2017 Innovation Fellowship
Coordination of Genealogy Services at the Main and System-wide

Including...

- How to make patrons and staff better aware of our resources
- Ensuring institutional knowledge is passed on to future librarians
- Partnering with other organizations and individuals
Why Genealogy?

- Institutional knowledge
- SFPL’s multitude of resources
- Many urban public libraries around the country have genealogy departments...

  - **Los Angeles Public Library**: “History and Genealogy Department”
  - **Denver Public Library**: “Western History/Genealogy Department”
  - **Houston Public Library**: “Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research”
  - **Dallas Public Library**: “Genealogy Section”
  - **Miami Public Library**: “Genealogy Department”
  - **New York Public Library**: “Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy”
  - **Seattle Public Library**: “Genealogy Collection” (and two designated genealogy librarians)

...so why not SFPL?
What I’ve learned…

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2017 IGHR Course 1
Methods & Sources
Coordinator: Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA

2017 IGHR Course 1 Schedule

Monday
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- Federal Census (R. Koford) 30
- Religious Records (Wells) 40
- Vital Records & Newspapers (P. Sayre) 65

Tuesday
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Wednesday
- Onsite Research: Clarke County Courthouse (P. Sayre/Wells) 104
- Libraries & Archives, USA Main Library Classroom (P. Sayre) 104
- Onsite Research: USA Main Library (P. Sayre/Wells) None

Thursday
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- Death & Probate Records (R. Koford) 117
- DNA: Stepping Into Genetic Genealogy (Wayne) 129
- Military Records (Strassler) 137
- Recording Your Findings (P. Sayre) 163

Friday
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Evening Sessions
- How to Use GALILEO and the USA Libraries’ Resources (Center) 180
- BCG Certification (Russett/R. Sayre) 191
- Why Great Grandpa Shaved Off His Mustache: Tales of Our Ancestors and the Weather (Collettte) 195
- Private Archives: What They Are and How to Use Them (Collettte) 197

2017 Course 1 Attendees 100
Accomplishments

- Conferred with fellow department managers (SFHC, MNC, GIC)
- Created tally sheet at General Collections reference desk
- Met/partnered with...
  - Sutro Library
  - California Genealogical Society (Sandra Britt-Huber and Jane Knowles Lindsey)
  - African American Genealogical Society of Northern California (AAGSNC)
  - San Francisco African American Historical & Cultural Society
  - Genealogists Jeanie Low and Grant Din
Accomplishments (contd.)

- Created **Genealogy Resources at the Main Library** pamphlet
- Created **Genealogy Resources at the Library** web page
Accomplishments (contd.)

- Founded Genealogy Resource Group
- Answered numerous genealogy questions referred to me by other librarians
- Hosted/led/participated in a multitude of programs
- Established the ongoing San Francisco Genealogy Group (library-sponsored, meets monthly)
- Added 55 people to Genealogy Programs email distribution list
Findings

  - 125 questions (1 to 2 questions/week)

- Programs well attended: 2 years, 37 programs, 432 attendees
  - 08/23/17 Research Your Ancestors at ANZ - 13
  - 09/29/17 Research Your Ancestors at EVA - 9
  - 01/25/18 Research Your Ancestors - 12
  - 02/01/18 Ethnicity and Culture that Harmonize with African Genealogy (with Alvis Ward/AAGSNC) - 14
  - 02/15/18 Genealogy Drop-In - 10
  - 03/22/18 Genealogy 101 - 10
  - 04/26/18 Research Your Ancestors - 15
  - 05/25/18 Introduction to Genealogy on Techmobile at MAR - 5
  - 05/31/18 Finding Your Asian American Roots (w/Grant Din) - 25
  - 06/06/18 Introduction to Genealogy at PAR - 3
  - 06/28/18 Genealogy 101 - 12
  - 07/14/18 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 13
  - 07/17/18 Genealogy Resources at the San Francisco Public Library (at Sutro Library) - 20
  - 08/11/18 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 9
  - 09/08/18 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 8
Programs well attended: 2 years, 37 programs, 432 attendees

- 10/13/18 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 10
- 01/12/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 11
- 01/24/19 Genealogy Resources at the Library (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 8
- Feb. 2019 The Other Black Migration series of 5 workshops and DNA program (at AAACC with Ginger Smyly) - 62
- 02/09/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 9
- 03/09/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 6
- 04/13/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 10
- 05/11/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 10
- 05/11/19 Family Legacies - Chinese American Genealogy (with Jeanie Low) - 29
- 06/08/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 9
- Jun.-Sept. 2019 Beginning Genealogy (series of 4 classes with Jane Lindsey Knowles/CGS) - 57
- 07/13/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 11
- 08/10/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 12
- 09/14/19 San Francisco Genealogy Group (with Sandra Huber/CGS) - 10
Findings (contd.)

- Staff appreciative of someone to whom they can refer patrons

- Patrons appreciative of someone knowledgeable willing to help them
Moving Forward

- **More Programming**
  - October Family History Month programming
    - DNA and Genetic Genealogy w/Stephen Morse
    - Hispanic Genealogy w/Lucy Jennings Sweeney
  - Genealogy 101 at ORT in Nov. and at NVA in Jan.
  - San Francisco Genealogy Group
    - 2020 schedule with extended hours and additional month

- **Fold3**
  - Library recently acquired access to this database of military records

- **Genealogy Resources StaffNet page**
  - Includes Genealogy Resource Group