

*Call for Papers*

**The 117th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association**

“Disaster, Resilience, and Recovery”

July 31-August 2, 2024

*East-West Center, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa*

The 2024 Program Committee invites proposals for panels, roundtables, and individual papers on any subject, but particularly those addressing the conference theme, “Disaster, Resilience, and Recovery.” Fire, flood, and drought; the anticipation of mass dislocation generated by climate change; the ravages of pandemic; the looming threat of recession; the rise of authoritarianism; and the specter of calamity that may follow from AI: these and other developments seem a regular feature of our contemporary world. But disaster has a long history, and in recent years, multiple disciplines, including history, have urged that we consider its social construction. What informed the designation of disaster in the past and who had a stake in that decision? What were the vulnerabilities that ensured that that some individuals and communities would suffer more than others, and that recovery would be uneven? What elements of response to disaster, including resources offered or withheld and the resilience of those living through trying times, were part of its course? And what were the consequences of disasters in the past, which might endure for years in its wake? We encourage any number of historical approaches to disaster and its legacies: theoretical considerations of disaster as a site for the exercise of power; explorations of the lived experience of disaster as it played out in individual lives and in localities, regions, states, and on an international and global scale; and examinations of the ways in which disaster illuminates larger developments in the realms of society, politics, and culture in the past.

In honor of our collaboration with the University of Hawai‘i, we would like to encourage scholars of the Pacific Rim and the Pacific more broadly to submit papers and panels, whether focused on disaster or other topics. Anniversaries (centennials, sesquicentennials, bicentennials, etc.) may also provide inspiration for panels and roundtables.

The Program Committee encourages proposals that enable conversations across specialist and institutional boundaries and that engage the audience. We welcome submissions from diverse history practitioners, including all faculty at 2-year and 4-year institutions, graduate and undergraduate students, Phi Alpha Theta regional award winners, specialized scholarly societies and associations, library and archival specialists, public historians, non-traditional scholars, and K-12 teachers.

To make inquiries about the conference, please email PCB-AHA executive director Michael Green at [michael.green@pcb-aha.org](mailto:michael.green@pcb-aha.org). More information on submitting proposals, connecting with prospective panelists, and attending the conference (venue, registration, lodging, etc.) will be available at [www.pcb-aha.org](http://www.pcb-aha.org) as these details are finalized.

You can submit proposals at <https://form.jotform.com/232548096868169>. Panel proposals must include a contact person; a title and 250-word abstract of the panel or roundtable; a title and brief description (100 words) of each presentation; a one-page C.V. for each participant, which includes an email address and affiliation; and any A/V requests. The Program Committee also welcomes individual paper submissions, which should include a title, a 250-word abstract, and a one-page C.V. with email address and affiliation. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS: January 15, 2024.** Decisions regarding acceptance will be conveyed no later than March 1, 2024. Please note that submission of a proposal

constitutes a commitment to attend the conference if the proposal is accepted. Upon acceptance, graduate student presenters will receive information about how to apply for competitive travel subventions.