



OLJATO-MONUMENT VALLEY, UTAH



Southwest Oral History Association Summer 2020 Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Column

by Jennifer Keil, President



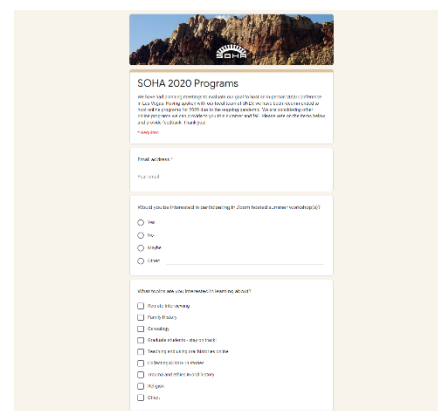
Our world has been altered and we are adjusting to these difficult times during this global pandemic and civil unrest. Your role as oral historians has been elevated as those who can capture a moment in this COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure your safety, we have decided to transition our in-person programs to a Zoom hosted platform. Please see the letter posted on our website [here](#).

Our network values our members and offers them an opportunity to participate virtually in 2020 programs. We are implementing a summer and fall series that will help you and your colleagues. Please take time to participate in a poll here so that we will become aware of know your interests: bit.ly/SOHA2020

My goal is to support your work. The board is exploring new ways to connect with each of its members. I have been

developing lists of projects and programs for your reference. Having attended Oral History Association, Texas Oral History Association, and American Folklore Society webinars has personally enriched my understanding of our role. I encourage you to participate in continued education courses and learn how we can improve our access to collections. Digital collections will be the source for future theses and dissertations.

On a local level, I have seen museums, libraries, and archives take collections and mobilize them to digital platforms. Consider adopting Omeka as a CMS that would allow your students the availability to virtually contribute to new and existing collections. I have been receiving questions regarding using Zoom as a viable interview platform. I recommend that you conduct pre-interviews that would be recorded in order to test the WiFi bandwidth, camera quality, and audio from both systems. Based on other project guidelines, I encourage you to capture interviews on this or other equivalent platforms even if they are compressed files. Our goal is to maintain a steady record of interviews rather than perfecting the technology. Our work is critical. Continue to experiment and learn from one another. If you are looking for additional resources, visit, sohanews.wordpress.com/resources.



SOHA 2020 Program Poll..... P. 1

bit.ly/SOHA2020

Board Member Articles.....P. 2

Board Member Introductions... P.3

Project Announcements..... P.4-5

Summer Workshop..... P.6

SOHA 2020 Zoom Conference.. P.7

2020 Awards..... P.7-8



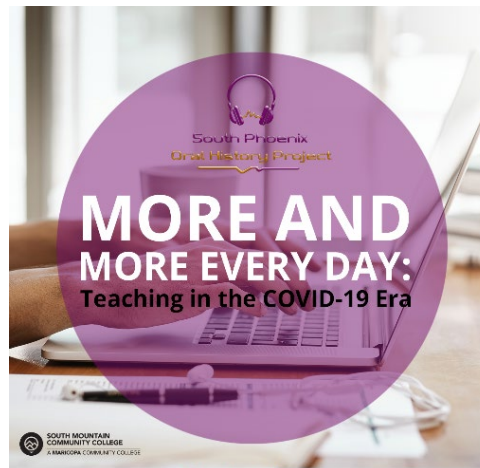


Diné Doctor History Syllabus

by Farina King, 1st Vice President

Dr. Farina King, the SOHA Vice President, launched a Diné Doctor History Syllabus that she is developing and working on continually to share and feature materials related to Navajo histories of disease and healing. The syllabus includes a section on oral histories. If folks have any suggestions or come across sources, resources, or any helpful information, please let Dr. King know. Ahéhee!! Learn more at <https://farinaking.com/dinedoctorhistorysyllabus/>.

Dr. Farina King was offered a short term residency to teach about Native American History in Japan for two weeks through the Organization of American Historians and Japanese Association of American Studies. She was originally planning to have her residency this summer, but it has been postponed to the summer of 2021 due to the pandemic.



More and More Every Day: Stories of Teachers and Students in the COVID-19 Era

by Summer Cherland, 2nd Vice President

The first time I heard about SOHA was when Marcia Gallo and Claytee White encouraged me to present at the conference in Albuquerque. It was 2012 and I was training in Oral History at UNLV. SOHA welcomed me immediately. I was delighted to meet colleagues and other scholars of Oral History. I was grateful to learn more about the craft that would eventually anchor my academic career, and I was enamored with New Mexico. The West has always been my personal and professional home and SOHA's notable significance in our region inspired me then, as it continues to inspire now.

After graduating I began my professional career at South Mountain Community College, a 40-year-old institution that was founded in large part due to local activism. After discovering a staggering dearth of research on the history of this community, I knew right away, that as the sole historian on my campus, it was my responsibility to help right this wrong. I began drawing on my oral history training to research and reclaim the history of South Phoenix and with a group of students founded the South Phoenix Oral History Project

(southphoenixoralhistory.com). Our mission is to *capture and preserve the history of South Phoenix and SMCC*. We train community college students—typically underserved and poorly prepared for academic life—to research and conduct oral histories with politicians, business-leaders, local activists, and educators. They produce professional, academic research which is published on our website and an academic manuscript is in the works. Students indicate that their participation in the project has helped them to develop sophisticated research, writing, and analytical skills beyond the traditional history class. It's a true joy to watch this project take shape.

My connections to SOHA fundamentally shaped the way we developed the South Phoenix Oral History Project. When we were creating training and research strategies, we reached out to SOHA colleagues for support and guidance. When we began to develop our website, SOHA put me in touch with a librarian who gave us incredible advice on indexing and transcribing. In spring 2019, SOHA awarded our project with a mini-grant to support student and faculty work. At the 2019 Oral History Association conference, the co-founders of SPOH presented to SOHA members and attendees, and the feedback we received was immeasurable. In short, SOHA has given me more than I would ever expect from any professional association. I am privileged to give back in service and time.

At the 2019 SOHA business meeting, it was apparent that our association is facing a time of great transition, as many of our longstanding leaders are moving on. It was also evident that the new leadership will continue to honor and uphold SOHA's legacy, and I am proud to be a part of this evolution.

SOHA 2019-21
Board of Directors

Learn more about each board member here:

<http://www.southwestoralhistory.org/officers.html>

SOHA Secretary



Dalena Sanderson-Hunter

Dalena Sanderson-Hunter is a Librarian/Archivist for Los Angeles Communities and Cultures in the UCLA Library Special Collections. She began serving as SOHA Secretary in January 2020.

I first became involved in SOHA in 2009 when I was invited to join the conference planning committee. It was a pleasurable and eye-opening experience to work with so many dedicated oral historians. At that conference I planned a tour of Leimert Park and a screening of the documentary about Leimert Park. After being a member for several years and presenting at a couple of conferences I was invited to run for secretary. I was excited to work with the other officers and plan an event for graduate students and new oral historians. While COVID-19 has forced us to postpone our in person meeting, I hope we can find new ways to interact and share our work with each other.

I became involved in SOHA because its mission to “promote oral history as a method for exploring history, culture and current experiences” in the region aligns with my work amplifying the histories of marginalized and underdocumented communities of color in the Los Angeles area and in the region more broadly. I appreciate the learning opportunities that exist between oral historians in settings that range from professors to independent researchers, to librarians. I also became involved to get out of my

comfort zone in libraries and archives that focus on paper records and documentation. I think it is important to hear people’s voices when they share their stories.

I’ve enjoyed warmth and willingness to learn and grow I experienced at SOHA in past years. There is important work being done in the organization, but its officers make room for individuals to contribute in many ways. My favorite experience was the Native American story teller at the Fullerton conference. His engagement with the audience, passion, and skill conveying creation myths and other stories still comes to mind years later. It was wonderful to have such a talented storyteller challenge western ways of seeing and understanding the world around us and our relationships to each other.

I’ve been working on an oral history project to document African American LGBT community groups in the Los Angeles area. The project was conceived to fill a gap in stories told about LGBT movements that are overwhelmingly white and male and public. Black people experience social spaces and civil rights very differently from white people and this was especially so for Black LGBT people “in the life” for most of the twentieth century. We often think of the west coast as a place free from Jim Crow racism and social restraints of more conservative parts of the US. Black lived experience tells us this is not the case. The project was conceived to give voice to those Black LGBT persons who formed communities where Blackness and gayness was welcome, respected, and celebrated. COVID -19 will affect how oral history is conducted and I look forward to finding new ways to document those oral histories in multiple marginalized communities.

Introducing SOHA Graduate Student Representative Teagan Dreyer

The members of this organization are among those that seek to give a voice to those that experienced history just by living their lives . . .

-Teagan Dreyer



Teagan Dreyer and Farina King in Monument Valley, Navajo Nation (May 2019)

My name is Teagan Dreyer, a graduate student at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and my involvement with SOHA was completely by chance. At NSU I took a class taught by Dr. Farina King and one of the texts for this course was her book *Earth Memory Compass*. This text looked at the boarding school experiences of Navajos, and included a lot of oral history, focusing on the individuals that went through a journey that was complex and not as simple as had been presented to me in the past. Being from Oklahoma, a Native American, and my father having worked at a boarding school that still serves Native American students, I connected with Dr. King’s research. She allowed me to accompany her on an excursion to the Navajo Reservation and gave me the opportunity to meet community members who had personal ties to more research and oral history she continued to do. Seeing my interest she introduced me to SOHA, and from her encouragement I was voted the Student Representative and was able to be put on

a panel in the upcoming conference with her talking about this experience, along with how it inspired me in the direction of my thesis.

For my thesis, I am looking at five boarding schools in the state of Oklahoma, three of which do not exist anymore with two existing in some capacity under which they were founded. I want to understand what caused these schools to be founded, how did tribal members feel as these schools closed, and get some insight into the complex relationship between the tribes in Oklahoma and education. Due to Dr. King's exposing me to the importance of oral history I am interviewing those with a connection to these schools, because they give credence and context to a part of Native American history that is seen as over when the reality is that these school's impact continues to be felt. The members of this organization are among those that seek to give a voice to those that experienced history just by living their lives, and I feel that being a part of it, even for the short time I have been, has impacted me as a researcher.



SOHA 2020

by **Juan Coronado**, Past President

Hello SOHA Family,

As the globe deals with a deadly pandemic, our nation struggles with an abundance of issues. The Trump administration failed to properly prepare, confront, and address COVID-19. Local and state governments have been overwhelmed in their efforts to combat the disease. Our healthcare workers and first responders have sacrificed their lives to treat the sick and dying. Food supply workers, including

farmworkers and meat packing plant workers continue to feed the nation while their contributions continue to be disregarded. Black, Brown, and Native communities have disproportionately borne the brunt of the pandemic. Meanwhile politicians have politicized the Coronavirus and the country remains divided and disunited. Some fanatics have even called for the self-sacrifice of our seniors for the preservation of the economy. Then, George Floyd was murdered on Memorial Day spurring on demonstrations throughout the country and the globe demanding for an end to racial injustice.

It is during these times that our work as oral historians may seem trivial. It is more important than ever that voices that have been silenced by dominant narratives be heard. It is the accounts we produce through oral history that brings inclusion to our communities. These are the stories of resilient people who have contributed to hold and expand the ideals of a democratic society. This is why your work and the work of SOHA matters. Oral history democratizes the field of history giving marginalized communities a voice. Thank you for your hard work and continue striving for a more equitable society. One which takes us beyond the current divisive time that has created concerning wealth and racial gaps. We deserve an improved civilization.



Project Announcement

by **Suzi Resnik**, President of [Viewing Voices](#)

On December 17, 2019, the Del Mar Historical Society was notified that its

oral history program, Del Mar Voices, had been selected for inclusion in the California Revealed program. California Revealed is a State Library initiative to help California's public libraries, in partnership with other local heritage groups, digitize, preserve, and provide online access to archival materials that tell the incredible stories of the Golden State. The local Del Mar Branch Library has cataloged 19 of the DMHS oral histories of community members which currently can be checked out from the library. With the California Revealed program, the 19 oral histories will be part of the California State Library website.

Project Lead, Voices of the Golden State
voicesofthegoldenstate@gmail.com



Living in Lockdown: Life in Brea During the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic

by **Linda Shay**, Director

Brea Historical Society

We have all been impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. Clearly the Spring of 2020 will go down in history as hundreds of thousands worldwide have died from a virus that crept into our lives. In a few short weeks, the entire global economy grinded to a halt as "Shelter in Place" orders were issued around the world. If the number of cases reported on various world health organizations are to be believed, the United States is far outpacing the world in number of confirmed cases, deaths, and recovered patients. Though the numbers may be questioned, one point that is of no dispute is the social disruption this

pandemic has brought. Schools and businesses are closed, medical professionals are working long hours in dangerous conditions, families are isolated from each other, and the list goes on. This is where YOU come in. Your experience during these unprecedented times will help future generations understand exactly what life was like during this time. How you coped, how you suffered, how you excelled, how you learned, and how you survived will be the topic of research for decades to come.



How to Participate

The Brea Historical Society has begun to archive these priceless stories. To participate you simply need to share your thoughts and experiences. Submit your content to the Brea Historical Society at info@breamuseum.org in Word or Google Docs format. Be sure to include your name, the date, and your association with the City of Brea (are you a resident, do you work in Brea, do you have family here, etc.). Also, be sure to indicate if you would like your contribution to become part of the digital archive. Upon completion, the digital archive will become a resource for historians, researchers, teachers, students, and the public in general.



Ak-Chin Indian Community Former Chairman Manuel

In Remembrance of Louis Manuel, Jr.

SOHA Honors Life and Service of Former Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Manuel

SOHA is deeply saddened at the untimely death of former Ak-Chin Indian Community Chairman Louis Manuel, Jr., who passed away at the age of 57 on April 6, 2020. Under Chairman Manuel's leadership, the Ak-Chin Community has sponsored the Eva Tulene Watt award for Native Americans to attend the SOHA conference for years. Native Americans historically have been oral historians and are a valued part of SOHA.

Chairman Manuel was named chairman of the tribe in 2009 and served until January 2016. During his tenure, Harrah's Ak-Chin Hotel and Casino expanded and the UltraStar Multi-tainment Center at Ak-Chin Circle was constructed. He helped guide the Community through a period of rapid growth and economic diversification. He was an advocate for Indigenous education, services for elders and accessibility to social and health services for tribal members. The mayor of Maricopa, the adjoining town, Congressman Tom O'Halleran and fellow

tribal leaders were among those who praised him.

SOHA will respectfully tell our membership of Honorary Chairman Manuel's role in the Watt award and have a moment of silence for him at our awards ceremony at our upcoming annual conference.



THE SOUTHWEST ORAL HISTORY
ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:

REMOTE INTERVIEWING IN THE COVID-19 ERA

July 31st at 9:30am (PST) on Zoom



Dr. Caryll Batt-Dziedziak

Interim Director
Women's Research Institute
of Nevada



Dr. Summer Cherland

Founder
South Phoenix
Oral History Project

Moderated by Jennifer Keil, SOHA President

Considering doing oral history while in quarantine? Join us to discuss our experiences conducting and processing interviews online during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Come prepared to share! This workshop will include a robust dialogue of concerns, benefits, and potentially useful technologies when it comes to remote interviewing.

TO RSVP: [BIT.LY/3GNVH1L](https://bit.ly/3GNVH1L)

This workshop is being offered at no cost. Please consider becoming a member and/or donate to our organization here: bit.ly/supportSOHA.

Register: bit.ly/3GNVH1L



2020 Mink Award

Professor William (Willy) Bauer is an Associate Professor of History at UNLV. Bauer (Wailacki and Concow of the Round Valley Indian Tribes) grew up on the Round Valley Reservation in Northern California. He received his B.A. from University of Notre Dame and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Bauer offers classes on California Indian, American Indian, and American West History. He is also UNLV's faculty liaison to the Newberry Library's Consortium on American Indian Studies. Bauer is the author of *California Through Native Eyes: Reclaiming History* and *We Were All Like Migrant Workers Here: Work, Community, and Memory on California's Round Valley Reservation, 1850-1941*. He has also published *McGillivray of the Creeks: John Walton Caughey* and essays on California Indian History in the *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Native Pathways*, *American Indian Culture and Economic Change in the Twentieth Century* (University of Colorado Press), and a *Companion to California History* (Wiley-Blackwell).

Bauer's current research focuses on the ways in which California Indians used oral traditions to offer an alternative telling of 19th and early 20th century California history. He is also working on a family biography, based on the life of his great-grandfather.



2020 Lifetime Achievement Award

Caryll Dziedziak has made an outstanding level of contributions to the Southwest Oral History Association.

Caryll was primarily responsible for achieving the official home for SOHA at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas through her promotion of the association and oral history with the University Dean of Liberal Arts, History Chair, and Library Director. They agreed to give office space, a highly valued donation, and funds for a part time graduate assistant and towards projects. Having a continuing address and clerical assistance has benefited SOHA, which previously relied on volunteer hours and changing addresses, dependent on who and where the officers were. Two examples in which the change of address from treasurer to treasurer was a problem was (1) with Pay Pal, which made the transfer of our conference funds to a new bank extremely difficult. (2) The previous account with Bank of America took 30 hours to move to Arizona, because the local California branch could not find the officer signing cards and Bank of America has different computer systems from states other than on the West Coast. Furthermore, the presence of a graduate assistant has mostly relieved Board members of clerical work, thus making the Board positions more attractive to busy SOHA members, allowing more to serve.

Caryll has held several critical positions in SOHA, including President and Treasurer. As President, she oversaw the

operations of the organization, working amiably with colleagues. I found her to be very available and accommodating, when I was conference chair. When a decision was not workable within the budget, she explained why and found alternatives, making wise judgments within the framework of the organization. As Past President, she was available to assist the new officers. Even beyond the Past President positions, she has been very responsive to requests for information and providing other assistance to members of the organization as needed.

Treasurer is one of the most important positions, so that bills are paid in a timely way, the non-profit status of SOHA is maintained, and financial issues are brought to the Board of Directors for decisions. Integrity is also critical and Caryll could unquestionably be counted on.

These are some of the most important contributions of Caryll Dziedziak, although there are doubtless others. She always has had SOHA's welfare her motivation. For these reasons, I nominate her to receive the SOHA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Moorhead

Past President and SOHA Lifetime Achievement Award winner in 2013



2020 Awards

Eva Tulane Watt: (SOHA conference registration fee waived and travel and hotel expenses are reimbursed up to an amount of \$500; one-year SOHA membership)

- **Elizabeth Rule:** Native scholar and first-time presenter at SOHA 2020 in two panels.
- **Teagan Dreyer:** Northeastern State University- Choctaw and SOHA Graduate Student Representative

General Scholarship: (Cash award of \$300, conference registration waiver, 1 year SOHA membership, article for the newsletter after conference)

- **Jonathan Angulo:** Southern Methodist University doctoral student using oral history to study Mexican American street vendors; presenting at conference
- **Matthew Jason Green:** history grad student at UU; working on outdoor recreation leaders and conservationists in Utah
- **Karen Marie Villa:** sociology doc student at UNLV; working on diasporic queer Filipinx communities; uses film as additional medium and wants to incorporate oral history methodologies into her art and activism

Mini-Grant: (Up to three mini-grants each year totaling up to \$1500. Encouraged to present their work at a SOHA conference within two years of receiving the Award and submit a written report on their work for inclusion in SOHA's newsletter within six months of receiving the award.)

- **Blackwards Project:** great example of partnership between educational institutional and community in documenting African American community history in Phoenix, AZ neighborhood with oral history
- **Midge Dellinger:** former student rep for SOHA board for two years; now working as tribal oral historian for Muscogee (Creek) nation, working to develop OH skills and ability to train others.
- **Dolores Urbieto:** Collaborated with South Phoenix Oral History to study the life history of Dr. Raul Cardenas, founding president of South Mountain Community College and a significant leader in the Latino community.

Thank You

A special thank you to Suzi Resnik, our past Mink awardee. She made a \$1,000 contribution to our organization for general use in honor of two of her colleagues in San Diego. This fund was designated in honor of the contributions of Rob Ray, Retired Head of Special Collections at San Diego State University and Tensia Trejo, Del Mar Historical Society, "Griot" of the community.

Mission & Membership

THE SOUTHWEST ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

The Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA) was founded in 1981 to serve practitioners of oral history in Arizona, Southern California, Nevada, New Mexico and contiguous areas.

Through publications, meetings, workshops and special events, SOHA supports and promotes oral history as a method for exploring and recording history, culture, and current experiences in the Southwestern United States. In this endeavor the association cooperates with other organizations and institutions in the region, and it maintains close ties with the national Oral History Association

Membership in SOHA provides meaningful opportunities for participation in the exchange of information and the discussion of matters of common concern among those interested in oral history throughout the Southwest region.

Membership

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP ACTIVATION/RENEWAL:

bit.ly/supportSOHA

OFFLINE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Print membership form and mail to:

SOHA
University of Nevada Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway Box
455020
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5020



SOHA MEMBERS

SOHA's membership includes professional oral historians, public historians, students, teachers, genealogists, family historians, volunteer interviewers, archivists, librarians, individuals, and community programs interested in oral history. Institutional and community members include oral history programs, universities, libraries, archives, historical societies and museums.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Annual Meetings

Held in the spring, the SOHA annual meeting offers a variety of experiences valuable to the membership including introductory and advanced workshops, session topics of both general and professional interest, presentation of awards, the annual business meeting and election of officers.

Subscription to the SOHA Newsletter

[The SOHA Newsletter](#), issued three times a year, contains regional news, articles by oral historians about oral history, reviews, trends, and discussions of oral history concerns at all levels.

SOHA Member Directory Listing

The directory is published and sent to all current members on a biannual basis via E-mail (unless otherwise specified by the individual member).

It is also available by electronic means to current members. It is SOHA policy not to distribute or sell either our membership list or newsletter to other organizations.

Training Workshops and Special Events

Workshops focus on practical approaches and solutions to problems common to the practice of oral history. Other events may

include regional tours to places of historic interest, lectures and book reviews.

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Members are encouraged to become involved in one of the SOHA standing committees (Annual Meeting, Membership, Grants/Scholarships), develop projects, and to expand the potential of the Southwest Oral History community through organizational leadership positions and elected office. SOHA values the energy and ideas that new members bring to the association.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

1. Annual Meeting
2. Newsletter
3. Website Presence
4. Scholarships and Grants
5. Annual Awards
6. Outreach Programs
7. Regional & State Programming

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

1. Annual Individual \$35
2. Student \$20
3. Individual Lifetime \$250
4. 2-Year Individual Membership \$65
5. COVID-19 Pay What You Can Option
6. SOHA Community Partners \$100
7. SOHA Corporate Partners \$350
8. SOHA Institutional Partners \$350

Membership Dues APPLY only for the calendar year—so join early!

Questions: soha@unlv.edu

New Members 2020	
Last	First
Daily	Dennis
Gosnell	Joan
Gowey	David
Herrera	Daisy
Park	Shinyoung
Rodholm	Serena
Romanello	Brittany
Smucker	Reid
Soukup	Hannah
Visintainer	Sean
Willis	Justin

Southwest Oral History Association

University of Nevada Las Vegas
4505 S. Maryland Parkway Box 455020
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5020

Office: 702-895-5011
Email: SOHA@UNLV.EDU
southwestoralhistory.org | [News Blog](#)
[Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Pinterest](#)

2019-2021 SOHA Officers

Jennifer Keil, President
Farina King, 1st Vice President
Summer Cherland, 2nd Vice President
Monserrath Hernández, Treasurer
Dalena Sanderson-Hunter, Secretary
Barbara Tabach, Newsletter Editor
Joyce Marshall-Moore, Historian
Carlos Lopez, Arizona Delegate
Cindy Keil, California Delegate
Rodrigo Vazquez, Nevada Delegate
Rachael Cassidy, New Mexico Delegate
Sharon Catron Evans, Native American
Representative
Teagan Dreyer, Student Representative



Thank you to our institutional partner!

Design by Jennifer Keil, SOHA President, Founder of [70 Degrees](#)

Please contact us to contribute to our next newsletter or to be featured in our social media.