



**Society of California Archivists
Candidate's Statement for 2023 Election**

Candidate for: Membership Director

Years: 2023-2025 (2-year term)

Name: Marie Silva

Institution: California Judicial Center Library

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

For the past three-plus years, I've served as a solo archivist for the California Judicial Center Library, which serves the California Supreme Court and the First District Court of Appeal. In this role, I manage the library's Special Collections and Archives unit. I also curate exhibitions, organize library programs, assist with legal research, and serve on the court's Equity & Inclusion Committee, leading that committee's Newsletter team.

From 2011-2019, I served as archivist and manuscripts librarian at the California Historical Society, with a stint as interim library director. In addition to managing the processing and description of the Society's manuscripts collections, I provided reference services, curated exhibitions, managed grant-funded projects, and administered the library's OPAC.

Educational Background (degrees and other applicable training):

- Master's degree in Library and Information Science, San José State University
- Bachelor of Arts in Rhetoric, University of California at Berkeley

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

- Society of California Archivists: Member since 2011; served on the Local Arrangements Committee in 2012-2013; served as co-chair of the Education Committee from 2016-2019, during which time we hosted eight workshops/webinars and implemented SCA's webinar program.
- Member of the Society of American Archivists.

[300 words or less]

What initiatives would you like to pursue as Membership Director to improve the member experience and engagement with the Society?

SCA's efforts to foster community, create affordable and inclusive offerings, and address labor and equity issues during the collective trauma of the pandemic have been impressive. If entrusted with this position, I would like to continue the good work of the Membership Committee by supporting the development of new member-initiated events that enrich professional relationships, with sensitivity for varying levels of comfort with in-person gatherings. I hope to work with SCA to solicit member feedback on future initiatives, including the possible development of a mentorship program responsive to participants' preferences for paired/group and in-person/remote meetings. Finally, I'd like to continue the Committee's outreach work, especially to students, emerging professionals, unemployed or precariously employed colleagues, and non-traditional archivists, while working with the Board to assess the relevance, inclusivity, and financial accessibility of SCA's programs.

Please detail your efforts to integrate equity and inclusion practices into your work and any plans you may have for this as Membership Director and Board Member.

In my current position, I serve on the court's Equity and Inclusion Committee, leading the Newsletter team and organizing or contributing to programs that foster diversity, equity, and inclusion and help create a welcoming community for all staff. I also served on the Mentorship Committee; and organize library programs and exhibitions that reckon with California's legal history and legacies of injustice. If elected as Membership Director, I hope to work collaboratively with the Board, Committees, Affinity Groups, and SCA members to develop programs that deepen our professional connections, build on a culture of empathy and respect, and provide support networks to each other, especially to colleagues who are isolated, marginalized, unemployed, precariously employed, or lacking institutional support.

As a working parent with additional caretaking responsibilities, I grapple with the challenges of

balancing paid and unpaid labor with financial and health anxieties. In this role, I hope to collaborate on new member-initiated events, mentorship opportunities, affinity group activities, and other initiatives that provide much-needed professional support without over-straining members' limited resources of finances, time, and energy.