

For Immediate Release: SHE: Women, Power and Politics, a one-day festival to Southern California Women

March 25, 2017, 10:00 am - 9:00 pm

the Fontana Teacher's Association at 16850 Seville Avenue, Fontana, California

For more information: <http://www.lahistoryarchive.org/SHE/index.htm>

The Studio for Southern California History is pleased to announce the 2017 schedule for SHE: Women, Power and Politics which takes place at the Fontana Teacher's Association at 16850 Seville Avenue. This year we are partnering with the Fontana Historical Society to both gather and share local history related to women. We are grateful to the Fontana Teacher's Association, Curtis Dison, Sue Felt and Pat Mazzulli for assisting in our programming in addition to all of this year's participants. All events will take place at the Fontana Teacher's Association.

PROGRAM

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: **Art**

Curated by Audrey Maier and on display at the Fontana Teachers Association including Elwing Gonzalez, Damaris Parris, Sharon Sekhon with Cathy Gudis, Barbara Simpson-Lara and Virginia Vilchis.

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: **Interviews**

Explore interviews conducted by various women with local women and sign up to be interviewed and add to our database of interviews.

11:00 - 11:45 am: **Presentation**

"Celebrating Rafaela Landeros Rey: A Leader in School Desegregation," by Audrey Maier.

12:00 - 12:30 pm: **Award Ceremony and Recognitions.**

Recognizing local leaders who make Fontana and Southern California a great place.

12:45 - 1:00 pm: **Screening:** *Isa-Kae*, a documentary by Satinder Kaur.

1:00 - 1:20 pm: **Reading:** *I Know Why You Keep Things*, a novel by Gabrielle Garcia.

1:30 - 2:30 pm: **Workshop**

"My life, my truth; No apology for my attitude" by Kande Lewis and the Positive Results Corp.

2:45 - 3:00 pm: **Book Giveaway** to the first 30 families!

3:00 - 3:50 pm: **Reading:** *One Last Word* by Nikki Grimes.

4:00 - 4:30 pm: **Poetry Workshop** by Irene Monica Sanchez.

4:45 - 7:00 pm: **Screening:** *No Más Bebés*.

Followed by Q and A with producer Virginia Espino and with Laura Jimenez with California Latinas for Reproductive Justice.

7:05 - 7:45 pm: **Performance:** Natalie Sánchez Valle.

8:00 - 9:00 pm: **Poetry Reading:** Curated by Jessica Delgado
Featured poets: Jessica Delgado, Olga García Echeverría, Irene Monica Sanchez.

PARTICIPANTS

- **Madison Buckley** is a co-curator for SHE and is currently an undergraduate student at California State University Fullerton where she is training to become a teacher. She is originally from south Orange County. Madison Buckley contributed to the organization of this year's festival, assisted in the gathering of interviews and creation of art.
- **Jessica Delgado** is a co-curator for SHE and is currently an undergraduate student at the University of California at Riverside. She is a poet and will be curating the poetry reading.
- **Virginia Espino:** Come watch *No Más Bebés* at 4:45 pm. After the viewing, Producer Virginia Espino will dialogue with the audience. Virginia Espino is a native daughter of California, born and raised in northeastern Los Angeles. She is a Lecturer in the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is an oral and public historian whose research focuses on health activism, motherhood and the uses of public space. She earned her PhD from Arizona State University writing about population control politics and reproductive (in)justice during the 1970s. Her research has been published in the Chicano Studies Journal, *Aztlan* and her investigation into the history of coercive sterilization at the Los Angeles-USC Medical Center provided the impetus for the documentary film, *No Más Bebés*, for which she is a Producer and Lead Historian.
- **Olga García Echeverría:** Come hear poet Olga García Echeverría read one of her poems about women for SHE. "Born and raised in East Los Angeles. Ultra Libra in love with the ocean and the clouds and the birds and the trees and the disappearing bees. Author of *Falling Angels: Cuentos y Poemas* (Calaca Press and Chibcha Press 2008). Teacher of English. Creator and destroyer of language. Splendid Spinster of the New Millennium who plans to joyfully spin words until her fingers turn to dust."
- **Jennifer Escobar:** Jennifer Escobar is a co-curator for SHE. She lives, plays, and works in the Inland Empire and is an Assistant Professor of English at Moreno Valley College.
- **Gabrielle Garcia:** Gabrielle Garcia hails from Lincoln Heights and is a recent graduate from the University of California Santa Cruz. In addition to traveling the world, Garcia also is a writer and will be reading from her novel *I Know Why You Keep Things*.

- **Elwing Gonzalez:** Elwing Gonzalez is a Los Angeles native who paints, creates things, teaches, and studies, and who works usually center on explorations of identity, the inner-world of self, and power-relations in society. She is interested in and most moved by issues of representation, identity, voice, and justice, especially in regards to culture, race, gender, hybridity, and inequality.

- **Nikki Grimes:** From 3—3:50pm, author and illustrator Nikki Grimes will be reading from her latest work, *One Last Word*. *New York Times* bestselling author Nikki Grimes is the recipient of the 2017 Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal, the 2016 Virginia Hamilton Literary Award, and the 2006 NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children. Her distinguished works include the much-honored books *Garvey's Choice*, ALA Notable book *What is Goodbye?*, Coretta Scott King Award winner *Bronx Masquerade*, and Coretta Scott King Author Honor books *Jazmin's Notebook*, *Talkin' About Bessie*, *Dark Sons*, *Words with Wings*, and *The Road to Paris*. Creator of the popular *Meet Danitra Brown*, Ms. Grimes lives in Corona, California.

- **Cathy Gudis:** Catherine Gudis is Director of the Public History Program at UCR and is the author of *Buyways: Billboards, Automobiles, and the American Cultural Landscape*, which traces the relationship between automobility, advertising, and the commercialization of the urban environment. She has contributed to and edited *Cultures of Commerce: Representations of Business Culture in the United States* (coedited with Elspeth Brown and Marina Moskowitz, Palgrave/MacMillan, 2006) and museum books on art and culture, including *Lions and Eagles and Bulls: Early American Inn & Tavern Signs* (Princeton, 2001), *Ray Johnson: Correspondences* (coedited with Donna DeSalvo, Flammarion, 2000), *Helter Skelter: L.A. Art in the 1990s* (Los Angeles: Museum of Contemporary Art, 1990).

- **Laura Jimenez:** Listen to Laura Jimenez's current efforts on securing reproductive justice for vulnerable communities. She is the Executive Director for California Latinas for Reproductive Justice. According to Jimenez: "The women in my life initially brought me to RJ – my mother taught me to be a feminist, my college friends showed me what it meant to be a Chicana feminist (a Xicanista) and I have watched my mentors be powerful in service of themselves and their communities. Even now as I watch my daughters navigate the world as young Afro-Indigenous Latinas, I am reminded every day that I work for Reproductive Justice so that they can choose and claim all of the experiences that they deserve and so that they can be freed of the reproductive oppressions that our ancestors survived."

- **Satinder Kaur:** View Satinder's documentary *Isa-Kae* at 12:30 pm. Sati Kaur grew up in the Pacific Northwest and studied film at USC School of Cinematic Arts. She has written, directed and produced several fiction and documentary projects. She is currently in production on a documentary about the decade of disappearances in Punjab, India. *Isa-Kae* centers on interviews with Isa-Kae Meksin, a long-term resident of Echo Park and mover and shaker in various activist communities.

- **Kandee Lewis:** Kandee and the Positive Results Corp are hosting their workshop, "My life, my truth; No apology for my attitude," from 1:30—2:30pm. Kandee Lewis, Executive Director of

The Positive Results Corporation specializing in addressing teen dating violence, sexual assault and trauma in youth and communities and educating on Healthy Relationships, Leadership and developing Youth Peer Advocates. Kande is partner's with SCESA, The National Association of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault, and is a Fellow in LEAP Cohort 3, California Coalition Against Sexual Assault (CALCASA) & Women of Color Network (WOCN), a Founding Board Member for South Los Angeles Homeless (TAY) and Foster Care Collaborative, Compton's Policing & Education Task Force, and Los Angeles City Attorney's Domestic Violence Round Table.

- **Audrey Maier:** Audrey Maier is an educator, curator, historian, and proud resident of California's Inland Empire. She was born in San Bernardino, raised in Loma Linda and currently resides in Colton California. She received her Bachelor's degree in Art History from the University of California San Diego and is pursuing a PhD in Public History at the University of California Riverside. Her research interests include public art, Inland Empire history, historical memory, and memorialization. Maier curated the SHE art space and will present her local history research "Celebrating Rafaela Landeros Rey: A Leader in School Desegregation."

- **Damaris Parris:** Damaris Parris is a new photographer born and raised in Southern California and living locally in Ontario. She will be graduating from Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga in 2018. Heavily influenced by Mary Ellen Mark and Vivian Myer, she aims to document the beauty in the ordinary day-to-day life.

- **Irene Monica Sanchez:** Dr. Irene Monica Sanchez will be hosting a poetry workshop, "Writing Resistance," from 4—4:30pm at the 2017 SHE Festival. From 8—9pm, she will share her poem "Empire" during the poetry reading. As she notes, "We write resistance with our existence every single day, and with the lessons and histories of women who came before us guiding our paths, we carry lessons in our veins. Writing is political. Our existence is too. This workshop will be a poetic testimonio of that struggle and brilliance through writing." Dr. Irene Monica Sanchez is a Xicana, mama, activist, danzante, artist, writer, poet, educator, and Ph.D. based out of the Inland Empire. She has been featured to share poetry at numerous college and cultural events; recently, she was featured as a poet at the Latina/o Education and Advocacy Days at CSUSB. She is co-founder of The Southwest Political Report (www.thesouthwestpoliticalreport.com). In 2017, her poetry will be featured in BASTA! 100 Latinas speak out against violence against women and Rise. Find out more at www.irenesanchezphd.com

- **Natalie Sánchez Valle:** From 7—7:45pm, come see Natalie Sánchez Valle's performance. Natalie is a singer, writer, performer, dancer and UC Berkeley graduate passionate about theater and performance as a tool for creating consciousness and community. In the Fall of 2013, after becoming inspired by the Teatro Lab class taught by Angela Marino, she started the *Performance Colectiva* with other performers of color to create resources and spaces for Latin@s and other underrepresented students who use art as a way to express, learn, and heal. Through this work, Natalie has given several performance workshops, as well as spoken about the importance for the arts at the Luis Valdez's Power of Zero Regents Lecture at UC Berkeley.

- **Sharon Sekhon:** Sharon Sekhon is a co-curator for SHE and worked on organizing the festival. She is the founder of the Studio for Southern California History. She teaches at California State University Fullerton in American Studies and the Honors Program and is currently a Visiting Professor in the Public History department at University of California Riverside.

- **Barbara Simpson-Lara:** Barbara Simpson-Lara was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She developed a love for photography early on when she received her first Kodak Instamatic camera as a Christmas gift while still in Elementary School. Even when the family didn't have money for film, she still carried her camera around and practiced framing up things she saw every day. In addition to Photography, Barbara also playwright, published poet and performer and a vibrant member of her Riverside community.

- **Sarah Swafford:** Sarah Swafford is a co-curator for SHE and responsible for interviewing different participants. Sarah Swafford is an educator, athlete and artist from Hanford, California. She is a first year 8th grade ELA and history teacher and received her BA in Liberal Studies from California State University Fullerton in 2016. When Sarah is not teaching she is simultaneously working on her teaching credential, as well as coaching a year round swim club.

- **Virginia Vilchis:** Virginia Vilchis is a Latina artist living in Los Angeles who has shown her work extensively. Born in San Juan de las Tablas, Mexico, in 1980, Vilchis was raised by her grandparents and only in 1994 did she move to Bakersfield to rejoin her mother. Although many things grow on trees in Bakersfield, money is not one of them, and while attending high school Vilchis held down as many as three jobs at once: "I worked in Burger King, McDonald's, and I worked in a jewelry store," she says. "And I would do my homework in the middle of the night, then get up in the morning and go to school." During the summers she worked in the fields.

- **Sarah Swafford, Irma Escobar, Jennifer Escobar, Nadine Loza, and Vanessa Ressa:** Educators from different schools and institutions, these women created lessons that incorporated resources from The Studio for Southern California History, especially SHE interviews. Check out the different lesson plans at the SHE Festival's website. Lessons are tailored for the elementary classroom, high school ELA and History classrooms, and college composition classroom.

The Studio for Southern California History is a nonprofit organization dedicated to critically chronicling and sharing the region's social history in order to foster place.

<http://socialstudio.org/>

The Fontana Historical Society is devoted to keeping the civic pride in the City of Fontana alive. Founded in April 1974, the Historical Society preserves and protects Fontana's heritage through the active conservation of records and buildings. Our goal is to inform the public on the benefits of restoring and preserving the numerous vintage homes, buildings and artifacts throughout

the City. Fontana has many landmarks such as the popular Pepper Street House and the Pagliuso Family Chapel. Through the restoration and preservation of landmarks like these we are able to raise public awareness to Fontana's history.
<http://www.fontanahistoricalsociety.com/>

The Fontana Teacher's Association: <http://www.fontanateachers.org/>.