From all of us at the Oral History Center, we are wishing you our best in these challenging times. We hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy.

Director's Column, May 2020

This month, OHC Director Martin Meeker discusses the new normals, from raising baby chicks to celebrating our graduating student employees to moving our operations—like interviewing and our Advanced Summer Institute—online.

Advanced Summer Institute To Be Held Online

Join us for our week-long oral history intensive from August 10-14, 2020. For our annual Advanced Summer Institute, we will focus on the methodology, theory, and practice of oral history.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the Advanced Institute will be held online this year. The cost of the Advanced Institute has been adjusted to reflect the online nature of this year’s program. This year’s cost has been adjusted to $350.

The institute is designed for graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, university faculty, independent scholars, and museum and community-based historians who are engaged in oral history work. The goal of the institute is to strengthen the ability of its participants to conduct research-focused interviews and to consider special characteristics of interviews as historical evidence in a rigorous academic environment.

Apply Now
For more information, please visit our website or email Shanna Farrell at
New Transcript Releases:

Jerry Ornelas: East Bay Regional
Parkland Oral History Project

Kali Reis: Professional Midweight
Champion Boxer
This interview was conducted by
Rudy Mondragon, our 2019 OHC
Summer Graduate Fellow. Read
more about Rudy and his interview
experience on our blog.

You’re Invited! June Oral History Book Club

Our next installment of our Oral History Book Club is in June
and we’re reading Daisy Jones & the Six. We’ll be meeting
virtually on Monday, June 15th at 11am via Zoom and we’d
love for you to join us!
RSVP to Shanna Farrell at sfarrell@library.berkeley.edu.

Head over to our blog to read more about fictional oral
history interviews as literary devices, and why we’re drawn to reading
books that tell stories this way.

New Special Season of the
Berkeley Remix Podcast

Lately, things have been challenging and
uncertain. We’re enduring an order to shelter-in-
place, trying to read the news, but not too much,
and prioritize self-care. Like many of you, we, too,
are in need of some relief.

So, we’d like to provide you with some, in the form of a podcast. Episodes
in this series, which we’re calling “Coronavirus Relief,” may sound different
from those we’ve produced in the past, that tell narrative stories drawing
from our collection of oral histories. But like many of you, we, too, are in
need of a break.

Our first four episodes are now live.
Episode 1: Amanda Tewes on Interview Mishaps
Episode 2: Shanna Farrell Comments on Rebecca Solnit
Episode 3: Amanda Tewes Muses on Bowling Alone
Episode 4: Roger Eardley-Pryor on the First Earth Day

If you like our podcast, please rate us or leave a comment on
Want More?

Like what we're doing? Stay connected with us on social media, listen to our podcast (and don't forget to rate us on iTunes!), or consider a donation to support our work.

See you next month!