

# October 2019 The OHC Steps into Fall

### Director's Column, October 2019

Recording, transcribing, and making oral histories accessible represents only a portion of the work that we do at the Oral History Center. We relish the opportunity to engage with these raw historical materials and fashion them into a variety of interpretative



works too, including the new season of our podcast, *The Berkeley Remix*.

This month, OHC Director Martin Meeker discusses the interpretive work that we've been doing using our podcast, and what you can expect from season five.



## Bay Area Women in Politics Project

1992 has been dubbed "The Year of the Woman," a phenomenon in which a wave of women candidates swept local and national races for public office. California led this charge by becoming the first state in American

history to be represented by two women senators—Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein. And since 2016—after a presidential election that provoked heated debate about gender discrimination and sexual harassment—many women stepped up to the challenge of engaging even more visibly in the American political system. Since then, organizations like Emily's List and She Should Run reported record-breaking numbers of women who wanted to make their voices heard by running for public office.

And yet, 1992 was not the beginning of women's political activism, but rather the culmination of decades of organization encouraging women to get involved and run for office. For generations, Bay Area women have

built the foundations of political activism that span neighborhood organizations to support networks. And their stories inform our present.

Now, Amanda Tewes is developing the Bay Area Women in Politics Oral History Project to record the history of these local women and their impact on and journeys through politics.



#### OHC at OHA!

Headed to the Oral History Association Conference in Salt Lake City this week?

Catch interviewers Amanda Tewes and Shanna Farrell there! They will both be presenting on the "Orienting Newcomers to Oral History: A Roundtable on Effective Training Strategies" panel at 8:30am Saturday morning.



Reflections from Rudy Mondragón, the OHC's 2019 Graduate Student of Color Fellow

This past summer, Rudy Mondragón, a doctoral candidate at UCLA interviewed professional boxer Kali Reis. He reflects on this interview experience and how it informed his dissertation.

#### **News & New Releases**

The 5th season of our podcast, *The Berkeley Remix*, launches on Monday, October 21st!

In season 5 of *the Berkeley Remix,* we're diving into the long history of the **East Bay Regional** 



Park District, which was founded in 1934. Over the course of three episodes, we'll explore its integral role in fighting the 1991 Oakland Hills Fire, being on the forefront of gender equality in the workplace, and how its efforts to preserve land benefited the local equestrian community.

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

We're also pleased to announce the release of two new oral histories with **Anne Halsted & Robert Kendrick**.

Anne Halsted is a leading community advocate in San Francisco. Shanna Farrell interviewed her over 13 sessions, and reflects on her time with Anne

here.

**Robert Kendrick** was interviewed by Paul Burnett for the Global Mining and Materials Research Project. Read about **Paul's interview with Robert here**.

# 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!

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