

Beyond^{the}Bazaar

**Collectively
preserving,
archiving, and
sharing the
history and
culture of the
Los Angeles
region**

Here's to a Happy New Year!

As more people get vaccinated, the world is opening up little by little. In the fall it opened up just enough to hold Archives Bazaar partially in person. Hopefully this is a sign of what's to come for 2022; more opportunities to see the people, places, and collections that Make L.A. as Subject so special. But as we move closer and closer to "normal" that doesn't mean we should leave everything about the last 20 months behind. We have learned so much about our individual and organizational power and responsibility to care and advocate for one another and there is no reason to leave those lessons behind.

After powering through 2020 we had to do it all again in 2021 and the ability of L.A. as Subject members to step up in the face of so many challenges cannot be overstated. Members have found ways to continue to make discovering, preserving, and sharing L.A. history possible under the most unusual of circumstances. For an entire year we have been able to count on seeing one another online from the shoulders up on the second Tuesday every other month to hear how researchers' and advocates' projects continued to evolve while repositories adapted to meet research needs. Even though I have missed seeing everyone in person and visiting the wonderful collections and locations of LAAS's members, the silver lining of remote meetings has been that more people than ever before have been able to attend. Thank you for being here even when we had to be apart. I can't wait to see everyone in the new year.

Jessica Gambling

L.A. as Subject Executive Committee Chair, 2021-2023

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Archives Bazaar 2021 Recap

This year's Archives Bazaar, held on October 23, was a welcome return to an in-person event after last year's first-ever virtual bazaar held totally online due to the Covid pandemic.

Thirty-one LA as Subject member organizations and four hundred visitors gathered once again in the Los Angeles Times Reference Room in Doheny Memorial Library on the USC campus to share and explore resources about Los Angeles history. The sixteenth annual bazaar was a leaner event than in years past due to ongoing Covid restrictions (there were fewer exhibitor tables, hours were reduced, and the closing reception for exhibitors could not be held) but the day was full of engaging programming and conversations reverberated throughout the exhibitor hall.

For the first time, programming for the bazaar was delivered in hybrid fashion -- for both online and live audiences. Stella Castillo

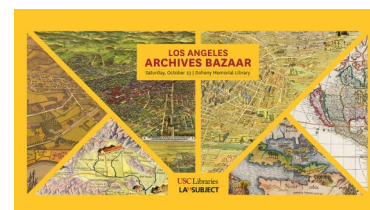
(USC Libraries) and Mallory Furner (Cal State Northridge Library) kicked off the day's programming with an informative session on what was learned from a recent member audit of the LA as Subject community and the assessment program that will soon be launched by LA as Subject's Archives at Risk Committee. This was followed by a fascinating conversation between Lynell George, author of *A Handful of Earth, A Handful of Sky: The World of Octavia Butler*, and Julia Meltzer, artist, filmmaker, and director of ClockShop, focusing on the life and archive of writer Octavia Butler.

Afternoon sessions included a panel presentation in which various California archives and museums shared their "Collecting Covid" projects and a captivating discussion highlighting how Los Angeles has identified historic places of social and cultural meaning as an engine of positive change between Ken Bernstein,

who leads the L.A. Department of City Planning's Office of Historic Resources, and Kristen Hayashi, Director of Collections and Curator at the Japanese American National Museum.

The day also featured Home Movie Day and Basement Tapes workshops, virtual exhibitor booth showcases, as well as the unveiling of a History Keepers online exhibit, [L.A. Stories: A Community Spotlight](#), that focuses on less-visible stories from LA as Subject member collections.

*Suzanne Noruschat
Program Committee Co-Chair,
2021*



Welcome new members!

- ◇ University of California, Riverside Special Collections & University Archives
- ◇ Modern Records Photo/Video Archive (private collection)
- ◇ Bates and Harvey Mudd Aeronautics Heritage Library
- ◇ Wilmington Historical Society
- ◇ About . . . Productions Archive
- ◇ Pasadena Playhouse Archives/Friends of the Pasadena Playhouse

2021 LAAS Executive Committee

- ◇ Jessica Gambling, Chair
- ◇ Yolanda Bustos, Publicity & Outreach
- ◇ Stella Castillo, Archives At Risk
- ◇ Lisa Crane, Secretary
- ◇ Alejandra Gaeta, Archives Bazaar Planning
- ◇ Suzi Noruschat, Archives Bazaar Planning
- ◇ Julie Yamashita, Membership
- ◇ Liza Posas, LAAS Coordinator

For more information about the executive committee and meeting notes, please visit:

LAASubject.org

Archives At Risk Committee (working title)

The Archives at Risk Committee (AARC) is gearing up for its pilot program in early 2022! The committee will be actively testing our Self-Assessment program. What program is that, you might ask? Well, the program is created for archives facing or needing change - before any of these changes become an archives emergency.

The program consists of three things:

1. A Memo of Agreement where the archive and the AARC agree to the terms of the program including a site visit, time commitments, and limits of the program;
2. A Self-Assessment survey where the archive takes the questionnaire the AARC has created and goes through each of the questions thoughtfully and thoroughly;
3. An initial Recommendation Report is generated after the AARC has received the Self-Assessment survey back and meets with the participating archive to talk about their core envisioned needs.

A final Recommendation Report will be produced consisting of recommendations based upon the collaboration between the archive and the AARC throughout the self-assessment program process. The final report will give the archive a "roadmap" to better help themselves moving forward.

The program is a great way to get a pulse check and have a "second set of eyes" take a look at the state of your archive! Please understand that the program is not meant to be a long term commitment! The AARC are not archives consultants for hire and are here to give your archive a check-up!

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or would like to participate in the AARC's program, please visit <https://www.laassubject.org/about/archives-risk-committee>.

Stella Castillo
L.A. as Subject Executive

PS: We are also looking to update our committee name! Archives At Risk were our inspiration but don't quite define our program - what do you think? Let us know! LA as Subject is largely centered around community archives, and a local community of archivists. As we celebrate our 25th anniversary year, and look toward the future of community archives over the next twenty-five years, Guadalupe's work demonstrates the importance of and possibilities for archival work as a shared, participatory process that centers the voice and identity of the community

LAAS awarded SCA Archives Appreciation Award

L.A. as Subject was recognized with an **Archives Appreciation Award** at the 2021 Society of California Archivists (SCA) General Membership Meeting, held online in from April 27-30.

Per James Eason, Chair of the SCA Awards Committee, L.A. as Subject was selected because of "the organization's exceptional online programming produced during the COVID-19 pandemic, and also twenty-five years of community building among archives and their public, broadly defined. L.A. as Subject is a research alliance dedicated to preserving and improving access to the archival material of Los Angeles history."

The SCA Archives Appreciation Award recognizes an agency, organization or institution which has provided extraordinary support for archival programs that meet as many of the following criteria as possible:

- Serving its user constituency in an outstanding fashion
- Demonstrated creativity and resourcefulness toward improving operations or methods of the archival endeavor
- Going beyond the normal requirements expected of an archival agency and providing a model for others
- Developing over a period of time a program of such depth and scope as to warrant special recognition

LA as Subject Residency Program 2018-2021

The L.A. as Subject Resident Archivists program came to a close at the end of October. The L.A. as Subject residency and training program was made possible through a generous grant from the [Institute of Museum and Library Services \(IMLS\)](#). The program was a collaborative effort by L.A. as Subject; Gerth Archives and Special Collections at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH); Oviatt Library at California State University, Northridge (CSUN); and the USC Libraries. From 2018 to 2021, the three residents assisted a total of 30 member archives.

Azatuhi Babayan, resident at USC worked with:

- Cal State LA Special Collections
- Chinese Historical Society of Southern California
- June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives
- Immaculate Heart Community
- KAOS Network
- Natural History Museum of Los Angeles
- Rubel Castle (Glendora Historical Society)
- Self-Help Graphics
- USC Polish Music Center
- Whittier Public Library History Room

Azatuhi is now an archivist for the USC Digital Library. She is working on the Dick Whittington photograph collection providing metadata and migrating these records to USC's new system, Orange Logic.

Gerard Collins, resident at CSUDH worked with:

- Center for the Study of Political Graphics
- Columbia Memorial Space Center
- Compton 125 Historical Society
- Historical Society of Long Beach
- Japanese American National Museum
- Little Tokyo Historical Society/Tanaka Spiritual Legacy Project
- Marina Del Rey Historical Society
- Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation
- San Pedro Bay Historical Society
- Tradeswomen Archive

Gerard is now the Collection Information Registrar at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles.

Crystal Johnson, resident at CSUN worked with

- About...Productions
- Campo de Cahuenga Historical Memorial Association
- Corita Art Center
- Crescenta Valley Glendale Service Unit - Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles
- Ebell Club of Los Angeles
- Glendale Public Library
- San Gabriel Mission Playhouse
- Tom & Ethel Bradley Center
- San Fernando High School
- Valley Relics Museum

Crystal is now the Processing Archivist for Community Collections at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA.

2022 LAAS-GM Meetings Calendar

- ◇ February 08
- ◇ April 12
- ◇ June 14
- ◇ August 09
- ◇ October 11
- ◇ December 13

More info on
laassubject.org/events

All meetings will be held over Zoom until further notice.

However, we do hope in-person meetings will resume again some time next year. If you are interested in hosting a meeting...

Contact Liza Posas at
posas@usc.edu

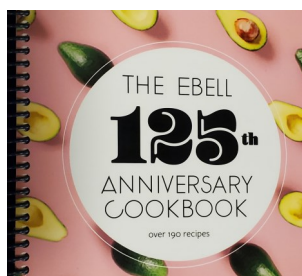
Read more about the L.A. as Subject Residency Program on the online exhibit

[LA as Subject: 25 years of Highlighting Southern California Archives](#)

Highlights from the 2021 Archives Bazaar—a hybrid event



Left to right, top to bottom: Michael Okamura setting up the Little Tokyo Historical Society exhibitor table; Base-met Tapes Day hybrid set-up, channeling guests from coast to coast; Home Movie Day film equipment; Faculty Hall presentation room; Ebelle Club of LA cookbook; UCLA's Punk Archives display; Archives Bazaar attendees at the Angelus Matchcover Club table



**See you at the next
Archives Bazaar!**

OCTOBER, 2022

*For the latest news and
how to join the
Archives Bazaar planning
committee, stay tuned to
<https://laassubject.org/>*