

SPRING / SUMMER 2021

CLASS NOTES

a book on *So You Think You Can Dance Australia*. As a full-time job, I own and run Armature, a Pilates and strength facility, that was established in 2006. It's grown to three venues and 20 instructors and, thanks to post-lockdown demand, is busy again after seven months of running only online last year. My Australian sculptor husband Michael and I have two kids, Felix, 12, and Sylvie, seven."

ADAM HOWARD writes, "I'm now in my 19th year working at HW (although it feels like the first in this remote-learning year), currently one of the upper school deans (college counseling and academic advising). On a personal note, my play *Headwind* was selected for the 2019 IAMA New Works Fest and had a staged reading at the Los Angeles Theatre Center just before the pandemic hit. I'm now both revising that play as well as beginning a new one inspired by the friendship between Ernest Hemingway and Scott Fitzgerald. My sons, Andrew and Max, now 5 and 3 respectively, continue to give me a run for my money."

1994

NAOMI WALLACE ASHER writes, "I've recently taken on the role of Vice President of International Neighbouring Rights at SonyATV. It's been such an amazing bright spot in an otherwise insane year. I've loved every minute of my time at Sony so far, and look forward to a long and exciting partnership. I'm still living in London with my husband and two boys but travel to LA regularly for both work and to spend time with my family."

SUSIE MONK GALIANO writes, "I moved in May of 2020 back to California from Minnesota, where my husband Caesar, two children, Leo (eight) and Victoria (10), and I lived for six years. I am extremely happy to be home and looking forward to reconnecting with HW alums. I am currently practicing labor and employment law at LightGabler in Camarillo. You can reach me at sgaliano@lightgablerlaw.com."



CAROLINE GIBSON writes, "My first child, Emma, was born on February 19, 2021, at Cedars-Sinai Hospital, where I work as a physician in the NICU. Emma was welcomed into the world by a room full of friends and colleagues, including **DANA LOEB SANDOVAL**, my longtime best friend and fellow class of '94 alumna."

NADER POURATIAN writes, "I am excited to be moving to Dallas with my family to serve as the Chair of Neurosurgery at UT Southwestern."

1995

CELINE KHAVARANI writes, "Last year I started a new job with Giorgio Armani as the Senior Vice President of Entertainment Industry Relations for the Americas."



ROMY MEHLMAN writes, "**ANDREA LEVINE FIRTEL** and I currently play together on a USTA 4.5/5.0 tennis team out of Braemar Country Club. We were HW teammates and won the league championship three years out of four and the coveted CIF championships twice, in 1992 and 1993. We remain close friends on and off the court!"

MARK RYAN writes, "I directed my third documentary feature film, *WINE and WAR*, on Lebanon, its conflicts, and how wine is produced in the midst of this instability. In light of the August 4 explosion in Beirut, 100% of proceeds will be donated to CAP-HO, a charity providing medical care to children at Saint George Hospital in Beirut. To watch the film, visit wineandwar.com."

1996

RACHEL HANSON writes, "With a heavy heart I share the news that my dad, Don Hanson, passed away on January 28, 2020. We celebrated his life on March 7 and 8 with a 'Festival of Dad'—a weekend of laughter, memories, music, good food, family, and friends—including a party in his honor at our family home (attended by quite a few of his HW colleagues and former students). My siblings and I got to hear so many priceless stories about 'Mr. H.' It's amazing how many people remember his tie collection and his colorful day-of-the-week sweaters! My heartfelt thanks to those who have sent condolences over the past few months—and the next time you hear a pun, a play on words, or a corny dad joke, be sure to think of him!"



MARIA CAMACHO writes, “On August 20, 2020, Dayton and I and older brother Landon welcomed Josephine Louise to the family.”

DON KIM writes, “I moved from New Jersey back to Los Angeles and am building an apartment in Koreatown.”

SHEILA NAZARIAN MOBIN writes, “Hi everyone! I am living in Bel Air with my three kids, husband, and dog. My plastic surgery practice and spa are in Beverly Hills. I also run an ecommerce site called The Skin Spot and a nonprofit organization called Nazarian Institute, which focuses on personal and professional growth for medical professionals. My Netflix show, *Skin Decision*, launched in 2020, and it has been a wild ride exploring the new world of entertainment. I am on Instagram @drsheilanazarian for anyone who wants to catch up!”

1998

MICHAEL CLARK writes, “Since September, my wife, kids, and I have been living in Monrovia, Liberia. After most of my career spent in military aviation, I have taken on a new role as one of the U.S. Embassy’s defense attachés. I have been enjoying the new job, and we all have been enjoying our life here.”

JACKIE CRYSTAL writes, “After spending 11 years at entertainment PR powerhouse Rogers & Cowan, I started my own PR agency, Crystal Susco PR. It’s been an amazing experience so far, working with brands I’m passionate about and having the opportunity to collaborate with some of my former HW classmates, like **ZACH SCHWARTZ** and **DAVID LEBOVIC**.”



MIKE CROSBY writes, “Sky Ellis Clavijo-Crosby was born six pounds, six ounces and 18 inches long at 18:02 on February 18, 2020 in Jackson, Tennessee. Sky experienced her first snow at 1.5 days old when we left the hospital! Dad, dad, birth mom, and baby girl are all happy and healthy.”

GREG NATHAN writes, “Through my involvement with Spark, I want to help underserved middle school students in LA see what future possibilities exist for themselves so they can be motivated to work hard in school, graduate from college, and have a meaningful work life.”

ASHLEY SHARE writes, “Together, Harvard-Westlake classmate and strategic advisor **MATTHEW FINE**, founder of The Fine Game Plan, and I have built on HW’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, and the joy of education. Specifically, I set aside my law career and founded ShareLove.Fund, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization empowering women. Matthew amplified ShareLove.Fund’s impact with strategic advice to provide yoga teacher training to the 800 women incarcerated in Rikers Island jail.”

DAVID SUN writes, “My wife Annie and I got married in November 2019 of last year. Annie is a physical therapist and I am an LAPD detective. Fellow Harvard-Westlake class of 1998 alumni **DANIEL LAI**, **GEOFF LING**, **ROGER YAO**, and **ERIC KIM** (my best man) were in attendance.”



ALISSA GOODMAN SWEDLOW writes, “I have recently become a neighbor of the upper school campus! My husband, five-year-old daughter, and I moved to Studio City in November 2019, and we could hear the cheers from the HW football field from our front yard and enjoyed watching students on their daily trek down our street to Starbucks. I work as an illustrator and calligrapher and have even been collaborating with a few classmates on projects. I recently celebrated my 40th birthday with many friends I’ve known since seventh grade (pictured from left to right: **JACKIE CRYSTAL**, **SUZANNE MEYER BERKMAN, ME**, **SARA CHIEFFO**, **DARRIN REVITZ**, **LAUREN FISHMAN PEROTTI**, and **MARISSA KASE SEGAL**.)”

1999

BROOKE FOX EHRENPREIS writes, “My husband Jeff and I welcomed our son on November 30, 2019. We are having a blast with Ryan.”

ADAM HOLDRIDGE writes, “For the last three years, I helped Verizon grow their first (and the first) all-digital, prepaid mobile carrier: Visible. A disruptor in the industry, Visible has been recognized as one of *Fast Company*’s 2020 Most Innovative Companies in the World. Today, I am a Director of Product for the Retail Channel at Western Union, where I lead the global digital retail transformation program across 219 countries and provinces. Recently, I’ve been able to connect with three awesome ’99 alumni in the Mile High City: **JOE WON**, **CARRIE GREEN**, and **JOSH KWELLER**.”