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Contact: Jenny Schooley
312.606.0722 or jschooley@archivists.org

Rose Chou and Helen Kim Awarded Mosaic Scholarships

CHICAGO—The Society of American Archivists awarded Mosaic Scholarships to Rose Chou and Helen Kim and will recognize them at an awards ceremony on August 26, 2011, at ARCHIVES 360°, SAA’s 75th Annual Meeting in Chicago. Mosaic Scholarships offer financial support to minority students who manifest a commitment both to the archives profession and to advancing diversity concerns within it. Chou and Kim both received a $5,000 scholarship, a one-year membership in SAA, and complimentary registration to ARCHIVES 360°.

Chou graduated from Boston College with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and a minor in history. She is now a master of library and information science student, specializing in archives at San Jose State University. As vice president of AHANA Leadership Council, the undergraduate student government for students of color at Boston College, she fought for the administration to implement a hate crime protocol, to diversify the core curriculum to include non-Western history perspectives, and to include sexual orientation in the university’s statement on non-discrimination. At Arizona State University’s Museum of Anthropology, she created audio clips from refugee interviews to pair with their portraits in a photography exhibition about relocated refugees. “Rose’s ultimate goal is to work in an archives of color and use emerging technologies to expand the visibility and accessibility of archival materials and the many voices contained in them,” said one Awards Committee member.

Kim earned a bachelor of arts degree in history at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and is currently working toward a master of science in information studies with a focus on archival science at the University of Texas at Austin. Kim recently volunteered at Central Texas’ Lower Colorado River Authority and the Austin History Center, where she conducted processing projects, including the records of the Korean Association of Greater Austin. She was also a State Preservation Board intern at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, where she worked on the library’s outreach and education program. She serves as events chair on the board of the SAA Student Chapter at the University of Texas and was a researcher of the content for the 75th Anniversary trading cards. According to the Task Force’s Chair and UT Professor David B. Gracy II, “The commitment [she] evidences in her studies and in the quality time she dedicates to the archival calling is so strong, so fulfilling, and so sound that her energy animates all the archivists around her—budding archivists as herself and those of longstanding as I.”

Founded in 1936, the Society of American Archivists is North America’s oldest and largest national archival professional association. SAA’s mission is to serve the educational and informational needs of more than 6,000 individual and institutional members and to provide leadership to ensure the identification, preservation, and use of records of historical value. For more information, visit www.archivists.org.