



## 2020 Commencement Special Edition from the OHC

---

From all of us at the Oral History Center, we are wishing you our best in these challenging times. We hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy.

---

### From OHC Director Martin Meeker

Every year as the semester comes to a close, the Oral History Center hosts a very special event. We call the event our annual Commencement celebrating the Oral History Class of that year.



We invite campus friends, project partners, and everyone (and their families and friends) whose oral history we completed in the previous year.

Every year this has been a joyous and often moving event. This year, though, we were unable to gather our community together. So, like almost every other social gathering, we've decided to host our commencement virtually by devoting and dedicating this newsletter to the Oral History Class of 2020.

**In articles within**, you'll be treated to thoughtful reviews by our interviewers on the past year's oral histories. We're also including a feature on a student produced podcast, which was originally planned to be a live performance at the event. We're also announcing the first winner for the Carmel and Howard Friesen Prize in Undergraduate Oral History Research, which we had hoped to award at the commencement.

---

### Presenting the Oral History Center Class of 2020

At the conclusion of every academic year, the Oral History Center staff takes a moment to pause, reflect on the interviews completed over the previous year, and offer gratitude to those individuals who volunteered to be interviewed. The names below constitute the Oral History Class of 2020.

Please join us in offering heartfelt thanks and congratulations for their contributions!

### **Individual Interviews**

Robert L. Allen  
Bruce Ames  
Samuel Barondes  
Alexis T. Bell  
Robert Birgeneau  
John Briscoe  
Willie Brown  
George Miller  
Michael R. Peevey  
Nancy Donnelly Praetzel  
Robert Praetzel  
John Prausnitz  
Zack Wasserman

### **Bay Area Women in Politics**

Mary Hughes

### **California State Archives**

Jerry Brown

### **Chicano/a Studies**

Vicki L. Ruiz

### **East Bay Regional Park District**

Glenn Adams  
Ron Batteate  
Kathy Gleason  
Raili Glenn  
Brian Holt  
Diane Lando  
Mary Lentzner  
John Lytle  
Beverly Marshall  
Rev. Diana McDaniel  
Roy Peach  
Janet Wright

### **Economist Life Stories**

George Tolley

### **Getty Trust**

Peter Bradley  
Kathleen Dardes  
David Driskell  
Melvin Edwards  
Charles Gaines  
Kenneth Hamma  
Thomas Kren  
David Lamelas

Mark Leonard  
Richard Mayhew  
Howardena Pindell  
Michael R. Schilling  
Joyce Hill Stoner  
Yvonne Szafran

### **Global Mining**

Bob Kendrick

### **Napa Valley Vintners**

David Duncan  
Paula Kornell  
David Pearson  
Linda Reiff  
Emma Swain

### **SF Opera**

Kip Cranna  
David Gockley

### **Sierra Club**

Lawrence Downing  
Aaron Mair  
Anthony Ruckel

### **SLATE**

Susan Griffin  
Julianne Morris

### **Yale Agrarian Studies**

Marvel "Kay" Mansfield  
Alan Mikail  
Paul Sabin  
Ian Shapiro  
Helen F. Siu  
Elisabeth Jean Wood



### **Oral History Year in Review: Lessons I've Learned**

**Amanda Tewes** focuses on her several interviews for the Getty Trust Oral History Project and reveals that conducting interviews — and setting the framework for conducting successful ones — has taught her a great deal about humility and how humility takes work and planning.

---

## Expertise as a Social Endeavor: Learning from Oral History

**Roger Eardley-Pryor** contributed a thoughtful piece showing how oral histories uniquely show how expertise is rarely a solitary achievement but one that is possible because of mentorship, collaboration, and even rivalry.



## The Value of Open Space

**Shanna Farrell** centers her many interviews for the East Bay Regional Park District project and highlights the many diverse people who need to work together to make something that we too often take for granted — in this case, open space and parklands.

## The Meaning of Taking Responsibility

**Paul Burnett** reflects on narrators who took responsibility for institutional problems and struggled to find solutions, sometimes at some cost to themselves.



## Special Episode of the Berkeley Remix Podcast: Rice All the Time?

Miranda Jiang, a history undergrad at UC Berkeley, created an oral history performance called “Rice All the Time?: Chinese-Americans in the Bay Area in the Early 20th Century.” Miranda originally intended for “Rice All the Time?” to be performed by a few of her fellow students in front of a live audience. But, of course, because of COVID-19 cancellations, we’re now bringing you this performance in an audio format.



“**Rice All the Time?**” presents perspectives of multiple Chinese people growing up in the Bay Area in the early 20th century. It places their words into conversation with each other, and it invites you, as listeners, to interpret them.

If you like our podcast, please rate us or leave a comment on our iTunes page!



Congratulations to Ricky Noel,  
Winner of the Carmel and Howard  
Friesen Prize in Oral History  
Research!

Real Voices in History by Ricky Noel

Our awardee, Ricky Noel, who is starting his final year at Berkeley and majoring in history with a Latin American concentration. Ricky shares how he found the oral histories he used, and his approach to incorporating them in his research paper. Read Oral History Center Director Martin Meeker's **award announcement**.

Hats off to Ricky!

---



Rudy Mondragón, our 2019 Graduate Student of Color Fellow, Releases His Interview with Boxing Champion Kali Reis

Rudy Mondragón, a doctoral candidate at the University of California, Los Angeles, was our inaugural graduate student fellow. Rudy is working on a project that looks at the sport of boxing and the ways in which Black and brown boxers politically and culturally express themselves via the famous ring entrance.



For his fellowship, he interviewed World Champion Boxer Kali "K.O. Mequinonoag" Reis. His reflections of their interview can be found [here](#).

We are pleased to announce the release of Reis' interview, which can be found on our website.

Bravo, Rudy!

---

Thank You to Our  
Student Employees, Library Interns,  
and Undergraduate Research Interns

### Student Employees

Max Afifi

Gurshaant Bassi

Yarely Bonilla-Leon

Katherine Chen

Jordan Harris

Abigail Jaquez  
Nidah Khalid  
Ashley Sangyou Kim  
Devin Lizardi  
JD Mireles  
Tasnima Naoshin  
Ricky Noel  
Lydia Qu  
Deborah Qu  
Lauren Sheehan-Clark

### Librarian Interns

Jennifer Burkhard  
Charissa Fitzpatrick

### Undergraduate Research Apprentices

Corina (Mei) Chen  
Nika Esmailizadeh  
Evgenia Galstyan  
Ella Griffith  
Caitlin Iswono  
Miranda Jiang  
Emily Keats  
Esther Khan  
Emily Lempko  
Atmika Pai  
Samantha Ready  
Kendall Stevens

## Want More?

Like what we're doing?  
Stay connected with us on social media, listen to our podcast (and don't forget to rate us on iTunes!), or consider a donation to support our work.  
See you next month!

Donate Now  
Social Media  
Like us on iTunes



The Oral History Center  
<http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library/oral-history-center>

Connect with us

