



**Society of California Archivists
Candidate's Statement for 2020 Election**

Candidate for: Vice President/President-elect

Years: 2020-2023 (3-year term)

Name: Leilani Marshall

Institution: Sourisseau Academy for State and Local History, San Jose State University

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

- Archivist, Sourisseau Academy for State and Local History, San Jose State University (2004-present)
- Supervising Archivist, Special Collections and Archives, San Jose State University (2015-2019)
- Project Archivist, Pollard Library, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (2012-2016)
- Archivist, History Office, NASA Ames Research Center (2003-2007)
- Archivist, Mamiya Medical Heritage Center, Hawaii Medical Library (2000-2002)

In all of these positions I served as the primary archivist, and most often was the only archivist for the repository. My primary duties have encompassed developing institutional policies and procedures; processing and describing collections; developing and maintaining collection databases; collections maintenance; training and supervising staff, interns and volunteers; and assisting researchers with access to the collections.

Educational Background (degrees and other applicable training):

- MA in History, San Jose State University, 2004
- Certified Archivist, Academy of Certified Archivists, Class of 2003
- MLS, Texas Woman's University, 1998
- BA in History, University of Hawaii at Hilo, 1996

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

- **Society of California Archivists, 2003-present**
 - Awards Committee (2017-present)
 - 2017 Annual General Meeting Program Committee (2016)
 - Finance and Investment Committee (2012-present)
 - Treasurer, Executive Board (2012-2016)
 - Annual General Meeting Local Arrangements Committee (2006, 2007, 2011, 2012)
 - Education Committee (2003-present)
- **Society of American Archivists, 2000-present**
- **Association of Hawaii Archivists, 2000-present**

What do you see as the most urgent issues for California archivists, and how do you think SCA can help address these issues? [300 words or less]

One of the most urgent issues facing California's archivists today is the underemployment of archival professionals in institutions and organizations that have become increasingly reliant upon temporary labor through grant-funded projects and short-term positions. This worrying trend indicates an undervaluing and underappreciation of archivists and their expertise by the repositories that are the caretakers of California's historical record. A related issue to underemployment is the need to increase the visibility of the archives profession to California's historical institutions and cultural heritage repositories as well as to local communities and the general public. Greater community outreach will not only raise the awareness of the profession itself but will also encourage the use of archival collections throughout the state.

As the professional organization representing California's archivists, SCA is in the perfect position to address both of these issues. One of SCA's core missions is to support the work of those who collect, care for, and provide access to the documentary heritage of California, and advocating for better working conditions as well as being an assertive voice for archival professionals are in perfect accordance with this mission. To these ends SCA has established the current Task Force on Labor Issues in Archives, the purpose of which is to devote two years to assessing and addressing the labor issues of California's archivists. By developing best practices and adopting policies that can help set standards for fair and professional labor practices, SCA can greatly impact California's archivists' working environment. Creating opportunities for dialog between archival professionals and the institutions and organizations they work for is another way that SCA can support its members and further its mission to encourage interest in, and support for, archival facilities in both public and private institutions.