# Letter of Interest - City of Huntington Beach Archivist

Please accept this letter as my formal request for consideration for appointment to the position of City Archivist.

For over a decade, it has been my absolute pleasure to contribute my skills as an award-winning research historian and archivist to the service of my city. First appointed to the Historic Resources Board in 2008, I joined the Design Review Board years later. Most recently, I have served as Chairperson of both.

By far, however, I am most gratified by my work as City Archivist, a position I have unofficially held for more than 2 years. It has been an honor to support the work of staff, elected officials, authors, businesses including restaurants and hotels, Visit Huntington Beach, and civic organizations. I have also responded to many public requests for information ranging from learning more about their homes to documenting their family's genealogy or an ancestor's military service. At the same time, I have continued to study and achieve credentials documenting my ability to do this work. Locating and preserving historic materials and making them available to others is my priority.

Highlights of my recent contributions include:

- Presented at national conferences in 2018 and 2019
- Identified, inventoried and processed significant audio and visual historic materials.
- Prepared two publicly available guidelines for locating and using archival materials relevant to Huntington Beach which are held by our archives and others.
- Prepared archival material-based reports on various topics in response to departmental and other requests.
- Coordinated with other archivists ranging from the County of Orange to the Smithsonian Institution about materials relating to the history of Huntington Beach
- Engaged our community in the archival process providing advice on artifact preservation, gaining approval of a formal Deed of Gift
- Creatively worked to find no-cost/low-cost opportunities for preservation of historic materials.
- Community service especially my work as consulting historian for the centennial of American
  Legion Post 133, one of the oldest continuously serving posts in the nation

A more comprehensive summary is presented in the attached Curriculum Vitae.

I would very much welcome formal appointment to the position of City Archivist and sincerely appreciate your consideration.

Kathie A. Schey

# Kathie A. Schey

## **Education and Qualifications**

M.A. History, CSULB 4.0 g.p.a.

B.S. Finance and Accounting, CSUDH, Emphasis on Controllership of Non-Profit Organizations

Qualified under Secretary of the Interior's Standards 36 CFR Part 61, Appendix A, National Park Service to evaluate and identify historic properties

National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators

Local Government Archives and Records Administrators Certification - Requirements complete, certificate forthcoming.

Society of American Archivists

Cultural Diversity Competency Certification - 2018

Archives and Description Certification – Completion October 2019

#### Presentations - Partial List

2018 - Invited panelist at the national Society of American Archivists conference in Washington D.C. representing Huntington Beach as municipal archivist.

2019 - Sole invited reviewer – National Association of Government Archivists and Record Managers, Western Region Conference, published.

2019 – American Culture Association presentation in Washington, D.C. - the "Great War" in Huntington Beach, with primary focus on the city's War Memorial. In tandem with the work of a colleague historian engaging the same topic for the city of Trenton, New Jersey.

Active presenter at academic and professional conferences across the country. Partial list includes University of Texas; American Culture Association (Mid-Atlantic and national conferences); Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies; Association of Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums - Panel co-chair, Fort Nisqually National Historic Site; Huntington (Library) Westerners; frequently invited speaker for corporate events and community service groups throughout the Southland.

#### Awards - Partial List

Numerous scholarships, prizes and awards including the Nicholas Perkins Hardeman Prize for outstanding achievement by a graduate student, the Ebell-Heimberger Scholarship for excellence in California history and two nationally competed Visiting Research Fellowships- University of Michigan and Vermont.

## Archives Actively Accessed/Research Privileges Granted:

- National Archives, Washington, D.C.; Bethesda, MD; Riverside, CA
- Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley
- UCLA Special Collections
- American Legion Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana
- University libraries across the country
- Orange County, CA

### **Board Membership**

- Museum and curatorial leadership (numerous)
- Historic Resources Board City of Huntington Beach
- Design Review Board City of Huntington Beach
- Orange County Historical Society Fundraising and Development Chair 2014-2018
- Visit Huntington Beach Marketing and Sales Task Force
- Friends of the Huntington Beach Library Board of Directors, Historian

### **Organizations Actively Supported**

Society of American Archivists

- Architectural Records Roundtable
- Government Records Section
- Local Government Records Roundtable
- Museum Archives Section
- Lone Arrangers Roundtable

National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators

National Council for Public History

Association for State and Local History

Association of Living History, Farm and Agricultural Museums