



# IN OUR OWN VOICE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM & EDUCATIONAL CENTER

## FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN IN SPACE TO BE HONORED AT 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SAN DIEGO COUNTY WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

We are very excited to announce that Sally Kristen Ride will participate in the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Women's Hall of Fame event on March 25<sup>th</sup> at UCSD as our "Spirit of the Hall of Fame" for 2006. At 27, with B.A., B.S., and masters' degrees, she was a Ph.D. candidate looking for postdoctoral work in astrophysics when she read about NASA's call for astronauts in the Stanford University paper. More than 8,000 men and women applied to the space program that year. 35 were accepted, six of whom were women. One was Sally Ride. After joining NASA in 1977 Ride underwent extensive training that included parachute jumping, water survival, gravity and weightlessness training, radio communications and navigation.

In 1983, Dr. Sally Ride became the first American woman in space on the shuttle. Her next flight was an eight-day mission in 1984. Her cumulative hours of space flight are more than 343. Ride was preparing for her third mission when Challenger exploded in 1986. When training was suspended, she was appointed to the Presidential



Sally Ride

Commission charged with investigating the accident. She moved to NASA headquarters in Washington, D.C., where she became assistant to the NASA administrator for long-range planning. Ride created NASA's "Office of Exploration" and produced a report on the future of the space program, "Leadership and America's Future in Space." Dr. Ride retired from NASA in 1987 to become a Science Fellow at the Center for International Security and Arms Control at Stanford University. After two years, she was named Director of the California Space Institute and Professor of Physics at the University of California, San Diego where she pursued one of her heartfelt crusades, encouraging young women to study science and math. Her most recent enterprise is **Imaginary Lines**, an organization founded to provide support for all the girls who are, or might become, interested in science, math and technology. One instrument of this mission is the Sally Ride Club, created for upper elementary and middle school girls across the country.

See *WHOF*

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## ALL OUR GRANDMOTHERS CONTINUES

In August of this year, the Museum celebrated its grand reopening in conjunction with the Opening of **All Our Grandmothers** and celebration of the 85th Anniversary of Woman's Suffrage. **All Our Grandmothers** celebrates the diverse experiences of San Diego women from a century ago. It commemorates and honors the lives of women who were responsible for

shaping the communities in which we all live and enjoy today.

**All Our Grandmothers** presents the experiences of those sisters whose stories are often left out of the mainstream accounts of women's history. Their equally important contributions are often overlooked because traditional historical interpretation does not tend to recognize the

evidence, sources and value of these diverse stories.

The first phase of the exhibit presents the experiences of our Native American sisters titled: *Through My Ancient People I Am* and our African American sisters titled: *For I Am My Mother's Daughter and the Drums of African Still Beat in my Heart*. These stories, largely neglected in

See *GRANDMOTHERS* p. 4

The mission of the WHMEC is to educate and inspire present and future generations about the experiences and contributions of women by collecting, preserving and interpreting the evidence of that experience.

## 2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### In Our Own Voice

is a quarterly newsletter published by the WHMEC

2323 Broadway Street San Diego, Ca. 92102

Ashley Gardner  
Editor

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## -----WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS? ----- Museum creates Programming Committee

Creating and developing programs at a museum is a lot like the theatre or movies. What do people want to see or know about? Here at the Women's Museum we strive to present a variety of educational and cultural programs that will appeal to a diverse audience, but there's lots of room here for your input and ideas.

Do you have a passion for educational programs and events? Do you have a special niche for vision and creative design? If so, you may be

the perfect person to get involved with the Women's History Museum!

The Program Coordinator seeks a committee to help develop and implement educational programs and events relating to women's history, women's issues and feminism. The Museum seeks volunteers interested in serving on the committee and also those interested in specific projects including but not limited to the Women's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Women

Who Dare, a traveling exhibit.

Time commitment for the committee is based on your schedule as we are flexible around careers, academics and other extra curricular activities that surround many people's lives. We will meet once a month and work on projects and programs as they arise.

Programs scheduled for the next few months include an All Our Grandmothers Winter Series featuring Native  
*See PROGRAMS on pg. 3*

## EVERYTHING CHANGES, EVERYTHING STAYS THE SAME Women's Studies Today and Yesterday By Carol Rowell Council

The older I get, the more I see, I come to realize the old expression "Everything changes, everything stays the same" is so true. Recently Francine Busby of California State San Marcos invited me to speak as a representative of the Women's History Museum on the founding of the first Women's Studies in the world at San Diego State University in 1970. Her women's studies class "Women Changing the World" provided three hours of lively and enlightening interactions with some very intelligent men and women students.

I told them the stories of how a small group of students and one faculty member at San Diego State University managed to win over seven university committees despite much controversy and criti-

cism, and get approval for 2.5 faculty positions and a small budget back in 1970. TO DO WHAT? We had done the impossible! Soon after the victory of May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Faculty Senate, I called the operations office to find out about our new space for the new program, and was told there was "no unallocated office space on the entire campus."

Then I read out loud the first chapter in the book I am writing. In this piece, The Ironing Board Story, I went to great lengths to get an office space and turned up only an empty two bedroom house reserved for two professors and researchers. The boarded up kitchen was not in use. Against the admonition of the Director of Operations, I pushed open the bottom half of a Dutch door,

ducked into the small kitchen and spied a 1940's style wall cabinet just like Mother had. Pulling down the ironing board hidden within I hoisted my briefcase on it and said, "This will do just fine!" Thus, the ironing board became the first desk of the first women's studies program in the world. Although I was pleased to tell these students that today there are now over 600 women's studies departments across the nation, the former Chair of the Women's Studies Department at Cal State San Marcos, Dr. Linda Pershing, broke in to announce to them that "Things haven't changed much. Here on this conservative campus we are still fighting to convince them that Women's Studies is a legitimate Academic field of knowledge!"

*See CHANGES on pg. 4*

*PROGRAMS—Continued from pg. 2*

American basket weaving and traditional African cuisine and music, International Women's Day Celebration, Women's Hall of Fame, film screenings, Women Who Dare and much more!



SDSU Women's Studies Interns are a vital part of the Museum's Programming Component.

If you have at least one hour a month and would like to get involved with the creating and developing future programming at the Women's History Museum, please contact Eneri Rodriguez, Program Coordinator at 619.233.7963 or email us at [info@whmec.org](mailto:info@whmec.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM

### DECEMBER 14TH

Holiday Membership Gathering! Celebrate with us as we honor our Members, Staff and Volunteers & Launch the Museum's Endowment Fund! Community gathering begins at 5pm

### JANUARY 2006

The Museum kicks off their first **All Our Grandmothers** Winter Series. January will feature basketweaving hosted by the Kumeyay Community. Dates and times are TBA.

### FEBRUARY 2006

The Museum continues the **All Our Grandmothers** Winter Series with an evening of traditional African dance, food, music and community. Dates and times are TBA.

### MARCH 2006

- 8th** - The WHM celebrates International Women's Day with a screening of **Sisters of '77** followed by an open forum discussion.
- 12th** - WHM welcomes the **Old Women's Project** with a documentary film screening.
- 24th** - Vikkie Stark, Women's Therapist gives a workshop on sister relationships and identity
- 25th** - 5th Annual San Diego County **Women's Hall of Fame** Induction Ceremony @ UCSD

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

*The Museum gratefully acknowledges our Members!*

Diana Avila  
Hisae S. Batchelder  
Liana Beckett  
Byrna Bicknell  
Ginger Blackmon  
Maya Bloch  
Winelda Blum  
Rebecca S. Booth  
The Bodman Family  
Marie Buckley  
Margaret Budd  
La Noel Brazil  
Linda & Edgar Canada  
Laurie Carlock  
Joan T. Casale  
Susan Cayleff  
Eddie Chapman  
Evelyn L. Clarke  
Dali Collins  
Carol Council  
Clara Doss  
Paula C. Doss  
Kristine and Robert Downey  
Sandra Duncan  
Mary and Fred Fee

Amy Fraber  
Millicent D. Froehlich  
Georgianna Galas  
Deborah Garvin  
Kathryn Gestiehr  
Harriett Gill  
Anita Gillet  
Sue Gonda, Ph.D  
Edward Gray  
Donna Guthrie  
Tara Hands  
Juanita Harrell  
Susan Harding  
Bill Hawkins  
Suzanne & Lawrence Hess  
Dorothy Hewes, Ph.D  
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Ruth Howell  
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Donna Johnson  
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Christy Klock  
Marti Kranzberg  
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Marjorie McGlaughlin  
Peter and Ashley Meisen  
Anita Merrit  
Midge Neff-LeClaire  
Maureen O'Neill Ceccarelli  
Emma Jane Patton  
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Gloria Penner  
Sylvia Petrosian  
Darlene R. Phillip  
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Wendy Rader  
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Marcia Showley  
Carol Singer  
Faustina Solis  
Amalia Solorzano  
Zachary Solorzano  
Alejandra Sotelo-Soliz  
Cindy Stankowski  
Maureen Steiner  
Bob and Betsy Stevens  
Angela Talbot  
Shirley Vaine  
Elle Vandermarck  
Shirley Von Kalinowski  
Susan K. Weber  
Theresa Zang

*WHOF—Continued from pg. 1*

Ms. Ride will be part of the 2006 Women's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony along with 5 San Diego women who will be honored for their life-long contributions to the community on March 25, 2006 at UCSD Price Center Ballroom.

**Reserve your seat at the 5th Annual Women's Hall of Fame today by calling the Museum at 619.233.7963!**

**Individual seats and table reservations are available.**

An event not to be missed!

**Do you have a niche for event planning?**  
Contact us at 619.233.7963 for details in getting involved in making the Hall of Fame happen!

*GRANDMOTHERS—Continued from pg. 1*

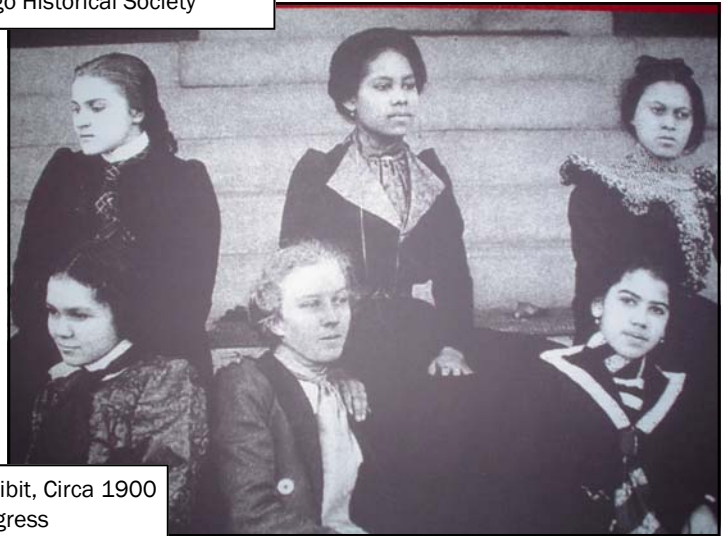


Felicita Piapa Volcan, Circa 1911  
San Diego Historical Society

local histories, are critical to all San Diegans who wish to have a more inclusive and complete understanding of their community's past.

**All Our Grandmothers** continues to be on display at the Museum. Phase II is scheduled to open August of 2006. Stay tuned for a winter program series kicking off in January with basket weaving and more!

Museum hours are Monday through Friday from 11:00—4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 12:00—4:00 p.m.



The Negro Exhibit, Circa 1900  
Library of Congress

*CHANGES—Continued from pg. 2*

She told the students that they have only 2.0 faculty positions, a bare budget which could be taken away, and hardly any office space at all. "Here it's like it was in your story, 35 years ago." Now that is a déjà vu. How could 35 years pass and things still be the same? Perhaps it's that we haven't educated everyone. Perhaps this generation doesn't "get it" like the ones before? No matter. There is more work to be done.

What I saw that day were some extremely committed activists including 2 women working on growing a women's center out of a tiny office, and students of the Michael More Scholarship for radical

at San Marcos. Others in the class were new to feminism, quieter, but obviously soaking up everything. Others told how they had experienced racism and were there to learn about the similarities between racism and sexism. Here in this room, talking together, you could feel the truth had learned in 1969: **the personal is political.**

Whatever the obstacles the Administration and faculty put up, these students and faculty members should be supported and encouraged to organize for a strong, permanent department on their campus. Might as well pretend it is 1969 and go about organizing the same way! Or maybe

new ideas and new technology means using different strategies and tactics. Most importantly, though, is the need to create a supportive environment for a small core group to lead the way and stay the course. I have every confidence that they can do it. Let's give them all the community support we can. As Susan B. Anthony said, "Failure Is Impossible."



Carol Council

## POVERTY AS A WOMAN'S ISSUE

Anne Hoiberg, Director, Women's Equity Council, United Nations Association of San Diego

In 1995, government delegates from all 189 nations at the United Nations' *Fourth World Conference on Women* adopted the Beijing Platform for Action, which identified actions to be implemented in their nations that would advance women in twelve critical areas of concern. Building on the Beijing Platform for Action, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) outlined eight goals and associated targets to be achieved by U.N. member states. The MDGs were adopted at the Millennium Summit in 2000 by leaders of 191 nations who pledged to achieve the eight MDGs by 2015!

The eradication of extreme poverty and hunger tops the list of both the twelve critical areas of concern and the MDGs. At the 2000 summit, leaders agreed to reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day, which represents approximately 1.2 billion people. Women worldwide constitute 70% of those who are poor and chronically hungry. Recently, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan

commented, "We are at a make-or-break moment," in achieving this goal of halving the number of people living in extreme poverty by 2015.

Also responding to this crisis is Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive "Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), who stated, we cannot make poverty history until women enjoy their full social, cultural, economic and political rights." What exactly does this mean? It suggests that expanding the economic and educational opportunities for women would lead to improved economic prospects, smaller families, healthier and more literate children, lower HIV rates, and a reduction of such harmful practices as female genital mutilation.

Other MDGs and another critical area of concern reflect the importance of achieving universal primary education and eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education. Although ten years have past since Beijing and five years since the Millennium Summit, progress has been slow, and efforts will

have to be escalated if the MDGs on poverty and education are to be reached by 2015.

Although ten years have past since Beijing and five years since the Millennium Summit, progress has been slow, and efforts will have to be escalated if the MDGs on poverty and education are to be reached by 2015.

The costs of achieving these MDGs are in the billions; however, the expenditures worldwide for military spending are estimated to reach almost \$1 TRILLION this year. If military funding were to be reduced by only 5%, the MDGs could be achieved by 2015.

It can be accomplished, but the bigger question is: Is there the political will to make this investment in advancing women, as agreed in the monumental documents of 1995 and 2000?

For more details on this subject or to get involved please call 619.233.3790 or visit [www.unasd.org](http://www.unasd.org).

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2005



Assembly Member Lori Saldana Honors Judy Foreman of the Big Kitchen Café for 2005's **Woman of the Year!**



**Women on Top Art Exhibit and Fundraiser August 2005**



The Museum celebrates **Dia De Los Muertos 2005.**



Museum Celebrates the 85th Anniversary of **Woman's Suffrage**



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AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER  
2323 BROADWAY STREET # 107  
SAN DIEGO, CA. 92102

*The mission of the **Women's History Museum** is to educate and inspire present and future generations about the experiences and contributions of women by collecting, preserving and interpreting the evidence of that experience. The WHM was incorporated in 1983 and features exhibits, archives, library, oral histories and educational programs dedicated to women's history.*

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We're on the Web! Visit us online  
at [www.whmec.org](http://www.whmec.org)

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Hours of operation are:  
Tuesday—Friday 11:00am—4:00PM  
Saturdays 12:00pm—4:00pm  
Phone: 619-233-7963 Fax: 619-233-6327  
Email: [info@whmec.org](mailto:info@whmec.org)

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## **President's Message— A Message from Olivia Puentes-Reynolds**

Greetings to Our Museum Friends, Supporters and Volunteers, During this season I find myself reflecting on all the good things that happened during this year at the Museum.

My memories are full of teams of volunteers and Board members planning, painting, sorting books, building cases, moving furniture -transforming the Museum in color and in space - a vision first conceptualized by Professor Dr. Dawn Riggs, with assistance of Professor Li Huai, created "All Our Grandmothers", a permanent photo exhibit of women who lived in the San Diego region 100 years ago, and with the assistance of Dr. Sue Gonda, Museum Historian, and Ashley Gardner, Director of Museum Operations, Dr. Riggs also created the permanent exhibit, "Suffragists."

Museum Librarian, Kathleen Wheatley, completed an assessment and reorganization of the reference library collection. The Oral History Manager, Catherine Kineavy,

completed an inventory of the Museum's oral history collection, and entered into a joint oral history venture with Dr. Irene Lara, Department of Women's Studies, SDSU.

The Museum along with co-hosts (SD County Commission on the Status of Women; Women's Studies, SDSU; Women's Center, UCSD) held our fourth Annual WHOF Induction Ceremony at UCSU where Karen Rostadha, KPBS, served as our Mistress of Ceremonies for the third year, and who also successfully chaired the 1<sup>st</sup> Silent Auction. Also of note, was the 1<sup>st</sup> Student Art Project, "What Woman is Important in my Life?" involving college age facilitators and students from nine to 18 years of age, this under the direction of Dr. Betsy Colwill, SDSU, and Professor Kineavy.

Bill Hawkins generously offered a matching grant of \$80,000, and with contributions from an anonymous donor and Gracia Molina de Pick, an endowment fund is being

created through the San Diego Foundation. Due to the efforts of Dr. Gonda we received funding the first time from SD Foundation, and because of the efforts of several, we continue to receive funding and assistance from the SD City Commission for Arts and Culture.

Under the watchful eye of Ashley Gardner and the intuitive Programs Coordinator Eneri Rodriguez the Museum has reached and maintains a unique and vital presence in San Diego, as evidenced in the Museum becoming a member of the San Diego Museum Council.

The inspiration I have felt by looking at the faces of those volunteering and giving to the Museum makes me happy, and, makes me know that with their and your guidance and help as volunteers and financial supporters, the dream of Mary Maschal, and her fellow co-founders, will continue to blossom.

**Wishing you the best during this Holiday season!**