# ALCC Oral History Project Background Notes - 2017 to 2018

Another exciting project is underway that involves seniors telling, recording and sharing their stories: Seniors Helping Seniors Develop a Living History Collection. Participating seniors are collaboratively developing themes, planning how to enlist interview subjects, and learning how to record interviews. The project continues until next March and is funded by New Horizons for Seniors.

For information, please email our Community Development Librarian, Eric Craven, at eric@atwaterlibrary.ca. Atwater Library website: dlp@atwaterlibrary.ca. Retrieved June 27, 2017

**Oral History Collection** 



Oral histories bridge the gap between written historical record and individual experience. The Computer History Museum's oral history program records and preserves the firsthand recollections of computing pioneers from around the world in their own voice, enriching scholarly research and adding new depth to the history of computing.

To suggest an interviewee or panel topic, please email your suggestion and a short explanation to Oral History. Transcripts and selected footage are available below. Researchers can access additional recordings by contacting Research.

New! Personal accounts are written firsthand testimonies that cover significant events, products, or technologies related to the history of computing. Go to Personal Accounts.

Source: http://www.computerhistory.org/collections/oralhistories/ Retrieved July 27, 2017

## University of Texas at San Antonio - About this collection

A collection of more than 1000 oral histories from the holdings of UTSA Libraries Special Collections. The bulk of the interviews in this collection are part of the Institute of Texan Cultures Oral History Collection.

- The Institute of Texan Cultures Oral History Collection consists of interviews conducted since 1967 and document a broad range of activities related to life in Texas. View the collection guide.
  - Other oral histories in the collection include the following:
- Archives for Research on Women and Gender Oral History Project. In 1997 the UTSA Center for the Study of Women and Gender (CSWG) and the Archives for Research on Women and Gender (ARWG) initiated an oral history project with a select number of San Antonio women who have made significant contributions to the community. View the collection guide.
- **Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies Oral History Collection**. These oral histories were conducted in the Spring 2009 semester of the Mexican American Culture (BBL 3023) course taught by Dr. Marie Miranda. The course is a survey of Mexican American cultural distinctiveness in the areas of biculturalism, cultural production, and social organization. Topics may include family and kinship, folklore, health,

language, music, and religion. This course examined Chicana/o popular culture focusing on rock 'n' roll. View the **collection guide**.

- College of Liberal and Fine Arts Oral History Program Collection. The College of Liberal and Fine Arts (COLFA) at the University of Texas at San Antonio Oral History Program provides an opportunity for select students to conduct original oral history research. View the collection guide.
- UTSA Libraries Special Collections Oral History Collection. The general oral history collection of University
  of Texas at San Antonio Libraries Special Collections, covering a wide range of topics. View the collection
  guide.
- UTSA Libraries Special Collections Veteran's History Project. The oral histories in this collection were all
  completed as class projects in various courses taught Jerri Dee Mitchell, UTSA Department of History, and
  comply with the standards of the Library of Congress, American Folklife Center's Veterans History Project.
  View the collection guide.

Source: http://digital.utsa.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15125coll4 Retrieved July 27, 2017

# Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 (Halifax) - Oral History Collection



THE CAMPAGNOLO
FAMILY DURING THEIR
VISIT TO PIER 21

Capture your memories and preserve them for future generations.Our Oral History Collection is used by researchers, writers, filmmakers, school children preparing heritage projects, and families searching for the answers to their past. Recorded with the facilitation of an oral historian, the Oral History Collection is an important part of sharing the stories of Canadians.

We are dedicated to capturing the memories of all immigrants to Canada, veterans, and Pier 21 volunteers and staff.

How to ParticipatePlease consider sharing your story with our Oral History Coordinator Cassidy Bankson, (Tel: 902-420–6647 | 902-425-7770 ext 241).

Source: https://www.pier21.ca/research/collections/oral-history-collection

Retrieved July 27, 2017

# Story City: An Evening of Vancouver Stories Central Library

Source: https://vpl.bibliocommons.com/events/59a5ab9bf3ffa72e00160583

Retrieved: September 2017
Central Library

Address: 350 West Georgia St.

Vancouver V6B 6B1

Phone: (604) 331-3603



WILLIAM AYKLER AND HIS WIFE AT PIER 21

# **Description**

Connect with your city and neighbours through the power of stories.

VPL is launching the Story City project: a collection of hundreds of oral stories from members of Vancouver's communities, reflecting on their journeys to the city and what Vancouver means to them. Four of the project's interview subjects - Jackie Byrn, Mike Jacko, Emily Chan and Hilda Castillo - share their unique experiences and memories of Vancouver in person, and the project team will provide the first look at the online collection and custom built interactive map.

This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between VPL, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast.

Cette initiative est rendue possible grâce au Fonds communautaire pour le 150e anniversaire du Canada, qui est une collaboration entre VPL, les fondations communautaires canadiennes, le gouvernement du Canada et des leaders extraordinaires de l'Atlantique au Pacifique à l'Arctique.

# Story City: Canadian Journeys in Vancouver

Vancouver Public Library's Story City gathers stories of migration and memories from people living on the unceded land Vancouver now occupies. Record your story at events in libraries and the community for sharing on an interactive map.

Location: Vancouver Public Library branches; various community locations and events

Story City: Canadian Journeys in Vancouver July 22 – December 29, 2017 <a href="http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/local-history-collections">http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/local-history-collections</a> The Vancouver Public Library gathers migration stories. You can register your history and share it on an interactive map.

Retrieved July 27, 2017

**Note:** there is not (as yet) a lot of online info on this project...leading me to surmise it might be a work in progress...but it provides a possible framework for our project to potentially or eventually link to or gain inspiration from.

For instance: Story City - Canadian Journeys on Montreal Island Based on the Story City initiative at Vancouver Public Library

**Note to self to talk with Eric and co about:** How about exploring the idea of an interactive map of our own, once we have enough stories in our collection? Not sure about the technical side of how this can be done i.e. I've checked on the VPL website and don't see their interactive map but they say they got financing to create one. TBD.

# **ALCC Living History Project - Phase 1 Summary**

Source: http://www.atwaterlibrary.ca/seniors-helping-seniors-develop-a-living-history-collection/ Retrieved May 2018

Seniors Helping Seniors Develop a Living History Collection

From June 2017 to March 31, 2018, we conducted a project funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors program that engaged seniors in telling, recording and sharing their stories. We worked with a variety of seniors-serving groups to support a wide range of senior volunteer participants, mostly members of Quebec's official-language minority population, and members of the deaf community.

The project's legacy is an evolving Seniors Living History Collection in multi-media format, available to all through digital media and permanently based in our heritage building, where traditional and cutting-edge technology coexist.

The project brought together seniors for creative storytelling, documentary making and dissemination. We facilitated the senior participants' use of digital technology to capture stories with video and sound. We are now categorizing them with multiple access points so

that the Seniors Living History Collection has many applications. For example, the Collection will be a tool for researching neighborhoods, career paths and different types of life experiences.

While seniors led the project and served as mentors, younger people were involved and there was good intergenerational collaboration.

We will ensure the Seniors Living History Collection develops beyond the project through our future digital media work with seniors.

For more information, please contact our Community Outreach Librarian, Eric Craven, at dlp@atwaterlibrary.ca.

# **Project Activities**

# Friday, June 16, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm

The project started with an information session followed by a workshop facilitated by **Dr. Steven High**, Concordia University history professor.

**Weekly Friday sessions** of project participants for learning, sharing and creating.

**Outreach and collaboration** with Concordia University Faculty of Fine Arts, Union United Church, Royal Montreal Curling Club, RCA Museum, Canadian Centre for Architecture and others.

#### Thursday, November 30, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

**Mechanics' Days Vernissage** — A public reception showcased project work as well as displays by Concordia History and Art Education students whose classes were at the Library during the Fall semester. Over 200 attendees.

#### Friday, January 26, 2018

Presentation by project participants to Concordia Art students. 50 people present.

#### Thursday, February 15, 2018 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Workshop with deaf people about their relationship to music, in collaboration with Universite de Montréal and UQaM. This workshop was recorded by seniors participating in the project.

## Starting February 25, 2018

"Birth of a local living history collection" — A series of articles by project participant **Wanda Portrykus** published in WestmountMag.ca online — part 1, part 2 part 3, part 4 and part 5.

## Friday, March 9, 2018 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Participants presented videos and other media they made in the course of the project. Light refreshments were served at this celebratory public showcase event.

# Friday, March 9, 2018 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm

Photographer **Brian Merrett** gave a public presentation on the role of the artist in shaping the built environment. He discussed Montreal examples such as protests against plans for the Ville-Marie Expressway, the fight to save Windsor Station, and the conservation of Shaughnessy House as part of the Canadian Centre for Architecture. This public event was held collaboratively with **Concordia University Art History**.

#### **Publicity efforts**

Begin with an online series of articles on Launch of the Living History project https://www.atwaterlibrary.ca/news/living-history-collection-launch/

## **Living History Collection**

**Wanda Potrykus**, a participant in our seniors-led **Living History Collection project**, has written a series of articles for **WestmountMag.ca** online: "Birth of a local living history collection" — part 1, part 2, part 3, part 4 and part 5.