Capturing our Community’s Voice with Multidisciplinary Approaches

Thu, October 13, 8:30 to 10:00am, Renaissance Long Beach, Broadlind 1
Session Submission Type: Roundtable
Tram Le, Kevin Cabrera, and Jennifer Keil
VIETNAMESE POPULATION

- US: 1.7 million
- California: 581,000
- Orange County: 135,862

Data from the 2010 U.S. Census American Community Survey
Saigon Surrenders To Viet Cong

2 Refugee Jets Land At El Toro

S. Viet Troops Leave Defenses, Turn In Guns

6,400 Leave Saigon For U.S. Armada

Close Ranks, Forget War, Ford Asks U.S.

Malpractice Pooling Bills To Assembly

Churches Preparing Biggest Relief Effort

Patchy Fog
VIETNAMESE FOCUS

generations of stories
Vietnam is a country in Southeast Asia with a rich history and is renowned for its beautiful scenery and abundance of natural resources. It was under China's rule for over 1,000 years, colonized by the French for more than six decades, and occupied by the Japanese during WWII. When Vietnamese nationalists expelled the French in 1954, the country was divided into North and South Vietnam and approximately one million Vietnamese were displaced, moving from the North to the South. Connected to Cold War-era politics, the Soviet and Chinese-backed North and US-backed South engaged in a decade-long civil war. During the Vietnam War, about 58,000 U.S. military personnel lost their lives, while millions of Vietnamese soldiers and civilians were injured or killed. The South Vietnamese government surrendered on April 30, 1975 with the Fall of Saigon, which led to thousands of Vietnamese fleeing their country, fearful of the new regime, and in the next several decades, many more risked their lives to escape Vietnam.

“I had to evacuate when the French came, when the Japanese invaded, and when the war broke out.”
— Nhon, 87 years old
“I look more Caucasian, and I grew up in Caucasian neighborhoods. But at the same time, I would always feel Vietnamese as well because when I came home, I was raised by my Vietnamese mother; I had Vietnamese siblings; I had a Vietnamese grandmother; and we spoke Vietnamese in the house.”

Life Story of Dung T. Pham
VAOHP Websites:

Blogsite (sites.uci.edu/vaohp)

Facebook (facebook.com/vaohp)

Library website (vaohp.lib.uci.edu)

Contact: Tram Le
tramleuci@gmail.com
Kevin Cabrera, Executive Director
Heritage Museum of Orange County

Heritage Museum of Orange County is a cultural and natural history center dedicated to preserving, promoting, and restoring the heritage of Orange County and the surrounding region through quality hands-on and minds-on educational programs for students and visitors of all ages.

Mission driven programs
Family Heritage
Maag Family
Kellogg Family
Kellogg House - 1898
Heritage Museum Platform

- Educational programs year around (16,594 students, 20,000+ including adults)
- Gospel Swamp Farm (Orange County Agriculture)
- 25+ Community and business collaborative partnerships (Santa Ana Unified, Cooper Center, Master Gardeners, Kellogg Garden Supply, CSUF, UCI, etc)
- Over 90 museum events each year (Citrus workshops, Family Literacy Fair, Dinosaurs to People: Reliving Orange County’s Past, Juneteenth, Civil War Days, Lectures, Exhibitions)
- Oral History Project
Current programming
Community programs
Dads University
Lecture Series

Jewish Community
Mexican Barrios
Community Art (Murals)
Japanese
Agriculture
African American
Black Pioneer & Juneteenth
Agricultural stories
Social Justice
Otsuka Farm
Why Oral History?

College provided the “light bulb” moment

Capturing personal narratives that shaped our community story

Methodology that transfers to career professional research projects
Find Us

Website - http://heritagemuseumoc.org/

Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/HeritageMuseumOC/?fref=ts

Kevin Cabrera

kcabrera@heritagemuseumoc.org

714.540.0404
Jennifer Keil, M.A.
Museum Director | Balboa Island Museum
California Delegate | Southwest Oral History Association

- SOHA California Delegate
- Asking, “who’s our community?”
- Site visits with panelists
Museum & Balboa Community

- Volunteer based organization
- Education programs and tours year round
- Events partnered with Visit Newport Beach
- Mayor Diane Dixon & City Partnership
- Newport Beach Library partnership with community lectures
Pioneer Families

W.S. Collins

Beeks and Whites

Collins' Castle

White Family 1920s Home Video

Joseph Beek
Tourism

- Red Line
- Ferry Service
- Bathing Beauty Annual Parade
- Chamber of Commerce posters

Fat Ferry: 1918-1930
Creating a Community

- Lot prices

1910– B&W photo of Balboa looking west from Pavilion

1920
Hollywood History

Film stars who resided locally
Centennial Celebration

Annexed into the city of Newport Beach in 1906 which was the same year the historic Balboa Pavilion was completed.
Oral History as a Primary Source

- Written history told as tales and stories
- Folklore is natural tool for community
Balboa Island Museum Legacy Project

- “Over the Bridge” Oral History Project started in Fall 2011
- 40 interviews conducted that vary in length and quality
- Currently transcribing collection
- Focus on food culture, tourism, community events, Marine Ave. (main street), and Hollywood culture
Balboa Island Museum
Oral History Project

DIRECTOR  Calling all locals who have lived in the area before 1970s to participate in the ongoing “Over the Bridge” Oral History project. Candidates are interviewed at the museum on Tuesday mornings.

CAMERA  Contact the Museum Director, Jennifer Keil, at 949-365-6977 or jennifer@balboaislandmuseum.org for more information.

DATE
331 Marine Ave.
Balboa Island, CA 92662

SCENE
949.675.3952
balboaislandmuseum.org
501(c)3 non-profit organization

TAKE
Museum Open:
Wednesdays-Sundays
from 10am-4pm
Digital Curation

- Media center
- Social Media: YouTube Channel, Facebook, and Instagram
- QR codes with displays with hyperlinks (PastPerfect)
- Oral History Meta Synchronizer (OHMS) -- future of project
Visit Balboa Island Museum

**Museum:** 10-4pm on Wednesdays-Sundays

**Museum Store:** 10-4pm Tuesdays-Sundays

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949-675-3952  | balboaislandmuseum.org
Project Updates & Future Collaboration

- SOHA News Website: sohanews.wordpress.com
- 35th Anniversary this Saturday