



## PACIFIC COAST IMMIGRATION M U S E U M

Our country's spirit is fueled by its collective immigrant roots, providing us with cultural diversity, innovation and dynamic qualities that keep our nation unique. No truer is this the case than along the Pacific Coast, where immigration and migration continue to shape the West. The concept of a center or museum where this theme could be explored was born from a need to recognize the value and contributions of all Americans and to better understand past and current issues surrounding immigration, migration and settlement.

## A NEW MUSEUM CONCEPT

The Pacific Coast Immigration Museum (PCIM) will not be a traditional museum. Instead of a facility with dedicated collections-oriented display space, PCIM will be a *flexible facility for dynamic programs* that can stay contemporary to current affairs and respond to community and visitor needs.

The museum will function as a *portal* or *hub* for immigration-related institutions that have more focused agendas relating to specific communities, ethnic groups, or cultures. A networked partnership will be forged between many of these institutions and PCIM to create joint programming and exhibitions at PCIM, at partner facilities, and at community venues.

PCIM will also serve as a *convener* of people, groups, and organizations to facilitate dialogues on pressing immigration issues and promote collaboration on programs, dialogue, forums and networking.

A core component of the PCIM concept is its outreach programs. A program focus for the initial phase of PCIM is its *“virtual” museum*, which will provide resource information, interactive programs and services via the internet. This would be supplemented with printed materials, media or traveling exhibits. Potential elements

of the outreach programs include an immigration history and immigrant rights resource database, an oral and video history archive, links to practical immigration information and school curriculum materials.

PCIM will provide an introduction, broad historical perspective, and a social, political and economic context for examining the experiences and issues of immigration and migration to the Pacific Coast of the United States. Pacific Coast Immigration Museum is an *“idea” museum* that discusses major concepts that affect the public in a personal way. Whether on a conscious or subconscious level, thoughts concerning discrimination, bias, prejudice, heritage, family, cultural identity, religious beliefs and status will be touched upon when interpreting the subject of immigration.

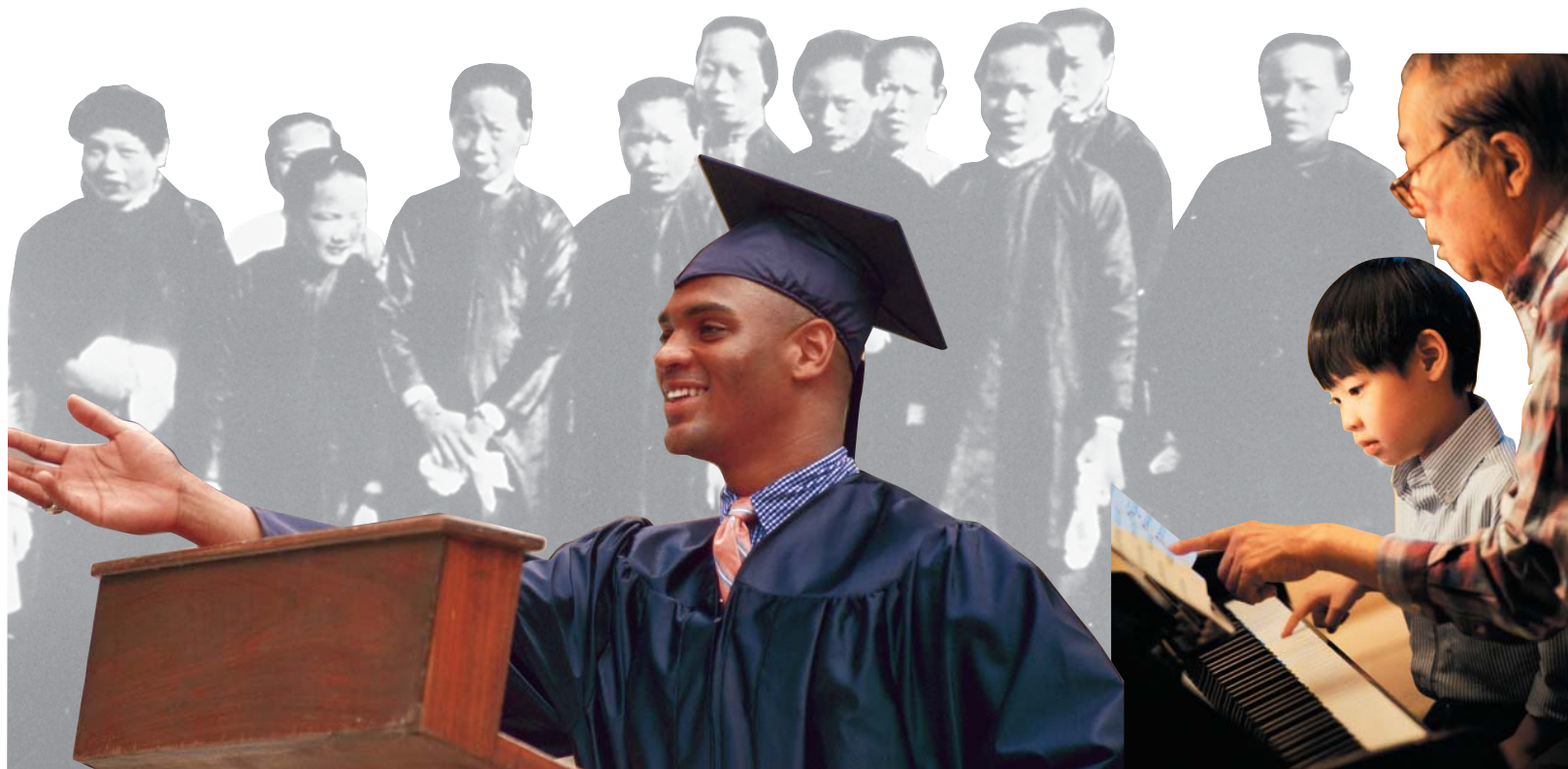
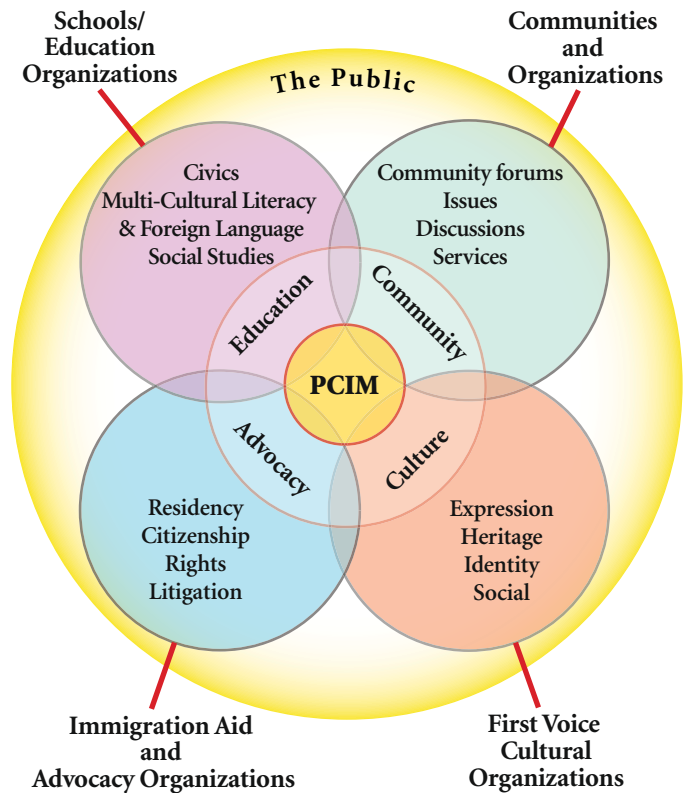


## MISSION STATEMENT

*Foster understanding of the journeys, experiences and contributions of people from many places and cultures who continue to shape the Pacific West and enrich our Nation.*

## PCIM SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

*PCIM will interact with four primary organizational types, each with its own focus of activity and constituency. The overlap areas represent collaborative possibilities between PCIM and partner organizations.*





## NEAR TERM OBJECTIVE

Provide a virtual Pacific Coast Immigration Museum through a comprehensive, interactive website, pilot partnership projects and demonstration programs.

Convene and engage participation from a full array of stakeholders and partners.

Lay the groundwork for taking the Pacific Coast Immigration Museum from concept to long-term reality.

Foster the vision, awareness, critical momentum and support for near-term delivery of museum services.

Support and add value to existing immigration-related organizations through program partnerships.

## LONG TERM OBJECTIVE

Reinforcing the program delivery and building on the network established during the near term, secure a high profile structure in San Francisco as the home base of the Pacific Coast Immigration Museum and provide a full array of learning experiences using the Museum as both a focal point and a portal to link people to stories, historic places and educational opportunities along the entire Pacific Coast.



*"...Today, at the dawn of the 21st century, immigration has transformed California into a global commonwealth, a nation-state, in which the peoples of the world are forging an ecumenical society unprecedented in human history. There are problems, of course, in an enterprise of such magnitude; and that is why the proposed PACIFIC COAST IMMIGRATION MUSEUM will prove to be so important. Only by recognizing what has been accomplished, what the*

*enduring strengths of our immigrant-driven society are, and what are its weak points, will we be able to negotiate a successful future. Museums are not just about the past. They can also provide a corrective guide to the future. From this perspective, the proposed PACIFIC COAST IMMIGRATION MUSEUM is needed more than ever."*

Kevin Starr  
University Professor of History, USC





## MUSEUM GOALS

*Celebrate the peopling of the land between the coast and mountains in California, Oregon and Washington, where 90% of the people west of the Rockies live.*

*Connect people to historic places, stories, and learning opportunities along the Pacific Coast.*

*Tell the saga of our ancestors' dreams, journeys, initial settlement, and contributions – powerful, continuing stories of uprooting, loss, endurance, perseverance and survival.*

*Connect the past, present and future – from First Peoples to today's headlines.*

*Tell everyone's story – where we came from and why, who we are today, and who we are becoming.*






*Enable visitors to discover common threads and experiences, put stories and people in perspective, and understand the breadth and value of the Pacific West's influence on the American experience.*

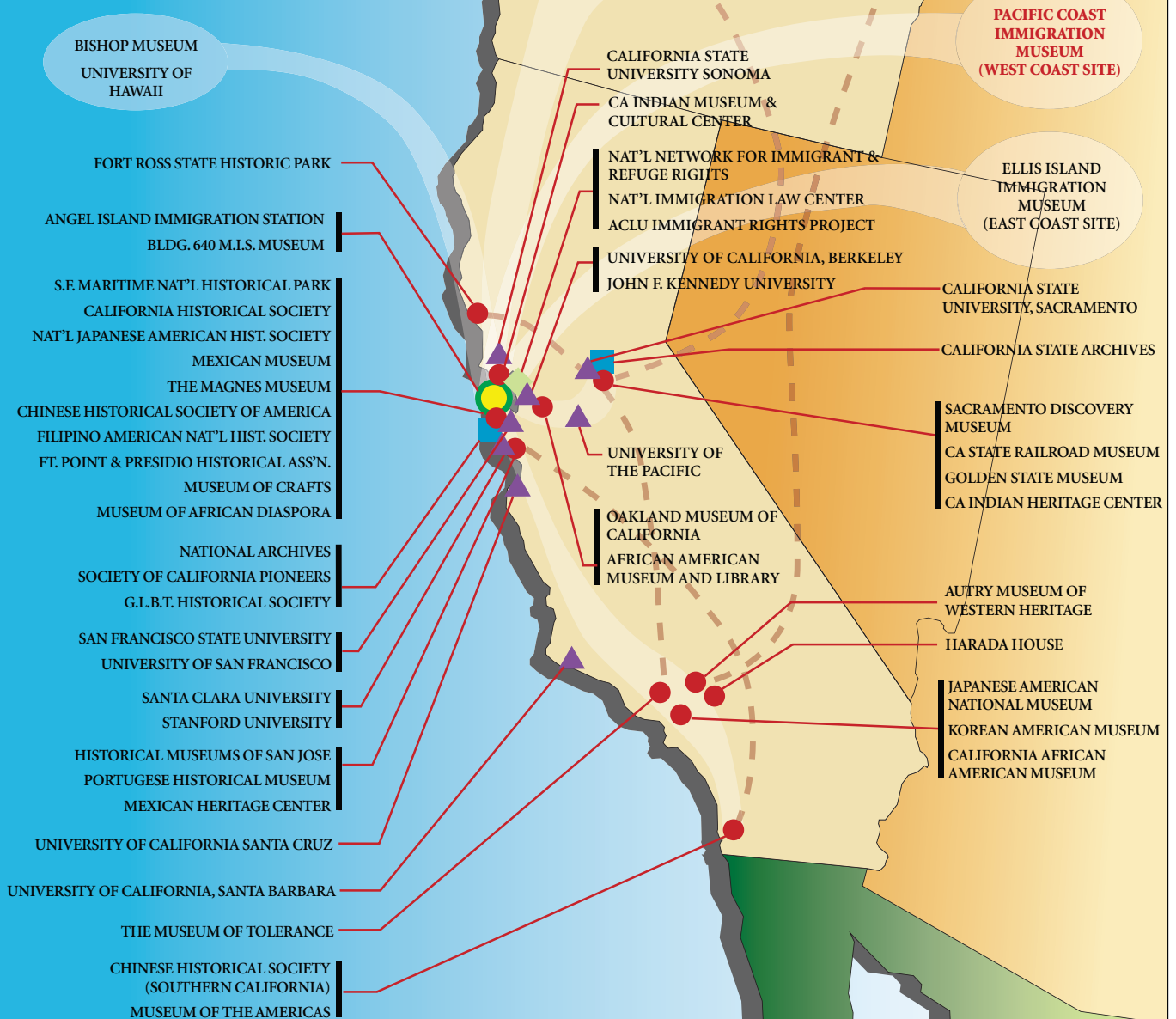
*Heal social divides through a better understanding of peoples' sacrifices, contributions, and dreams and the issues that compound the Immigrant experience.*



# PACIFIC COAST NETWORK OF IMMIGRATION AND MIGRATION-RELATED INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

(Selected Examples)

-  PACIFIC COAST IMMIGRATION MUSEUM
-  MUSEUM, PARK, HISTORIC SITE
-  EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM, RESEARCH CENTER
-  ARCHIVE, REPOSITORY, LIBRARY
-  IMMIGRANT SERVICES ORGANIZATION





## BACKGROUND

The Pacific Coast Immigration Museum, to be located in the San Francisco Bay Area in northern California, is being developed by the private non-profit organization of the same name in partnership with the National Park Service. When further developed, PCIM will operate as an independent non-profit entity.

The need for an institution on the West Coast to reach the public with the history and facts of immigration was recognized by Senator Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) in the late 1990s. Funding for PCIM feasibility studies was provided by Congress. Organizational development, capital projects and program funding will be provided by a combination of non-public and public sources.



**Pacific Coast Immigration Museum**  
P.O. Box 29163  
San Francisco, CA 94129

PACIFIC COAST  
IMMIGRATION  
MUSEUM

<http://www.nps.gov/pwro/pcim>

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