Inequality and Democracy Research Fellowship Program

Anti-Eviction Mapping Project

Name of research supervisor at organization: Terra Graziani

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Title of research project: Narratives of Displacement and Resistance Oral History Project

Scope of research:
The graduate research fellow will conduct oral history interviews as part of a larger research project to capture the psychological, spiritual, and physical violence and erasure of displacement and dispossession in Los Angeles. The fellow will be contributing research to our Narratives of Displacement and Resistance Oral History Map and will have the opportunity to focus on a certain geography and/or demographic in their contribution to the project.

Location of research and other activities:
The research fellow can expect a mix of supervised and unsupervised work each week. Location of research activities will be varied, including supervised work at AEMP’s members’ offices, community meetings, and interview sites. Fellows will be expected to attend our general meeting potlucks on the first Sunday of each month at an AEMP member’s home.

Research methods to be used:
The fellow will learn and develop critical oral history methodologies to contribute to AEMP’s ongoing oral history project in Los Angeles. This includes doing significant outreach to develop relationships with tenants’ rights groups and possible project participants. Depending on the fellow’s data and visualization experience, there is the opportunity for the fellow to contribute oral history pieces to AEMP’s broader digital humanities and mapping projects.

Deliverables:
- Fellow will complete and edit 5-7 oral history interviews, depending on the fellow’s skillset and qualities of the interviews
- Assist in planning and running one public-facing story-booth event or training
- Assist with outreach to possible interviewees
Qualities of the research fellow:
The fellow should be comfortable with being self-directed and working independently.

Required:
- Interest in learning critical oral history methodologies; No prior experience with oral history methods necessary
- Ability to communicate with and do outreach to possible interviewees
- Ability to upload interviews to online map; basic computer skills
- Familiarity with issues affecting tenants and with tenants’ rights organizations in LA
- Political commitment to racial and economic justice

Strongly Preferred:
- Spanish language fluency and ability to translate into English
- Audio-editing experience or interest in learning audio-editing skills
- Familiarity with issues affecting tenants and with tenants’ rights organizations in LA
- Personal connection with, or long-term resident of Los Angeles
- Video experience
- Excitement for event planning and programming
- Ability to transcribe interviews