Huntington Summer Institute Participants

Rick Biscocho
I am a Cotsen mentor to 8 teachers at my school, Burbank Elementary in Long Beach. We focused on Reading, Writing, and Math. I am finishing the fellowship and will begin a new position at our district with our MyPD team in September. I had heard amazing things about the institute and having primary resources available to teachers is a wonderful way engage students in their learning and promote meaningful discussion and inquiry. Honestly, I expect to be blown away at the plethora of resources and the exchange of ideas from other educators. Thank you for providing a great experience for us all!

Beth Burleson
I teach 4th/5th grade in Pasadena with history being my favorite entryway into the ELA reading and writing standards. A few years ago I was part of a TAH cohort, introducing me to the riches of the Huntington. Per past experience, the best place to learn is at the Huntington with the wide array of scholars available to participants in the institutes. I'm old enough to see "history repeating itself" in (troubling) current events, so I think it's important that my students understand from whence we came and the potential of where we're going. The more I learn about history and teaching history, the better for my students, and, ultimately, the better for all of us. One thing I hope to learn more specifically about is the history of water in California, how we got here and why.

Trisha Callella
Trisha Callella was a Cotsen mentor in Los Alamitos, California in 2005. She has taught 20 years in all grades K-5, was the Educational Technology TOSA for two years, and is now the Director of Educational Technology in Los Alamitos where she emphasizes pedagogy over tech tools. She recently finished her doctorate at USC in educational psychology with a dissertation involving action research on STEM in elementary schools. Her passion is integrated, rich, hands-on learning experiences that help children become immersed in personalized learning. Her interest in this Huntington Summer Institute lies in the future integration of primary sources within deep learning experiences believing that learning should begin with real life artifacts, provoke curiosity, invite inquiry, and promote self-motivated investigation. Trisha loves collaborating and looks forward to learning with everyone at The Huntington while exploring how to share the collections and resources with her school district.

Leticia Citizen
I am Leticia Citizen. I teach 5th grade at Jefferson Elementary School in Pasadena, CA. I am beginning my 16th year as an educator. I began my career teaching Kindergarten for 2 years. After a drastic decrease in student enrollment, I moved to 1st grade, which I taught for 7 years. In order to gain experience in upper elementary, I opted to teach 5th grade for the last 6 years. I thoroughly enjoy integrating all subjects when teaching history and science topics in order to effectively cover the grade-level standards. I have a particular interest in technology-enhanced teaching. As a past participant of TAH, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work and learn once again from the Huntington Library and all their available resources. I look forward to collaborating with and learning from other teachers and scholars to enhance my lessons about
California’s enriched history and existence during “Colonial Times” and its eventual development of a New Nation.

**Fran De La Rosa**
I am Fran De La Rosa, Fourth Grade Teacher at Jefferson Elementary School. I have been teaching in Pasadena for most of my career, predominantly in public school, and hope to finish my career here. I am a passionate learner, especially of history, and believe that through the stories history presents I can engage students and make them lifelong learners. Whenever the opportunity arises to participate in a Huntington sponsored event, I am interested. I believe the Huntington is a vital part of the history of our city and state and always presents programs that inform my practice and make me a better educator. This Institute, with its focus on California history, should provide new and interesting avenues of exploration for me to pass on to my students as I am always looking for ways to give them a love of history and a passion for learning.

**Lily Howard**
Lily just moved to Pasadena from the East Coast and is looking forward to teaching 3/4th grade at Sequoyah this fall. A native New Yorker, she returned home after graduating from Northwestern and first worked with children as a teaching artist in Brooklyn. After a year of school residencies in which she used dramatic and visual arts to help curriculum come alive, she decided that she wanted to continue facilitating project-based learning in the context of her own classroom. She earned her M.A. in Elementary Education and Literacy from Bank Street College of Education and has taught first through fifth grade for the past five years. Most recently, she taught 4/5th grade at Central Park East 2, a public school in Harlem that shares Sequoyah’s collaborative, project-based, adventurous spirit. Lily is excited to learn much more about the history of her new home state!

**Bianca Marchese**
I just finished my 11th year of teaching. I’ve taught primary and upper grades in Whittier City School District. I’ve heard about this institute through Cotsen and from Raul Almada. I’ve recently become more interested in teaching using primary sources because my husband just graduated from CSULB with a BA in History. I’ve watched him gain so much understanding and knowledge through his own study of documents. I’ve always enjoyed teaching and learning about History and I can't wait to enrich my instruction through the infusion of primary source documents.

**Silvia Peverini**
Silvia Peverini has taught at an elementary school in a high poverty, urban neighborhood in Long Beach for 15 years. She loves her students and their families and enjoys all the challenges and rewards of the job. Silvia brings her students to the Huntington Library and Gardens on field trips that are the highlight of the year. As a history aficionado, Silvia loves teaching California history to her 4th graders. A few years back she participated in a three year grant, Teaching American History, which gave her an opportunity to learn about California history in depth. She is looking forward to expanding her knowledge in this Institute.
**Jorge Quintero**
My name is Jorge Quintero. I am a fourth grade teacher at Burbank Elementary in Long Beach. I have taught in Long Beach for 15 years. I also teach Geography courses at Los Angeles Harbor College part-time. I received both B.A. and M.A. from CSULB. I am the youngest of nine children and only one to complete college. I enjoy spending time with my family camping and traveling. I look forward to developing myself professionally and enhance my teaching whenever possible.

**Delia Seligo**
My name is Delia Seligo. I teach 4th grade at Roosevelt Elementary, in LBUSD. My school is 100% free or reduced lunch. The majority of the students (97%) who attend Roosevelt are ELL. I am about to begin my 30th year of teaching. Some may say you can’t teach old dog new tricks, but this old dog begs to differ. Truthfully, I was never a “history” person until I had the good fortune to work with a colleague, Dominique Schwenfeir. She and I collaborated on Westward Movement units of study, as well as Gold Rush units of study. She got me hooked on history. Once I learned that Social Studies is more than memorizing dates and places, I was memorized. I heard about the Huntington program for my Cotsen colleagues. I hope to learn about primary sources available for use in the class to make history come alive. My goal is to become the Social Studies teacher I wish I had when I was young, but never did.

**Vanessa Uy**
Vanessa Uy has taught for over twenty years in the elementary school setting. Currently she teaches fourth grade at Clara Barton Elementary in Long Beach Unified School District. She became interested in the institute because she wants to further her knowledge about California history. In turn, this will benefit her students. Vanessa strives to make history come alive for her students so that they have a better understanding of what California was like long ago.

**Marissa Walker**
My name is Marissa Walker and I am an elementary school teacher for Long Beach Unified School District. I have been at Luther Burbank Elementary School for 15 years and absolutely love my job. I heard about the Teacher’s Summer Institute thanks to the Cotsen Foundation. Through my work with the Cotsen Foundation as a Fellow for the past two years, I have received an amazing amount of professional development, and been afforded opportunities as a teacher I never knew existed. This Institute is one more opportunity I don’t want to miss out on. I am hoping to gain a deeper understanding of California’s rich history and different ways to enhance not only my Social Studies units, such as the study of California Indians, but also ways to incorporate primary sources into my Language Arts block. I have in-depth units of study on biographies, informational texts and research and feel strongly that the information from your Institute will enhance my overall teaching practices, in addition to taking my lessons with my students to a deeper and more meaningful level. Thank you for considering me. I am looking forward to this institute.