



Oral History Pathfinder

Oral History Associations

Oral History Association

This source lists links for educational resources, oral history guidelines as well as links to regional and international centers and organizations and collections. Easy to use and locate material but not all links are current.

www.oralhistory.org/

<http://www.oralhistory.org/resources/>

California Stories

California Council for the Humanities- This site focuses on the California experience. The California Story Fund promotes documenting the lives and experiences of California citizens through recording oral histories. Information is available for Grant applications, as well as listings of current projects and links to participate directly in telling a personal story. Past projects are documented and some are available for review. A listing of past projects includes lesson plans for teachers so that they can incorporate this material into teaching experiences. Not all projects are available on the site; access is limited to a small percentage of actual recordings.

<http://www.calhum.org/downloads/Storysharingresourcesaug05.doc.pdf>

Southwest Oral History Association

This site focuses on the organization itself. No information is provided to aid the researcher nor is there a listing of past projects. A link is provided for Grant listings.

www.southwestoralhistory.org/

How to Sites

“California Stories Uncovered” Conducting Oral History Interviews: A How-To Manual

This is a link from the California Stories Uncovered site. This is the pdf How to Manual that lists guidelines and instructions aiding the oral history recorder. Additionally, it includes a limited listing of oral history resources available on the web.

<http://www.calhum.org/downloads/oral%20history%20manual.pdf>

Step-by-Step Guide to Oral History

This site gives practical advice in a clear and concise format. Originally created in 1993 and updated in 1999 the guide lists an introduction into oral histories, guidelines for starting a project, paperwork that must be considered such as permission to publish (this might be outdated), research issues, bibliography and web resource links. A very helpful site for a novice historian but caution should be the watchword considering the year the material was compiled and updated.

http://dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html

Sites with Oral History Transcriptions

Bancroft Library –Regional Oral History Office

This is a great site for reviewing oral history transcripts. This site lists all of their projects and provides access to the transcripts in PDF format. What is especially unique about the Bancroft site, the oral histories are conducted around a central theme. For example 150 different individuals were interviewed from the US Forest Service, or 54 interviews of folks affiliated with SFMOMA. This method of documentation gives a unique depth in understanding and recording of events not found in any other site. Additionally, the resource link has listings for interview tips, and a one minute guide, that is clear and helpful to the interviewer, a great refresher in a compact format.

<http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO/>

Smithsonian Archives of American Art

An interesting website that includes an extensive collection of letters, photos, sketches, scrapbooks, business records and oral history interviews of American Visual Artists organized alphabetically. In some cases the oral history listings include transcripts, in print, some include audio, and some are just listings of finding aids with details of the materials contained within

<http://www.aaa.si.edu/>

Science Fiction Oral History Association

www.sfoha.org

This site contains audio and video recordings of historic people and events related to the science fiction world

The following 2 websites are examples of Presidential libraries oral history collections. A brief survey of sites indicates that many of the Presidential libraries contain oral history transcripts available online.

Eisenhower Presidential Library

http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/Research/Oral_Histories/Oral_Histories.html

This site contains audio and video recordings of individuals related to the Eisenhower Presidency.

LBJ Presidential Library

<http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/Johnson/archives.hom/biopage.asp>

This site contains audio and video recordings of individuals related to the Johnson Presidency