Selma’s music will be performed by the Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic at Disney Hall on Saturday evening, June 29. Feliz cumpleaños, Selma, and congratulations on this splendid birthday. Heartfelt thanks from all of us who have had the privilege to know you, to work with you and to experience your energy and vision, your enthusiasm and leadership, all to the immeasurable benefit of our Historical Society and every organization you have ever been a part of. We celebrate you.

California Supreme Court Historical Society

Research Travel Grant in California Legal History

The California Supreme Court Historical Society has established a Research Travel Grant, funded by the generosity of California Supreme Court Justice Kathryn Mickle Werdegar (Ret.) and David M. Werdegar, M.D., in honor of Selma Moidel Smith, editor-in-chief of California Legal History.

Pursuant to this grant, the Society will defray the expenses of graduate students and law students at accredited U.S. universities and law schools who are researching California legal history for purposes of preparing an article or other paper on that subject and need to travel to access archival materials related thereto. It is expected that most travel will be to or within California, but exceptions will be made in the case of relevant archival materials in other locations. The Society will award individual grants to be used to defray the cost of travel and/or accommodation in amounts typically no more than $700 per project, with a maximum of $1,000 in special cases.

Grants will be awarded on a rolling basis until such time as the fund for the grant is exhausted. Grant applications must include the following information:

- A brief description of the project that necessitates the travel, identifying the specific archival collection or collections that the grantee wishes to access;
- An itemized estimate of the expenses associated with the research trip, which reflect economical choices of travel and accommodation;
- A statement whether the applicant intends to enter the resulting paper in the Society’s Selma Moidel Smith Student Writing Competition in California Legal History;
- A copy of the applicant’s curriculum vitae; and
- A brief letter of recommendation from a person familiar with the applicant’s scholarly work.

Applicants should send materials by e-mail or conventional mail to: Professor Reuel Schiller, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94706; schiller@uchastings.edu.

Grant applications will be expeditiously reviewed by a three-person review committee of faculty from differing institutions and must be approved by a unanimous vote. For complete grant information, see https://www.cschs.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/CSCHS-California-Legal-History-Research-Travel-Grant-121018.pdf.

Applicants are encouraged to enter the Society’s Selma Moidel Smith Student Writing Competition in California Legal History (https://www.cschs.org/programs/student-writings), and are also advised that publishable works resulting from this grant will be considered for inclusion in the Society’s annual journal, California Legal History.

Would you like to write for us?

The Newsletter warmly welcomes articles on California legal history, particularly involving the California Supreme Court and the state’s lower courts, the bar and the profession. We publish articles about the people, cases, and broader legal developments as they have affected our state, then and now.

Because we are a newsletter for a relatively broad audience, not an academic journal, please go easy on the legal jargon and citations. Most of our articles are in the 1,000- to 2,500-word range (although we’re flexible on length), and illustrated with photographs and/or archival material (we’ll handle that part). Submissions must be in Word.

Note to State Bar members: You can receive up to 12.5 hours of MCLE credit for “self-study,” including time spent to research and write, as provided in the California State Bar Rules, Rule 2.83.

So please send me your ideas. And if you don’t have an article in mind at the moment but would like to see your name in print, I’ll happily give you an assignment.

Please query Newsletter Editor at molly.selvin@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.