

**Candidate Statements\* for  
SOHA Board of Directors 2019-21  
September 10, 2019**

**President**

**Jennifer Keil\*\***

As the current 1st VP, Jennifer Keil has enjoyed being active on the board since 2015. During that time, she has been the SOHA Conference Chair, organized and encouraged poster submissions at various events, and recruited new members to SOHA. Jennifer will bring her experience with OHA in local arrangements, marketing, and awards. She would be honored to serve as the President and fulfill the outlined responsibilities.

**First Vice President**

**Farina King\*\***

Farina King (Diné) has recently been the 2nd Vice President of SOHA and would be honored to serve as SOHA 1st Vice President, as she has enjoyed being involved and supporting the SOHA family, which has much to offer in strengthening scholarship, learning, and community. She envisions continuing to promote SOHA, build bridges between organizations and people committed to oral history especially in the Southwest, and grow as an organization while sustaining the tight-knit and supportive network that makes SOHA a special and essential organization.

**Second Vice President**

**Summer Cherland**

Summer Cherland served as student delegate to the SOHA board in the past and remain committed to the organization, having organized panels for each of the two most recent conferences. In the role of 2nd VP, she will gladly recruit new members to the organization and work with the board for the well-being of SOHA. Her qualifications include a PhD in history from UNLV; dissertation and professional research using Oral History; Founder of the South Phoenix Oral History Project (emerging); Teaching History in Higher Ed; Developed a student-run Oral History Project (now in its second year).

**Second Vice-President**

**Sara Long**

Sara Long is qualified to serve as the 2nd Vice President of SOHA because she develops new historical programs that can adapt to the challenges and realities of the digital era. Her experience in teaching, fundraising, organization and campaign development, and marketing will allow her to bring national recognition to SOHA and continue to support and promote oral history as a fundamental method for exploring and recording history. She teaches United States history at UC Irvine. She received her BA and MA in history from CSUF and remains active in the public history sector. In 2018, she became a member of the Advisory Board for 70 Degrees. In 2019, she founded the oral history project and podcast, The Makeup Historian.

**Treasurer**

**Monserath Hernandez**

Monserath Hernández is currently a graduate student working on the Latinx Voices of Southern Nevada oral history project at UNLV. She also is working with Caryll Dziedziak, who is training her on the SOHA Treasurer's duties and responsibilities.

**Secretary**

**Dalena Sanderson-Hunter**

Dalena Hunter is a Librarian/Archivist for Los Angeles Communities and Cultures in UCLA Library Special Collections. She has over 10 years' experience collecting and preserving records and histories of community groups in the Los Angeles area. Ms. Hunter was on the planning committee for the SOHA conference in Los Angeles in 2009, and has presented at SOHA in Tempe, AZ 2014 and at CSU Fullerton in 2018. She has also been an officer in the African American Studies section of ALA and California Librarians Black Caucus. She looks forward to serving SOHA's mission and supporting its future goals from the Secretary position.

**State Delegates**

**Arizona Delegate**

**Carlos Lopez\*\***

Carlos Lopez hopes to continue to serve SOHA as a bridge between the organization and OHA. He also looks forward to expanding the organization's reach in the state of Arizona by trying to bring aboard some of the institutions that were once members but have dropped off in recent years.

**California Delegate**

**Cindy Keil**

Cindy Keil helped institute several oral history projects in California, including Balboa Island Museum, Laguna Woods History Center, The Moulton Family Foundation, and recently the Orange County Public Library. She wants to promote SOHA and encourage new membership and conference presentations.

**Nevada Delegate**

**Rodrigo Vazquez**

As the Nevada State Delegate, Rodrigo Vazquez would use his communication skills in order to bring a greater awareness of the existence of SOHA to the student body at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. As a member of an ongoing oral history project in Southern Nevada, he is interested in sharing the project with fellow SOHA members and eager to see the great work that is occurring in their respective states. By knowing about the diverse initiatives that are occurring in the Southwest, he will reach out to the many individuals who long for a connection with their neighboring communities or who wish to represent their own.

**New Mexico Delegate**

**Rachael Cassidy\*\***

Rachael Cassidy (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma) is an ABD PhD student in the Department of History at the University of New Mexico, and has worked in museums, including the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian for a decade. She has worked in oral histories with Native communities for over ten years and continues to use oral history as a primary source in her research. She promotes SOHA and oral history in New Mexico by connecting with local community projects such as the Humans of New Mexico Project, and through her work in the university and at the New Mexico Historical Review.

**Representatives**

**Native American Representative**

**Sharon Catron Evans**

Sharon Evans (Navajo) is an independent researcher who has explored her familial ties and those of other former students to the Native American Boarding School of Intermountain Boarding School in Utah by using oral history. Her background is in health care among urban Native American communities. She sees the importance of oral histories as a platform to help enable their healthy outcomes. Her involvement in SOHA will enhance this project through additional resources and networking and she will connect this community with SOHA.

**Student Representative**

**Teagan Dreyer**

Teagan Dreyer is interested in being the Student Representative for the Southwest Oral History Association due to interest in the mission of the Association. Oral history, the perspective and experience of those who have experienced events that are studied, has been long overlooked by historians. Associations like the SOHA ensure that these histories, and the people who have lived them and continue to live them are heard and receive the attention that they deserve. History, if viewed only in a book, can seem to not have an impact on everyday life, oral history shows that the people that are studied, even if they cannot tell their own stories had a perspective. This perspective of people today, people who are open and welcoming enough to offer their stories, show the many ways history can be studied.

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\*Any member in good standing of the Southwest Oral History Association may make additional nominations by submitting the nomination in writing to the Nominating Committee before the actual vote is conducted. The nominee must agree to serve. In 2019, the vote will be held at the SOHA Business Meeting on Saturday, October 19, 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Salt Lake City, Utah.

Traditionally, the existing 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President are elected to the next positions of President and 1<sup>st</sup> VP. However, others may be nominated for these positions.

\*\*current (2017-19) SOHA Board member