

2021 | 2022 Newsletter

Cal State East Bay Department of

History



Graduation 2022

History major Miriam Okekenta receiving an Outstanding Graduating Senior Award from the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences



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From the Chair

Seeing History majors graduate in person this Spring proved one of the greatest joys of my life.

Commencement 2022

This was my first in-person graduation ceremony as chair of the Department of History, after two years of pandemic improvisation. And so, after conferring the degrees for 44 History majors, I was so awestruck that I lost my place in the script, and left our graduates standing! Luckily, Dean Wendy Ng stepped in to let our newly minted graduates know that they could take their seats as the ceremony proceeded. This was indeed a nearly overwhelming moment for me, as we bore witness to the achievement of our students in completing their degrees amid years of uncertainty, crisis, and loss.

I wish to commend our faculty, who provided so many avenues for History majors to engage with the past in truly meaningful ways. Moreover, History faculty have sought to become more cognizant of the ways our programs, classes, and curricula might present unnecessary challenges to students in earning their degrees.

From Historiography to Historical Interpretation

As one example of our effort to remove undue challenges, we worked very hard this year to improve our History major core curriculum, so that the discipline of interpreting the past is accessible and meaningful. Critically, we shifted the language and adjusted learning outcomes in all of our History core courses to ensure greater clarity and coherence for students. A helpful illustration of the changes we initiated can be seen in HIST 400, which had its last and final year as "Historiography." Henceforth, starting in Fall 2022, HIST 400 will be known as "Historical Interpretation." Here is the old course description for HIST 400:

Development of historical writing from antiquity to present. Emphasis on Herodotus, Thucydides, St. Augustine, Vico, Hegel, Marx, Von Ranke and his successors, relativists, and postmodernists.

In contrast, our revised HIST 400 has the following course description:

Historical interpretation from antiquity to the present. Introduction to the concept of historiography. Representation and access in the history discipline. Completion of a significant prospectus for the research capstone to support work in HIST 499.

According to the new HIST 400 learning outcomes, History majors will examine "how identity, perspective, bias, and exclusion shape historical interpretation" and "evaluate the role of archives in preserving sources and shaping interpretation." These are direct and specific, whereas our previous learning outcomes spoke imprecisely and generically about the "role of historical interpretation."

And in what feels like a seismic shift, students will now craft their prospectus for the History Research Capstone in HIST 400, before moving into the capstone course proper. We believe this will ensure greater readiness for

In 2021-2022, HIST 400 had its last and final year as "Historiography."

completing that major research essay and presenting at the annual Wanda Washington History Conference. We have also moved into a new era of cohorting our majors, so that students take their History major core courses in sequence, each course building upon the last logically and clearly. This is a measure of the deep work going on curricularly, to ensure accessibility and equity, and to generate confidence rather than dread among our students as they embark on critical capstone work. We know there is much more to do.

~Bridget Ford, Professor and Chair

On the opposite page, History majors Lawrence Palmer and Sophia O'Neal-Roberts prepare to walk across the stage at Commencement, with Prof. Linda Ivey reading names.

Public History, Anti-Racism and the Power of the Black Panther Party

Erika Huggins visits Cal State East Bay

Erika Huggins sat on a desk in the front of a small classroom of History majors, speaking with a humble strength that left the entire room silently taking in her words. Huggins, a former faculty member at CSU East Bay, was on campus as the Women's History Month Keynote Speaker, sponsored by the Diversity & Inclusion Student Center and the Office of Academic Affairs. Huggins spoke to our students about Oakland in the early 1970s, of politics and race, of community bonds, of education and poverty, of

in Oakland and a lifelong educator in community schools, simply shared her life, her part in history, and how she saw the moment in the grander scheme of history.

West Oakland Mural Project

Only one week earlier, the same group of students were in conversation with Jilchristina Vest, the curator of the West Oakland Mural Project honoring the women of the Black Panther Party. Vest was also on campus during Women's History Month, for a program sponsored by the History Depart-

"There is no limit to how long I could have sat here and listened to Huggins speak," a student in HIST 402 reported.

witnessing the deaths of many friends in the struggle towards something bigger than themselves. Huggins, a former leader of the Black Panther Party

ment. She too lives in an Oakland beleaguered by race politics. For her, it was the summer of George Floyd that sparked a call to action. Walking home



one afternoon, she took in all of the signs and graffiti that called out the racial violence in our country. She decided to bring a different imagery to the street, and turned her West Oakland home into a piece of historical art. For Vest, it was a quest as well to recover history that she did not see in her community: the story of the women of the Black Panther Party. Her mentor and primary consultant was Erika Huggins.

This past Spring term, **HIST 402 Introduction to Public History** featured a unique approach in response to the conversations permeating campus and the country. My section of HIST 402 sought to examine public history through the lens of anti-racism – examining and imagining history presented to public audiences that addresses issues of anti-racism, anti-blackness, and the natio-

nal conversations that have blown up around critical race theory. Students discussed the 1619 Project, Confederate statues, and Hollywood movies, among others, all of which touched on the issue of race in the US.

Both activists in history and about history, Erika Huggins and Jilchristina Vest made an imprint on everyone listening about passion and community. Vest left the public history students with a clear and pertinent message that if you don't see the history you want to see around you, then present the history yourself. We asked ourselves: Can public history change the world?

~Linda Ivey, Professor



Murals and History: Our Trip to the Mission District

A perfect day in the city

On October 2nd, 2021, History Department students and faculty, along with friends and loved ones, went on a field trip to see the murals of the Mission District in San Francisco. With the vaccine for COVID-19 accessible to the public and a mask mandate in effect, it finally became possible to plan out events like the mural trip. Despite the fall season, the day was beautiful! The sun was out with little to no wind. It couldn't have been a more perfect day.

A history of a neighborhood

Before the trip officially started our tour guide pointed out the area now known as the Mission District was inhabited by the Ohlone people, until the Spaniards arrived and settled around March 29th, 1776 (making the area older than the U.S. by more than three months) with the current mission located at the corner of 16th Street and Dolores. This area would change hands once again at the end of the Mexican-U.S. War, which saw the U.S. purchase Alta California in 1848 and then in 1850 California joined the Union. The Mission District is the oldest San Francisco neighborhood and it can be said it's

one the oldest in the U.S. Our tour began outside of the Women's Building on 18th Street. The Women's Building had one of the most beautiful murals we saw that day. The mural, titled as MaestraPeace, pays tribute to important women in history such as Hanan Ashrawi, Georgia O'Keefe, Lolita Lebron, and Rigoberta Menchu. You can spot deities from different cultures like Yemayah (Yoruba goddess), Guayin (East Asian goddess), and Coyolxauhqui (Aztec goddess). From there we walked the Mission District looking at murals dedicated to farmers in Jalisco, Mexico and one of the largest murals painted on the walls of the Bethany Building, an affordable housing and senior center. Apart from murals we saw an apartment building that served as a Jewish community center and we ended the tour at the Hua Zang Si Temple, an old Lutheran church that is now a Buddhist temple. This tour was more about the history of the neighborhood and its diversity than anything else. The murals are expressions of this fact.

Murals as public history

Since the Mission District is drenched with history,





I wanted to know the opinions of History majors about the murals. For Yousef Nasser, a graduating senior, the mural on the Women's Building stood out to him. "They all had their individual stories." The agency of individuals depicted in the murals was a common theme and Yousef says this is a good thing: "History majors can understand what these paintings are telling us about the past and the people who made contributions to communities."

I spoke to Isabella Mariano, a graduating MA student in Spring 2022. Isabella also says the mural on the Women's Building stood out to her. Isabella believes these murals might be familiar for historians, but she observes that "Murals are a form of art that open up so many interpretations, so everyone can find the angle that suits them. For me, because I am interested in the crossover between ethnicity and economics, it was a clear indication of the social status of the neighborhood's residents."

I also interviewed Hasani Johnson, a Math major at Chabot College, just across the 880 freeway from East Bay. It might come as a surprise to some of you, but Hasani also found the murals outside on

the Women's Building to be his favorite. I asked how the murals of the Mission District can benefit people who aren't History majors and his response was this: "People who aren't History majors can learn about the cultural backgrounds of the many different communities in San Francisco. We can learn how people have adapted and persevered time and time again." I asked this same question to Yousef and Isabella. They are in agreement that the murals are a positive for people who aren't necessarily interested in history—with Isabella saying, "Murals are a democratic form of art that anyone can relate to, regardless of their age or education." Yousef added, "Murals aren't just graffiti art; instead, they each tell a story."

Who knows how many people pass by these murals on a daily basis and study the images on their own accord. Murals stand as significant works of art. They are beautiful, but they also tell someone's history and achievements. They are an underrated form of public history. Luckily for us historians, they play a crucial role in our study of the past.

~Ari Diaz, MA student

Taking in the City: History major McKenzie Reed interns at the San Francisco Public Library History Center

Flyers as key primary source for the study of punk music

For the Spring 2022 semester, I worked as an intern in the Punk Rock Archive at the San Francisco Public Library. I was working on the 6th floor of the San Francisco Public Library in the History Center with Freya Channing. The first few weeks of

such a cool archive having to do with local Bay Area history. I would encourage other students to choose an internship in something that interests them, something they want to learn more about, or a place they want to become more involved in. It makes an academic requirement turn into a really fun experience.

This internship experience allowed me to learn about the process of organizing archives and collections.

my internship were spent going through flyers that people had donated to the collection. I analyzed the flyers and put all of their information into a spreadsheet that could later be used to look up the information the flyers provide. I put the date, city, venue, bands, presenter, time the show started, and size and color of the flyer in the spreadsheet. Sometimes flyers would include cost to get in, whether minors were welcome, and if it was a benefit, and I would include that information as well. Reading books and some reprints of the Search and Destroy zine helped give me some context that I found helpful while working with the flyers.

Bay Area punk history

A collection of Frightwig drummer Cecelia's things were recently donated to the library, so I also got to work on organizing that. It consisted of touring journals, some pages about song writing, address books, flyers, articles, and letters. I summarized some of the contents of the journals and organized the articles from magazines and newspapers. Freya organized all of the photos, journals, and articles by year, and the collection is now available for people to check out in the history center. I was also able to get in contact with the archive's organizer and front-woman of one of San Francisco's greatest punk bands, Penelope Houston, for an interview, which was really cool.

Reflections

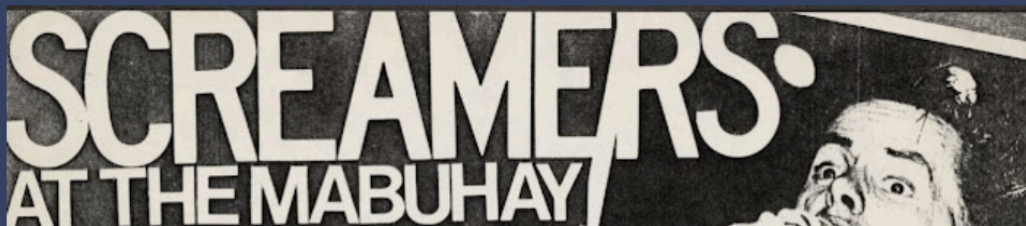
I made the most out of this internship by looking for an archive having to do with music, which is something I love learning about. Punk rock had become an increasing interest of mine, so I was very grateful to have had the opportunity to work in

This internship experience allowed me to learn about the process of organizing archives and collections. Working with the flyers was my favorite part of the internship because it was cool seeing all of the artwork and seeing all of the great show lineups. It feels cool to know that the spreadsheet I worked on will be kept in the library and could help researchers. I learned a lot of great things having to do with archive work and gained experience that could potentially benefit me in a job after I graduate, but one of my main takeaways from this internship is confidence. There were times where I would feel like I had no idea what I was doing and I was a little scared of messing up. To combat this, I would just show up, do my best, ask questions, and remind myself what a great opportunity it was and to just have fun with it. **~ McKenzie Reed, History Major**



McKenzie, second from right, with Mission mural field trip.

We are thrilled to report that processing has begun on the San Francisco Punk Archive! Mac, our Spring intern from Cal State East Bay, has been working with the punk fliers and helping describe the [Cecilia Kuhn Frightwig Collection](#). We will keep you posted as collections are available. Here is Mac's guest post on early San Francisco punk!



"Local punk history is worth learning about because it is a group of people's reactions to what was going on politically, musically, and culturally, and how it paved the way for the punk/hardcore scene that still thrives in the Bay today."

San Francisco punk came about in the late 1970s and rebelled against the hippie culture that was so prominent and embraced throughout the city. The punks in the city played their music in places like the Mabuhay Gardens, the On Broadway, and the Tool & Die. The Mabuhay Gardens, formerly located at 443 Broadway in San Francisco, was a Filipino restaurant and music venue owned by Ness Aquino. Local punk acts needed places to perform, and many spots around the city were not very welcoming towards them when the genre first started emerging. The Mabuhay, however, was willing to give them a chance. Soon, the place would be synonymous with punk rock and would host the most influential bands of the local and national scene. The Mab is significant because it provided a space for San Francisco and Bay Area punk to exist and establish its influence. It is a good thing places like the Mabuhay and the On Broadway were willing to host punk acts, because punks received very little support for their unique way of expression. Without the Mabuhay Gardens, San Francisco punk would not have flourished quite like it did.



McKenzie published two significant posts for the San Francisco Public Library History Center's blog, "What's on the 6th Floor?" You can find her publications at: <http://sfhcbasc.blogspot.com/>, from which this image is taken.

Professor Nancy Park introduces a new course on the Korean Peninsula

Awareness and understanding

I had the pleasure of introducing a new course on Korean history in Fall 2021, which allowed me to explore the people, events, ideas, and culture of the Korean peninsula from Neolithic times to the present. Despite its small size, the Korean peninsula has had and continues to have an outsized impact on the rest of the world – strategically, economically, and culturally. My goal in creating the course was to stimulate a greater awareness and understanding of Korea and the Koreans, who have preserved their own distinctive identity despite being invaded hundreds of times over the centuries.

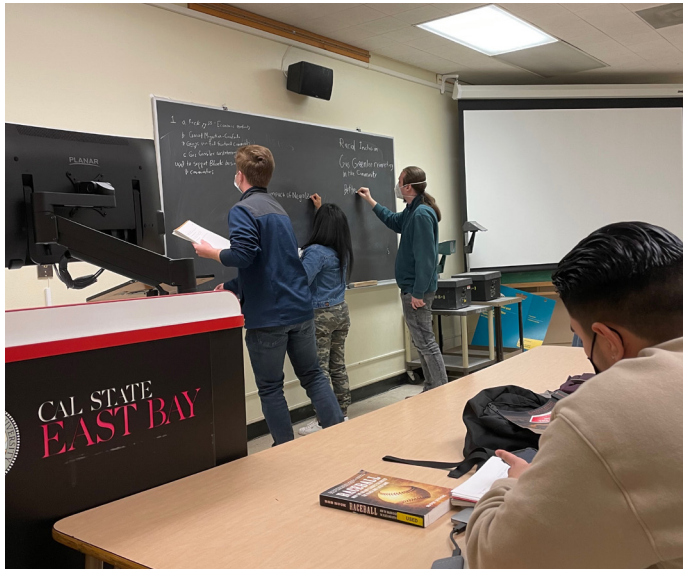
The formerly unified and currently separate modern states of South and North Korea both are situated

on the Korean peninsula, which lies on the northeast of the Asian mainland. The peninsula's proximity to China and Russia to the north and Japan to the east, not to mention its rich natural resources, have shaped the Korean experience in countless ways. On the positive side, the development of Korean culture is a fascinating blend of native heritage and foreign influences. But on the negative side, the Korean people have been the unwilling victims of foreign aggression, colonial abuses, and superpower rivalries, which have challenged their security, stability, and progress, and undermined their lives and livelihoods.

Course organization

The first half of the course focused on Korea's early





We taught every which way in 2021-2022: With old-school chalkboards, through new-school avatars, and in a modality no one can quite define, "hybrid synch."

development from a disconnected group of hereditary clans into a unified autonomous nation. Since their ancestors entered the peninsula five or more thousand years ago, the Koreans have been influenced by their own indigenous traditions, by their close contact with China, and by the impact of Japan and the West. Korea's special relationship with China, which began in 108 BCE and endured for over a millennium, introduced Buddhism, Confucianism, and the first writing system to the peninsula, among countless other valuable contributions. By contrast, the Japanese conquest of Korea, which began in 1895 and lasted for 50 years, caused tremendous suffering, but nonetheless played a role in Korea's modernization.

The second half of the course examined the tragedy of the Korean War (1950-1953) and its aftermath. The Korean War, which developed out of the Cold War rivalry between the United States, the Soviet Union, and China, ended with an armistice agreement that divided the peninsula along the 38th parallel, but not before devastating both halves of the country. In the 70 years since the ceasefire, South and North Korea followed separate trajectories. South Korea – officially the Republic of Korea (ROK) – has emerged as an economic powerhouse and is renowned for its globally influential pop culture, particularly in music (K-pop), TV dramas, cinema, and cuisine, a phenomenon known as the "Korean



Wave" (hallyu). During the same period, North Korea – officially the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) – has developed into a nuclear-armed dictatorship that poses a threat to its own people and the rest of the world.

The Korean experience has long been overshadowed by that of its larger and better-known neighbors, China and Japan. Nonetheless, the Korean peninsula traditionally has been home to rich and distinctive culture that continues to evolve in interesting and

Since their ancestors entered the peninsula five or more thousand years ago, the Koreans have been influenced by their own indigenous traditions, by their close contact with China, and by the impact of Japan and the West.

surprising ways. The great tragedy of modern Korea has been the nation's division, which has eroded the Korean people's sense of homogeneity and identity and fundamentally altered the course of world history. The future of South and North Korea remains dangerous and uncertain, with strategic and economic implications for East Asia and the globe that we ignore at our risk. ~Nancy Park, Lecturer



Session 1: 9.00am to 10.15am

Panel 1(a): Colonialism, Nationalism, and Conflict during the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

Chair: Jason Daniels

-Caleb Brown, *A Philippines for Filipinos: Methods of Filipino Resistance Against American Colonialism*

-Kendra Rocco, *Don't Call me Igorot: Rethinking Colonial Stereotypes from Pre-colonization to the Present*

-Adam Sanchez, *The Three Coups: United States Regime Changes and its effects in Nicaragua, Panama, and Bolivia, 1950-2000*

-Mateen Tutakhil, *Rethinking the End of an Empire: The Fracturing of the Soviet Army in Afghanistan, 1979-1989*





Resounding Success: 5th Annual Wanda Washington History Conference

On May 6, 2022, the students and faculty gathered for our annual conference. Co-organized by Jason Daniels and Anna Alexander, this year marked the Department of History's 5th Annual Wanda Washington Student Conference!

Dee Andrews, Greg Brueck, Bridget Ford, Samantha Francois, Mary Ann Irwin, Linda Ivey, Kevin Kaatz, and Benjamin Klein, chaired and commented on ten student panels throughout the day. We welcomed over 75 participants, including a dozen graduate students and nearly thirty undergraduates (most of whom graduated this year) to the day's proceedings!

"I am so grateful I was able to sit in on student presentations as part of the Wanda Washington Student Conference. What a wonderful experience for students and the original research was impressive. Please pass along my praise to all involved."

~President Cathy Sandeen, May 10, 2022

The conference panels were all-encompassing, reaching across hundreds of years and thousands of miles. From medieval accounting to post-colonial thought, the presentations re-

led the Department of History's greatest asset - our student's dynamic and diverse interests in "learning the past," "understanding the present," and "shaping the future." Undoubtedly, the day's proceedings illustrated our students' dedication to the discipline of history and their monumental achievements at CSUEB. We look forward to next year's in-person conference on campus in May 2023! See you there!

~Jason Daniels, Asst.
Professor



Scholarships and Awards

\$20,000 goes to History undergraduate and graduate students!

Through the generosity of the Friends of History

Each year, the Department of History awards nearly \$20,000 in scholarships and awards; this year was no different. For the 2021-2022 academic year, the Department of History granted four awards for outstanding performance in a variety of applied history courses, six awards for outstanding performance in

Our newest endowed scholarship, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Patricia Ball Memorial Scholarship, is of special interest this year.

a variety of world history courses, and four awards for outstanding paper at the annual Wanda Washington Student Conference. Thanks to the generosity of "Friends of History" and our many donors, for the upcoming 2022-2023 academic year, the Department of History awarded ten scholarships. Our newest endowed scholarship, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Patricia Ball Memorial Scholarship, is of special interest this year.

A new scholarship in memory of Patricia Ball

AAUW (American Association of University Women) is the nation's leading voice for promoting equity, economic security and education for women and girls. Since 1881, AAUW members have examined and taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political. In 1941, the Hayward-Castro Valley Branch joined the mission to empower Bay Area women. Their vision is simple – to bring people together for the common goal of breaking down barriers, for women and girls, through advocacy, education, and research. This scholarship was endowed in memory of Patricia Ball (1925-2021), a long-time member of the AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Branch.

Pat was born in Griggsville, Illinois to Thomas and Hazel (Sleight) Ball. She was a third-generation public school teacher whose family put a high value on education and public service. Pat's elementary school years were highlighted by her experiences as a Girl Scout. Summer Scout camps increased her interests in birding and environmental aspects of her world. Pat graduated from Griggsville High School in 1943 and enrolled in Western Illinois State College pursuing her interest in U.S. History. After graduation in 1947, with a BA, she began her teaching career in Illinois. In 1950, Pat moved to California to continue her teaching career; first in Oroville, and then in 1958 she moved to Castro Valley. She taught U.S. History in Castro Valley and at Pacific High in San Leandro. Pat earned two master's degrees, one from Stanford University in Elementary Education and another from California State University, Hayward in U.S. History. After thirty-three years in teaching, Pat retired in 1982.

~Jason Daniels, Asst. Professor

Alex Wood's MA thesis, "Eurasian Experiences in Shanghai and China's Treaty Ports Uncovered Through Family History," was named a 2021-2022 College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences winner of the Mary Harrington Outstanding University Thesis Award.

This marks the fourth year in a row that History MA students have won the Harrington Award! Congratulations, Alex!!!!

Scholarships

David Campbell Graduate Scholarship: **Vanessa Armenta**

David Campbell Graduate Scholarship: **Edward Hill Jr.**

East Bay Historian of Exceptional Promise (Undergraduate): **Keith Vazquez**

East Bay Historian of Exceptional Promise (Graduate): **Ari Diaz**

Gerard C. and John M. Stanley Scholarship: **Elizabeth Samson**

Judith M. Stanley Scholarship in Women's History: **Ashlyn Frazier**

Richard B. and Evelyn Whitman Rice Senior Scholarship: **Anthony Bush**

Richard B. and Evelyn Whitman Rice Underclass Scholarships: **Todd Royal and Aaron Ko**

Blanchette Family Scholarship: **Adriana Santos**

John and Ruth Sandoval Scholarship: **Tereza Vasquez**

AAUW Hayward-Castro Valley Patricia Ball Memorial Scholarship: **Trix Welch**

Patricia Ball was a third-generation public school teacher whose family put a high value on education and public service.

Awards

Morby Award for Outstanding Performance in World History: **Isaac Stice, Lynne Viall, Klyshbek Madi, Riley Crossman, Christine Nguyen, Keith Vazquez**



The Hayward-Castro Valley Branch of the American Association of University Women joined Trix Welch, Bridget Ford, and Jen Ripley (Advancement) for lunch in June.

In attendance were Liz Bathgate, Pat Macsata, Helene Victor, Judy Harrison, and Linda Slater from the Board of the Hayward-Castro Valley Branch organization. President Cathy Sandeen and Evelyn Buchanan, Vice President for University Advancement, also stopped by. We were able to share copies of vol. 6 of East Bay Historia with members of the Board and President Sandeen. It was a wonderful afternoon in the University's Zen Garden.

Gilliard Award for Outstanding Performance in Historiography: **Shawn Green**

Gilliard Award for Outstanding Performance in Applied History: **Julian Ortiz, Ashlyn Frazier, Kendra Rocco**

Dee Andrews Award for Outstanding Paper at the Annual Wanda Washington Student Conference: **Edward Hill Jr., Maria Kaj, Lorenzo Hernandez, and Miriam Okekenta**

From the History Faculty

Faculty expertise sustains our students, classes, and programs. It is in evidence here. We also wish to let our History community know that three faculty are retiring from teaching this summer: Profs. Dee Andrews, Lynn Houlihan, and Karen Pare. Their expertise will be sorely missed in our courses. We will honor their accomplishments in Fall 2022.

Vahid Fozdar, Associate Professor

In June Prof. Fozdar visited Washington State, including the city of Bellingham near the Canadian border. For a historian of India, Bellingham has an interesting, if sad, history. In 1907, it was the site of an anti-Indian riot directed against the mainly Punjabi Sikh lumbermen who had migrated down from British Columbia in search of work shortly after arriving from India. White lumbermen, most of whom belonged to the Asian Exclusion League, used the riot to drive the Indians out of Bellingham in order to get rid of their competition. The local authorities and police looked the other way, or even helped in rounding up the hundreds of Indians in the city. This was part of a larger phenomenon of agitation and racial violence that also targeted Japanese and Chinese residents in Washington and along the Pacific coast. Similar anti-Asian riots occurred around the same time in British Columbia and the greater Bay Area. No one was prosecuted for participating in the Bellingham riot, and legislation was soon passed in the U.S. and Canada that severely restricted immigration from Japan and India (the U.S. had already passed the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882). In 2007 Bellingham's city officials formally "atoned" for the violence and in 2018 a granite arch of "Healing and Reconciliation" was erected "in memory of immigrants from India driven out by mob riots."

Joseph Duong, Lecturer

Prof. Duong served as a master teacher for a student intern from the UC Berkeley Education Teaching Program (2021-2022) and presented at the 2021 Teaching History Conference on a panel entitled, "Alternative Texts in History Pedagogy: Examining Identity and Power in TK-16 Education."

Darryl Stallworth, Lecturer

Prof. Stallworth recently joined *Court TV* and *Law and Crime* as a regular Legal Analyst.



George Yagi, Lecturer

Prof. Yagi has recently published two articles on MilitaryHistoryNow.com: "Warfare in the Mariana Islands – Portrait of a Chamorro Warrior" and "The 442nd Infantry — How the Men of the U.S. Army's Famous Japanese American Regiment Had to Overcome Suspicion (Even of Each Other) Before Going to War."

Elizabeth McGuire, Associate Professor

Prof. McGuire has been on a sabbatical in 2021-2022. During that time she has written five chapters of her second book, *Communist Neverland: History of a Russian International Children's Home*. The subject is a Soviet orphanage / boarding school that raised children of Communist Party leaders from all over the world from 1933 to the collapse of communism in 1991. Subsequently it continued as an international children's home and is currently in the process of reimagining itself as a Russian language center. Each chapter of the book focuses on one child, and, through the story of that child, addresses the history of the specific Communist Party their parents were leading, issues in the history of global communism, and aspects of children's experiences of historical cataclysm. Completed chapters are about the children of leaders of the American, Korean, and Chinese Communist Parties, plus a chapter about the child of infamous spies, and a chapter about the son of rank and file German communists.

In a larger sense, this book is about Russian's engagement with the world according to historical paradigms that are still relevant. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the reorientation of its international relations make understanding those paradigms ever more crucial.

Nolan Higdon, Lecturer

In 2022, Prof. Higdon co-authored *Let's Agree to Disagree: A Critical Thinking Guide to Communication, Conflict Management, and Critical Media Literacy* with Mickey Huff (Routledge, 2022). In an age defined by divisive discourse and disinformation, democracy hangs in the balance. *Let's Agree to Disagree* seeks to reverse these trends by fostering constructive dialogue through critical thinking and critical media literacy. Prof. Higdon was the lead author on "Today's Fake News is Tomorrow's Fake History: How US History Textbooks Mirror Corporate News Media Narratives" in *Secrecy and Society*. The main thrust of this study is to assess how the systematic biases found in mass media journalism affect the writing of history textbooks.

Prof. Higdon also published "The critical effect: Exploring the influence of critical media literacy pedagogy on college students' social media behaviors and attitudes" in *The Journal of Media Literacy Education*. This self-exploratory pilot qualitative study examines the impact of critical social media pedagogy on students' behavior and attitudes toward social media.

In addition, Higdon co-authored *The Podcaster's Dilemma: Decolonizing Podcasters in the Era of Surveillance Capitalism* with Dr. Nicholas Baham III (Wiley, 2022). The text connects contemporary podcasting to the broader history of the use of radio technology in the service of anti-colonial struggle and revolution.

Kevin Kaatz, Associate Professor

In July Prof. Kaatz was appointed the new Director of General Education. He published "The Joy of Quality Assurance: Evaluating Faculty Quality Assurance Training at a Medium-Sized University in the West" in the *Journal of Educators Online*, in May 2021, and Kevin W. Kaatz et al., "Reflections on California State

University East Bay's Excellence in Assessment Designation through the Lens of Student Learning and Success" in *Assessment Update*, Feb. 2022. In May 2022 he received a \$15,500 Equity in Action grant from the CSU Student Success Network to help reduce equity gaps across our college; he is also a member of the Quality Matters team developing the 7th edition of the *QM Rubric*. In July Prof. Kaatz had a book proposal accepted by Routledge. The tentative title is "How Did They Make or Do That? Technology in Ancient Rome and Egypt."

Benjamin Klein, Lecturer

In Spring 2022, Prof. Klein taught his first public history course, **HIST 471: History of the Bay Area, Community Engagement and Research**. During the semester, students examined how musicians, writers, artists, freaks, sexual outlaws, radicals, and free thinkers used neighborhoods and other public spaces in the Bay Area to provide alternatives to mainstream American culture. Students visited sites of counterculture performance and attended exhibitions on "Psychedelic Renaissance: Posters from the Family Dog & Bill Graham Presents, 1965-1967" at the Haight Street Art Center and "The Cockettes: Acid Drag and Sexual Anarchy" at the San Francisco Public Library.

Prof. Klein made arrangements to bring the writer and political analyst Lincoln Mitchell to class to discuss his book, *San Francisco Year Zero: Political Upheaval, Punk Rock, and a Third-Place Baseball Team*. In May, Prof. Klein attended the Willie Mays Day Celebration in Richmond, an event that reflects the intersection between sport and community engagement, a central theme in his course on the history of baseball.

We could not do THIS without the Friends of History



History majors in the first row at Commencement in May.

Strengthening ties

Established in 2004 and managed by the History Department, Friends of History gives those who are, or have been, connected with the department the chance to maintain and strengthen their ties with each other; give financial support to our outstanding History students through a scholarship fund (as distinct from our endowed scholarships); hold ex-

tracurricular events; and contribute to the costs of various publications—including this issue of the History Newsletter that you are reading!

Universities often cannot fully fund—or fund at all—many of the activities associated with the life of an academic department. Friends of History is indispensable because

Universities often cannot fully fund--or fund at all--many of the activities associated with the life of an academic department.



it steps into this breach. In April of this year, for example, we were excited to be able to distribute monetary awards and prizes to several students at the conclusion of the very successful Wanda Washington History Conference. Besides this department newsletter, Friends of History also supports the cost of producing and distributing the *East Bay Historia*, our excellent student-produced journal that showcases original research and exceptional scholarship by our majors. In addition, Friends of History now helps with staff costs for the well-respected academic journal, *California History*, published by UC Press. As the History department continues its transition back to campus, Friends very much looks forward to sponsoring receptions and lectures by outside speakers of note, where alumni, students, faculty, and other well-wishers can once again socialize in person.

Building a true community with deep roots

Success in making the History department not merely an academic unit in a large university, but a true community with deep roots, has always relied on the generosity of spirit, time, and resources of those who call themselves the "Friends of History." To all of you, thank you!

If you are not yet a member of the Friends of History and would like to be added to our community's mailing list, please visit the History Department website at: <https://www.csueastbay.edu/history/>. (From there navigate to the "Scholarships and Donations" page, but note: despite the wording, you do not have to donate money to join Friends of History.) You may also reach me at: vahid.fozdar@csueastbay.edu

~Vahid Fozdar, Assoc. Professor

Introducing Donilon Alcantara: Office Manager for the Departments of History and Philosophy

Interview with Donilon Alcantara

We are thrilled that Mr. Donilon Alcantara joined us in October 2021, to assume the role of Office Manager for two departments, History and Philosophy and Religious Studies. He has been such a pleasure to work with, and we wanted to introduce him to our larger History community.

Tell us about your connection to Cal State East Bay

I graduated in 2011, with a BS degree in Health Science. I participated in student organizations, including the Pilipinx American Student Association and Alpha Phi Omega, a community-based service fraternity. I met a lot of great people through those organizations. That's a huge part of the reason why

I enjoyed my years at East Bay. My closest, best friends today were the friends I met at Cal State East Bay. This year I've attended two weddings for my CSUEB friends, and I have two more to go! I am even in the wedding party in three of these four weddings!

What have you enjoyed the most about your work so far?

I love collaborating with people, so this is part of what drew me back to Cal State East Bay. People are so willing to collaborate and everyone I have met has been so willing to help. That is what I enjoy the most. I'm not afraid to ask for help. Everyone is so eager to assist in any way they can. Facilities and IT know me quite well now!





Meet Daisy and Chloe! Feel free to ask Donilon about these two adorable dogs, who look like friends, but . . .

I'm happy to have met several faculty and students so far. I'm hoping to expand on that! I really enjoyed working at graduation. It was just awesome to see how excited and happy the families were.

What are some of your favorite things to do?

Before Covid, travelling was a huge part of what I love to do, especially to try new and different foods. I have backpacked all over Europe, and have visited many US cities, including New Orleans, Memphis, and Austin. My favorite place is Japan, because everything is great there. Right now, I like to hike on weekends when I have time. Muir Woods is one of my favorite places to go. I'll pay for Muir Woods!

What do you like most about living in Hayward?

I love that we are in the middle of everything—right in the center of things, between Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose. I grew up in Hayward/San Lorenzo, on the border. My front door is in Hayward, but my window is in San Lorenzo. Hayward gets my taxes. As a kid, I enjoyed riding my bike with my friends, and just being outside. To this day, I love being outdoors. My neighborhood is very walkable, with lots of people around. Kennedy Park is nearby.

Favorite foods in Hayward

My favorite restaurants are Classic Burger in San Lorenzo and World's Fare Donuts in Hayward. For Filipino food, my mom's cooking is the best. My fa-

vorite Filipino dish is kare-kare, which my mom makes with oxtails and vegetables in a creamy peanut sauce, over rice. My favorite dessert is halo-halo, with mung beans and jellies at the bottom of a cup, with shaved ice on top, and then condensed milk added in. Then you mix it. I love food. My first love is Filipino food, then Thai food. Any Asian cuisine is great, but I like a good pasta too! I love to eat.

Tell us about Daisy and Chloe!

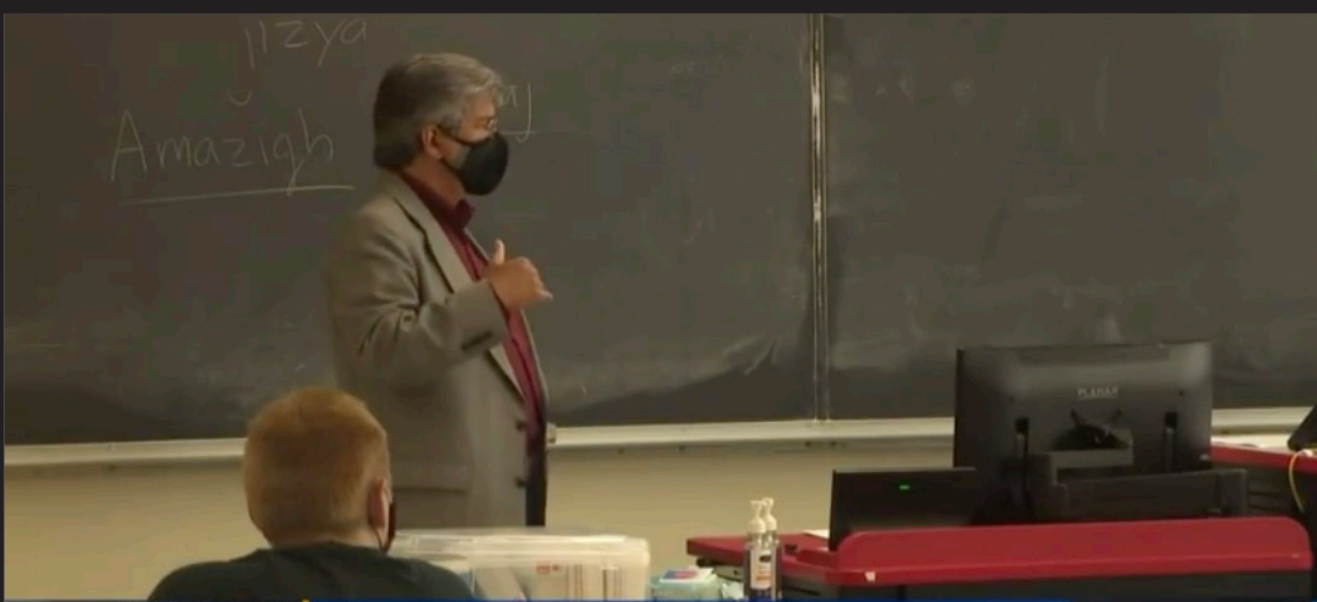
Chloe is eleven years old. She is super sweet, very smart, and knows a bunch of tricks. She hates fireworks and hates dressing up. She is a cuddler.

I really enjoyed working at graduation. It was just awesome to see how excited and happy the families were.

Daisy is five years old, and is super playful, but she has an esophageal problem that requires a special diet and upright, supported feedings. Daisy is a fighter, and she is a labor of love. Chloe doesn't like other dogs. Most days Chloe just acts like she doesn't care for Daisy. Daisy is a bit of a bully with Chloe!

Thank you, Donilon!

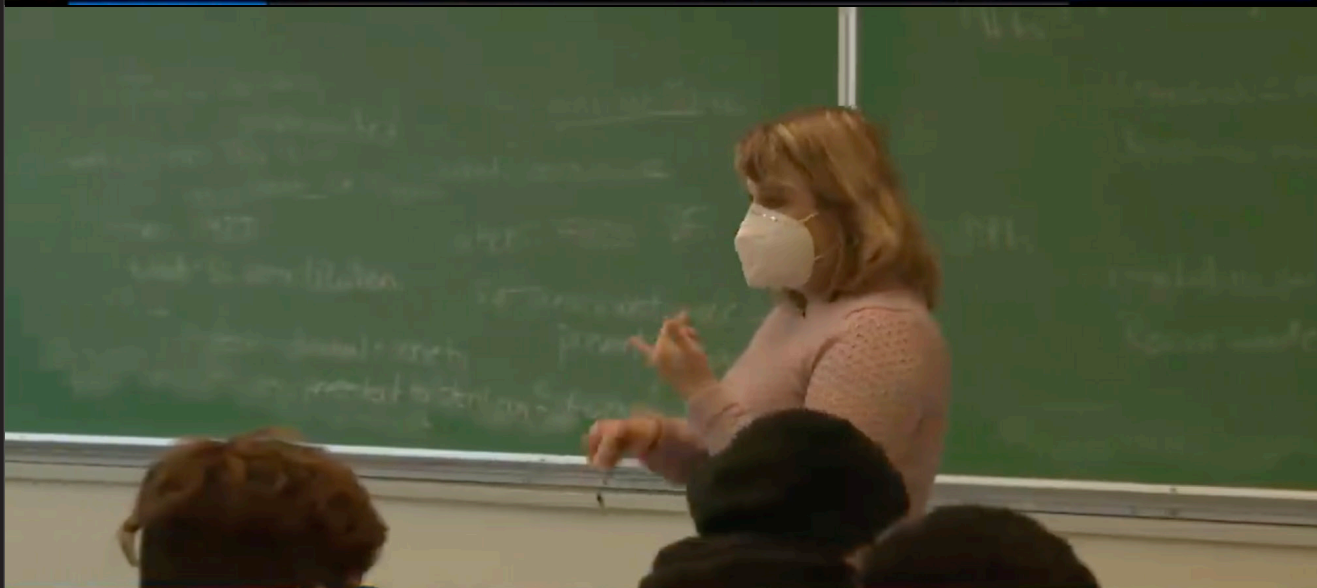
~Bridget Ford, Professor and Chair



REMEMBERING

9/11 TEACHING 9/11

CBSN BAY AREA



ABORTION RIGHTS SHOWDOWN

LIVE



DR. NOLAN HIGDON

LECTURER, HISTORY & MEDIA STUDIES, CAL STATE EAST BAY

AUTHOR, "THE ANATOMY OF FAKE NEWS"

CO-HOST, ALONG THE LINE PODCAST

DR. NOLAN HIGDON

LECTURER, HISTORY AND MEDIA STUDIES, CAL STATE EAST BAY

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East Bay



In the news: History faculty support public understanding of current events

University Communications regularly called on History faculty to speak with news media in 2021-2022. Here is a sampling of their important contributions:

- Vahid Fozdar on public memory and understanding of 9/11 after 20 years
- Samantha Francois on Supreme Court decisions about reproductive rights
- Nolan Higdon on Elon Musk's perplexing Twitter bid and early political signals in the 2024 presidential election
- Steven Cleveland on Juneteenth, media representations, and Black student success
- Nancy Park on the assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe
- Linda Ivey on the meaning and consequences of the signing of Executive Order 9066 by Franklin Roosevelt in 1942

"These are the important stories we want to tell and show — how professors like you are teaching history as it relates to our students now."

Kimberly Hawkins, University Communications,
September 8, 2021

EAST BAY HISTORIA



Vol. 6, 2022

East Bay Historia is here!

Editor-in-Chief Trix Welch provides an eloquent introduction in Volume 6 of our student journal. It is excerpted here. We hope you will pick up a copy at the Department Office (SF 442) or read the journal online at our website.

For this year's *East Bay Historia* team, the beginning of the Spring 2022 semester brought with it many uncertainties. The Omicron-variant COVID-19 surge had us beginning our course virtually and we did not get to meet one another in-person until the beginning of March. But even as our community begins to feel the tensions of COVID-19 finally beginning to recede, we find our attention torn between new and old wars, with violence on our screens with every scroll. Within our own country, violence plays out in both active and passive ways, through police brutality in our streets and the legislative attacks on our rights to choose, to love, and to learn. In these times of turmoil and distrust in our institutions, my peers and I understand how critical of a position we are in as historians. How do we provide meaningful historical interpretations that can shed light on our current world?

I believe this journal to be the beginning of an answer to this question. Covering an array of topics and time periods, from the Salem Witch Trials to the emerging suburbanization of the outer East Bay region, this journal has helped us and hopefully others see that history is a necessary part of the answer to the problems we have in our current times. While each article offers a unique argument and perspective, we see a pattern emerge of history being told with the intent of it shedding light onto current injustices and failings of our system. I hope you take these lessons with you and partake in active change, as I believe all my peers and I will do.

Without the substantial support and encouragement of the East Bay History department, this journal would not be possible, so thank you to all of the faculty and staff of our department for supporting and investing in our research and professional

pursuits. The support from the Friends of History has also been key in being able to publish each of our journal volumes in beautiful paperback, and we greatly appreciate the generous donations and support.

Saving the best for last, thank you to our editorial board this semester. While we faced challenges and setbacks, each individual on our team brought their experiences and perspective to the journal, which allowed it to become a better publication. I want to thank my fellow editors for the incredible hard work they have done this semester and collaborating towards the vision of what the *East Bay Historia* should be. It's this collaborative work of each individual student on our editorial board that brings this journal to life, and I am grateful for having the opportunity to work with each and every one of you this semester. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your dedication.

I hope you take these lessons with you and partake in active change, as I believe all my peers and I will do.

When reading our journal, I hope you take away a better understanding not only of how our past happened, but how we can create a better future for ourselves and others. Without further ado, I hope you enjoy reading volume 6 of *East Bay Historia*!

~Trix Welch, Editor-in-Chief and History major

Stay in touch!

Please find up-to-date contact, event, and program information here:

<https://www.csueastbay.edu/history/>

@csueb_history

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