forward to say that they were wrongfully rejected from an institution, so that has become an important part of the legal precedent for this kind of case. Students for Fair Admissions argues that "personal scores" are used as a part of the admissions process in order to systematically discriminate against Asian American applicants, who are generally scored lower than other demographics in this category.

Given the current makeup of the Supreme Court, since the retirement of

Justice Kennedy, there is not currently a majority of Justices with a record of voting in favor of affirmative action in major cases. This case has the potential to change college admissions as we know it, but it looks like the answer won't be determined here in Boston. Judge Burroughs is expected to take some time to release her decision, but it likely that this case will still be in the news on and off campus in the coming months and even years.

*Evelyn Gray '21 (evelyngray@college.harvard.edu) writes news for the Indy.*

## Valentine's Day: Where were you?

*A review of Valentine's Day events that Harvard students probably should have gone to*

By MIMI TARRANT

This year, Cambridge and the surrounding area did not disappoint for Valentine's Day events. Whether single and soul searching, cuffed and curious, or unavailable and uninterested, it's certain that the right event was out there for you. So did you manage to venture out, exploring the best that Boston has to offer? Or did you spend your Valentine's Day alone with a tub of ice-cream and the movie you've already watched three times? Either way, here were the highlights of the "where's" and "what's" for Boston's thriving V-Day scene.

### 'Not a Valentine's Party' - Beat Brew Hall

Only a short walk from the square, this event was perfect for those looking to celebrate Valentine's without the dizzying heights of heading into Boston. With Beat hosting "friends, lovers, and loners alike," everyone was welcome, making it ideal for that friendship group that insisted on 'Galentine's' but secretly wanted their crushes to be there as well. An easy escape back to the dorm once the novelty has worn off also made this event an easy winner in the eyes of the "I'm trying to be sociable but can't quite do it" Harvard student.

### Lonely Hearts Party: Harvard-Wellesley - Cambridge Queen's Head

First warning sign: Cambridge Queen's Head. Second warning sign: the presence of "saucy singles." Nothing should be called saucy but food. Third warning sign: glowsticks for a stoplight theme. Need I go on? Most probably yes, as inevitably some people went to this, and that single-handedly explains their non-existent love life. Next time, head to a place where Harvard can't spy on your every move.

### The Anti-App Valentine's Day Party - Lamplighter Brewing Co.

"Finally, the event I've been wishing for, one that decries modern societal norms of

the technological pursuit of love for the hedonistic pleasures of interpersonal, real-life interactions" - said no one, ever. There's a reason dating has turned to our screens, and that's because we can't face the unbearable humiliation of rejection to our face. What makes you think that Harvard students will be any different? Lamplighter Brewing Co. stripped you of your protective shield against human interaction by making you "Check your phone at the door." So, unless your DataMatch was so strikingly awful that you denounced dating apps for good, it can be assumed that this event was not filled with Harvard students who struggle to make eye contact, let alone interact, without a phone.

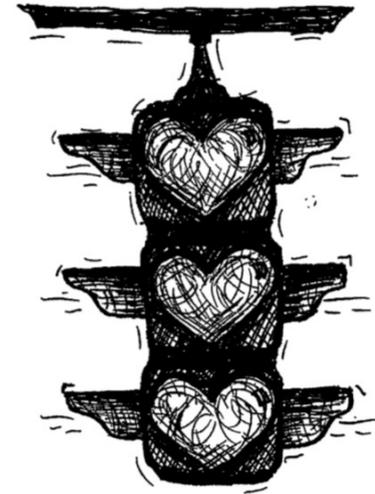
### Heartbreakers & Heartthrobs: A Drag King Event - Museum of Science

Two questions immediately spring to mind about this event. First, why the Museum of Science? Second, did the performer 'Mozza Fella' have anything to do with mozz sticks? If so, we were definitely there. Regardless of whether we knew what a drag king show entailed, what's the Harvard romantic experience if you don't test your comfort levels a little? For those who get that adrenaline rush on the walk of shame from the Quad at seven in the morning, not knowing who you're going to see or how you're going to make it to your nine o'clock class, this event would definitely have made your Valentine's Day.

### On Loving Yourself: Let's Get It On - Spaceus Annex

If you were "ready to heat shit up," then this was obviously the place to be. Not only could you speak to Goddess Cecelia, the Sexuality and Pleasure Editor, about everything "self-love, sex, money, and adornment," but all at 3pm on a Saturday. What else could you want to be doing? Perfect for those who turned up to all that Harvard's Sex Week had to offer, this event definitely helped the sexually deprived of

Natalie Sicher '21



Harvard's campus learn a little bit more about going it alone.

### Mortified Boston: Doomed Valentine's Day - OBERON

Let's not beat around the bush (no pun intended) - being a Harvard student inevitably brings with it an endless supply of cringe-worthy sexual embarrassments; it's just part of the job description. That's why Harvard students must have been at OBERON in their droves, sharing their humiliating stories in a crowd made up of "I don't know your name but see you every day in lecture," strangers. Nothing helps embarrassment more than endless laughter and a small dose of empathy, so OBERON's V-day event hit the spot this year.

### F\$@K CUPID BUYA STYLE - La Fabrica Central Restaurant

#whoneedslove #f\$@klove

Enough said.

*Mimi Tarrant '21 (ameliatarrant@college.harvard.edu) hopes you had a Valentine's Day to remember. If not, you weren't doing it right.*

# INDY FORUM

## Work Loud Fashion Trends While Doing Homework

*The First Installment of Fashion Advice Column for Busy College Students*

By GRACE TWOREK

From the latest slang to the coolest sneakers or hashtags on Twitter, the world is full of trends... whether we like it or not. I am not here to tell you how to dress. Rather, my goal is to fill you in on what is trending in the world of fashion and recommend ways in which the average Harvard student can implement these trends into their daily lives and make the most out of being fashion forward.

What makes the fashion world so exhilarating is that it is always changing. I'm sure that you have looked at a popular item of clothing and thought, "I will never wear that," just to be seen sporting it a year later because Kylie Jenner made it "cool." And there is nothing wrong with this! Trends change while tastes evolve and people grow with fashion, making it truly exciting to take part in.

Our college years are meant for exploring the unfamiliar and stepping outside of our comfort zones. This is what makes now the perfect time to experiment with fashion trends. Sometimes it can be hard to implement these fashion movements into a daily school routine...it is hard enough to wake up early for class and look presentable in the morning, let alone fashionable -- and that is what I am here for.

The first trend I will discuss is one of my favorites of the season: animal print. Unfortunately, animal print is often linked to a sense of tackiness, think early 2000's Jersey Shore. However, if done right... in small doses... it can be incredibly tasteful.

Animal print can be intimidating -- no one wants their outfit to be mistaken for

a Halloween costume gone wrong. In my opinion, the best way to implement this pattern is to choose one focus piece with animal print and let the rest of the look take a back seat. This focus piece can be anything from a belt, a pair of booties, a backpack, gloves, or my favorite -- a scrunchie.

It sounds like a super underwhelming way to approach a bold trend, but you would be surprised by how many times you hear, "I love your scrunchie! Where'd you get it?" when you try it out.

At the end of the day, animal print in your wardrobe can be as loud or as quiet as you want it to be. But, however much you decide to rock, make sure to do it with confidence because that completes any look.

The next recent trend to which I would like to draw attention to is the re-emergence of neon. Rather than describing how I would implement this trend into my daily outfits, I want to approach this look from a different perspective, one which is still very applicable to the everyday college student.

One might wonder how to incorporate the neon trend into your style without putting it on your body. Not everyone is ready to step out of their box when it comes to expressing their sense of fashion and rock a neon green jumpsuit to class. Luckily, there are many subtle ways to insert neon into a look. We're students, we go to class -- or at least we usually do.

We can start here then... What do we need for class? A laptop? Some notebooks? Our phone? Something as simple as a neon phone, laptop case, or even some neon-colored notebooks is the perfect place to start with this trend.

Natalie Sicher '21



These subtle touches don't scream the "Neon Out" theme of your high school football game, but they definitely do the trick of being on trend. Like animal print, neon can be scary, so start off small if you're hesitant so you can always feel comfortable and confident.

Fashion isn't always about the clothes you're wearing, but instead about the confidence with which you wear it and the everyday accessories that you choose to represent your personality.

Trends are ever changing and sometimes when you finally feel comfortable enough to implement one into your style, something else is already newer and cooler. This is why I encourage you to take advantage of this time in which you get to define your own style, rather than conforming to the business or business casual look that we will be wearing for the rest of our lives.

So, step out of your comfort zone when it comes to fashion trends because it might be another 10 years before animal print or neon is "in" again.

*Grace Tworek '21 (gracetworek@college.harvard.edu) loves giving fashion advice.*

# INDY ARTS

## 61st Grammy Awards Attempt to “Step Up”

*This year's Grammys bring feminine  
power to the stage*

By ELIZABETH GUMMER

The 61st Annual Grammy Awards took place on Sunday February 10th at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. This rendition of the hallowed show was hosted by Alicia Keys, the fabulous singer of top hits “No One” and “Fallin.” The evening featured both up and coming artists and seasoned favorites like Janelle Monáe, Miley Cyrus, and Camila Cabello. Top awards went to Kacey Musgraves (Album of the Year), Dua Lipa (Best New Artist), H.E.R. (Best R&B Album), and Cardi B (Best Rap Album). Among the artists honored were country star Dolly Parton, Supremes stand out Diana Ross, and the Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin. If you sense a feminine theme to the names mentioned, you are absolutely right. In an utterly necessary improvement from last year, this year’s Grammy Awards brought feminine power to the stage.

Only 17 of the 86 awards that were given last January went to women. Of the 17 awarded, Alessia Cara was the only solo woman to receive a Grammy (Best New Artist) that made it onto the TV broadcast. Not only were women unequally represented in the winner's category, only 6 women were nominated in the most prestigious awards of the night, including Record of the Year, Song of the Year, Album of the Year, and Best New Artist. Other controversies arose surrounding the lack of performance from Lorde, the only woman to be nominated for Album of the Year, as well as the Academy’s response to the trending #GrammysSoMale tag that rose following the show.

Recording Academy president Neil Portnow responded to criticism from the industry by releasing a statement claiming

that women need to “step up” in order to be successful in the music industry. His references to the music business as “us as an industry” suggested a notion of male exclusivity that women had yet to permeate.

Popular recording artist Pink responded via twitter amongst a storm of backlash, stating that “Women in music don’t need to ‘step up’ — women have been stepping since the beginning of time. Stepping up, and also stepping aside”.

Other prominent female artists such as Charli XCX, Halsey, and Katy Perry also posted statements addressing Portnow’s quote; the artists shared that the lack of representation at the Grammys was not due to women not “stepping up,” but rather due to a failure to properly recognize women for their longstanding contributions to music. Given the significant prior controversy, the Academy had major work to do for this year’s awards.

The award show opened with Alicia Keys nonchalantly inviting her “sisters” onstage. The woman that appeared included Michelle Obama, Jennifer Lopez, Lady Gaga, and Jada Pinkett Smith. Talk about woman power. The women exited the stage after speaking to the influence of music, but not before Keys left the crowd with the question, “Who runs the world?”.

Janelle Monáe, nominated for both Album of the Year and Music Video of the Year, performed her nominated song Pynk. In an ode to feminine sexuality, Monáe celebrated women’s bodies onstage during her upbeat performance.

Taking a hold of the Grammys in more

ways than one, Cardi B stunned the audience with a performance that was uniquely hers and later went on to win Best Rap Album for Invasion of Privacy, among four other nominations. Sporting a leopard print bodysuit in her energetic production, Cardi performed her top hit Money while dancing upon a bejeweled piano and belting her unapologetic-for-being-a-badass-woman lyrics. Accepting her award later in the night as the first solo woman to ever win Rap Album, Cardi gave thanks to her daughter for pushing her to complete the album.

The award for Best New Artist primarily featured women. Nominated were Chloe x Halle, H.E.R., Dua Lipa, Margo Price, Bebe Rexha, and Jorja Smith along with Luke Combs and Greta Van Fleet. Dua Lipa came away with the win; in her acceptance speech, Lipa expressed her honor to be “nominated alongside so many incredible females”. She later threw shade at Portnow’s comment from the previous year, stating that “this year we really stepped up”.

Other highly notable winners include Kacey Musgraves who took home 4 major awards, Lady Gaga with Best Pop Duo/ Group Performance, H.E.R. with Best R&B Album and Best R&B Performance, and Ariana Grande with Best Pop Album. Improving from only 17 awards given last year, women took home 31 awards at the 61st annual Grammy Awards.

*Elizabeth Gummer '21 (elizabethgummer@college.harvard.edu) looks forward to progress in the Grammy Awards.*

## Harvard Women's Water Polo Team Builds on Historic Start

*The Crimson kick off their season with a historic 9-0 record*

By JP VIEIRA

**H**arvard women's water polo team is off to an incredible 9-0 start to the season, best in school history. The team, ranked No. 17, began the Bucknell Bison Invite on February 9th with two straight victories over Gannon (by a score of 18-5) and Salem (by a score of 11-5).

The game against Gannon seemed close after the first quarter, with the Crimson leading Gannon by a score of 4-2. Led by freshman Evan Tingler and senior Kristen Hong, Harvard took a convincing and demoralizing lead of 11-4 into the half. The second half was all Harvard as they finished the game, outscoring Gannon 7-1 to take a commanding win with a score of 18-5. The next game, against Salem, was more of the same from Harvard's women water polo team. After the first quarter, Harvard was up 4-1 and they didn't let up. The Crimson went on to score 11 times, and thanks to the help of freshman goalie Zoe Banks, that was more than enough to take the commanding victory against Salem. Another notable performance after the first day of the Bison Invite came from senior Kristen Hong who tallied seven goals, two assists, two steals, and a block over two games.

The next two games, both at the Bucknell Bison Invite, were on February 10th. Harvard women's water polo team looked to extend the team's best start in program history from 7-0 to 9-0, as

they faced Siena and then Wagner. The first game, against Siena, saw Harvard down early 2-0 as Siena came out firing. The Crimson, however, were not to be subdued as the Harvard team scored five straight goals to take a 5-2 lead. Harvard finished the first half with a 9-4 lead, thanks to a collective team effort from freshman Borden Wahl, senior Kristen Hong, sophomore Olivia Price, junior Sofia Carrera-Justiz, freshman Evan Tingler, and junior Mathilde Ribordy (who all recorded goals and helped build such a substantial lead). Siena started off the second half guns-blazing, in an attempt to make a desperate comeback, but Harvard's offensive attack proved too strong as they went on to win 16-8.

The final game would be the Crimson's biggest test in the season so far as they faced No. 18 Wagner. The contest was back-and-forth from the beginning. Wagner took an early lead, but sophomore Olivia Price leveled the score again; the third quarter ended with both teams tied 9-9. As the game went into the final minutes, freshman Borden Wahl gave the Crimson the lead 11-10. With a great defensive effort, goalie Zoe Banks preserved the lead, giving Harvard the deserved victory over Wagner. Notable players of the day were freshmen Zoe Banks and Borden Wahl. Banks finished the day with 17 saves, two assists, and two steals, and Wahl added five goals, two assists, and a steal. Harvard finished the day with a record of 9-0 (by far best start in school history) and will resume play on March 1-3rd as the Crimson

host Brown, Princeton, California Baptist, and UC Davis for the Harvard Invitational. The season is already off to an incredible opening, so be sure to support the women's water polo team as they look to build on an already historic start!

*JP Vieira '21 (jvieira@college.harvard.edu) is excited for the team to continue its historic level of play!*

## Harvard Men's Basketball Review

*Aiken Leads in Tough Wins Against Columbia and Penn*

By ELIZABETH GUMMER

With 6 wins and 2 losses in their conference season thus far, the Harvard Men's Basketball team has its sights set on making the NCAA March Madness Tournament this year. The team missed the tournament by a disappointing 3 points (68-65) in the 2017-2018 season, in which they were nudged out by the University of Pennsylvania in the final game of the Ivy League Conference Championships. Harvard has matched up against the nation's 68 best only 5 times since the first NCAA men's basketball tournaments began in 1939. Their latest appearance was in 2015, capping off a 4-year streak of qualifying after a 66-year absence from the tournament.

Harvard started their Ivy League season on January 12th at Dartmouth. Juniors Christian Juzang (#22), Chris Lewis (#00), and Justin Bassey (#20) gave Dartmouth a run for their money, with Juzang scoring a near best 20 points in the game and Lewis and Bassey both getting 6 rebounds a piece. Though a great effort, their play was not quite enough for Harvard to claim the win: Harvard closed out their first game with a loss of 81-63. Knowing what they had to do to get the W against Dartmouth, the Harvard men showed the visiting team what they had missed 2 weeks earlier. Juzang led in points again, scoring 19, to bring the team to a 5-point victory (64-59).

Continuing the next weekend at home, Harvard went head to head against Yale on Friday night at 7pm. Only students who arrived before tip-off were able to score tickets to witness the long standing Harvard-Yale rivalry game, as the supply

of student tickets had been exhausted early in the night. With Harvard holding a consistent lead over the Yale team, the packed stands brought enough spectator energy to encourage the team to finish with a 65-49 win over the Bulldogs. The following night the Harvard Crimson again came away with the win, this time against Brown, raising their Ivy win loss record to 3-1 with a score of 68-47.

Home for the 3rd weekend in a row, Harvard gave the crowd a spectacular, although stressful showing. In their first game against Columbia this season, the Crimson led through the majority of the first half, and closed out the second quarter at a tight 37-36. Columbia quickly took the lead, coming back with 2 points in the first 15 seconds of the second half. The lead then proceeded to switch 10 times over the next 19 minutes, with Bryce Aiken (#11) sinking a jump shot to bring Harvard into the lead with only 46 seconds to go. After 2 successful foul shots from Robert Baker (#35) with 5 seconds left on the clock, fans in the student section began to pack their bags and clear the stadium.

But to the crowd's awe, Columbia came back with a 3-point buzzer beater to bring the score to 69-69, sending the teams into overtime. The 5 minutes of overtime were coming to a close with Columbia leading 81-78 before Aiken sunk the 2nd buzzer beater of the game. Both teams gained 8 points in the second overtime, again closing with a tied score. In the end Harvard came out successful, finishing with a 98-96 victory over Columbia. Aiken scored a career-best 44 points during the 3OT game, scoring all

12 Harvard points in the first overtime, and continuing to score another 8 over the next two. The next night, in their 2nd game of the weekend, Harvard took on Cornell for the first time this season. Coming down from the high of the night before, Cornell overtook Harvard's lead from the first half to win the game 67-61.

On the road this past weekend, Harvard's first stop was in Princeton, NJ. Bassey took the first points of the game, scoring 8 points over the course of the first half. The teams went back and forth over the beginning of the second half, but closed out with Harvard holding a solid lead up until the 78-69 finish. In their Saturday night game, a steady back and forth of points made for a great show in Philadelphia. Penn held a 5 point lead over the Crimson men with 1 minute to go, but in heroic style, Bryce Aiken scored twice in rapid fire to bring the teams into overtime. Sealing the deal with a 75-68 finish, the Harvard men returned home undefeated.

This weekend the Harvard men will head back on the road again, taking on the teams of Brown and Yale. Having won against both teams earlier in the season, Harvard will be hoping to better their 6-2 Ivy mark, and put themselves in the best possible position to secure their spot in the NCAA tournament next month.

*Elizabeth Gummer '21 (elizabethgummer@college.harvard.edu) will continue to root loudly from the stands.*

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# the independent



## The Long Trek into Spring

By ISABELLE BLAIR