Hawaiians in Los Angeles

Lessa Kanani’opua Pelayo-Lozada
Children’s Librarian
Glendale Public Library
Members of the Kuhia family are pictured celebrating Jubilee, a celebration of the Hukilau in La’ie on O’ahu
Archiving a Divided Community

Western Methods:
- Museums
- Written records

Versus

Traditional Methods:
- Oral History
- Talking Story

1970s – Continent Born-Native Hawaiian baby and his mother in Gardena, California
Collecting Images & Stories for HILA and beyond

- Encourage self-archiving in the mode the individual is most comfortable with

- Try to respect the ideas of change and loss in a changing community

1957 Native Hawaiians enjoying Disneyland
Archiving a Community’s History without an Archivist

- Making connections
- Making people comfortable
- Recognizing the interconnectedness of the community

1972 Joe Keawe and the first Miss Voice of Hawai'i being presenting an Aloha Short to the City of Los Angeles
Defining Hawaiinanness

- Native Hawaiians
  - Anyone who can trace their ancestry back to the arrival of Captain Cook in 1778

- Locals
  - Anyone born and raised in Hawai‘i

- Hawaiians at Heart
  - Those without Hawaiian blood and those not born in Hawai‘i who have been touched by the culture and want to help perpetuate it
Archiving a Community’s History without an Archivist – The Process

- Making people comfortable
  - Videos of Oral Histories
  - Listened
  - Email
  - Scanners

- Creating a digital family history

- Inclusion

- Bibliography

- Glossary

- Double checking for accuracy
The Big Picture

- Community Response
- Diversity
- Future Preservation