MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
A STATEMENT OF COLLABORATION • RESTORE/RESTORY PROJECT

The following is a statement of collaboration between the UC Davis Art of Regional Change (ARC) and the Cache Creek Conservancy (CCC) for the Restore/Restory project.

Our intention is to create a vibrant project partnership characterized by transparency, mutual benefit and shared goals. We acknowledge that the project brings together a diverse range of stakeholders—students, faculty, organizational representatives, County residents—and will be a learning process for all. We intend the project to result in stronger university-community relationships, generate media that is useful to the CCC and meaningful to its users, and produce scholarly and creative work grounded in a community based effort. In that spirit, ARC and the CCC agree to these points:

Principles for Campus-Community Collaboration
• Acknowledge collaboration as an evolving process
• Agree to cross-promote the project and project partners
• Act as a bridge to funders and resources where possible
• Be mutually supportive and seek ways to help each other meet project goals
• Value diversity of voice, stories, and presentation of different experiences
• Work collectively to resolve differences and find common ground in decision-making
• Provide input and feedback in a spirit of mutual respect and appreciation
• Understand that project participants have different needs and skills and work to find the common ground that best meets everyone’s situation

Project Goals
• Create a collection of stories that brings a sense of history of the Jan T. Lowrey Cache Creek Nature Preserve for youth and adults who visit the site or learn about it via the web
• Increase awareness of the Nature Preserve, broadening public support for ongoing physical and cultural restoration efforts
• Curate a collection of stories that document different histories, uses of the site, and groups of people on the land in a way that is aesthetically compelling and grounded in academic research and community expertise
• Generate media (audio tour, website, articles, exhibits, etc) that spark conversations on public history and land use which, in turn, can inform restoration and resource management policies
• Involve university students, faculty and staff, community scholars and project advisors to develop, produce, and curate stories of the Preserve in a way that is meaningful and beneficial to the diverse range of stakeholders involved
• Demonstrate the value of doing university-community projects
• Establish ARC as a successful model for doing campus-community media projects
Project Products

• An interactive website that presents a multi-author history of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve including archival documents, audio slideshows, an audio tour, photos, maps, interviews and essays—all collaboratively researched, produced and curated by students, residents, scholars, and artists.

• An audio tour of the Preserve featuring multiple voices and experiences at different places on the grounds intended to immerse visitors in personal storytelling and soundscapes to enliven the web-based historical information, engage audiences who tend not to use the internet, and augment the Conservancy’s education activities.

Roles

This collaboration recognizes that roles and responsibilities differ among the ARC project team, CCC board members, CCC staff, and community members based on principles of equity, capacity building, and collective ownership of results.

Art of Regional Change Team (jesikah maria ross, Joanna Tague, Kathryn Hayes): Coordinate and fundraise for the overall project. Cultivate and facilitate the advisory group. Guide participatory action and public history research. Generate research question, gather data, and draft reports. Help ensure that group meets collectively set goals and delivers products. Develop and teach undergraduate courses connected to project.

Project Director (jesikah maria ross): Lead artist responsible for overall story identification, assignments, instruction, and final edits. Oversees curation process for website and audio tour with guidance from project Advisory Group. Produces final website and tour.

Cache Creek Conservancy: Appoint members to serve on project Advisory Group. Provide staff support to coordinate project retreats. Help promote, organize and implement Community Story Day and other project events. Provide in-kind support, and fundraise for iPods and other costs as needed (see Finances below). Serve as fiscal sponsor on grants if needed. Promote project and ARC through various outlets during project such as organizational newsletters, website, Facebook page and at regional meetings or through organizational networks, etc.

University and community scholars: Generate a historical and cultural context for the stories through a timeline of various uses of the site, archival images, commentaries, essays and other data. Generate publications as desired.

Undergraduate and Master of Fine Arts (MFA) students: Work under the guidance of the Advisory Group and Project Director to create audio, visual, and textual content for the website.

Advisory group: Guides project process and informs content and curatorial decisions. Helps set project goals, roles, and agreements. Generates a list of stories, storytellers, images, soundscapes, and historical/background while ensuring cultural sensitivity and inclusiveness of the stories and their presentation. Review the collected research and media products to help select stories to share through interactive project website.
Production Review Process

During the project production process, ARC will consult regularly with the Advisory Group, which includes participating scholars, and will submit written and audio drafts during the following phases for review, input and revision:

- Phase 1: Project description, project plan, participant roles, and research question. (Estimated Fall, 2010)
- Phase 2: Rough Cut of audio tour segments, slideshows and other collected multimedia products and draft script of webcopy. (Estimated Spring 2011)
- Phase 3: Publication abstracts, final web copy and exhibition copy (Fall, 2011)

At each of these stages, the Advisory Group will have an opportunity to review and comment within 10 days. After 10 days we will move on if there are no responses. ARC will reply via email with revisions. This process may be repeated a second time. To make the process most efficient, the Advisory Group will be represented by a single point person (Kathryn Hayes) who will communicate the response of the board and scholars on multimedia and script revisions. The Advisory Group will not require more than 2 revisions per stage.

Because the audio tour is of most interest and use to the CCC, the organization’s input and requested revisions will carry more weight when finalizing the tour.

Because the website is of most interest and use to university and community scholars, these participants input and requested revisions will carry more weight when finalizing the website curation.

Because publications and exhibitions are of most interest and use to university partners, their input and requested revisions will carry more weight when finalizing publication abstracts and exhibition copy and curation.

The ARC will make final editorial decisions after considering and talking through all points of view on each product.

Distribution

The material collected during the project will be edited and/or curated for distribution as part of a project website, an audio tour, academic journal publications, and—pending funding—museum exhibitions and radio broadcasts. The material will be accessible through the ARC main website and can be used by the CCC for all educational, non-profit, community building efforts.

Credits

All project materials, publicity, presentations and publications must cite or credit jesikah maria ross as the Project Director. In addition, project and promotional materials must carry the Art of Regional Change logo and website url.
Copyright

The audio tour and website will carry a Creative Commons 3.0 copyright license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/) held by Restore/Restory allowing users to share, copy, and transmit work provided they attribute use (as per credits above), use for noncommercial purposes, and make no derivative pieces without permission. After the tour and website are published, any project members involved in producing work for the tour and website can use the pieces as they like for noncommercial and educational purposes. They can also make derivative work, providing they attribute credit as stated above.

Students who produce content for the website will retain ownership of their work but must use credits above and, to the extent possible, provide drafts of their work to group members for review and input.

Community and academic scholars who produce print publications based on the project will retain ownership of their work but must use credits above and, to the extent possible, provide drafts of their work to group members for review and input.

Finances

This project is funded through a grant from the University of California Institute for Research in the Arts, the UC Davis Center for Regional Change and the Davis Humanities Institute. Current funding will cover half of the project director’s salary, two graduate student researchers, two participating academic scholars, two community scholars, and two Master of fine arts graduate students as well as project travel, supplies, and expenses.

Additional fundraising will be needed to cover the cost of a web designer, an audio engineer, the remainder of the project director’s salary, iPods for on-site tours, and monuments to locate on the Preserve to indicate story sites. The CCC will raise funds for iPods, monuments, monument installation, and—if possible—other costs. The CCC will provide in-kind support including but not limited to staff time, mileage, and on-site meeting space and computer systems to maintain iPod audio tour. ARC will continue to try and raise funds for project director and media professionals. In addition, ARC will look for funding partners to cover costs for additional exhibitions and radio broadcasts.

Amendments

Changes to this document can be made at any time by either party to improve the partnership, clarify processes, and enhance the project.
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