ASAC 2018
Formations: Thinking Kinship through Adoption

Seventh Biennial Conference of the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture in cooperation with Adoption Initiative

Oakland Asian Cultural Center and Oakstop
Oakland, California | October 18–20, 2018
## ASAC 2018 is made possible by the generous support of our sponsors

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<th>Contact</th>
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<td>Loyola University Maryland</td>
<td>Stanford University – Department of English</td>
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<td>The University of California, Berkeley - Department of English</td>
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<td>The University of California, Merced</td>
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<td>Yale University – Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program</td>
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## ASAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CONFERENCE STEERING COMMITTEE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Co-Chair</td>
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<td>Marina Fedosik</td>
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<td>Margaret Homans</td>
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## ADOPTION INITIATIVE PROGRAM CO-CHAIRS

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<td>Susan Branco</td>
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<td>Stephanie Flores-Koulish</td>
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## REGISTRATION

**Thursday:** Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street #290, Auditorium lobby: 5:30-7 PM  
**Friday:** OACC, 7:30-11 AM  
**Saturday:** Oakstop, 274 14th Street: 7:30-10 AM

## WIFI

**At Oakland Asian Cultural Center:**
- **Auditorium:** Network: “OACC auditorium” Password: 01oa02cc (all lowercase)  
- **Conference Rooms:** Network: “Conference” Password: OACC40AK (all uppercase)

**At Oakstop:** Network: “OakstopSuites” Password: Workspace14
On behalf of the ASAC Executive Committee, we are so pleased to welcome you to this—our seventh biennial conference. We look forward to being inspired by the conversations that will take place in the next few days. Like you, we are committed to critical, creative, and generative scholarship, activism, and cultural production from multi-disciplinary, multi-perspectival approaches. Adding to the excitement of this year’s conference is our collaboration with the Adoption Initiative. What a treat it is to meet, work alongside, and engage colleagues affiliated with this amazing group! Thank you so very much to our brilliant conference planning committee. Your diligence and hard work have made this process an absolute pleasure.

Very warmest regards,
Jenny and Cynthia

We want to echo Jenny and Cynthia’s warm welcome, and add that we, as the co-chairs for the 2018 Adoption Initiative component of the ASAC conference are grateful for this special opportunity to bring together a broad interdisciplinary dialogue on adoption issues and topics on the west coast. ASAC has been eternally gracious throughout the planning process to result in such a fruitful program. We look forward to the dialogue that will ensue during the conference, and we hope that it will carry on into the future. Speaking of that, the Adoption Initiative Conference will return to the greater New York area independently in 2020 to celebrate its twenty years of critically engaging and preparing professionals and academics to respond to important questions in the array of fields that touch the institution of adoption. Be on the lookout for details!

Warmest regards,
Susan and Stephanie

We come together for this conference on Ohlone land. With this territorial acknowledgment we hope to interrupt and discomfit settler complacency for historical and ongoing colonial violence. This includes (but is not limited to) threats to the sacred shellmounds that Ohlone peoples of various nations continue to protect against Bay Area developers. We also acknowledge the ways that the settler state uses colonial and white supremacist models of kinship and childcare to justify the theft of Indigenous young people from their cultures and lands and the links between cultural genocide and transracial fostering and adoption of Indigenous young people. We encourage you to learn more about these tribes today and moving forward, and about how we can support them and other Indigenous people.

This conference seeks to create a welcoming space for all attendees. To ensure the safety of all participants, the conference has a zero-tolerance policy for racist, xenophobic, homophobic, and transphobic language in addition to other forms of hate speech.
Meeting Room Locations

OAKLAND ASIAN CULTURAL CENTER

1. Executive Conference Room
2. 3. 4. 5. Meeting Rooms
6. Dance Studio
7. Gallery/Exhibit Hall
8. Exhibits
9. Kitchen
10. Dressing Rooms
11. Restrooms

OAKSTOP

MEZZANINE

3RD FLOOR

LIONEL
ELIHU
DECK

BECKFORD
OSUMARE
DECK
WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS 7 PM Oakland Asian Cultural Center Auditorium

Welcome: Cynthia Callahan, The Ohio State University at Mansfield and Stephanie Flores-Koulish, Loyola University Maryland

Julie Pelletier, University of Winnipeg, “Thoughts from a Birth/First Mother on the Intersections of Culture, Class, and Profession”

Introduction: Jenny Heijun Wills, University of Winnipeg, and Susan Harness, Colorado State University

Dr. Julie Pelletier is Associate Professor of Indigenous Studies at the University of Winnipeg and recently published the co-edited collection, Gambling on Authenticity: Gaming, the Noble Savage, and the Not-So-New Indian (2017). A cultural anthropologist specializing in Indigenous cultures and Indigenizing the academy, Professor Pelletier is also a first mother who relinquished her child for adoption and maintains a meaningful relationship with her daughter. Her lecture touches on the trauma of government and missionary removal of Indigenous children from their families. Her reflections on being an Indigenous first parent are informed by her scholarship but also her social activism.

FRIDAY October 19

All events at Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th Street, #290

CONCURRENT SESSION 1 • 8:30–10

1A Asian Orphans and Adoptees in Film and Media OACC Room 4

Emily Bartz, Texas A & M University, “Mirror Scrolls and Google Earth: Cinematic Techniques in Adoption Search Narratives”

Kira Donnell, UC Berkeley, “The Orphan Nation: Orphans and Nationalism in Golden Age Korean Film”

Susanna Birnbaum, Muhlenberg College, “Beyond Returning to Roots: A New Model for Transracial Transnational Adoption Media”

Chair: Marina Fedosik, Princeton University

1B Adoption Performances OACC Room 2

Lies Wesseling, Maastricht University, “Global Adoption in Reverse: Gudrun Widlok’s Art Project Adopted”

Deirdre Osborne, Goldsmiths, University of London, “Ego-histoire and Adoption Aesthetics”

Beth Cleary, Macalester College, “Spoon, Cup, Key: Several Scenes of Assessment”

Chair: Margaret Homans, Yale University
Shifting Temporalities and “Botched” Lives: S/Kinships in Contemporary Multi-Ethnic U.S. Cultural Productions  

Shannon Gibney, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Reading from Botched, a Novel/Memoir

Lori Askeland, Wittenberg University, “Tiffany Haddish and The Fosters: Fostering Complexity in Contemporary U.S. Popular Culture”

Chair: Lori Askeland, Wittenberg University

Adoption Initiative Session: International Searching and Genetic Expectancy

Emerson Dickman, attorney, “The Role of Genetic Expectancy in the Psychopathology of Children Who Are Adopted”

Angela Sharp, The New School, “The Search for Fifty Adoptees from My Orphanage”

Irene Salvo Agoglia, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, “Orphans Forever: The Biopolitical Mediation of Searches of Origins in Chile”

KEYNOTE ROUND TABLE 10:15 – 11:30

ASAC and OSUP: New Opportunities for Publishing Adoption Scholarship

Kristen Elias Rowley, Editor-in-Chief, The Ohio State University Press

Emily Hipchen, University of West Georgia, editor of Adoption & Culture and co-editor of OSUP book series, “Formations: Adoption, Kinship, and Culture”


This round table will celebrate the newly established relationship between ASAC and The Ohio State University Press (OSUP) and outline the opportunities it has enabled for publishing the latest high-quality interdisciplinary work in adoption studies. We will consider the development of ASAC’s journal Adoption & Culture and explore the prospects for placing essays, proposing ideas for special issues, etc. We will also discuss OSUP’s new book series, “Formations: Adoption, Kinship and Culture,” as a means of supporting and disseminating conference participants’ current research.

LUNCH BREAK 11:30 – 12

Box lunches are provided and can be brought into session rooms.
**2A LADs: Latinx Adoptee Expressions**  
*OACC Room 4*

Stephanie Flores-Koulish, Loyola University Maryland  
Jacqueline Arias, artist and filmmaker  
Benjamin Lundberg Torres Sanchez, artist and educator  
MasPaz (Federico Frum), artist and activist  
Mary Kate Miller, Loyola University Maryland

What is it about our Latinidad that's best expressed in creative forms? Our historias are sacred. As Latinx adoptees, we express statuses as insider/outsiders, questioning and claiming our legitimacy to exist and thrive in the spaces in which we travel. We simultaneously belong everywhere and nowhere. Español, the lack thereof, the acquisition of, further distances or connects us with our origins, while we crave connections. Flores-Koulish along with Miller will establish the overall theoretical context of the panel. Arias, MasPaz, and Lundberg Sanchez Torres will discuss and/or share some of the art they have created which gives creative voice to their historias.

*Chair: Stephanie Flores-Koulish, Loyola University Maryland*

**2B Queering Kinship**  
*OACC Room 3*

Megan Paslawski, CUNY – Queen’s College, “Think of the Children: Intergenerational Kinship in Trans Youth Memoirs”  
Seul Lee, Texas A & M University, “Indispensable yet Expendable: Family Care and Outsourcing as Alternative Kinship”  
Lucy Curzon, University of Alabama, “MaPa Del: Visualizing Queer Kinship in LGBTQI+ Families”

*Chair: Kimberly Leighton, Georgetown University*

**2C Radical Kinships: Auto-Critical Readings**  
*OACC Room 5*

Jennifer Kwon Dobbs, St. Olaf College  
Jenny Heijun Wills, University of Winnipeg  
Lisa Moore, St. Olaf College

This panel examines auto-critical life writing as a significant method for producing knowledge in critical adoption studies. Why and how are life narratives used in the service of exploring subjects’ experiences of non-conventional family building through transracial/transnational adoption and donorship? What does it mean for literary and other textual modes of creative expression to be inducted into analyses by sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, and others and taken as so-called “authentic” (self-)representation or qualitative insight? Attached to an anthology in preparation, the panelists weave together criticism and creativity while simultaneously defying these categorizations.

*Chair: Jennifer Kwon Dobbs, St. Olaf College*
Adoption Initiative Session: Practice

Tara Linh Leaman, Program Director, Westchester County (NY) Department of Social Services; and Trista Goldberg, Founder and CEO, Operation Reunite: “Operation Reunite: The Power of Complexity: Best Practices in Adoption, Kinship Care and Healthy Formation of Identity”

Gina Sharpe, Rutgers University School of Social Work: “Adoption Certificate Training Programs: New Jersey’s Efforts to Enhance Adoption Expertise”

Nancy Rolock, Helen Bader School of Social Welfare, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee and John Webb, Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Office of Adoption Operations: “Post Adoption Engagement: The New Jersey Prevention Experience with Tuning in to Teens (TINT)”

CONCURRENT SESSION 3 • 1:45–3:15

Film screening and discussion: “Side by Side: Out of a South Korean Orphanage and Into the World”

Filmmaker and Korean adoptee Glenn Morey will screen selected clips from Side by Side: Out of a South Korean Orphanage and Into the World. Five years in the making, this unconventional project features 100 individual stories filmed in seven countries, six languages, and sixteen cities, thereby opening an intensely experiential window of oral history, of social and academic understanding, and of empathy through art. The filmmaker will discuss the production process, his impressions of these revealing and often deeply intimate accounts, as well as his experiences filming aged-out Korean nationals.

Chair: Kim Park Nelson, Minnesota State University at Moorhead

Bodies and Kinship after Biology I

Eric Walker, Florida State University, “Robert Pinsky’s At the Foundling Hospital and Kinship Theory”

Ellen Peel, SFSU, “Adoption, Tragedy, and the Failed Search for Origins in Frankenstein”

Sayres Rudy, independent scholar, “The Anxious Kinship of Adoptee Subjectivity”

Marina Fedosik, Princeton University, “The Power to ‘Make Live’: Biopolitics of Reproduction in Blade Runner”

Chair: John McLeod, University of Leeds

Recent Histories of Kinship Formation

Kay Trimberger, Sonoma State University, “From Open Adoption to Extended Kin”


Liz Latty, writer and activist, “We Are Really Straight: LGBTQ Adoption, Homonormativity, and the Right to Parent”

Chair: Don Romesberg, Sonoma State University
**Adoption Initiative Session: Post-Adoption Support**


Patrick Sheedy, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, “Human Meaning: Real Families”

Yemisi Adebowale, independent scholar, “Openness In Adoption: Transforming Practice In Nigeria Through Anthropological Research

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**CONCURRENT SESSION 4 • 3:30–5**

**4A Performing Transnational Adoption Kinship**

Hosu Kim, CUNY – College of Staten Island

Meejin Richart, community organizer

Schuyler Swenson, multimedia producer

This panel was born out of a 2016 workshop in which Korean adoptees met with birth mothers and birth family members. Inspired by the profound affects of connectivity and care the workshop produced, this panel will explore and excavate sites of adoptive kinship. Hosu Kim’s paper “Redefining Adoptive Kinship” provides a theoretical understanding and explores embodied aspects of kinship in light of performance. Schuyler Swenson and Meejin Richart’s multi-media performance “New Narratives of Adoption” materializes connectivity and care across bodies, borders, and bloods. Transcending language, culture, and current perceptions of adoption, “New Narratives of Adoption” amplifies underrepresented birth mother stories and creates a new narrative of coexistence and dialogue between birth mothers and adoptees.

**4B Misrepresentations of Adoptees and Birth/First Mothers**

Gretchen Sisson, UCSF, “‘Dear Birth Mother’: Rhetoric of Idealized Parenthood in Prospective Adoptive Parent Profiles”

Martha Satz, Southern Methodist University, “Is This Us?: Portrayal of the Transracial Adoptive Family in This Is Us”

Krista Benson, Grand Valley State University, “‘Meet Waiting [Indigenous] Children’: The Northwest Adoption Exchange and Profiles of Adoptable Native Children in Foster Care”

Chair: Marianne Novy, University of Pittsburgh

**4C Navigating Mentorship: Students and Contingent Faculty**

This session is an opportunity for graduate students and under/precariously employed faculty members to come together for meaningful conversation exploring mentoring, largely defined, as well as how it may be affected by power, exploitation, and harassment. One of the goals of this session is to come up with ways that people can be best/better served and supported by ASAC, and more established (adoption studies) scholars in general. It will begin with brief comments by session leaders followed by breakout groups that shall be shaped by discussions questions meant to initiate conversation.

People who self-identify as students and under/precariously employed faculty are encouraged to participate; session leaders/note takers are part of these communities and aim to promote a safe discussion space.
Adoption Initiative Featured Session

MasPaz, artist and activist, “Artistic Expressions of the Adoption Experience”

Muralist and adoptee Federico “MasPaz” Frum will present an autobiographical performance installation reflecting on how his Colombian roots deeply impacted him and his art. Conference participants are invited to come watch him as he creates a block print. His process will be projected on the big screen along with photographs and samples of his work from walls and galleries around the world, followed by a Q&A with friend and fellow Colombian adoptee, Stephanie Flores-Koulish. https://www.maspaz.co/

Chair: Stephanie Flores-Koulish, Loyola University Maryland

This featured session is presented thanks to generous sponsorship from Loyola University Maryland.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS 5:15–6:30

Judith Butler: “Coercion and Freedom in Light of New Family Values”

Introduction: Bruno Perreau, MIT

Dr. Judith Butler is Maxine Elliot Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley. She is a foundational figure in what has become contemporary queer and gender studies, defining the field in monographs such as *Gender Trouble* (1990), *Antigone’s Claim: Kinship Between Life and Death* (2000), and many other books and essays. Her research probes the relationships among gender, sexuality, and kinship constructions. In recognition of her transformative thinking, Professor Butler has received numerous grants and awards, including an Andrew Mellon Award for Distinguished Academic Achievement in the Humanities (2009–13) and a Guggenheim fellowship (1999).

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

8:00 PM VOICES OF ADOPTION: CREATIVE WRITING READING

Hosted by Susan Ito, Kit Myers, and Jenny Heijun Wills

This event features authors from various perspectives whose writings illustrate the diverse and innovative ways that adoption can be represented in literary arts. Our program highlights the complexities of adoption and the voices of emerging as well as established artists. This event is free and open to the public.
SATURDAY October 20

Concurrent sessions in Oakstop, 274 14th Street, Oakland
Keynote events in Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St., #290, Oakland

CONCURRENT SESSION 5  •  8–9:30

5A Adoption Initiative Session: Ethics in Placement: Who Is Being Served?  
Elihu Room, Oakstop


5B American Adoptee Citizenship and Belonging Since 2000  
Lionel Room, Oakstop


Wendy Marie Laybourn, University of Maryland, “Reframing Belonging: Korean Adoptees on the Ground and Screen”


Chair: Kimberly McKee, Grand Valley State University

5C Adoption and Writing about the Self  
Beckford Room, Oakstop

Marianne Novy, University of Pittsburgh, “Class, Shame, and Identity in Search Memoirs from Difficult Same-Race Adoptions: Jeremy Harding’s Mother Country and Lori Jakiela’s Belief is Its Own Kind of Truth, Maybe”

Derek Kirton, University of Kent, “Close(d) Encounters?: Culture and Identity in Autobiographical Transracial Adoption Narratives”

Jill Brown, Creighton University, “‘First, find yourself a good mother’: Adoption Research and My Private Objective/Subjective Collision”

Chair: Hertha Sweet Wong, UC Berkeley
Adoption and Kinship in Chile

Teresa Arana Migliassi, professional photographer, and Irene Salvo Agoglia, Alberto Hurtado University, “Co-researching Kinship and Identities Policies through the Lens of Domestic Adoption in Chile”

Marcia Escobar and Javiera Navarro, Alberto Hurtado University, “Family Maps: Building a Concept of Family and Kinship between Single Mothers by Choice and Their Children in Chile”

Paulina Fernandez Moreno, University of Alicante, “Resistances to the Adoption of Older Children in Chile: Elucidating Stereotypes Emanating from Institutional and Professional Practices”

Chair: Irene Salvo Agoglia, Alberto Hurtado University

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION 10–11:15

Adoption Museum Project

Laura Callen, Founder/Director, Adoption Museum Project

Suzi Martinez Carter, Project Director, Adoption Museum Project

Zoë Klein, Development Fellow, Adoption Museum Project

Introduction: Kit Myers, UC Merced

Adoption Museum Project uses cultural experiences to reimagine adoption. Through exhibitions, public programs and other projects, we invite the public to consider the whole story of adoption—so we can create a radically different practice based on justice and dignity. We look at how adoption has the potential to both help and harm, and how individuals are part of history and systems. Our current work is focused on creating a new history of adoption told through a lens of social justice. Adoption Museum Project is a values-driven organization led by people who are impacted by adoption. Learn more: www.adoptionmuseumproject.org

This keynote session is presented thanks to generous sponsorship from PACER – Post-Adoption Center for Education & Resources.

LUNCH BREAK 11:15–12:30

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

ASAC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING (OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ASAC)

11:30–12:15 Osumare Room, Oakstop
**CONCURRENT SESSION 6 • 12:30–2**

**6A** “Unlocking the Heart of Adoption” Twenty Years Later  
*Elihu Room, Oakstop*

Filmmaker Sheila Ganz screens selections from her documentary film, which bridges the gap between birth and adoptive families in same race and transracial adoptions, while interweaving the filmmaker’s story as a birthmother and providing historical background. The screening will be followed by discussion with some of the film’s participants: Sheila, the filmmaker and first/birthmother; Jody Burr, adoptee; Dolores Piper, first/birthmother; Ginger Bowman, adoptive mother. Twenty years after they were interviewed for the film, they will discuss how their relinquishment, adoption, and reunion experiences have impacted their lives and how these experiences have evolved and changed over time. More information and trailer at www.unlockingtheheart.com

**6B** Adoptee Belonging and Transnational Adoption from Asia  
*Osumare Room, Oakstop*


Soh Yeun Kim, University of Washington, “Migration, Cross-border Adoption, and Kinship in Chang-Rae Lee’s A Gesture Life”

Kathleen Ja Sook Bergquist, University of Nevada – Las Vegas, “It’s just easier’: Reflections on the Intersections of Kinship, Race, and Ethnicity in Asian Adoptive Families”

*Chair: Kim Park Nelson, Minnesota State University at Moorhead*

**6C** Adoption, Policy, and the State  
*Beckford Room, Oakstop*

Carolyn McLeod and Heather Stewart, Western University, “Openness and Parental Leave”

Mark Montgomery, Grinnell College, “International Adoption: Why Can’t Kinship Be Negotiated?”

Lisa Gulya, University of Minnesota, “U.S. National(ist) Defense of Transnational Adoption and Alternate Visions from Adoptees”

*Chair: John McLeod, University of Leeds*

**6D** Adoption Initiative Session: Activism  
*Lionel Room, Oakstop*

Daniel Drennan ElAwar, Audain Faculty of Art, Emily Carr University of Art+Design, “Resisting Extirpation: Revolutionary Adoption Activism”

Carmen S, social worker, “A Dialectical Framing of Korean Adoptee Activism in the Bay Area and Beyond”

Malinda Seymore, Texas A & M University School of Law, “Bringing Lawsuits Everywhere: Suing Adoption Agencies for Money Damages to Incentivize Best Practices”
CONCURRENT SESSION 7 • 2:15–3:45

7A Adoption Art

Beckford Room, Oakstop

Zoë Klein, dancer and activist, “Adoption and the Body: Learning about Adoption through the Art of Movement”

Paul Bonnell, North Idaho College, Bonners Ferry High School, independent artist, “Between Tower and Sea” (mixed media)

Kate Greenway, Holy Trinity School, Toronto, “Adoption and Kinship: Artistic Representation and Creation”

Chair: Emily Bartz, Texas A&M University

7B Korean Adoptee Literature in Scandinavia

Osumare Room, Oakstop

Mette Kim-Larsen, Copenhagen University, “A Fertility Clinic and a Family: Angry Testimonials of the Nordic Welfare States”

Viola Bao, independent scholar, “Critical Remigration Narratives in Scandinavian Adoption Literature”

Aino Rinhaug, UCLA, “Adoptee Aesthetic as Cultural and Political Activism: Art as Bodies Politic”

Chair: Mette Kim-Larsen, Copenhagen University

7C Transracial Adoption and Alternative Kinships: Realities, Possibilities, and Longings

Elihu Room, Oakstop

Shannon Gibney, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, “Transracial Adoption and Intergenerational Kinship Structures”

Kimberly McKee, Grand Valley State University, “Reproductive Futurity and the Adoptive Family”

Kit Myers, UC Merced, “Ghostly Kinship: The Present Absence of Birth Family”

Lisa Marie Brimmer, University of St. Thomas, “Other Mothers’ Gardens: Healing the Dislocated Dreams of Transracial Adoption”

Chair: Shannon Gibney, Minneapolis Community and Technical College

7D Adoption Initiative Session: Racial Identity

Lionel Room, Oakstop

Zeina Ismail Allouche, Concordia University: “Forced Separation as Perceived by Transracial/Transnational Adoptees while Accounting for the Legacy of Indigenous Peoples”

Susan Branco, Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Washington DC: “Sometimes You Can’t Tell: School Counselors Working with Students Adopted Transracially”

Laura X. Williams, Goucher College: “The Missing Peace: How Adoptees Form Collaborative Identities Towards Social Change”
Adoption Initiative Featured Session: “Imaginary Mothers”  
Elihu Room, Oakstop

Filmmaker Jacqueline Arias, founder and director of Jersey Art Exchange, screens her feature-length documentary about four mothers—including her own—from Costa Rica: Crescencia Maria Castro Chaves, Helen Xiomara Barrantes Mora, Xinia Sancho Viquez and Doris Benavides Morales. Telling their stories for the first time, they bravely reveal the heart-breaking impact that losing their children has had on their lives. As they fight to be reconnected with their children, they also struggle against the myths about young single mothers in Latin America. This film brings to light the circumstances surrounding international adoption in Latin America during the 80s and 90s and the many warning signs that were ignored about corruption in international adoption. This film is not just about women in Costa Rica, but also about women all over the world who have lost their children through adoption.

Korean Adoption Archives: Roundtable on Interdisciplinary Archival Work  
Lionel Room, Oakstop

tammy ko Robinson, Hanyang University
So Yung Kim, social worker and founder of Transracial Abductees
Eleana Kim, UC Irvine
Shawyn Lee, University of Minnesota – Duluth

Korean adoption culture, activism, and history have been unsystematically archived offline and online, with individuals collecting everything from personal and official documents to popular culture paraphernalia to academic books. More recently, efforts to create and preserve official archive collections have led to contestations regarding issues of historical recognition, critical historiographies, redress and accountability. This roundtable considers the multifaceted epistemological, material, and affective archival needs of diverse Korean adoptee communities. We will discuss the diverse forms and politics of adoption archives; decolonization of adoption and kinship formations including among queer transracial adoptees of color; ethical adoption practices and adoption justice; and the relation of the archive to U.S. state and international laws regarding adoption.

Chair: tammy ko Robinson, Hanyang University

Bodies and Kinship after Biology II  
Beckford Room, Oakstop

Bruno Perreau, MIT, “The Future of Adoption in a Technological Age”
Frances Latchford, York University, “Eugenealogies: Adoption, Genealogy, and Eugenic Family Paradigms”
Heather Jacobson, University of Texas at Arlington, “Negotiating the Kinship of Excess Embryos: Reactions of Fertility Professionals”

Chair: Emily Hipchen, University of West Georgia
Transnational Black Adoptions

Rosemarie Peña, Rutgers University - Camden, “St. Josef Kinderheim (Children’s Home): Afro-German Adoptees Return”

Silke Hackenesch, University of Cologne, “The Adoption of Germany’s Mixed-Race Children to Postwar America”


Chair: Cynthia Callahan, The Ohio State University at Manfield

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CLOSING KEYNOTE 7:30

Amandine Gay and Deann Borshay Liem: “Reclaim the Narrative: Filmmaking as Archival, Creative and Emancipatory Work”

Introductions: Rosemarie Peña, Rutgers University and Kim Park Nelson, Minnesota State University at Moorhead

Documentary filmmakers Amandine Gay and Deann Borshay Liem discuss their films, their approaches to filmmaking, and their activism.

Deann Borshay Liem’s films—First Person Plural (2000), In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee (2010), and Geographies of Kinship – The Korean Adoption Story (in progress)—probe the history and personal cost of Korean adoption. She is a recipient of a Rockefeller Film/Video Fellowship and a former director of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM). Currently, she is the head of Mu Films, a non-profit documentary production company that focuses on representing untold stories from underrepresented communities in the interest of social justice and deeper cultural understanding.

Amandine Gay is the filmmaker behind Ouvrir la Voix (Speak Up/Make Your Way in English, 2016), a documentary that gives voice to twenty-four French women with African origins in order to reflect on European Black women’s experiences of identity. She is also the co-author of “Diasporic Conversations: Anglophone and Francophone Adoptees of the African Diaspora Encounter Each Other” (Adoption Today, 2016). As an artist and a social activist, Gay uses her personal adoption story and scholarly background to increase public interest in the politics of adoption. She is currently working on her second documentary film, about transnational and transracial adoptions in francophone countries.

* This keynote is presented in thanks to generous sponsorship from Lee Herrick (leeherrick.com) and the Association of Korean Adoptees San Francisco
The Association of Korean Adoptees San Francisco (AKASF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves the San Francisco Bay Area Korean Adoptee Community. It doesn’t matter whether you are new to the community or have been involved for many years. Our mission is to support, educate, and foster community, inspiring adoptees on their life journeys.

**What we Do**

• Monthly meet up events, which have included writing workshops, summer picnics, Korean cooking classes, holiday dinners, adoptee discussion groups, film screenings, Korean Heritage Night with the SF Giants, and more!
• Collaborate and participate with local organizations who support the adoptee and/or the Korean American community
• Offer scholarship support for local Korean language schools and programs

**Website:** www.aka-sf.org **Email:** info@aka-sf.org

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**PACER – Post-Adoption Center for Education & Resources**

Northern California

Supporting all members of the adoption triad: Adult Adoptees, First/Birth and Adoptive Families

We offer a number of peer-led support groups in the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Areas that are specific to adult adoptees, first/birth mothers and triad members. New groups are being created as needed. If you are interested in joining a group, get in touch with us—we are always on the lookout for ways to serve our community. Email us for more information and check our website for details.

Info: [http://www.pacer-adoption.org](http://www.pacer-adoption.org)  
Contact: pacer-adoption@gmail.com

PACER is a 501(d)3 nonprofit and grassroots volunteer organization run by individuals who experienced adoption. Our goal is to provide a safe and supportive community of healing and wellness for adopted individuals, first/birth families and adoptive families.

Our mission is to raise awareness of the lifelong experiences of adoption among families, professionals and adoption triad members. PACER’s most important and longest-running program is our peer-led support groups. Through these groups we have realized our goal many times over in our 40-year history.

In addition, we offer membership, educational resources for all triad members and professionals working with our population, as well as opportunities for engagement in regional community events.
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https://iis.berkeley.edu/programs/gender-and-the-trans-pacific-world
About the Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture

The Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture officially formed, through a constitution established in 1998, under the name The Alliance for the Study of Adoption, Identity, and Kinship. ASAC promotes understanding of the experience, institution, and cultural representation of domestic and transnational adoption and related practices such as fostering, assisted reproduction, LGBTQ+ families, and innovative kinship formations. ASAC considers adoptive kinship to include adoptees, first families, and adoptive kin. In its conferences, other gatherings, and publications ASAC provides a forum for discussion and knowledge creation about adoption and related topics through interdisciplinary culture-based scholarly study and creative practice that consider many ways of perceiving, interpreting, and understanding adoption.

Through its biennial conference, journal, website, and social media, ASAC provides communication among scholars and others interested in culture-based study of adoption and related topics.

Founding co-chairs: Marianne Novy, Emily Hipchen, and Carol Singley

ASAC Membership

Membership in ASAC is open to anyone interested in the study of adoption and related issues. Membership entitles members to the organization’s journal, Adoption & Culture, and is normally required for participants who attend the biennial ASAC conference. Members are eligible to nominate executive committee members.
Special thanks to the sponsors who made ASAC 2018 possible.