

MARCH 2022

## How can we ensure that our collections can be accessible to all patrons?



Chinese Historical Society  
of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會

Join us to learn about our updated website:  
online exhibits, links to previous programs and Gum Saan  
Journals, and Chinese American history.

Our speakers will explain how CHSSC is using software  
tools to make our archives available to everyone.

**Wednesday, Mar 2, 2022, 7pm**  
**Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on**  
**the CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>**

**CHSSC Meeting will be online on Zoom:**

Program: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7:00 PM

To register, go to [chssc.org](https://chssc.org)



## President's Letter

From the beginning of the organization, CHSSC was formed with a multi-faceted vision. Researching the history of the Chinese in Southern California involved collecting artifacts of these pioneers; collecting their stories; recording this information and making it known through publications, walking tours, and participation in public events.

The February program speakers, Yenyen Chan and Jack Shu, explained how our vision of making the contributions of the Chinese known became an exhibit in a former Chinese laundry in Yosemite. What began as a yearly pilgrimage to Yosemite ten years ago expanded to attract many who want to learn about this unknown part of history. Networking with the National Park Service and the National Parks Conservation Association led to greater visibility. Articles appeared in the Southwest Airlines monthly magazine and AAA's Westways magazine. The photos of CHSSC members in the exhibit and our listing on the exhibit panels, in a national park enhances our public profile.

As our outreach grows through our online presence, CHSSC has become a research destination. CHSSC has a comprehensive library for scholars. Last fall CHSSC received over 30 cartons of books from Paul Chace and the John Jung families. Previously, all the titles of our book collection were accessible online on Libib. Currently, we are working to add the new books to this list.

With the help of a generous donation a couple of years ago, CHSSC began our quest to develop a media center in order to put our extensive archives online. CHSSC acquired a powerful server in order to house all of the new information. Our interns have been digitizing our archives and creating exhibits to put on Libib and Omeka. Scholars everywhere can become aware of what we have. This month a PhD student from Chicago came to see the archives and our library.

Our new, upgraded website is another link to the outside. Not only can people learn about the history of our organization, but also people can learn about Chinese American history. The website has online exhibits made by interns as well as one paid for by a Louie Foundation grant. Recordings of monthly meetings since the Fall of 2020 are now available on our website. Forty-five years of Gum Saan Journals are now available online for the public.

Every organization has a website. Join us to learn what is special about our new website. Find out what is available that attracts scholars as well as the general public.

Susan Dickson

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Linda Bentz  
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Howard Wang

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November 1975. The purposes of the Society are:

1. to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in southern California;
2. to pursue, preserve, and communicate knowledge of this history; and
3. to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multicultural society of the United States.



## Our March Program Presenters



Coryn Hardison

Coryn is the Collections Manager of CHSSC's archives, physical library, and digital library. She received a Bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Classics at the University of California, Irvine and a Master of Library and Information Science at the University of California, Los Angeles, specializing in Archival Studies. She has previously worked as an intern at CHSSC through the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and is continually driven by her passion for community-based archives and Asian American history.



David Castro

While a UCLA undergraduate student, David Castro worked as an intern on the Duty and Honor collection. Currently, he works for the Getty Museum as an archivist. He is working towards his MLIS degree from San Jose State University. David is continuing as a CHSSC consultant who processes digital media and creates online exhibits..



Anne Olivares

Anne is a Southern California native, born and raised in the Inland Empire. Anne worked in the custom artwork framing field for over a decade before completing her Bachelor of Arts in Art History at UCLA in 2020, and will complete her Masters in Library and Information Science at UCLA in 2022 with a focus in archiving. Anne, who is a part of the UCLA Community Archives / Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Internship Program for 2021–2022, was hired to work with CHSSC.



Amanda Galvez

Amanda is currently pursuing her Master of Library & Information Science at San Jose State University through their online program, intersecting interests of special collections and rare books, academic instruction, and archives. She received her Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies and a Minor in Sustainability from California State University- Northridge, and has previously interned at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in the Photographic Services Department. She is passionate about community, the humanities, and preserving stories, histories, and culture.



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## **New CHSSC Website and Digital Archives**

By Linda Bentz

We are extremely pleased to announce the launch of our new CHSSC website and Digital Archives. A generous donation has allowed us to build a Digital Archives. Over the past three years we have been working with technology specialists, interns and our Collections Manager to organize and share our digital assets with the public. These assets include photographs, audio files from past oral history projects, videos and so much more! Now you can see and hear Chinese residents tell their stories from the comfort of your own home. Uploading digitized materials to the Archives is an ongoing process and additional content will be added frequently.

The Digital Archives can be viewed on our new CHSSC website designed by our Vice President Ricky Leo. The website contains a variety of information including an illustrated history of the Society, our participation with the Los Angeles Chinatown over the years, our publications, an events calendar and videos of past monthly meetings. We have also included online exhibits such as Chinatown Remembered. Information about past CHSSC projects such as the Old Los Angeles Chinatown archaeological excavation, the restoration of the Evergreen Cemetery Shrine and past intern projects are also available. Details about our archival collections can be viewed under the Research and Collections tab. Finally, specifics about ongoing CHSSC projects, such as the upcoming Five Chinatowns book, can be seen on the website as well. Please join us online at [chssc.org](http://chssc.org)!

### **MARK THE DATE!**

## **Yosemite Pilgrimage July 20-31**

### **with Sing Peak Backpack Trip August 1-3**

We are planning the 10th annual pilgrimage to Yosemite National Park, for which CHSSC members and friends from all over California have been joining in to learn about the Chinese American heritage of the Sierra Nevada. See the new Chinese Laundry Building exhibits, hike and drive along historic roads and trails built by Chinese workers, cook and share recipes at a potluck gathering, all in the wondrous setting of one of America's most beautiful national parks.

Interested parties are encouraged to organize their own group and make their own reservations at the Redwoods in Yosemite cabin complex: <https://redwoodsinyosemite.com/>. A very limited number of beds may be available, not guaranteed, directly through Eugene Moy at [ewmoy49@gmail.com](mailto:ewmoy49@gmail.com).

The itinerary will be announced later in upcoming newsletters and on our website <https://chssc.org>. If you have any questions, please contact us at [info@chssc.org](mailto:info@chssc.org).



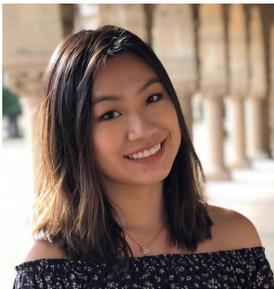
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## Donate to the CHSSC's Five Chinatowns Program

By Will Gow

Donate to the CHSSC's Five Chinatowns program and help support our college and high school interns develop their passion for Chinese American history. Thanks to the generous support of a CHSSC donor and the work of our dedicated volunteers, we will host another group of summer interns in 2022. We are hoping to raise \$8000 more to expand our 2022 program to ten interns in total.

Stanford University student and 2021 Five Chinatowns Summer intern Chloe Chow describes the importance of this program:



Chloe Chow

“Through this internship, I was able to combine my love of storytelling, design, Asian American Studies, and community dedication that evolved into one of the most memorable summers ever. I was able to immerse myself in the narratives of the LA Chinatown community members and learn about the vibrant cultural history and identity formation. I fell in love with oral history collection. Beyond the amazing work that I did through the CHSSC, I also found a wonderful community of interns that I worked alongside with. I always looked forward to our weekly Friday meetings where, despite being virtual, I felt a sense of home and warmth.”

Let the CHSSC know if you would like your donation to go to the Five Chinatowns program!



Annie and Son Peter Soo Hoo



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## Behind the Scenes at CHSSC in February



Putting heads together during a Zoom meeting with ICW's Olivia Ramirez. Pictured are Linda Bentz and Eugene Moy.



Visiting scholar Simon Shachter shares new information with Linda Bentz about Early Los Angeles.



Amanda Galvez, Coryn Hardison, and Anne Olivares, are immersed in our archive collection information.



Michael Chin and grandson Christian W. Littlejohn share family documents about the CFO gas station in East Adams.



Lauren Hom is searching through our photo collection for photos for her up-coming book about Chinatown planning and development after 1965.



## January / February Donations

***In Celebration of the 100th Birthday  
of Mr. Art Chan, WWII Veteran***

*Nancy Louise Chan*

***In Memory of Rick Chew***

*James Louie*

***In Memory of Florence Fong***

*James Louie*

***In Memory of Rose Hom***

*Margie Lew*

*Don Loo*

***In Memory of Hiram Kwan***

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## Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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Phone: 323-222-0856 Email: [info@chssc.org](mailto:info@chssc.org)  
Website: [www.chssc.org](http://www.chssc.org)

*Please help us save paper and postage,  
email us to indicate your preference for an online newsletter at [info@chssc.org](mailto:info@chssc.org).*

### Future Program Speakers

- April 6, 2022 Sue Fawn Chung: Chinese American history scholar, retired from UNLV
- May 4, 2022 Gordon H. Chang, Olive H. Palmer Professor in Humanities and Professor of History,  
Stanford University  
Topic: A historical overview of “Anti-Asian Violence and America-China Relations”