

Workshop 1. Digital Futures for Chinese Diaspora Archaeology: A Listening Session, Dr. Barbara L. Voss and Dr. Claudia Engel, Stanford University

You are invited to participate in a listening session about the future of digital media for Chinese diaspora archaeology. We are in a moment where the digital environment is rapidly changing and existing “legacy” media such as traditional websites are receiving low engagement and also may face challenges in accessibility and security for organizational hosts.

After a brief presentation, this listening session will consist of a facilitated conversation that encourages participants to reflect on key priorities and best practices: What are our goals? What inspires us? Who are our audiences and what are their needs? What stories need to be told? What histories need to be shared? What values and principles should guide us? What sensitivities and concerns need to be addressed? We are eager to learn from your experience and perspectives so that the digital media we develop can more broadly serve Chinese American heritage programs.

Workshop Hosts Bios:

Dr. Barbara L. Voss is a Professor of Anthropology at Stanford University, where she is also affiliated with the Stanford Archaeology Center, the Center for Comparative Studies of Race and Ethnicity, the Program on Asian American Studies, the Program on Urban Studies, and the Program on Gender and Sexuality Studies.

Claudia Engel is the Academic Technology Specialist for the Department of Anthropology. She assists faculty and staff in the advanced use of digital technology and works with faculty in the classroom and in the field. Her academic training is in historical demography. Her technical expertise is in collaborative technologies and GIS for anthropological research.

This listening session is hosted by the Historical Archaeology Lab at Stanford University in partnership with CHCP and History San Jose, with support from the Asian American Research Center at Stanford. The Historical Archaeology Lab at Stanford University houses the largest and longest-running global research program on Chinese diaspora archaeology. This research investigates the daily lives and historical contributions of Chinese migrants, their descendants, and their home villages through studies of archaeological sites, landscapes, artifacts, and other physical materials, in concert with archival research, oral history, and community-based knowledge.

Workshop 2: CAHN Visioning Session

Workshop goals:

Members will leave the workshop having provided their input about what they believe the mission, purpose, vision, and values of the Chinese American Heritage Network are. There will also be a chance for people who are interested in continuing to shape the organization's mission and purpose outside of the workshop to sign up for the committee that will draft the mission, purpose, and vision statements.

Participant Preparation for Workshop:

Consider how you and your organization would benefit most from your partnership with CAHN. What do you think the larger purpose of the CAHN is? What values do you think shape how the CAHN functions?

Consider watching Simon Sinek's "Start with Why" Ted Talk:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4ZoJKF_VuA

Format

The workshop will begin with an explanation of the workshop activities and important definitions. Activities will primarily take place in small groups with opportunities to share highlights with the whole group.

Workshop host bio

Katie Buesch is a research historian working with the Eureka Chinatown Project. She currently works for California State Parks helping with grants to build new parks across California. Prior to this job, she worked at the Clarke Historical Museum in Eureka, CA, where she participated in strategic planning sessions for the museum just before the COVID-19 pandemic. This workshop is an adaptation of some of those planning sessions and other planning sessions she's participated in since then. Katie is also the website manager for the CAHN.

Workshop 3. Recognizing the Semiquincentennial

Workshop Goals

Attendees will share any plans their organizations have for recognizing the Semiquincentennial of the US in 2026. Attendees may be inspired to adopt or borrow ideas from other attendees or may build connections with other attendees and organizations that are doing similar work.

Participant Preparation for Workshop

Consider bringing notes on the following: Is your organization doing something to commemorate or recognize the 250th birthday of the US (Declaration of Independence)? If your organization is not planning on doing anything to recognize the semiquincentennial, consider how you might be able to link your site to the Chinese American struggles for civil rights historically or today (including efforts to pursue justice, equality, and civic engagement). You can also review the attached file and URL from the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) for ideas. AASLH Semiquincentennial Resources: <https://learn.aaslh.org/250>

Workshop Format

The workshop will begin with a 15 minute introduction from the workshop host speaker discussing some examples of how Chinese American groups nationally are or will pursue the unfinished business initiated 250 years ago by the call for justice and equality in the Declaration of Independence. Attendees will then have 15 minutes to discuss what or how their organizations are commemorating or marking the anniversary in small groups, and fifteen minutes for the entire group to come back together and share highlights from their small discussions.

Workshop Host Bio:

Dr. Anna Eng, a lifelong community leader and social activist, is a Chinese American historian and lecturer at UC Berkeley's Gender and Women's Studies Department. Her research focuses on documenting the stories of early Chinese American immigrant women and families and the impact of exclusion laws on their experiences.

As a 5th-generation descendant of Chinese American railroad workers, miners, and "paper sons," and a first generation immigrant herself—raised by five generations of Chinese women who were separated and forced to remain behind in China due to the long-term impact of Chinese Exclusion and immigration laws—the reclamation and acknowledgement of these hidden histories is of particular importance to her. This commitment compels her to maintain close ties to the community.