

The North Shore Ethnographic Field School: A Conversation on Place-based Storytelling

RACHEL GREINER

Abstract: Place-based storytelling is necessary for museums, archives, and heritage sites to engage in and learn from if they are to remain relevant to their communities. The field school is a community-based class funded by Kamehameha Schools and taught through the Department of Ethnic Studies and Anthropology at UH-Mānoa that provides students with the opportunity to connect to kūpuna, ‘ohana and community members from the Waialua moku (district) on O‘ahu. This poster session features the "pop-up" exhibit created from oral histories developed in this collaborative project. The posters will garner discussion about the experience in the program, and the process of bolstering community efforts to document their life experiences and memories of place. Through this session, I encourage audience members to reflect on the following question: How can museums, archives, and heritage centers support and build relationships with community-based storytelling classes/projects?

About the author:

Rachel Greiner is pursuing a masters degree in American and Museum Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She is currently writing her thesis on narrative justice strategies in community-based archives.