



## *President's Message:*



Happy December, Town and Gown!

I hope this newsletter finds all of you well. It's hard to believe that it's already the second week of December. Where did the time go? It seems like I just put last year's Christmas decorations away, just to take them all out again! I guess there is truth to the saying that the older you get, the faster time whizzes by!

The holidays are always a special time for me, my family, and my Trojan Family. It's a time of reflection on all of my blessings and a time to celebrate with loved ones. Thank you to all of you for being part of my beloved Trojan Family!

As we are all running place to place, party to party, remember to take the time to slow down and enjoy the ride.

Happy Holidays to all of you!

## MARCH 5, 2020 ANNUAL BENEFIT

Planning has been well underway for our primary fundraiser for student scholarships. Mark **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown** on your calendar. There will be special entertainment, our ever-popular Wine Draw, and a newly expanded boutique. Our honoree is USC Alumnus, Community Activist, and ABC7 News Anchor, Marc Brown. Our Benefit webpage is current and includes important links, so be sure to check it: <https://townandgownofusc.org/benefit/>.

Any assistance you can offer with respect to donations, wine, and volunteering for the day would be greatly appreciated. Remember – all monies raised at this Benefit fund scholarships! It's our way of supporting the mission to provide scholarships to today's deserving students who are tomorrow's future.

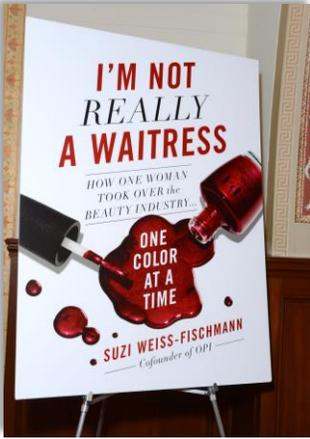
Annual Benefit contacts are Patti Johnson, [ppjpve@aol.com](mailto:ppjpve@aol.com) and Helaine Lopes, [lopes@usc.edu](mailto:lopes@usc.edu).  
Surprise Wine Draw contact is Sara Pfirrmann, [sara.pfirrmann@gmail.com](mailto:sara.pfirrmann@gmail.com).

*“The time to relax  
is when you don't have time for it.”*

~SYDNEY HARRIS



## PAST & FUTURE HAPPENINGS



**November Luncheon.** We have had record attendance at our luncheons this year. Our fantastic November luncheon, in collaboration with the USC Libraries, featured speaker Suzi Weiss-Fischmann. Suzi, also known as the “First Lady of Nails,” wowed us with her true “American Dream” story of hard work and perseverance. She spoke about goals and balancing work with family, and always remembering where you came from. Her message was amazing and captivated the entire audience. Honestly, I cannot ever remember a time when Town and Gown was so quiet! You could hear a pin drop when Suzi spoke!

In contrast, the courtyard was bustling with our winter boutique and there were many unique items for purchase to be found! We even had the privilege of having TRAVELER there! Thank you ACC groups, Town and Gown, Joanne Asman, USC Band, and Tanie Tran for participating.

Those who attended received a signed copy of Suzi’s book and a bottle of OPI nail polish.

**December Luncheon.** December 3rd was another sell-out event for our Annual Christmas Luncheon featuring the USC Thornton Chamber Singers. Special thanks to Christine Ofiesh for hosting them!

Our ladies out-did themselves this year with spectacularly decorated tables. The decorators of the “Candy Land” table generously auctioned off their table decorations and donated the proceeds to Dollars for Scholars. Your incredible generosity is very much appreciated. THANK YOU!

Photos from the December luncheon will be posted on the website by next week.



**January Luncheon.** Remember to sign up for our January 14, 2020 luncheon featuring Kristen Von KleinSmid, former FBI Agent and Senior Executive. Kristen will take us “behind the scenes” and fill us in on how the agency works to keep our nation safe.

Use the attached invitation to RSVP online or by mail by January 6th.

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Do you have any news to share with Town and Gown? Please email Kari May, [karidmay@gmail.com](mailto:karidmay@gmail.com).

*Town and Gown of USC... grounded in tradition... changing the world one scholar at a time.*

• Please remember to share your pictures on Facebook and follow us on Instagram. •

