

## NEH Application Cover Sheet (PY-234452)

### Common Heritage

#### PROJECT DIRECTOR

---

Samip Mallick  
Executive Director  
1315 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130-4701  
USA

**E-mail:** samip@saadigitalarchive.org

**Phone:** 215-259-8055

**Fax:**

**Field of expertise:** Information Science

#### INSTITUTION

---

South Asian American Digital Archive, NFP  
Philadelphia, PA 19130-4701

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

---

**Title:** *Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles*

**Grant period:** From 2016-01-01 to 2016-06-30

**Project field(s):** Asian American Studies; Immigration History; U.S. Regional Studies

**Description of project:** “Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles” seeks to uncover the undocumented, under-documented, untold and little-known histories of Los Angeles’ South Asian American communities in two key neighborhoods: “Little India” in Artesia, CA and “Little Bangladesh” in Koreatown. At community venues in each location, SAADA’s Executive Director and a Board Member, together with 3 students from UCLA’s MLIS program, will host digitization days in which community members will bring in materials for digitization and share stories about their relationship to these objects. The digitization events will be immediately followed by a public presentation in which SAADA staff and volunteers will contextualize the newly digitized materials within the larger narratives of South Asian American history. Selections of the digitized materials will then be made available through SAADA’s website, (<http://www.saada.org>), the world’s largest digital repository of South Asian American

#### BUDGET

---

<b>Outright Request</b>	12,000.00	<b>Cost Sharing</b>	4,200.00
<b>Matching Request</b>	0.00	<b>Total Budget</b>	16,200.00
<b>Total NEH</b>	12,000.00		

#### GRANT ADMINISTRATOR

---

Samip Mallick  
1315 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130-4701  
USA

**E-mail:** samip@saadigitalarchive.org

**Phone:** 215-259-8055

**Fax:**

“Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles” seeks to uncover the undocumented, under-documented, untold and little-known histories of Los Angeles’ South Asian American communities in two key neighborhoods: “Little India” in Artesia, CA and “Little Bangladesh” in Koreatown. At community venues in each location, SAADA’s Executive Director and a Board Member, together with 3 students from UCLA’s MLIS program, will host digitization days in which community members will bring in materials for digitization and share stories about their relationship to these objects. The digitization events will be immediately followed by a public presentation in which SAADA staff and volunteers will contextualize the newly digitized materials within the larger narratives of South Asian American history. Selections of the digitized materials will then be made available through SAADA’s website, (<http://www.saada.org>), the world’s largest digital repository of South Asian American community history.

**A. What is the significance of this event to the community's members and its cultural institutions?**

In 1928, Vaishno Das Bagai, one of the first known South Asian immigrants to the U.S., checked into a hotel in San Jose, turned on the gas oven, and killed himself. Bagai was a member of the Ghadar Party, a political organization advocating for an end to British colonial rule in India. He had become an American citizen in 1921, but was forcibly denaturalized following the 1923 Supreme Court decision that deemed South Asians ineligible for citizenship on racial grounds. The effects of losing U.S. citizenship were traumatic for Bagai – he was forced to liquidate his property, including his San Francisco-based general store. Furthermore, he was denied a U.S. passport to visit India and was instead recommended to apply for a British passport and resume his British citizenship. Increasingly disillusioned, Bagai took his own life. In a suicide note left behind to his family and published in the *San Francisco Examiner*, Bagai wrote: “I do not choose to live the life of an interned person: yes, I am in a free country and can move about where and when I wish inside the country. [But], is life worth living in a gilded cage? Obstacles this way, blockades that way, and the bridges burnt behind<sup>1</sup>.”

Bagai's possessions were inherited by his granddaughter, Rani Bagai. She kept the boxes full of her grandfather's correspondence, photographs, political writings, and religious pamphlets in her home in Los Angeles' Koreatown neighborhood. Though she could not bear to part with them, Rani knew that these materials were historically important and relevant to the experiences of other South Asians in the United States. In 2012, she allowed volunteers from the South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA) to digitize them for online access. This collection is just one example of the type of historic materials that are in the hands of community members in Los Angeles, waiting to be digitized, made accessible, and used by scholars, students, and community members.

South Asian Americans have been a presence in the United States, and in California specifically, for more than 130 years. Early immigrants during the first wave of immigration from South Asia in the late 1800s and early 1900s worked on farms and in factories, helped build railroads, studied at California's universities, fought for India's freedom from British rule, and struggled for equal rights at home. The first Asian American congressman, Dalip Singh Saund, represented the 29<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Southern California in the mid -1950s. Today, more than 3.4 million individuals in the U.S. trace their heritage to South Asia. In Los Angeles County alone, there are 114,922 South Asian Americans according to the 2010 census, or 1.2% of the total population. More strikingly, South Asians are one of the fastest growing communities in LA County; between 2000 and 2010, LA County's Bangladeshi population grew 122%, Pakistanis 59%, Sri Lankans 45%, and Indians 29% in comparison to only a 3% total population growth in Los Angeles County over the same time period.<sup>2</sup> The South Asian American population in Los Angeles includes communities and individuals as diverse as: descendants of the first wave of South Asian laborers and students who came to the West Coast at the turn of last century; physicians, engineers, and other academic professionals who came from India following the passage of the Immigration & Nationality Act of 1965; and more recent working class immigrants from Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The proposed “Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles” events seek to uncover the undocumented, under-documented, untold and little-known histories of Los Angeles' South Asian American communities. We define South Asian America broadly, to include those in the U.S. who trace their heritage through one or more ancestors to Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and the many South Asian diaspora communities across the globe.

The applicant organization, SAADA, is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that digitally documents, preserves, and shares stories of South Asian Americans, giving voice to overlooked histories

---

<sup>1</sup> Read more at <http://www.saada.org/tides/article/20140806-3682>

<sup>2</sup> Asian Americans Advancing Justice Los Angeles, “A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles,” 2013.

and creating a more inclusive society for future generations. Through its website (<http://www.saada.org>), SAADA provides free public access to digital copies of archival records documenting South Asian American history. Established in 2008, this archive is the largest publicly accessible collection of materials related to the experiences of South Asians in the United States. SAADA works creatively to reimagine the possibilities of storytelling in the digital era. For example, through its First Days Project (<http://www.firstdaysproject.org>), SAADA provides a platform for immigrants from around the world to document their own histories by creating brief video, audio, or textual records about their first experiences in the U.S.

As the only community-based national organization that is systematically documenting and archiving the stories of South Asian communities in the U.S., SAADA is uniquely placed to conduct this project. As evidenced in earlier projects such as the “First Days Project,” SAADA’s approach to archives underscores communities and individuals creating and maintaining ownership over their materials, their archives, and ultimately their own narratives. This means that the proposed project is driven by stories and materials collected from and by South Asian American communities, and thus ensures that community members shape the narrative that is being shared.

South Asian American stories are an integral part of the history of the United States, California, and Los Angeles, yet very little information is available to the public about these stories, including to South Asian Americans themselves. SAADA has already undertaken significant work to digitize important collections of archival materials related to South Asian American immigrants in Los Angeles; for example, in addition to the Bagai collection described above (315 items), SAADA’s archive includes materials related to Bhagwan Singh Gyane, a community-leader in the 1950s (265 items), Bhagat Singh Thind, whose case for citizenship went to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1923 (28 items), as well as Congressman Dalip Singh Saund (described above). Of the more than 2,100 archival objects currently in SAADA’s archive, 457 (22%) of these items were created in the State of California. The proposed project builds on these strengths by linking these historical materials with the everyday materials documenting both the recent history and contemporary lives of community members.

As South Asian communities in Los Angeles are as diffuse as they are diverse, the proposed “Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles” project will take place at two different venues in the Los Angeles area: at the Artesia Library, which is the Los Angeles County public library branch in Artesia, CA, which is known as Los Angeles’ “Little India” neighborhood; and at a community venue such as the YMCA or a City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks facility in the “Little Bangladesh” section of Koreatown. These two communities, roughly 20 miles apart, reflect vastly different experiences of what it means to be South Asian American and showcase a microcosm of the diversity of stories within one immigrant community. The events will highlight the importance of preserving South Asian American stories and communicate the idea that everyday community history *is* important history. In this way, the events will serve to counter the ways in which South Asian Americans have been ignored and/or misrepresented by mainstream media and memory institutions such as history textbooks, classrooms, museums, and archives. Furthermore, the events will help build connections within the community by asserting the importance of a pan-South Asian American identity beyond national, religious, and regional boundaries. Lastly, these events will expose the broader public to the stories of a more recent and quickly growing immigrant group that they may know little about.

**B. What arrangements need to be made to digitize the public’s cultural heritage materials, to get information for the metadata describing each item, and to provide access to the digital copies?**

SAADA has operated an innovative post-custodial digital-only archive since 2008. In its approach, SAADA does not take physical custody of archival collections, but rather, borrows them from individuals, families, organizations, and other archival repositories, digitizes them according to the Library of Congress preservation standards, describes them using culturally appropriate terminology, and

makes them freely accessible online. As such, the infrastructure is already in place to smoothly carry out the proposed project.

At both sites (Artesia and Little Bangladesh), public venues will be used for both the digitization and public programming aspects, which will occur on the same day.

At both sites, digitization stations will be set up for the public to bring in their materials for digitization. SAADA staff will transport SAADA's high-quality large-format Epson10000XL scanner from its current location at UCLA (where SAADA co-founder and board member Michelle Caswell is faculty) to the venues. Two commercial-grade Canon LiDE 220 portable flatbed scanners will also be purchased for use in this project. (After the project is over, these newly acquired scanners will be used by SAADA in its digitization work.) These three scanners will create three simultaneously operating digitization stations. Equipment to digitize audio recordings and home movies in a variety of formats will also be borrowed from UCLA's Department of Information Studies.

Each station will be staffed by an MLIS student from UCLA's Department of Information Studies, who will be trained to go over SAADA's Donor Agreement Form with the participants, carefully handle the materials, digitize them according to Library of Congress preservation standards, and interview community members who brought the items in order to obtain crucial contextual information for subsequent creation of metadata. For example, participants will be asked to provide information about the date, location, creator, and context of the digitized item in order to later create descriptive item-level metadata according to the Dublin Core metadata standard. Students will also ask community members to share a short narrative about the items they brought in and their connection to these items. These narratives will be recorded and made available online alongside the digitized items. Students will provide guidance to community members on how best to store their materials for preservation purposes. Students will also upload a copy of the high-resolution digital files to a public server and email a link to the donor so that they can later be downloaded by the donor from home. All participants will be asked to sign SAADA's Rights Agreement form, which is described below.

The digital files will immediately be uploaded to SAADA's cloud storage and added into SAADA's redundant storage workflow. These files will later be appraised in accordance with professional archival practice using SAADA's collection development policy as guidelines.<sup>3</sup> Materials that fit within the scope of SAADA's collection policy will then be accessioned by the archive, described using Dublin Core metadata based on the interviews conducted with participants, and made publicly accessible via the SAADA website, <http://www.saada.org>. All viable materials digitized for the project will be made accessible online through a separate web interface developed specifically for this project at <http://www.saada.org/losangeles>.

To summarize, UCLA MLIS student workers will staff each digitization station and complete the following tasks with each participant:

1. Explain SAADA's Donor Agreement and ask donor to sign the form.
2. Digitize the items according to digital preservation standards.
3. Ask for and write down contextual information about the item so that metadata can be created.
4. Ask for and record a short narrative about the item and its significance to the donor. With the donor's permission, this recording will then accompany the digitally accessible item online.
5. Give the donor advice about how best to preserve the physical item at home.
6. Give the donor information about how the digital copies can be accessed online.

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.saada.org/contribute>

The SAADA website is built using Drupal 7 (<https://www.drupal.org>), the open-source content management system, and hosted on the Pantheon (<https://pantheon.io>) website management platform. SAADA uses the LOCKSS (“Lots of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe”) principle as the basis of its digital preservation methodology. Digital files are kept in three locations: one Amazon S3 bucket and two local servers. Files are periodically checked for bit rot and other signs of damage. The SAADA website is also backed up daily in triplicate using Pantheon’s in-built mechanisms. The SAADA archive currently comprises nearly 1TB of data.

The project will be promoted both through SAADA’s existing channels and new outreach conducted specifically for this project. The SAADA website, which will be home to the online interface for the project, received more than 160,000 users in the last year alone. Stories and materials from the project will also be highlighted through social media and email lists. The organization has 3,099 followers on Facebook, 999 on Twitter, and maintains an active email list with 2,035 subscribers. Targeted outreach for the project will also be conducted, including press releases publicizing the project and key findings and advertisements in Los Angeles media outlets and South Asian American community newspapers and websites such as *India West*, *India Currents*, *India Abroad*, NBC News Asian America, Angry Asian Man, and others. SAADA and its projects have previously been featured by community publications across the United States and in South Asia<sup>4</sup>, and the organization will draw upon these existing press relationships to promote this project as well.

Although the event will be marketed to South Asian Americans through community channels, no one will be turned away from having their materials digitized at the event. All of the materials scanned at the digitization day events will be made available online on a section of the SAADA website for the project, however only those items that fit within SAADA’s collection policy will be accessioned into the online archive.

The project will be co-directed by SAADA’s Co-Founders, Samip Mallick and Michelle Caswell, who will supervise the digitization and run the public program on both days. For the last three years, Mallick has worked full-time as SAADA’s Executive Director. Mallick is a professionally trained archivist with a B.S.E. in computer science and a Master’s of Library and Information Science (MLIS). Caswell serves on SAADA’s Board of Directors. She is an assistant professor of archival studies at UCLA with an MLIS and PhD in Information Studies. SAADA’s seven-member community-based board of directors<sup>5</sup> (made up of two MLIS-trained archivists, two professors of Asian American studies, a lawyer, a journalist, and a digital marketing strategist) will oversee the project in full.

During both events, Caswell will also pass out brief questionnaires to participants as they exit in order to evaluate the impact of the project on community members (see Appendix B).

**C. In digitizing and providing access to the public’s historical materials, what plans will be in place to deal with intellectual property rights and the permissions process?**

Community participants will be asked to sign SAADA’s Donor Agreement form (Appendix A), which gives SAADA the non-exclusive rights to publish digital copies of the materials. Participants will not be required to sign this form in order to get their materials digitized; however, a signed form *will be* required for the materials to be made accessible via the SAADA website.

**D. What kind or kinds of public programming are proposed?**

After a 4-hour digitization event on each day, Mallick and Caswell will run a 1.5-hour public program. The first 45 minutes of the event will consist of an interactive presentation on South Asian American

---

<sup>4</sup> See a full list of press coverage of SAADA at <http://www.saada.org/press>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.saada.org/board-of-directors>

history featuring images and multimedia from the archive. Mallick and Caswell have spoken at more than 70 such events around the country in the past seven years since SAADA's founding. The next 45 minutes will highlight materials that were digitized earlier in the day, and will include Mallick and Caswell contextualizing the materials, as well as community participants discussing the personal and cultural significance of the materials, if they are willing. In this section of the event, digitized materials will be projected on a wall of the venue and publicly shared.

Both events will occur over a single weekend during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May 2016. Mallick and Caswell will hold a training session for the student workers on the Friday before the events. The event at the Artesia Library will be held on a Saturday during regular library hours. The event in Koreatown will be held on a Sunday.

### **E. What is the plan of work for the project?**

#### **January 2016**

- Confirm community venues and reserve dates: Samip Mallick

#### **February 2016**

- Build project website at <http://www.saada.org/losangeles>: Samip Mallick

#### **March 2016**

- Build project website at <http://www.saada.org/losangeles>: Samip Mallick

#### **April 2016**

- Write a press release to publicize the event: Samip Mallick
- Publicize events through SAADA's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Email List, SAADA's Blog): Samip Mallick
- Publicize events through Los Angeles South Asian American community channels: Samip Mallick

#### **May 2016**

- Publicize events through SAADA's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Email List, SAADA's Blog): Samip Mallick
- Publicize events through Los Angeles South Asian American community channels such as newspapers and websites: Samip Mallick
- Samip flies to Los Angeles for Our Stories training and events: Samip Mallick
- Hold one day digitization training for 3 UCLA MLIS Students: Samip Mallick and Michelle Caswell
- Artesia Our Stories Event: Samip Mallick, Michelle Caswell, and 3 MLIS students
- Little Bangladesh Our Stories Event: Samip Mallick, Michelle Caswell, and 3 MLIS students

#### **June 2016**

- Follow up with community members from events: Samip Mallick
- Evaluation of impact using data collected at events: Michelle Caswell
- Publicize project website through SAADA's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Email List): Samip Mallick
- Write blog post on SAADA's blog *Tides* describing the events: Michelle Caswell
- Appraise digitized materials for inclusion in SAADA's archive: Samip Mallick and Michelle Caswell
- Ingest appraised materials and metadata into SAADA's archive: Samip Mallick

## "Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles" Budget

**Applicant Organization:** South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA)

**Project Co-Directors:** Samip Mallick & Michelle Caswell

**Project Dates:** January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016

Description/Notes*		Project costs
<b>1. Staff</b>		
Project Co-Director (Samip Mallick) <sup>1</sup>	Plans, promotes, and coordinates events (205 hrs @ (b) (6)/hr)	\$(b) (6)
Project Co-Director (Michelle Caswell) <sup>2</sup>	Helps plan, promote, and coordinate events + conducts evaluation (105 hrs @ (b) (6)/hr)	\$(b) (6)
Digitization Assistants <sup>3</sup>	Digitization Assistant 1 - digitize materials + collect stories (50 hrs @ (b) (6)/hr)	\$(b) (6)
	Digitization Assistant 2 - digitize materials + collect stories (50 hrs @ (b) (6)/hr)	\$(b) (6)
	Digitization Assistant 3 - digitize materials + collect stories (50 hrs @ (b) (6)/hr)	\$(b) (6)
<b>2. Travel Costs</b>		
Samip Mallick (Project Co-Director) <sup>4</sup>	Transportation (Round-trip by flight from Philadelphia); Hotel + Meals in Los Angeles	\$1,150
Local Travel (All Staff) <sup>5</sup>	Transportation of equipment and staff to digitization venues	\$250
<b>3. Supplies, Materials, Equipment, Rental Fees</b>		
Space Rental in "Little Bangladesh" <sup>6</sup>		\$350
Canon LiDE 220 Scanners <sup>7</sup> x 2	(See Appendix C for cost details. Cost in budget includes tax and shipping.)	\$165
Microphone for audio recordings <sup>8</sup>	(See Appendix C for cost details. Cost in budget includes tax and shipping.)	\$250
Total project costs:		\$16,200
<b>Total requested from NEH:</b>		<b>\$12,000</b>
Cost sharing by applicant for Project Co-Director (Michelle Caswell) costs:		\$4,200

\* See next page for budget details



## "Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles" Budget Details

1. Project Co-Director Samip Mallick will plan, promote, and coordinate the digitization events. Specifically, he will be responsible for coordinating with digitization venues, building the project website and publicizing the digitization events. Along with Caswell, he will train the graduate student assistants, oversee the digitization activities, and lead the presentation and discussion about South Asian American stories. Following the digitization events, he will work with Caswell to appraise materials for inclusion in SAADA, oversee creation of item-level metadata and ingest the items into SAADA's digital archive. Mallick will also followup with community members after the event and publicize the project's findings.

2. Project Co-Director Michelle Caswell will help Mallick plan, promote, and coordinate the digitization events. She will also conduct an evaluation of the project and author an article about the project for *Tides*, SAADA's online magazine. Specifically, along with Mallick, she will train the graduate student assistants, oversee digitization activities, and lead the presentation and discussion about South Asian American stories. Following the digitization events, she will analyze the survey of participants to conduct an evaluation of the project. She will work with Mallick to appraise materials for inclusion in SAADA, oversee creation of item-level metadata and ingest the items into SAADA's digital archive. Caswell's salary is a cost-share contribution to the project.

3. The Project Co-Directors will hire and train three MLIS students from UCLA's Department of Information Studies to serve as Digitization Assistants on the project. Digitization Assistants will be responsible for:

- a. Explaining SAADA's Donor Agreement and asking donor to sign the form.
- b. Digitizing the items according to digital preservation standards.
- c. Asking for and writing down contextual information about the item so that metadata can be created.
- d. Asking for and recording a short narrative about the item and its significance to the donor.
- e. Giving the donor advice about how best to preserve the physical item at home.
- f. Giving the donor information about how the digital copies can be accessed online.

Following the digitization events, Assistants will be responsible for creating item-level metadata for objects accessioned into SAADA's archive.

4. Round-trip travel from Philadelphia to Los Angeles will be on a domestic carrier. The per diem rate for a 4-night stay was calculated using GSA's FY2015 per diem maximum rates for Los Angeles in May: \$138/night lodging + \$71/night meals & expenses.

5. Local travel includes the cost of transporting scanners to and from UCLA as well as reimbursement for local travel for project staff (Co-Directors and Digitization Assistants).

6. A public venue available on a Sunday in May will be rented in the "Little Bangladesh" section of Koreatown. The Artesia Library will provide their space free of charge (see Appendix F for their letter of commitment).

7 & 8. See Appendix C for cost details.

# **“Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles”**

## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix A**

#### **Donor Agreement Form**

### **Appendix B**

#### **Participant Evaluation Form**

### **Appendix C**

#### **Cost Detail of Supplies and Equipment**

### **Appendix D**

#### **CVs of Key Personnel**

### **Appendix E**

#### **Letters of Support**

### **Appendix F**

#### **Letters of Commitment**

### **Appendix G**

#### **Website Screenshots**

### **Appendix H**

#### **Handout from Past SAADA Event**

Appendix A

# Donor Agreement Form



**SAADA**

South Asian American Digital Archive

1315 Walnut Street, Suite 320 - Philadelphia, PA 19107

[www.saadigitalarchive.org](http://www.saadigitalarchive.org)

**Agreement for Donation of Digital Materials**

(b) (4)

[illegible]

Appendix B

# Participant Evaluation Form

**“Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles”**  
***Event Evaluation Questions***

**1. How did you find out about the Our Stories event?**

- ☐ Website:
- ☐ News media:
- ☐ SAADA email:
- ☐ SAADA social media posting:
- ☐ Word of mouth:
- Other:

**2. What motivated you to come to the event?**

- ☐ Get materials digitized for personal use
- ☐ Get materials digitized for inclusion in the SAADA
- ☐ Find out about South Asian American history
- ☐ Community building
- Other:

**3. How would you describe your experience at the Our Stories Event?**

Very Positive                      Positive                      Neutral                      Negative                      Very Negative

**4. How would you rate your knowledge of South Asian American history in Los Angeles before the event?**

Very Strong                      Strong                      Weak                      Very Weak

**5. How would you rate your knowledge of South Asian American history in Los Angeles after the event?**

Very Strong                      Strong                      Weak                      Very Weak

**6. What did you think of the event?**

**7. Would you be interested in attending other events on community history?**

**8. Do you have any other feedback you would like to share with SAADA?**

Appendix C

# Cost Detail of Supplies





Roll over image to zoom in

## Canon Office Products LiDE220 Document Scanner

by [Canon](#)

★★★★★ ▾ [226 customer reviews](#) | [108 answered questions](#)

List Price: ~~\$89.99~~

Price: **\$79.99** ✓ [Prime](#) | FREE One-Day

You Save: **\$10.00 (11%)**

**In Stock.**

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

**Want it tomorrow, June 25?** Order within **14 hrs 57 mins** and choose **Same-Day Delivery** at checkout.

[Details](#)

- With Send to Cloud you can easily upload your images to Cloud Services like Evernote and Dropbox
- Auto Scan Mode automatically adjusts settings by detecting what you are scanning
- Scan a letter-sized document in approx. 10 seconds
- Auto Document Fix automatically employs area-by-area correction for beautiful, easy-to-view scans

[66 new](#) from **\$79.99**



Roll over image to zoom in

## Apogee MiC 96k Professional Quality Microphone for iPad, iPhone, and Mac

by [Apogee](#)

★★★★★ ▾ 50 customer reviews | 40 answered questions

Price: **\$229.00** ✓Prime | FREE One-Day

**Note:** Available at a lower price from [other sellers](#), potentially without free Prime shipping.

**In Stock.**

Ships from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

**Want it tomorrow, June 25?** Order within **14 hrs 58 mins** and choose **Same-Day Delivery** at checkout.

[Details](#)

Style: **MiC 96k**

MiC 96k

**\$229.00** ✓Prime

MiC 96k with Apogee Assure

**\$258.00** ✓Prime

- Studio quality cardioid condenser microphone
- Designed for vocal and acoustic instrument recording. Also great for recording interviews, podcasts, voice overs, and audio for DSLR video.
- Up to 96 kHz/24-bit HD recording
- Works with iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, and Mac. Lightning and Mac USB cables included.
- Powered by connection to iPad, iPhone or Mac (no batteries or external power required)

**Appendix D**

**CVs of Key Personnel**

# Samip Mallick

e: samip@saadigitalarchive.org

t: 215-259-8055

## EDUCATION

**University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign (July 2009 – December 2011)**

*M.S. in Library & Information Science*

**Jawaharlal Nehru University (July 2006 – December 2006)**

*Course in Ancient Indian History*

**American Institute of Indian Studies (September 2003 – April 2004)**

*Advanced Language Program Fellowship for Bengali study in Kolkata, India*

**University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (September 1999 – May 2003)**

*Bachelor of Science in Engineering [Computer Science]*

## EMPLOYMENT

**South Asian American Digital Archive (March 2008 – Current)**

*Executive Director (7/2012 – Current) & (3/2008 – Current)*

- Co-founder and leader of a national community-based non-profit organization that works to document, preserves and provides access to South Asian American history through an innovative digital-only archive. More information at <http://www.saadigitalarchive.org>

**Ranganathan Center for Digital Information (June 2010 – July 2012)**

**University of Chicago Library**

*Director*

- Established a new unit in the Library working to address the accessibility and long-term preservation of digital research information on South Asia.

**University of Chicago Library (September 2008 – June 2010)**

*Assistant Bibliographer for Southern Asia*

- Assisted in administering the Southern Asia collection and addressed questions of collection development, maintenance and preservation.

**University of Chicago (October 2007 – August 2008)**

*Outreach and Program Coordinator for South Asia*

- Planned and executed South Asia-related programming at the University and within the Chicago area and formed extensive networks with other institutions to enable collaborative activities.

**Social Science Research Council (August 2004 – December 2006)**

*Program Coordinator, South Asia & International Migration Programs*

- Administered the South Asia Regional Fellowship Program for faculty at universities in South Asia and organized workshops and conferences on themes related to migration and development, migration and security, transnational religion, and international collaboration in social science research.

<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	<p>Caswell, Michelle and Samip Mallick. "Collecting the easily missed stories: digital participatory microhistory and the South Asian American Digital Archive." <i>Archives and Manuscripts</i> 42.1 (2014): 1-14.</p>
<b>GRANTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Sikh Coalition [2015]</li> <li>· Pennsylvania Council on the Arts [2015]</li> <li>· Asian Mosaic Fund [2014]</li> <li>· Kiran Bavikatte Foundation [2013]</li> <li>· Asian Giving Circle [2013]</li> <li>· Jhamandas Watumull Fund [2012 &amp; 2013]</li> </ul>
<b>INVITED TALKS (2014)</b>	<p><b>Academic Institutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· University of California – Los Angeles [December 2, 2014]</li> <li>· Arizona State University [October 21, 2014]</li> <li>· University of Pennsylvania [September 9, 2014]</li> <li>· Massachusetts Institute of Technology [Apr. 30, 2014]</li> <li>· Tufts University [Apr. 29, 2014]</li> <li>· Simmons College [Apr. 28, 2014]</li> <li>· “(Dis)Placed?: Immigrants, Histories &amp; The Shaping of NYC” at Columbia University [Apr. 17, 2014]</li> <li>· Michigan State University [Mar. 24, 2014]</li> <li>· University of Michigan [Mar. 24, 2014]</li> </ul> <p><b>Conference Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· South Asian Journalists Association Convention [Oct. 11, 2014]</li> <li>· APIA Historic Preservation Forum [Sep. 15, 2014]</li> <li>· Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference [Mar. 29, 2014]</li> <li>· Midwest Asian American Students Conference [Mar. 15, 2014]</li> <li>· South Asian Awareness Network Conference [Jan. 18, 2014]</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Asian American Journalists Association [Oct. 18, 2014]</li> <li>· “Hidden Stories of South Asian Pioneers” in Cambridge, MA [Oct. 9, 2014]</li> <li>· “Changemakers Across Borders” [Sep. 18, 2014]</li> <li>· School District of Philadelphia ‘Family Education Summit’ [May 31, 2014]</li> <li>· ‘An American Story’: South Asian Americans in Philadelphia [May 29, 2014]</li> <li>· Presentation for Indian American Coalition of Texas [May 4, 2014]</li> <li>· Presentation for Asian Pacific American Librarians Association [Jan. 24, 2014]</li> </ul>
<b>MEDIA COVERAGE (selected)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Philadelphia Inquirer [May 29, 2014]</li> <li>· 6abc in Philadelphia [May 17, 2014]</li> <li>· Philadelphia Daily News [Feb. 7, 2014]</li> <li>· India Abroad Magazine [Oct. 25, 2013]</li> <li>· Technical.ly Philly [Oct. 10, 2013]</li> <li>· PRI’s ‘The World’ [Aug. 29, 2013]</li> <li>· The New York Times [Aug. 14, 2012]</li> <li>- See more: <a href="https://www.saadigitalarchive.org/press">https://www.saadigitalarchive.org/press</a></li> </ul>
<b>LANGUAGES</b>	<p>English [first language], Bengali [fluent], Hindi [basic conversational]</p>

# Michelle Caswell, PhD

Assistant Professor of Archival Studies  
Department of Information Studies  
University of California, Los Angeles  
214 GSEIS Building, Box 951520  
Los Angeles, CA 90095  
[REDACTED]  
caswell@gseis.ucla.edu  
<http://www.michellecaswell.org>

## EDUCATION:

**University of Wisconsin--Madison**, Madison, WI.  
PhD, School of Library and Information Studies, May 2012.

**University of Wisconsin--Milwaukee**, Milwaukee, WI.  
Master of Library and Information Science, August 2008.  
Concentration: Archival Administration.

**Harvard Divinity School of Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA.  
Master of Theological Studies in World Religions (South Asia), June 1999.

**Columbia College of Columbia University**, New York, NY.  
Bachelors of Arts in Religion, May 1997.

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

Assistant Professor of Archival Studies, Department of Information Studies,  
Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, University of California,  
Los Angeles. Appointed July 1, 2012.

## SERVICE:

Co-founder and Board Member, South Asian American Digital Archive, 2008 to  
present.

## SOLE-AUTHORED MONOGRAPH:

Caswell, Michelle. *Archiving the Unspeakable: Silence, Memory, and the  
Photographic Record in Cambodia*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press,  
2014.

- Reviewed by Michael G Vann in *The Public Historian* 36(3) 2014: 158-160.
- Reviewed by Lindsay C. French in *The Journal of Asian Studies* 74(1): 236-239.
- Winner, Waldo Gifford Leland Award for Best Publication, Society of American Archivists, 2015.
- Short List, International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize, 2015.

## EDITED JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUE:

Caswell, Michelle. Guest Editor, Special Double Issue "Archives and Human Rights," *Archival Science* 14:3-4 (2014).

## Michelle Caswell

### SELECT PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Caswell, Michelle. "The Future of the Painful Past: The Materiality of the Digital in the South Asian American Digital Archive." In *Excavating Memory: Material Culture Approaches to Sites of Remembering and Forgetting*. Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida. Accepted for publication, forthcoming.

Caswell, Michelle and Gilliland, Anne. "Dead Perpetrators, Imagined Documents, Emergent Evidence and False Promises: Deconstructing an Archival Paradox." *International Journal of Human Rights*, Samuel Martinez and Cathy J. Schlund-Vials, guest eds. Accepted for publication. In Press.

Lorraine Dong, Joel Blanco Rivera, Michelle Caswell, Joanna Steele, "Examinations of Injustice: Methods for Studying Archives in a Human Rights Context," book chapter in *Research in the Archival Multiverse*. Anne Gilliland, Sue McKemmish, Andrew J Lau, Eds. Melbourne: Monash University Press, 2015. In Press.

Caswell, Michelle. "Documenting South Asian American Struggles Against Racism: Community Archives In a Post-9/11 World." In *Cultural Memories of Nonviolent Struggles: Powerful Times*. Anna Reading and Tamar Katriel, Eds. London: Palgrave, 2015.

Caswell, Michelle. "Seeing Yourself in History: Community Archives in the Fight Against Symbolic Annihilation." *The Public Historian* 36(4) November 2014: 26-37.

Caswell, Michelle. "Community-Centered Collecting: Finding Out What Communities Want from Community Archives." *Proceedings of the 77<sup>th</sup> ASIS&T Annual Meeting*, volume 51, October 31-November 4, 2014.

Caswell, Michelle. "Toward a Survivor-Centered Approach to Human Rights Archives: Lessons from Community-Based Archives." *Archival Science* 14: 3-4 (2014): 307-322. Special Double Issue on Human Rights Archives.

Caswell, Michelle. "Inventing New Archival Imaginaries: Theoretical Foundations for Identity-Based Community Archives." In *Identity Palimpsests: Ethnic Archiving in the U.S. and Canada*. Sacramento, CA: Litwin Books, 2014: 35-55. Winner, 2014 Library Juice Paper Competition.

Caswell, Michelle and Samip Mallick. "Collecting the Easily Missed Stories: Digital Participatory Microhistory and the South Asian American Digital Archive." *Archives and Manuscripts* 42:1 (2014): 73-86.

References Available Upon Request.

Appendix E

# Letters of Support





GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & INFORMATION STUDIES  
BOX 951520  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1520

June 22, 2015

National Endowment for the Humanities  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington DC 20506

Dear Members of the NEH Common Heritage Program Committee:

I am writing to give my highest recommendation for the South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA) in support of their application for an NEH Common Heritage grant. I would be thrilled to volunteer my time to plan, execute, and evaluate the proposed project, which I am certain would make accessible important historical materials that would help to build community in Los Angeles.

The proposed project would digitize and make accessible the history of a little-known and often misrepresented community. In so doing, it would underscore the importance of everyday South Asian American experiences to the large narrative of American history. SAADA is ideally situated to carry out the proposed work, given its now 7-year history of doing just this kind of community-based digital heritage project, and the infrastructure is already in place. The project would also allow SAADA to further document history in Los Angeles, for which there is growing interest and demand. The project would also serve to build a sense of community based on a common past, which is much-needed in a city as spread out and diverse as Los Angeles.

Additionally, my Master's of Library and Information Science students at UCLA would benefit greatly from working on the project. This is exactly the kind of project we train students to organize; it involves the technical, social, and communications skills that the students need to develop in order to succeed as archivists in diverse environments. The work would allow the students to put into action skills learned in UCLA's community archives, appraisal, and digital archives courses. I would be happy to take responsibility for transporting SAADA's scanner from my office at UCLA to the two event sites, as well borrow equipment from UCLA's Department of Information Studies to digitize home movies brought in a variety of now-obsolete formats. The project would be a win-win for everyone involved!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [caswell@gseis.ucla.edu](mailto:caswell@gseis.ucla.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caswell".

Michelle Caswell  
Assistant Professor of Archival Studies  
Co-founder and Board Member, South Asian American Digital Archive



June 20, 2015

Grants Administrator  
Common Heritage  
National Endowment for the Humanities  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20506

[www.socalstudio.org](http://www.socalstudio.org)

818 N. Hill Street  
PMB 740  
Los Angeles, CA  
90012

213 - 375 - 8890

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this strongest letter of support possible for the proposal "Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles" from the South Asian American Digital Archive (SAADA) for the Common Heritage Grant program through the National Endowment for the Humanities. I have supported this amazing institution since 2012 when I first learned of Samip Mallick's efforts; I was immediately impressed by this institution's body of work and the dynamism of its leaders. I have supported SAADA as an individual and through my nonprofit organization the Studio for Southern California History (STUDIO). It is my pleasure to support SAADA in any way I can.

The STUDIO fulfills its mission by doing history in a collaborative fashion with as many constituents as possible in order to create a more inclusive portrait of our history and to serve as a model of how to create sense of place. The STUDIO has partnered with many organizations to produce stellar exhibits and history projects including Libros Schimibros, the Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, No KILL LA, Self-Help Graphics, the Watts Gang Task Force, the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration, the Western Conservancy of Nursing History, among many more. Our work is available through our online portfolio the *LA History Archive* at [www.lahistoryarchive.org](http://www.lahistoryarchive.org).

In 2011, we undertook a history of Artesia, California with student interns from local universities and high schools and found a real need to gather the histories of South Asians in Artesia because at the time the Artesia Historical Society did *not* include this history in its exhibits or any of its efforts and there were groups within local government fighting the naming of the commercial district "Little India" in fear of "the Indians taking over." Because there was such an active move to *not* discuss the South Asians in Artesia, our students decided to actively focus on them.

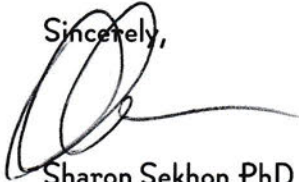
Although our project was limited to two months, we learned through interviews and research that there was a growing population of Asian Indians, which grew substantially over the 1980s through to the present but began in the 1970s. Over the summer, our students gathered histories and interpreted them in a community quilt which they then donated to the Artesia Public Library, which turned out to be an incredibly supportive organization and one deeply committed to all of its visitors.

SAADA's proposed plan of action will be able to begin where we left off and build a body of information and community in their work. This work is extremely important in showing Artesia that all of its history matters and that how they learn this will be the basis for how we will confront our multicultural futures.

In California, we do not learn our histories in school; local history ends in the fifth grade and focuses on the Mission period, 1769 - 1833. Many organizations and educators struggle with building a bridge for contemporary Californians to the past in order to teach the concepts of citizenship. I am confident that SAADA's efforts not only will provide the history to help write new lesson plans, but SAADA will create a community of people dedicated to preserving their past. The act of doing this work is as important as the final product; doing history creates sense of place and a sense of ownership of their community among participants.

Should you require further information on why the Studio for Southern California History supports SAADA's work proposal for "Our Stories: South Asians in Los Angeles," please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Sekhon', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharon Sekhon PhD  
Founder & Executive Director

**Appendix F**

# **Letters of Commitment**



Artesia Library  
County of Los Angeles Public Library  
18722 Clarkdale Avenue  
Artesia, CA, 90701  
562-865-6614

National Endowment for the Humanities  
Division of Preservation and Access  
400 7th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20506

June 19, 2015

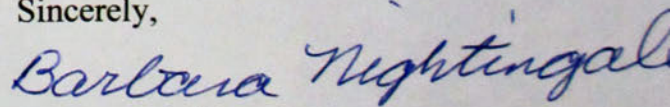
Dear NEH "Common Heritage" Selection Committee,

I am writing to confirm that the Artesia Library will serve as a digitization site for SAADA's "Our Stories: South Asian Americans in Los Angeles" project.

The Artesia Library will provide space for SAADA to set up its digitization equipment for the scanning portion of the event. The Library is open on Saturdays from 9am to 5pm. Patrons and members of the public will be invited to bring in materials for scanning by SAADA staff. The scanning portion of the event will be followed by a public presentation and discussion led by SAADA, also hosted in the Library. In addition to providing space for the event, the Artesia Library will assist with promotion and marketing of the event to the local community.

I would be happy to provide any further information that would be helpful. You may contact me by email at [BNightingale@library.lacounty.gov](mailto:BNightingale@library.lacounty.gov) or by phone at 562-865-6614. Thank you!

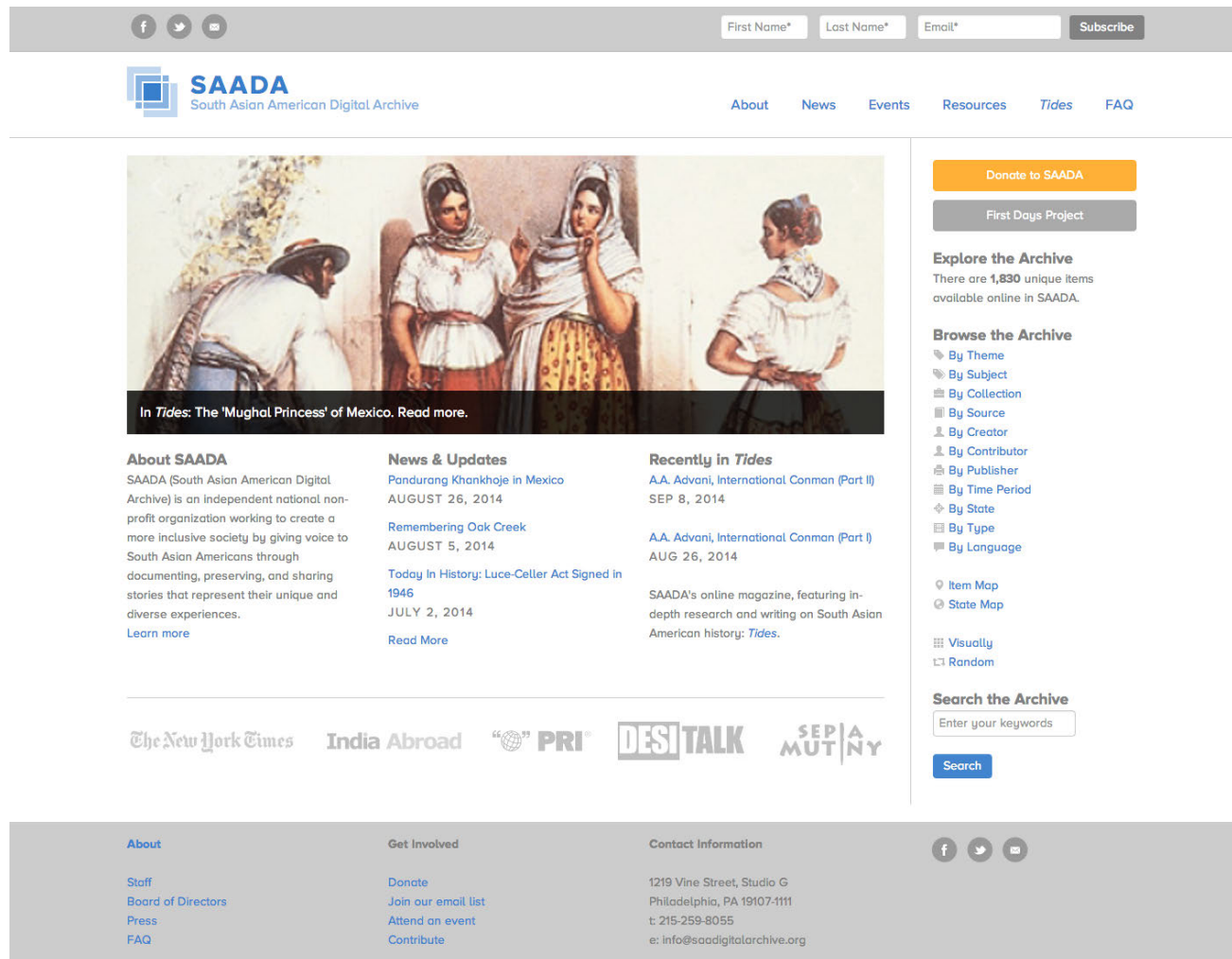
Sincerely,



Barbara Nightingale  
Community Library Manager  
Artesia Library

## Appendix G

# Website Screenshots



**Screenshot of SAADA Website**  
<http://www.saada.org>

## What's your story?

*The First Days Project shares stories of immigrants' first days in the United States.*

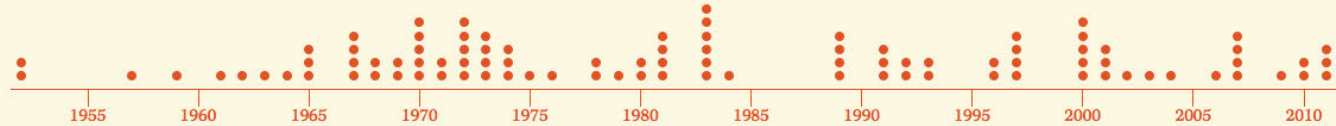
Browse the Stories

Share Your Story



*"It was a date in mid-September, 1957, when the Pan Am round-the-world flight I had caught in Calcutta reached San Francisco."*

[READ C.M.'S STORY](#)



CanvasJS.com

The First Days Project is presented by



**SAADA**

South Asian American Digital Archive

+ Add Your Story

# Browse Stories

? About the Project

\$ Donate

Screenshot of First Days Project Website

<http://www.firstdaysproject.org>



Appendix H

# Handout from SAADA Event

SAADA DOCUMENTS  
THOSE IN THE



WHO TRACE THEIR HERITAGE TO



BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, INDIA,  
MALDIVES, NEPAL, PAKISTAN, SRI LANKA  
& THE MANY SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA  
COMMUNITIES AROUND THE GLOBE

**2008**

SAADA IS FOUNDED

**1,651**

ITEMS IN THE ARCHIVE

**180,391**

WEBSITE VISITORS  
IN 2013

[www.SAADigitalArchive.org](http://www.SAADigitalArchive.org)

**SAADA**

1219 Vine Street, Studio G  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

e: [info@saadigitalarchive.org](mailto:info@saadigitalarchive.org)

t: 215-259-8055

<http://www.SAADigitalArchive.org>

# AN AMERICAN STORY

SOUTH ASIAN AMERICANS  
IN PHILADELPHIA



**SAADA**

South Asian American Digital Archive

Community Forum  
Philadelphia History Museum  
May 29, 2014

## PHILADELPHIA HISTORY MUSEUM

Reopened to the public in September 2012 with the completion of a total interior renovation, the Philadelphia History Museum unveiled redesigned galleries to showcase its outstanding collection of historical objects, art, and artifacts. The Museum, founded by City Ordinance in 1938 to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution in Philadelphia, is housed in an historic 1826 building at 15 South 7th Street, designed by John Haviland as the original home of the Franklin Institute. The Museum provides historical context for issues of contemporary urban life using its premier collection of over 100,000 objects, paintings, and photographs in exhibitions, programs, and interactive media.

[www.philadelphiahistory.org](http://www.philadelphiahistory.org)

## MAYOR'S OFFICE OF IMMIGRANT AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS (MOIMA)

The mission of the Office is to promote the well-being of the immigrant community and other constituency groups in Philadelphia by: improving access to city services, engaging local and national community-based organizations and other non-profit groups, developing economic resources, promoting civic participation and assisting with educational opportunities and access.

[www.phila.gov/ima/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.phila.gov/ima/Pages/default.aspx)

## INTRODUCTIONS

### **Charles Croce**

Executive Director & CEO  
Philadelphia History Museum

### **Fernando Treviño-Martínez**

Deputy Executive Director  
City of Philadelphia  
Mayor's Office of Immigrant and  
Multicultural Affairs (MOIMA)

### **Nina Ahmad**

President's Advisory Commission on  
Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders  
&  
City of Philadelphia  
Commission for Asian American Affairs

## PRESENTATION

### **Samip Mallick**

Co-Founder & Executive Director  
South Asian American Digital Archive  
(SAADA)

## OPEN-MIC

Facilitated by

**Radha Modi & Kathleen Quigley**

## SAADA

SAADA (South Asian American Digital Archive) is the only independent non-profit organization working nationally to create a more inclusive society by giving voice to South Asian Americans through documenting, preserving, and sharing stories that represent their unique and diverse experiences.

In the last 6 years SAADA has created the largest publicly accessible collection of materials related to the experiences of South Asians in the United States. Further, SAADA's digital-only, post-custodial approach reimagines the potential of the archive for the digital era.

[www.SAADigitalArchive.org](http://www.SAADigitalArchive.org)

## SAADA'S FIRST DAYS PROJECT

A first day is so much more than just one day. The first day in a new country can be full of excitement, nervousness, loss, humor, sadness, anticipation, confusion, and a mixture of many other emotions. One day can encapsulate both what has come before and anticipate what will come after. Launched in 2012, SAADA's First Days Project captures the intimate details of arrival in a new country otherwise lost in the grand sweep of history.

Learn more, browse stories and submit your story:

[www.SAADigitalArchive.org/firstdays](http://www.SAADigitalArchive.org/firstdays)