

Calisphere



Image courtesy of The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley

First Year in Review

Calisphere launched a little over a year ago to high praise. California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell called the web site "**a remarkable learning tool** that will provide students with a rich experience of **California's multicultural heritage.**"

With **free public access** to more than 170,000 digitized primary source materials—including photographs, maps, official documents, newspapers, political cartoons, works of art, diaries, transcribed oral histories, advertising, and other cultural artifacts—Calisphere reveals the diverse history and culture of California and its role in national and world history.

Today, Calisphere continues to grow and evolve, focusing on history through a California lens.

"It sparked ideas for ways to connect the long-ago past with the more recent past—and with the actual area that we live in."

— California K-12 Teacher



calisphere

a world of primary sources and more

www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu

University of California

“Calisphere is a dream resource.”

Ideal for classroom use

Calisphere hit the ground running. During its initial year, the site experienced tremendous growth in usage and content, and continues to garner praise. The site has been called a “**dream resource**,” a “**can’t-miss resource**,” and “**a teacher’s dream come true**” by educators and organizations in California and nationally.

Calisphere’s intuitive interface, primary source sets, and contextualized content make it ideal for classroom use. Teachers have found many ways to use the innovative Themed Collections—selected sets of primary sources aligned with K-12 California Content Standards and contextualized with brief historical essays.

A special section for educators offers lesson plans keyed to specific collections, as well as links to worksheets and resources about teaching with primary sources.

“The variety of images (Daguerreotypes, photos, posters, paintings, etc.) led to numerous discussions of how history has been documented, particularly prior to the invention of the camera.”

— California K-12 Teacher

“I used the Civil Rights images to show how the equal rights guaranteed under the 14th Amendment—which was added to our Constitution in 1868—were being violated in the 1960’s.”

— California K-12 Teacher

“The images help to put a face on the Great Depression.”

— California K-12 Teacher

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Images courtesy of: L-R: UCLA Charles E. Young Research Library Department of Special Collections; The Society of California Pioneers, Alice Phelan Sullivan Library; UCLA Charles E. Young Research Library Department of Special Collections; Orange Public Library; The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley; UC Irvine, Special Collections and Archives; California Historical Society, FN-21273

Faces of multicultural California

California Cultures*—a targeted collection dedicated to illuminating the faces of multicultural California—has expanded with more content, more primary source sets, and additional historical context.

The Japanese American Relocation Digital Archives collection has also been reconfigured into separate but connected themed collections. New historical essays have been added to provide greater context.

Now, in year two, Calisphere keeps gathering speed. New primary sources are continually being digitized and added, and our ever-growing content is now approaching 200,000 unique primary sources.

The collections are the centerpiece of the site, but there's more: Calisphere is also a gateway to nearly 500 University-of-California-created web sites and collections that reflect the diverse interests and scholarship of UC, including the humanities, social sciences, math, and science resources.

*California Cultures was funded by Library of Congress's American Memory program to digitize archival materials from the University of California relating to the ethnic groups of California.

"Students are 'only a click away' from materials ... in the University of California library, special collections and other repositories of history."

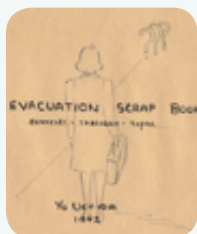
— Sacramento Bee, Dirk Werkman

"I find the students learn more when they are interacting with the images."

— California K-12 Teacher

"Your website has made finding images so much easier. Two years ago I created a PowerPoint presentation on Japanese Internment. I searched the web for countless hours trying to find images! If only I knew about your website then! Your images are excellent and very helpful to educators and students."

— California K-12 Teacher



Images courtesy of: L-R: San Jose State University, Library Special Collections and Archives; California History Section, California State Library; The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley; The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley; Intel Corporation; Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology and the Regents of the University of California, (15-690); UC Santa Barbara, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives

To our contributing institutions, thank you!

Help us spread the word.

Calisphere is a rich resource for educators, librarians, and anyone interested in bringing history to life. Please help us spread the word about this important free resource.

Calisphere brings history to life. Visit now.
www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu

The screenshot shows the Calisphere website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "a world of primary sources and more". Below the search bar, there are three featured images: a landscape with oranges, a historical scene with a sign that says "ES PARK", and a person in a mask. Below the images, there are sections for "Collections for Educators" and "What's New". The "Collections for Educators" section includes "Themed Collections" with dropdown menus for "1848-1865: Gold Rush Era", "1870-1900: Closing of the Frontier", "1900-1940s: Emerging Industrial Order", and "1929-1939: The Great Depression". It also features "California Cultures" and "Japanese American Relocation Digital Archives". The "What's New" section includes a "Browse A-Z" list and a "1-9" list.

Thanks to our contributing institutions, whose digitized images, artwork, documents, and other primary sources provide Calisphere's rich content:

*Albany Library
*Anaheim Public Library
*Arcadia Public Library
*Berkeley Public Library
California Historical Society
*California State Library
*California State University, Sacramento Library
*California State University Stanislaus
*Chula Vista Public Library
*Coalinga Huron Library District
*Covina Public Library
*De Anza College, California History Center
*Fresno County Public Library
*Fullerton College
*Glendale Public Library
*History San Jose Research Library
*Humboldt State University
*Intel Museum
Japanese American National Museum
*Kern County Library
*Kings County Library
*La Habra Old Settlers Historical Society
*Madera County Library
*Marin County Free Library
*Mariposa County Library
*Mill Valley Public Library
*Mission Viejo City Library
Oakland Museum of California
*Oakland Public Library
*Orange County Public Library
*Orange Public Library
*Oxnard Public Library
*Palos Verde Library District

*Placentia Library District
*Pomona Public Library
*Porterville Public Library
*Redwood City Public Library
*Richmond Public Library
*San Bernardino Public Library
*San Bruno Public Library
*San Diego Historical Society
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
*San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum
*San Joaquin Valley Library System
*San Jose Public Library, California Room
*San Jose State University, Special Collections
*San Mateo Public Library
*Santa Ana Public Library
*Santa Clara City Library
*Santa Clara University
*Santa Fe Springs City Library
*Society of California Pioneers
*Southern California Library for Social Studies & Research
Stanford University, University Archives
*Sutter County Library
*Tulare County Library
*Tulare Public Library
*UC Berkeley, The Bancroft Library
UC Berkeley, Berkeley Art Museum/Pacific Film Archive
UC Berkeley, Environmental Design Archives
UC Berkeley, Ethnic Studies Library
UC Berkeley, Hearst (Phoebe A.) Museum of Anthropology

*UC Berkeley, Water Resources Center Archives
UC Davis, Special Collections
UC Irvine, Special Collections and Archives
UCLA, Fowler Museum of Cultural History
UCLA, Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts
UCLA Department of Special Collection, Charles E. Young Research Library
UCLA, William Andrews Clark Memorial Library
UC Merced Library
UC Riverside, California Museum of Photography
UC San Diego, Mandeville Special Collections Library
UC San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography Archives
UC San Francisco, Archives and Special Collections
UC Santa Barbara, California Ethnic and Multicultural Archives
UC Santa Barbara, Department of Special Collections
UC Santa Cruz, Special Collections and Archives
University of Southern California
University of the Pacific
*Whittier Public Library
*Yuba County Library

* Digitization of these institutions' collections was supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), administered in California by the State Librarian.