



**Harvard
Business
School**

Club of
New York

57th ANNUAL LEADERSHIP DINNER

HONORING LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22, 2026**

**CIPRIANI 42ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY**



**PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO ACCESS
THE LEADERSHIP DINNER GUEST LIST**

WELCOME

April 22, 2026

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the Harvard Business School Club of New York's 57th Annual Leadership Dinner. We are pleased to celebrate leaders who embody Harvard Business School's mission: to educate leaders who make a difference in the world. This year's honorees exemplify that mission through their remarkable achievements, their commitment to excellence, and their meaningful contributions across industries and communities.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Mark Kingdon (MBA '73) for his leadership as tonight's Dinner Chair. Mark's long-standing commitment to the Harvard Business School community, combined with his distinguished career in investment management and philanthropy, reflects the very spirit of leadership and service that this evening represents.

We are equally grateful to Charley Beever (MBA '78) and Ed Olebe (MBA '99) for their exceptional leadership in chairing this year's dinner committee. Together, they have led a dedicated team whose efforts have made tonight's celebration possible.

We are proud of the many ways the Harvard Business School Club of New York serves our local community. Through pro bono consulting, we support nonprofit organizations and small businesses in achieving greater impact. Our Skills Gap Initiative helps to prepare graduates to become skilled and productive members of the workforce. We operate the largest angel investing group in New York, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. We curate continuing education programs that bring lifelong learning to our alumni and the broader business community. And through our scholarships, we support nonprofit leaders attending HBS Executive Education programs, students pursuing the MBA, and HBS students undertaking summer fellowships in the New York metro area. None of this important work would be possible without your generous support.

Thank you for joining us this evening and for being part of this vibrant and impactful community. We are grateful for your continued engagement and commitment.

Enjoy the evening.

Laila J. Worrell, MBA '98
Board Chair

Calvin Mew, PMD '84
President

2026 LEADERSHIP DINNER

MENU

FIRST COURSE

Cipriani Burrata

Grape Tomatoes and Black Olives

CHOICE OF ENTRÉE

Chilean Sea Bass alla Carlina

*Worcestershire Sauce, Lemon Juice, Tomato Sauce, and Butter
Broccolini, Potato Dauphinoise*

OR

Prime Roast Sterling Filet of Beef

*Classic Cipriani Natural Jus
Broccolini, Potato Dauphinoise*

PLATED DESSERT

Cipriani Vanilla Crème Meringue Cake

COFFEE & TEA SERVICE

2026 LEADERSHIP DINNER PROGRAM

WELCOME & REMARKS

Calvin Mew, PMD '84

President, HBS Club of New York

Mark Kingdon, MBA '73

Chief Executive and Founder, Kingdon Capital

Leadership Dinner Chair

Dean Srikant Datar

Harvard Business School

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

presented by Maurice Nicholson, Chief Business Officer, Synexus

Willie E. Woods, MBA '93

Founder, President & CEO, ICV Partners, LLC

DINNER

REMARKS

Laila J. Worrell, MBA '98

CEO, Material Holdings, LLC

Chair, HBS Club of New York, Board of Directors

JOHN C. WHITEHEAD SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD

presented by Patricia E. Harris, CEO, Bloomberg Philanthropies

Thomas L. Kempner, Jr., MBA '78

Executive Managing Member, Keewaydin Investments LLC

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD

presented by Grace Harry, Joy Strategist & Cultural Architect

Nadia Boujarwah, MBA '13

Co-Founder, Dia & Co

Lydia Gilbert, MBA '13

Co-Founder, Dia & Co

CLOSING REMARKS

Mark Kingdon

DINNER CHAIR

Mark Kingdon, MBA '73

Chief Executive and Founder, Kingdon Capital



Mark Kingdon, Chief Executive and Founder of Kingdon Capital Management, is the firm's chief portfolio manager and strategist. Mark has over 50 years of investment experience.

He has been a General Partner of Kingdon Associates and Kingdon Partners since their inception in April 1983, a General Partner of Kingdon Family Partnership since its inception in July 1993 and has managed M. Kingdon

Offshore N.V. since its inception in March 1986.

Prior to founding Kingdon Capital, Mark spent eight years as an Analyst, Portfolio Manager and General Partner with Century Capital Associates, an institutional asset management firm.

From 1973 to 1975 he was a Pension Fund Administrator for American Telephone & Telegraph Co.

Mark received a BA in Economics, Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia College in 1971 and an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1973.

He serves on the boards of the Harlem Children's Zone and New York City Police Foundation, is a trustee emeritus of Columbia University and is the 2003 recipient of the Institutional Investor/Alternative Investment News Lifetime Achievement Award.

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Willie E. Woods, MBA '93

Founder, President & CEO, ICV Partners, LLC



Prior to co-founding ICV, Mr. Woods was a Vice President in investment banking at Deutsche Bank Alex Brown. Mr. Woods was responsible for deal origination and execution of mergers and acquisition, leverage loan, high yield bond and equity transactions with a focus on financial sponsors in the basic industries. Prior to Deutsche Bank Alex Brown, Mr. Woods worked in private equity at Levmark Capital, investment banking at Lehman

Brothers Inc. and corporate banking at NBD Bank. Mr. Woods serves on the Board of Directors of the Apollo Theater Foundation, The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, and Mr. Woods is a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Morehouse College. Mr. Woods received his BA degree in Accounting from Morehouse College and his MBA from Harvard Business School.

JOHN C. WHITEHEAD SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD



Thomas L. Kempner, Jr., MBA '78
Executive Managing Member,
Keewaydin Investments LLC

Thomas L. Kempner, Jr., is the Executive Managing Member of Keewaydin Investments LLC, a private investment firm he founded in 2020. Tom is the former Executive Managing Member of Davidson Kempner Capital Management LP, a firm he co-founded in 1984, and from which he retired in 2019. Prior to joining Davidson Kempner, Tom began his career at Goldman, Sachs & Co. from 1978 to 1981. He later worked in principal investments at two small firms, Loeb Partners and First City Capital.

Tom graduated from Harvard Business School in 1978 with distinction and from Yale College in 1975 with a B.A. in computer science, magna cum laude. He is currently Board Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Central Park Conservancy and President of the Board of Trustees of The St. Bernard's School in New York. He is a Trustee of the Ford Foundation, Harlem Village Academies, and Mount Sinai Health System, Inc. He is President of American Friends of Bletchley Park, Inc. He is also a former member of the Board of Directors of Harvard Management Company, as well as the Harvard Business School Board of Dean's Advisors.

Across Tom's investing in capital markets and social enterprises, he is guided by a disciplined, long-term strategy and a focus on investing in great people and institutions that are often overlooked or under-resourced. Tom has always tried to leverage his financial social investments with a willingness to invest his time and skills in these organizations with a goal of strengthening them for the benefit of future generations.

Tom is a proud parent of three and a grandparent of six. He is also extremely proud that his son and both daughters-in-law are Harvard MBAs.

Tom participates in competitive stand-up paddleboarding and is an avid rock climber, deepening his love of the outdoors and the natural world.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD



Nadia Boujarwah, MBA '13 and Lydia Gilbert, MBA '13

Co-Founders, Dia & Co

Lydia Gilbert and Nadia Boujarwah are the co-founders of Dia & Co, one of the leading size-inclusive fashion businesses built in the last decade. Grounded in the belief that all women deserve equal opportunity to express themselves through style, Dia & Co redefined how millions of women shop through its e-commerce platform and flagship personal styling service.

Founded in 2015, Dia & Co was an early pioneer of the size-inclusivity movement, partnering with major designers and cultural icons including Diane von Furstenberg, Christian Siriano, Betsey Johnson, Lizzo and Rebel Wilson. Under their leadership, the company scaled north of \$100M in annual revenue, acquired plus-size luxury retailer 11 Honoré, raised capital from leading venture firms, including Sequoia Capital, Union Square Ventures, and Founder Collective, and built a community of more than six million women strong. Dia & Co was acquired in 2024 by FULLBEAUTY Brands, the largest strategic player in the extended-size apparel market.

LYDIA began her career at the Clinton Foundation and Google and holds a BA in History from Cornell University. She is an active advisor and angel investor in over a dozen tech companies, and a committed patron of the arts where she is a Young Partner at The Public Theater, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce Theater and New York City Ballet. She is currently working with **Buena Vista Social Club** on Broadway to expand access for students from underrepresented communities.

NADIA began her career in investment banking at Perella Weinberg Partners and holds a BS in Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She is a prolific angel investor and advisor in the tech ecosystem, as well as a Founder Partner at Founder Collective and Entrepreneur in Residence at Harvard Business School. She is deeply committed to ensuring the tech sector serves New York City and is currently in Tech:NYC's inaugural class of Grid Fellows.

Both were graduates of Harvard Business School Class of 2013, Section E.

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**You embody our mission
and make our wide-ranging
and deep impact possible.**

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CLUB IMPACT

Founded in 1920, the HBS Club of NY is the alumni organization for the approximately 13,000 HBS alumni residing in the Greater NY area. It is the largest HBS Club in the world, and is a unique and powerful platform for alumni of Harvard Business School to use their leadership skills to make a meaningful difference with fellow alumni in service to the community and in areas of mutual interest.

The Club's annual Leadership Dinner is the primary fund-raiser for the Club and its activities each year, which include:

- **The Community Partners Program** which each year provides approximately \$4 million of pro-bono consulting services for almost 50 NYC area non-profits, delivered by teams of local HBS alums
- **The Skills Gap Initiative** which connects New York educational institutions with businesses to build needed skills for the local workforce
- **Scholarships and fellowships** for local non-profit leaders to attend HBS executive education programs, for MBA students, and for HBS summer fellows in the NYC Metro area
- **An on-going annual series of over 75 events and seminars**, attended by more than 3,500 individuals, featuring HBS professors and business leaders providing lifelong learning to alumni and the local business community
- **HBS Alumni Angels**, the largest Angel investing group in New York with over 325 members, which routinely makes investments totaling in excess of \$3 million
- **The Small Business Partnership Initiative**, which provides pro bono business counseling services to NYC area small businesses, and serves hundreds of businesses in NYC

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to all who made the Leadership Dinner possible:

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