



Call for Presentations Deadline: November 20, 2017
2018 Southwest Oral History Association Annual Conference
APRIL 27-29, 2018 - Marriott Fullerton and California State University, Fullerton

Elevating Voices: Oral Histories of Resilience and Unity

Oral histories uplift diverse voices that reveal the human condition. They tell stories of loneliness, isolation, and rejection as well as resilience and unity in the face of adversity. The many voices of oral history highlight our capacity to overcome both everyday and extraordinary challenges and to foster and build communities with common purposes and solidarity. While we are living in a historical moment of deep-seated ideological conflict and division, we turn to oral history to show us how and why communities come together as well as why they are divided. Orange County, the site of our 2018 SOHA conference in Fullerton, California, is a unique location to interrogate these issues. Popularly known as a conservative bastion, Orange County is a surprisingly diverse area that hosts a vibrant community of activists and academics who facilitate significant oral history projects, including those at the California State University, Fullerton Department of History and the Lawrence de Graaf Center for Oral and Public History, our hosts.

Join us in Fullerton from April 27-29, 2018 for our annual SOHA conference, where we will share, observe, and collaborate on the fascinating and important work being done in the field of oral history throughout our region and beyond. We encourage all members, friends, and supporters to attend and to participate on a panel, roundtable, performance, or workshop. We invite other forms of involvement as well.

Students are especially encouraged to participate, as our 2018 SOHA Conference will focus on young and emerging scholars. How has the past shaped us and our students? How does history— both recent and long ago— affect us? What are the innovative ways that oral historians have developed in order to gather and present stories, especially from people whose experiences have not been valued or promoted? What projects are we developing today, and what technologies do we find most useful?

We invite proposals that cover a variety of oral history topics on the general theme of ***Elevating Voices: Oral Histories of Resilience and Unity***. We seek presentations that document our past, our current times, and what today's youth are living and experiencing as they look to the future. Oral history offers ways to learn from a range of experiences and cultures; we also acknowledge that it differs generationally and incorporates a variety of people, ample perspectives, and a multitude of voices. All proposals will be considered.

Proposal submission deadline: November 20, 2017

Full panel and roundtable submissions are highly encouraged.

Notification of Acceptance letters will be emailed no later than January 20, 2018.

- Presentation submissions should include a title, short abstract, and presenter bio or CV.
 - We will create panels from related individual proposals as needed.
 - Indicate if your presentation requires the use of technology (audio & visual).
- All submissions will be acknowledged; please contact us if you do not receive a reply.

Current SOHA membership and 2018 conference pre-registration are required of all program participants. SOHA annual membership runs with the calendar year- January through December. SOHA members typically represent Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, California, and western Texas, but our roster includes members from all over the U.S. There are no geographical limits to who can participate and share experiences. We are interested in hearing from oral historians— practitioners, community organizations, professionals, and students— from all parts of the country.

If you can serve as commentator or panel chair, please e-mail a brief CV, description of your area of expertise, and topics of special interest to soha@unlv.edu by December 20, 2017. Please write “2018 Chair or Commentator” in the Subject line.

Questions? Contact the SOHA office: soha@unlv.edu or call 702-895-5011.