



Town & Gown
OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

April 2023

Town and Gown of the University of Southern California is a nonprofit philanthropic organization whose purpose is to support USC through scholarships for students, building and campus enhancements, and cultural programs.

President's Message:



Dear Town and Gown of USC Members,

"It takes a village" is a true statement when we talk about our FABULOUS BENEFIT! Under the leadership of Carol Kroesche, we held a beautiful, successful, and fun event. The day was filled with laughter and very high energy! Thank you to Carol and her entire committee for all the hard work that went into the event!

Membership registration is underway. Be sure to renew your membership. Even our Life Members need to update their information. Please be sure to take the time to go to our webpage and renew or click [here](#) now.

I look forward to seeing you at our May 2nd General Meeting. Again, another robust meeting with Coach Lincoln Riley speaking. Come early! It's our last meeting of the year!

All the best and Fight On!

Beth Petak-Aaron

CEO/President 2022-2024

president@townandgownofusc.org

IN MEMORIAM



Ruberta Harwell Weaver



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ANNUAL BENEFIT

CREATIVE - TALENTED - BRILLIANT! Congratulations to Dexter Holland, our 2023 Town and Gown of USC Benefit Honoree!

What a wonderful day we all had. The iconic Beverly Hills Hotel was once again the place to be on April 4th. From the special shopping experiences of the Boutique, to the excitement of the Opportunity Drawing packages and Silent Auction, the spirited Trojan Marching Band, the delicious lunch, and the highly professional School of Dramatic Arts performance, it was a day of entertainment and fun.

Dexter Holland reminded us what it means to be a part of the Trojan Family. He spoke of the support he received at the university from his acceptance letter as an incoming freshman to his hooding ceremony for his PhD and how being a Trojan has enabled him to be a success in so many aspects of his life. Dexter Holland is a true Renaissance Scholar and an ideal representative of USC and of Town and Gown.

Thank you ALL who participated in any way to make this day a tremendous success, especially to the 2023 Benefit Committee, 24 amazingly dedicated women who worked so hard for several months. FIGHT ON!

Carol Kroesche
2023 Annual Benefit Chair



PROGRAMS

On April 4th the members of Town and Gown of USC found themselves at the Beverly Hills Hotel for the annual Benefit which supports the funding of our scholarships for our Town and Gown Scholars. Our honoree was Dexter Holland, a Trojan Renaissance Scholar; and the Trojan Marching Band along with students from the USC School of Dramatic Arts gave wonderful performances and entertained all in attendance.

Carol Kroesche and her committee did a fabulous job!



UPCOMING EVENTS:



Tuesday, May 2, 2023, Lincoln Riley, Head Football Coach, USC Trojans

Join us to hear about Coach Riley's first season as the Head Coach of USC Football and to get a glimpse into the future of the program.

Installing Newly Elected and Appointed Board of Directors and Honoring Life Members

Thank you and Fight On!

Bonnie Suffridge and Debbie Wong
5th Vice Presidents, Programs



SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



Cicero Aschieris BA '24: Philosophy, Politics and Law (Dornsife) with a minor in Entrepreneurship (Marshall)

Tell us about any recent travels - either for study abroad or other USC related opportunities.

I recently traveled to Italy for four weeks from May to June of 2022 to study Italian III with USC's Maymester program. Our university was based in Rome, but we took trips to Milan, Naples, Pompeii, Capri, and the Amalfi Coast. I was able not only to greatly improve my Italian skills but also to immerse myself in Italian culture. As a dual citizen of Italy and the United States, I was able to apply what I learned in the classroom to my daily activities. The Maymester was an experience I will never forget.

Describe clubs or other on campus activities in which you participate.

I enjoy being involved on campus at USC, making the most out of my four years. I am a member of the Undergraduate Student Government, currently serving as the Executive Aide to the Chief Financial Officer and previously serving as the Deputy Aide to the Chief of Staff. I also am the Director of Recruitment for Society 53, the governing and programming board of the Student Alumni Society. Furthermore, I am a Dornsife Ambassador as well as the past Vice President of the Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity. Additionally, I am a member of various honor societies: USC Blackstonians Pre-Law Honor Society, USC National Society of Leadership and Success (Sigma Alpha Pi Honor Society), and Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. Lastly, I am a member of the Caruso Catholic Center Student Association. Overall, I have greatly enjoyed my on-campus experience at USC so far, being able to meet many new people through my involvement.

Please share any new information we should know about your current status, your involvement at USC, or your future plans.

At USC, I am pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, Politics, and Law within Dornsife and a Minor in Entrepreneurship within Marshall. Thereafter, I plan to pursue a Juris Doctorate, endeavoring to be a lawyer who can be a man for and with others and help those in need in the world. Currently, I maintain a 3.76 GPA, having been selected to the Dornsife Dean's List each semester at USC so far. I am proud to have excelled academically and extracurricularly over these unprecedented years. I aspire to further my involvement with USC by volunteering with USC-sponsored service events, conducting research on campus, and obtaining an on-campus job. The Town and Gown Scholarship motivates me to continue making a difference and being a man for and with others. Thank you for your generosity, but rest assured I will pay it forward.

OUR SCHOLARS GIVE US PURPOSE

"Being part of the Scholarship Committee gives our members the opportunity to shape the future not only of Town and Gown and of the University, but of the wider world. It is a unique opportunity - full of fun and inspiration. We hope you will join us!" ~Susie Rhodes and Shana Glassman, 2nd Vice Presidents of Scholarship

Quotes from a few of our Scholarship Committee Members:

"It is fun to attend USC T&G monthly luncheons and to socialize with friends & fellow alumni. However, being able to serve on the scholarship committee is the heart of why we do what we do. It is the most rewarding. Many of these applicants moved me to tears as I read about their hardship and challenges they faced and what it took for them to finally arrive at USC as part of the Trojan Family. Their personal backgrounds and willingness to forge ahead despite obstacles in their personal life has made me appreciate them even more. It's such a privilege to serve on this committee."
~Patricia Mar

"Meeting and interviewing the scholars is very rewarding. Talking to these amazing students always brightens my day. Listening to them express their hopes and dreams and how they are dedicated to making those dreams a reality is inspiring. The optimism and scholarly ambition of these student scholars gives me a brief glimpse into the future and lets me know the world will be in good hands." ~Kathi Nicolard

"I especially enjoy the Scholarship Candidate interviews. It is informative and encouraging to meet so many qualified candidates. They demonstrate & confirm to each of us generational progress while at the same time demonstrating the similarities across generations of the hopes, dreams & plans that are a major part of the college experience."
~Carol Shumway

"...meeting so many smart, talented students at USC and being a part of the process in providing many with deserving scholarships to further their education. These scholarships make a world of difference (speaking as a past USC T&G scholar!) and it's exciting to see current/future leaders come through and be supported by the best organization!"
~Olivia Shen



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL *Happening NOW!*

It's that time of year again ... Annual Membership Renewal is upon us! All members received a recent email about our Membership Renewal & Information Update. This is the opportunity to update your personal information, make committee selections, make additional donations, and for Annual members, pay the annual dues for the upcoming year, 2023-2024. The Renewal deadline is June 30th, 2023. We thank you for your prompt attention. [CLICK HERE and RENEW TODAY.](#)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Tanya Jovanovic (San Diego)

Graduated with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and has been active in real estate sales and mortgage lending for the past 20 years. She is a trojan parent and currently Parent Co-President of Kappa Alpha Theta. She loves football and being part of the USC Trojan family! She also enjoys traveling to experience different food & cultures around the world.

Shelly Moglia (Hermosa Beach)

Shelly graduated from San Diego State University and had a career in interactive and direct marketing. She retired to raise her 3 children. She has volunteered for various positions within her Church and her kids' schools. Shelly loves cooking, exercising and spending time with family and friends.

Danielle Shahidi: (Westlake Village/Dana Point)

Danielle graduated from UCSB with BAs in Communication and Italian Cultural Studies. She has experience with public speaking, organization, and event planning, Danielle is an active volunteer in her community and enjoys traveling, pickle ball, and spending time with her family. She is a Trojan parent and her son, Michael, is a Town & Gown scholarship recipient and will be graduating this May.

Fight On!

D'Arcy Dietrich McLeod and Colleen Stroyke
4th Vice Presidents, Membership



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Do you have any news to share with Town and Gown of USC? Please email Kari May, karidmay@gmail.com.

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