



**Society of California Archivists  
Candidate's Statement for 2021 Election**

**Candidate for:** Nominating Committee

**Years:** 2021-2023 (2-year term)

**Name:** Azalea Camacho

**Institution:** California State University, Los Angeles

**Professional Background (begin with current position and areas of responsibility, and briefly summarize duties):**

Azalea Camacho is the Archivist and Special Collections Librarian at the California State University, Los Angeles (Cal State LA) Department of Special Collections & Archives, and a recipient of the Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship for Diversity, Inclusion and Cultural Heritage. She oversees the operations of the Special Collections and Archives unit, which includes archival processing and maintenance; coordinating the instruction program and public services; and managing the library's exhibits program. Over the past seven years at Cal State LA, she has worked to strengthen community partnerships and foster student curiosity in the field by providing engaging opportunities for the campus community. Her professional background in archives and special collections extends to over a decade. She entered the profession, as a library assistant at the UCLA Southern Regional Library Facility, proceeded to a paraprofessional position as an Archives Assistant at Western University of Health Sciences, and has progressed to a professional position at Cal State LA.

**Educational Background (degrees and other applicable training):**

Azalea Camacho received an MLIS in Archival Studies from San Jose State University in 2011

and a BS in Communications, Journalism from California Polytechnic University, Pomona in 2005.

**Professional Affiliations (list organizations, dates and extent of your involvement, e.g., SCA activities, memberships, committee work):**

Memberships in the following organizations:

- 2020 - Present, Bibliographical Society of America (BSA)
- 2019 - Present, ALA Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
- 2014 - Present, Society of American Archivists (SAA)
- 2014 - Present, Rare book and Manuscripts Section (RBMS)
- 2013 - Present, Society of California Archivists (SCA)

**Taking into account differing levels of monetary and institutional support, how can the Nominating Committee ensure that candidates are chosen from all facets of the archival profession: lone arrangers, large institutions, government archives, academic archives, corporate archives, library, museum, and other settings? Please detail your efforts to integrate equity and inclusion practices into your work and any plans you may have for this as a member of the Nominating Committee.**

The Nominating Committee can ensure that candidates are chosen from all facets of the archival profession by enhancing its outreach efforts and developing intentional outreach outcomes that align with the goals of the Society of California Archivists. Diversity, inclusion and equity are deeply important to me, both personally and professionally. As the Archivist and Special Collections Librarian at Cal State LA my work has revolved around creating an inclusive and equitable environment for the campus community and public at large. My strategy has been to incorporate these principles in the daily operations and responsibilities of my position from instruction to collection development. The instruction program focuses on exposing and fostering student curiosity by encouraging use of special collections and archival materials in their research, and by providing engaging opportunities where they can learn about the profession. In addition, I have worked to develop a library and archival studies program for student assistants that is designed to train and support students with potential in the field and have implemented a volunteer program that provides learning opportunities for those outside of the campus community. I have also facilitated the development of an open reading room concept that is not only open for research use but provides a place for quiet study for the campus community. As part of the Nominating Committee, I would continue to develop my efforts in providing equitable and inclusive practices in the profession overall.