



# ORAL HISTORY CENTER of The Bancroft Library UC Berkeley

Newsletter - September 2016

## Contents:

### [From the Director](#)

### [Oral History in Action](#)

### [From the Archives](#)

### [News About OHC](#)

### [Coming Up](#)

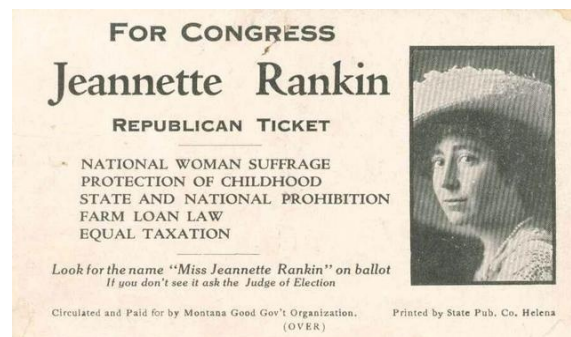


Participants in our 14th annual Advanced Oral History Summer Institute, held this past August at the MLK Student Union on the Berkeley campus

## [From the Director](#)

### [From the Director: A New School Year and New Initiatives at the Center](#)

Long lines at the coffee bar, parking lots filled beyond capacity, and the return of warm weather to the perpetually foggy Bay Area -- all signs that summer has ended and the mad rush of Fall Semester has begun. However, while the rest of campus was a little sleepy during the summer months, Berkeley's Oral History Center witnessed, if anything, an increase in activity this year! In June, we were thrilled and honored to welcome the newest historian/interviewer and fourth new interviewer in less than three years: Cristina Kim. [[Read more](#)]



Jeannette Rankin, the first woman to serve in Congress, interviewed by the Center in 197

[Back to Top](#)

## [Oral History in Action](#)

### [Welcome to Cristina Kim, Our Newest Historian/Interviewer](#)

With the arrival of new interviewer Cristina Kim, the Oral History Center enters a new era: for the



OHC historian/interviewer,  
Cristina Kim

first time in several years, after the retirement of several interviewers and directors, the Oral History Center is fully staffed with a new director and four new full-time interviewers hired since 2013. Cristina joins us from NPR partner, StoryCorps. A UC Santa Cruz graduate, she also holds master's degrees from Columbia University and Brown University. In July I sat down to talk with her about her life and work and about the past and future of the Oral History Center. We began our discussion the way most OHC interviews usually begin, with questions about family background and upbringing. [[Read more](#)]

## **New Podcast Series: "From the Inside Out: Women in Politics"**

On September 1, the Bancroft Library hosted a special event for Senator Barbara Boxer to celebrate and formally announce the donation of her political papers to the Library's collection. Before the event, the Senator graciously sat down with OHC staff for a short interview, which will be the concluding feature of the Center's six-episode podcast series, "From The Inside Out: Women In Politics." We are excited to announce that this timely podcast will be narrated by Emmy award-winning television journalist Belva Davis, and will debut at the end of September. In commemoration of 2016 proving to be another historic year for women in politics, the project seeks to showcase the unique and important interviews in our collection of women who, against tremendous odds, broke through glass ceilings and forged their own paths in the political arena. The six episodes of "From The Inside Out" chart the political advancement of women in the United States through the lives and achievements of ten noteworthy pioneers. [[Read more](#)]



Senator Barbara Boxer, with UC  
President Napolitano, at the Bancroft  
Library

[Back to Top](#)

### **From the Archives**

## **From the Archives: Cecilia Chiang: The Woman behind San Francisco's The Mandarin Restaurant**

It's impossible to talk about US foodways or the formation of an American palate without talking about Chinese food. From it's iconic representation in film and tv programs to the sheer number of Chinese restaurants across the United States, Chinese food is undeniably a ubiquitous part of the American foodscape and imaginary. Americanized Chinese dishes, such as Chop Suey and Egg Foo Yung, first became popular in the late 1850s with Gold Rush miners in San



Restaurateur Cecilia Chiang

Francisco and ultimately spread to urban centers in the early 20th century, where diners consumed the perceived "exotic" fare with great gusto. [[Read more](#)]

[Back to Top](#)

### [News About OHC](#)

## [Important New Partnership with the National Park Service](#)



Rosie Rally August 13, 2016, Richmond Craneway Pavillion, 2,229 strong Guinness World Record for Most People Dressed as Rosie the Riveter in one place.

When I joined the Oral History Center in 2002, we had just begun our collaboration with the National Park Service on the Rosie the Riveter / World War II Home Front Oral History Project. The initial phase of the project called for sixty interviews to document Richmond and the Bay Area during the home front period. I was an interviewer, transcriber, videographer, editor, and web producer. Fourteen years later we have completed over 250 oral histories with women and men about this unique time period in United States history, making this our largest single community oral history project. [[Read more](#)]

### **In recent months...**

The Oral History Center has completed several fascinating interviews that you might have missed. So, we'd like to help you catch up on our latest releases: geneticist [Patricia Greene](#); former CEO of Kaiser Permanente [George Halvorson](#); late professor of earth and planetary science [Ian Carmichael](#); jazz pianist Gildo Mahones; and several interviews from our long-running Rosie the Riveter / World War II Home Front Project: [Jean Allen](#), [Elsie Arnold](#), [Betsy Hess Behrens](#), [Betty Coates](#), [Mary Giannone](#), [Martin Griffin](#), [Bernice Grimes](#), [Sister Leonard Marie Lichinchi](#), [Phyllis Massino](#), [Kay Morrison](#), [Eleanor Parker](#), [Ellen Roberts](#), [Johanna Roman](#), [Mary Torres](#), and [Ruth Waldroff](#).



**Patricia Greene in Herb Boyer's lab**

## [Coming Up](#)

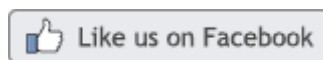
### And stay tuned for...

In the coming months, check back to the Oral History Center website for the release of our highly-anticipated interviews, including with:

- Renowned economists trained at the University of Chicago, including **George P. Shultz** and **Arnold Harberger**;
- The first group of interviews from the **Freedom to Marry Oral History Project**, including Evan Wolfson, Thalia Zepatos, and Marc Solomon;
- Several more interviews with women and men who worked on the home front in World War II as part of our long-running **Rosie the Riveter Oral History Project**;
- **Keith Yamamoto**, Professor of Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology, and campus leader, at UC San Francisco;
- Former San Francisco mayor, **Willie Brown**;
- **Rick Laubscher**, founder of Market Street Railway;
- Several interviews documenting the **San Francisco Fire Department**;
- Berkeley campus leader and Professor Emeritus of Psychology, **Susan Ervin-Tripp**;
- **Jim Chappell** who served as Executive Director of SPUR for many years;
- Early civil rights leader and first head of the California Fair Employment Practices Commission, **Edward Howden**;
- Longtime president of Rotary International, **Cliff Dochterman**;
- Getty Trust leaders in the conservation of world artistic heritage, **Jim Druzik** and **Neville Agnew**;
- Former director of the Jewish Community Federation, **Wayne Feinstein**.

[Back to Top](#)[THE BANCROFT LIBRARY](#)[UC BERKELEY LIBRARY](#)

The Oral History Center (OHC), a research division of The Bancroft Library, documents the history of California, the nation, and the interconnected global arena. OHC produces carefully researched, audio/video-recorded and transcribed oral histories and interpretative historical materials for the widest possible use.

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