



# 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD LECTURE



**Tuesday, May 7, 2019**

**6:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Lecture: Gateway to Nature**

**130 Paseo de la Plaza,  
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**Reception at CAM 7:30 pm**

Join us for a lecture and reception commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad with speaker and Associate Professor Julia H. Lee of the Department of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine.

On May 10, 1869, the railroads were joined in Promontory, Utah linking the east and west coasts. Facing poverty and civil war at home, laborers from Guangdong Province in China left home to make a living to support their families. Chinese railroad laborers were the first wave of Chinese immigrants in the United States and were recruited by railroad labor contractors to do dangerous and difficult jobs. This lecture will explore how the contributions of these workers to the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad were ignored and erased from the historical record and how Chinese American authors, artists, and descendants of the railroad workers have responded to this injustice as well as to the broader exclusion of Asians from the United States.

The museum will be open after the program ends until 9:00 p.m. to view the exhibitions.

This program is free and open to the public; however, RSVPs are kindly requested. To RSVP, visit [chineseamericanmuseum.eventbrite.com](http://chineseamericanmuseum.eventbrite.com) or email [rsvp@camla.org](mailto:rsvp@camla.org). Check our website for other public programs and events at [camla.org/upcomingevents](http://camla.org/upcomingevents).

This lecture is presented by the Friends of the Chinese American Museum with the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, and Gateway to Nature.