

JUNE 2022

June Monthly Meeting

HISTORY OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA

June 1, 2022 at 7-8:30 pm PDT

Join us for a special panel discussion

Moderated by Susie Ling



Dosan Ahn Changho and others at Riverside's Pachappa Camp, circa 1910.

With presentations by:

M. Rosalind Sagara, Save our
Chinatown Committee (SOCC) &
the L.A. Conservancy

Judy Lee, SOCC & UCR Librarian

Dr. Kristin Hayashi, JANM's
Collections Management

Emilio J. Virata, Jr, Former Dean
of Students, UCR

Dr. Edward Chang, Dept. of
Ethnic Studies, UCR

**Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on
the CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>**



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President's Letter

For the past 4 years of my presidency, I have used the monthly News 'N Notes as an advertisement for our organization. At some point I realized that people don't know what we are doing. The newsletter seemed the logical way to spread that information. The recent newsletters document the grants we have received, the interns, the volunteers, the donors, and our projects. With the many photos that are included, the newsletter has become like a time capsule.

Discovering and recording Chinese American history and making that history known to the world is a process. The progress made during the past 4 years has been made possible by active board members, generous donors, volunteers, and networking with other organizations.

Ten years ago, with the support of the National Park Service, CHSSC organized the first pilgrimage to Yosemite in an effort to make the contributions of the Chinese to the development of Yosemite National Park known. The National Parks Conservation Association joined this partnership. Last Fall an exhibit focused on the history of the Chinese in Yosemite was opened in a former Chinese Laundry building in Wawona.

Over 3 years ago members of the Institute of California in the West (ICW) sought our collaboration regarding their Old Chinatown project. Last year a grant they were awarded for this project included money for CHSSC to help fund our participation in their research efforts.

With the help of a major donor, CHSSC has developed a media center. This involved hiring an IT specialist to design and wire the houses for high-speed internet before installing a new high-speed server. This increased the capacity for our online presence.

After an extensive review and analysis of our archives by a company sponsored by the California State Library, CHSSC developed a future plan for preserving our extensive archives and making them available. Part of this process involved hiring a Collections Manager and interns to create exhibits and put finding aids on the Online Archive of California.

Our educational outreach has been noteworthy. First, Linda Bentz worked with UCR students as part of a public history seminar. The final projects that the students created after researching East Adams and City Market are now on our website. Last summer Dr. Will Gow and Dr. Kelly Fong held a summer class for interns that taught the interns about collecting Chinese American history. The class was so successful that we had 53 applicants from throughout the US for this summer's program.

Outreach is critical to fulfilling our mission. Having monthly program meetings online has allowed us to reach people from throughout the U.S. Our program speakers have included experts from outside Los Angeles. A community organization that was founded by people with a shared purpose needs to keep its connections to the local community. In the next year, read our newsletter for opportunities for us to gather as a group.

Susan Dickson

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Caitlin Bryant
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Bak Jong
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Felicia Tabing
Howard Wang

MISSION STATEMENT

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November 1975. The purposes of the Society are:

1. to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in southern California;
2. to pursue, preserve, and communicate knowledge of this history; and
3. to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multicultural society of the United States.



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Our June Program Guest Speakers



M. Rosalind Sagara is a public and architectural historian. Rosalind is the Neighborhood Outreach Manager with the Los Angeles Conservancy and Chair of the Save Our Chinatown Committee. She is a recipient of the American Express Aspire Award.



Judy Lee is a librarian at UCR. She is a founding member of Riverside's Save Our Chinatown Committee, member of the Multicultural Council of Riverside Museum, and member of Harada House Foundation.



A graduate of UCR, **Dr. Kristen Hayashi** is Director of Collections Management & Access and Curator at Japanese American National Museum. She is a Board Member of the Little Tokyo Historical Society.



Emilio "Joe" Virata is retired from being the Acting Dean of Students at UCR. He is a member of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), Orange County and Inland Empire Chapter. Joe is currently involved with Visual Communications' Digital History Collaboration.



Dr. Edward Chang is Professor of Ethnic Studies and founding Director of the Young Oak Kim Center for Korean American Studies at UCR. He has been a visiting professor at Hanyang University, Inha University, Sogang University, and Korea University. Dr. Chang

is a leading expert on the Los Angeles Riots and Korean-African American relations. Chang is a board member on the Council of Korean Americans.

Program Moderator



Susie Ling was born in Taiwan and raised in the Philippines. She has been CHSSC's editor of Gum Saan Journal. She teaches Asian American studies at Pasadena City College.



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Online Exhibit Premiers on June 15, 2022

Tyrus Wong's Murals at Grandview Gardens Restaurant



We invite you to a virtual exhibit featuring murals created by Tyrus Wong for Grandview Gardens Restaurant. These unique murals have not been on display since the mid-90s. The exhibit reveals Tyrus's original concepts and drawings for the artwork produced in 1961. Grandview Gardens history, in both Old and New Chinatowns, will also be displayed through Wong family interviews, photos, artifacts, and newspaper accounts.

Online Exhibit Begins 6/15/22

Don't miss this new exhibit at chssc.org!

Funding for the exhibit was graciously donated by the Louie Foundation.



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Grandview Gardens Restaurant Project Team

After receiving the Louie Family Foundation grant, CHSSC put together a team: Coryn Hardison, project manager, and interns Riona Tsai and Alyssa Hemler. Riona conducted research and put the online exhibit together while Alyssa researched Grandview Gardens Restaurant and interviewed members of the Wong family. Susan Dickson interviewed Tyrus Wong's daughter, Kim Wong, and Randel Urbauer professionally photographed the two Tyrus Wong murals.



Coryn Hardison was the Collections Manager of CHSSC's archives, physical library, and digital library. She received a Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Classics at the University of California, Irvine and a Master of Library and Information Science at the University of California,

Los Angeles, specializing in Archival Studies.



Riona Tsai is a second-year UC Riverside undergraduate student majoring in both Media & Cultural Studies and History. She began interning for CHSSC in her first year at UCR during the spring quarter of 2021 and has been doing work on the City Market Chinatown, including going over different sources

and cataloging data. Currently, she is a research assistant for the UCR history department.



Alyssa Hemler is a transfer, a fourth year student, and English and Asian American Studies Double Major at the University of California, Los Angeles. Alyssa is incredibly interested in Asian and Asian American literature as well as Asian and Asian American representation in literature with a special

interest in how it contributes to and affects the perception of these communities.

Randel Urbauer is a curious and relentless autodidact with a penchant for art. He currently consults and assists in projects that interest him. For over 30 years, he ran an advertising photography studio in the Brewery Arts Complex in Los Angeles. His diverse work took him to several international locations and dozens of cities within the US. A graduate of Art Center College of Design, he has always enjoyed sharing knowledge and collaborating within the arts community.

CHSSC Awarded Grant

CHSSC was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Cathay Bank Foundation. Cathay Bank, the oldest Chinese American Bank in Southern California, established a foundation in 2002. The foundation awards grants to create opportunities for affordable housing, community and economic development, and education.

CHSSC sought funding to make the Southern California Oral History Project (SCOHP) available to the public. This project which was done in partnership with UCLA Asian American Studies Center that began more than 40 years ago, resulted in oral interviews of 169 early Chinatown pioneers. These recently digitized interviews will be uploaded to our website, with capacity enhancements supported by the grant.



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2022-2023 Slate

Officers:

President: Eugene Moy
Vice President: Ricky Leo
Vice President. Programs: Susan Dickson
Secretary: Howard Wang
Treasurer: Franklin Mah
Membership Secretary: Caitlin Bryant

Members at Large:

Linda Bentz	Bak Jong
Cindy Fong	Angela Lancaster
Gordon Hom	Grace Leo
Laureen Hom	Felicia Tabing

The board presented this slate in the May newsletter. The CHSSC board has not received any nominations or comments so this board will be seated July 1, 2022.

The Five Chinatowns Project Needs Your Support

By William Gow

Do you have memories of the Chinese American community in Los Angeles during the period before 1965? Did you live, work or play in China City, New Chinatown, Old Chinatown, City Market or the Adams and San Pedro neighborhood during this period? If so, then the society needs you! We are currently searching for volunteers to share their memories in oral history interviews with our society interns this summer. We are recruiting community members who agree to be paired with a high school or college intern and sit for two interviews focused on personal memories of the Chinese American community in Los Angeles before 1965. Interviews can take place in person or on Zoom this summer in July and August.

With the support of generous donors at the CHSSC, we have recruited a talented group of summer interns from across the US and Canada. These interns will be with us for a ten-week paid summer program in which we teach the basics of oral history methodology and provide background on Los Angeles Chinese American history. Led by Dr. William Gow of Sacramento State University, Dr. Isabella Quintana of UC Irvine and Dr. Kelly Fong of UCLA, our interns will receive training and lessons from top scholars in the field of Asian American studies.

But we are short volunteers who are willing to be interviewed. We need at least five more people with memories of Los Angeles in the period before 1965 who are willing to participate. All interviews will be recorded and archived with the CHSSC. Excerpts of the interviews will be included in the society's next book project focused on the history of the five Chinatowns of Los Angeles.

If you are interested in being interviewed reach out to William Gow at wgow@outlook.com.



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Behind the Scenes at CHSSC in May



ICW staff Olivia Ramirez with Linda Bentz



Elizabeth Ann Logan and Stephanie Yi from ICW



High school intern Brandon Cheng



Xuening Kong, Purdue Ph.D candidate

May Donations

In Memory of Rose Hom

Albert and Yvonne Chang

Major Donors

Cathay Bank Foundation Grant

Cindy Fong

James B. Louie



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: info@chssc.org
Website: www.chssc.org

*Please help us save paper and postage,
email us to indicate your preference for an online newsletter at info@chssc.org.*

Upcoming Events

King of the Yees, a play written by Lauren Yee, focuses on San Francisco during their disappearing past. Tim Dang, Artistic Director Emeritus of East-West Players returns to Sierra Madre Playhouse to direct King of the Yees.

CHSSC members are gathering to watch the Sunday, June 5th performance at 2:30. To join us, buy your tickets at their website: <https://sierramadreplyhouse.org/>