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Chinese American Citizens Alliance

~ National ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/Fax (415)829-9332

National Lodge
ESTABLISHED 1895

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Archivist Appointed by Stanford University to Process C.A.C.A. Historical Records

San Francisco, August 14, 2019 — Special Collections of Stanford University has appointed Alyssa Tou to Stanford Libraries and will be responsible for processing more than 200 linear feet of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) records, which are in Chinese and English and a tremendous research potential for scholars. C.A.C.A. is the nation's oldest, continuous civil rights and advocacy organization established in 1895 whose mission is promoting equal rights for Americans of Chinese ancestry.

In 2015, C.A.C.A. bestowed its “National Chinese American Citizens Alliance Collection” to the Department of Special Collections of the Stanford University Libraries. The C.A.C.A. National Lodge Archival Committee under Past National President Ed Gor of Chair conducted extensive research and interviews and concluded that for reasons of archival capabilities, attentiveness to details, physical location and accessibility, Stanford University Libraries was selected as the home for the collection.

“The C.A.C.A. archives are one of the richest collections of material related to Chinese American history and the organization is to be heartily congratulated and thanked for making its history available to scholars and to the public. It is an incredible and unrivaled mine of primary source material,” said Dr. Gordon H. Chang, the Olive H. Palmer Professor in the Humanities and Professor of American history at Stanford University, and co-director of the Chinese Railroad Workers in North America project.

Ms. Tou served as a processing intern with Special Collections last summer, which she completed the Webster Wilkinson Immigration Legal Archive (M1973), a collection that provides an interesting perspective on the last two decades of the Chinese Exclusion Act. Webster Wilkinson (1878-1942) was a San Francisco-based attorney whose practice focused on immigration law primarily relating to Chinese clients.

Ms. Tou will start her position in early September and the collection will be closed while being processed. For more information, please visit library.stanford.edu/libraries/spc/about

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Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance, established in 1895, is among the oldest civil rights organizations in the United States. Headquartered in San Francisco with chapter/lodges in Albuquerque (NM), Boston (MA), Chicago (IL), Greater San Gabriel Valley (CA), Greater New York (NY), Houston (TX), Las Vegas (NV), Los Angeles (CA), Mississippi, Oakland (CA), Peninsula (CA), Portland (OR), Phoenix (AZ), Salinas (CA), San Antonio (TX), San Francisco (CA), Seattle (WA) and Washington, D.C., the Alliance addresses issues regarding voter education, political participation, racial discrimination and hate crimes, and supports youth leadership training programs and equal employment opportunities for all Chinese Americans.