

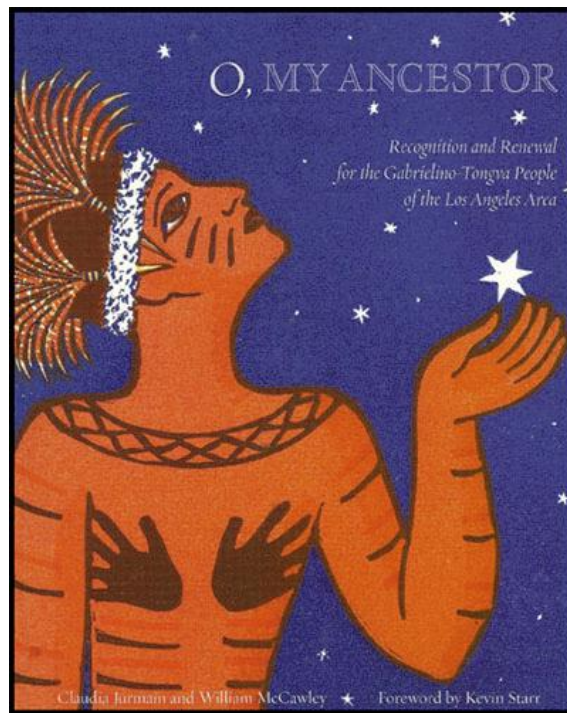
# Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens

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July 2, 2010

For Immediate Release

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**Claudia Jurmain, William McCawley,  
Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation and Heyday Books  
are 2010 AASLH Award Winners**

LONG BEACH, CA – The staff of Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens is proud to announce that the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) has revealed that Claudia Jurmain, William McCawley, Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation and Heyday Books are recipients of an Award of Merit from the AASLH Leadership in History Awards for the publication *O, My Ancestor: Recognition and Renewal for the Gabrielino-Tongva People of the Los Angeles Area*.

In this collaborative publication, members of the Los Angeles area's Gabrielino-Tongva community reflect on what it means to be Gabrielino-Tongva today, when centuries of domination by the Spanish and then Americans have left little of the native culture intact. This book gives voice to the Tongva community's leaders, activists, educators, and artists and is part of an ongoing reclamation of their heritage.

Pamela Seager, Executive Director of Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens, said this about the AASLH award selection committee: “It is a very rigorous process with high standards so it is an outstanding accomplishment to receive the award. The selection committee wants their Leadership in History Awards to serve as an inspiration to others in the field so they select very carefully with a representative from each region in the country sitting on the committee.”

Claudia Jurmain is Director of Special Projects and Publications at Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens. She is coeditor of *California: A Place, a People, a Dream* (1986), author of *Planting Perspectives: Natives and Newcomers at Rancho Los Alamitos* (2002), and the editor of the upcoming *Rancho Los Alamitos: Ever Changing, Always the Same*. William McCawley is a native of Southern California. His interest in the history of this region—especially the story of the Gabrielino-Tongva Indians—is drawn from his own connection to this land and its people. His first book, *The First Angelinos: The Gabrielino Indians of Los Angeles*, was published in 1996.

The AASLH Leadership in History Awards, now in its 65<sup>th</sup> year, is the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history. The awards honor significant achievement in the field of state and local history

while bringing public recognition of the opportunities for small and large organizations to make contributions in this arena. Awards for 2010 represent 49 organizations and individuals from across the United States. Award winners will be honored at a special banquet during the 2010 AASLH Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on Friday, September 24. For more information about AASLH, visit their website at [www.aaslh.org](http://www.aaslh.org).

*O, My Ancestor: Recognition and Renewal for the Gabrielino-Tongva People of the Los Angeles Area*, by Claudia Jurmain and William McCawley, published by Heyday Books, Berkeley, California in collaboration with Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation is available for sale in the Rancho's gift store, on Amazon.com and in other bookstores.

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Rancho Los Alamitos is owned by the City of Long Beach and operated by Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation as a public/private cooperative venture under the auspices of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The site is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday from 1-5 p.m. School tours and Native American Children's Cultural Workshops are scheduled weekday mornings. Admission is free and parking is normally available on site. Enter through Bixby Hill residential security gate at Anaheim and Palo Verde. For information about the site, tours, or special events and programs, go to [www.rancholosalamitos.com](http://www.rancholosalamitos.com).

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