

P.O. Box 1171
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Outdoor Play *Owl and the Bear* Returns to the Museum

BY PEGGY RONNING MUSEUM CURATOR

On the evening of Saturday, May 5, visitors enjoyed the 2018 performance of our youth play, the *Owl and the Bear*. We had three returning actors this year. Leif Hanson of Quartz Hill starred as Muhu the Owl. His sister Zoe reprised her role as Coyote. Kirstin Warren of Lake Los Angeles played Eagle. We welcomed two new actors this year. Both are local Lake Los Angeles kids. Faith Torres took on two roles and played both Xus the Bear and Deer. Greisy Medina brought her enthusiasm to the role of Rabbit.

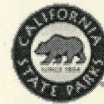
The actors commit to attending weekly rehearsals after school for two months prior to the actual performance. This is also a big commitment for their family members, who need to transport them to the rehearsals. Every year I enjoy seeing the different interpretations each actor brings to their roles.

Highlights from this year include Kirstin's elegant use of her costume's wings to supplement her lines with body language. Zoe channeled Coyote's spirit with her snarky sense of humor. Leif came up with the idea of rattling his clapper stick to reveal to the others that Muhu is hiding in the bushes. Faith make good use of her costume's big bear paws. And no one could miss that Rabbit had been collecting juncus grass when Greisy brandished her juncus bundle over her head.

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<http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov/info.shtml>



The play cast from left to right is Kirstin Warren, Greisy Medina, Zoe Hanson, Leif Hanson, and Faith Torres doing rehearsals.

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The *Owl and the Bear* is based on a story told by Chumash storytellers Ted and Dennis Garcia. I adapted it as a play with the gracious permission of Ted Garcia.

The story explains why Owl has large bulging eyes and a short beak, and why he only comes out at night. The story also demonstrates how vanity and bear hugs can be dangerous.



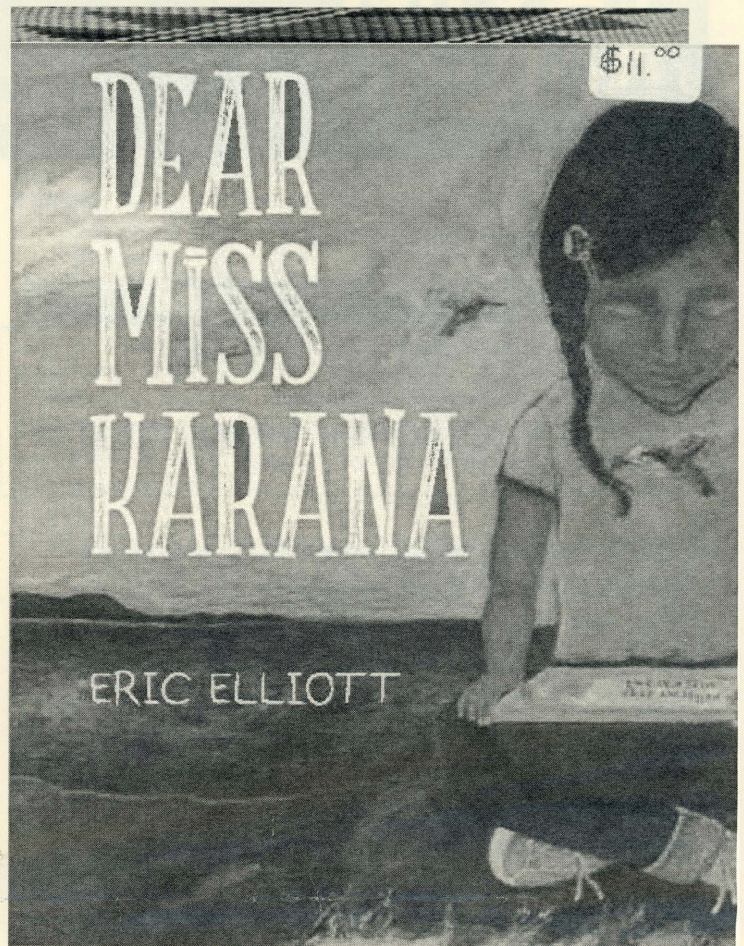
The actors are so happy doing *The Owl and the Bear* so well, and families are so proud.

Gift Shop Highlights

BY PEGGY RONNING MUSEUM CURATOR

The gift shop has several uncommon resources for 4th grade students and teachers. Many 4th graders read *Island of the Blue Dolphins*.

It is based on a true story of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island. She was left behind when her family and friends were removed from San Nicolas Island in 1835. She survived on the island totally alone for 17 years.



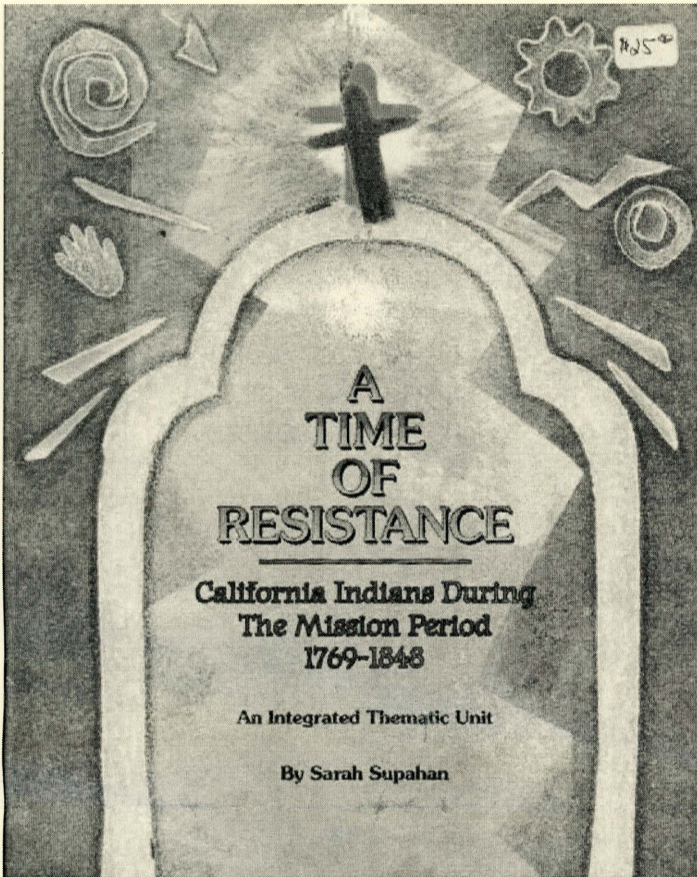
I recommend also reading *Dear Miss Karana* by Eric Elliot (2016). This story is about Tíshmal, a Native Juaneño fourth grader, who like many California fourth graders is reading *Island of the Blue Dolphins* in school. However, Tíshmal feels a close connection to the woman in the story because the woman could have been her ancestor.

The book is written from the perspective of Tíshmal's blog. *Dear Miss Karana* is a good book to read as a companion to *Island of the Blue Dolphins* because one book is about the Native Californians of the past and the other is about the Native Californians of the present.

Fourth graders also study the California missions. If you want your fourth grader to know more about the mission period from the perspective of the Native peoples, check out *A Time of Resistance* by Sarah Supahan.

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This book was produced by the Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation. It contains curriculum, activities, and worksheets. The focus of the book is Tonvga/Kizh hero Toypurina. Toypurina was a female leader who, in 1779, led a revolt against Mission San Gabriel.

Unfortunately, the revolt was betrayed by a double agent, and Toypurina was imprisoned and banished. I hope that one day Toypurina's story is as well-known as Father Serra's story and that every make-a-mission craft kit will include figurines of Toypurina and the Tongva/Kizh resistance!



Become a Museum Volunteer

BY PEGGY RONNING MUSEUM CURATOR

Are you considering volunteering at Antelope Valley Indian Museum? Join us at our monthly volunteer meetings on the second Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Joshua Cottage.

The meetings include a program on the museum collection or museum history, and you can meet other volunteers.

We need volunteers to answer visitor questions between 11:00 and 4:00 on Saturdays and Sundays.

Email museum curator Peggy Ronning to ask for a volunteer application (peggy.ronning@parks.ca.gov), or you can pick up an application in the museum gift shop on weekends.

Become a volunteer and join the fun!



Save the Date - Annual Museum Celebration

BY PEGGY RONNING MUSEUM CURATOR

This year, the museum's American Indian Celebration will be October 20 and 21, 2018.

Come out to enjoy Native music, art, stories, dancing and food.





Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum (FAVIM) is online:

- AVIM.parks.ca.gov : Click on "Join" for information about FAVIM, and about volunteering at the AV Indian Museum
- [Facebook.com/IndianMuseumFriends](https://www.facebook.com/IndianMuseumFriends) : Photos, FAVIM announcements, and events such as Visiting Artists, Nights at the Museum, the Annual Celebration and more. "Like" us and support the Museum!

Online information about Antelope Valley Indian Museum State Historic Park:

- AVIM.parks.ca.gov : Museum website with information about the American Indians of the Great Basin, Southwest, and California coast; events calendar; virtual tours of the museum; and search the museum's entire collection online.
- [Facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum) : Share upcoming Event announcements with friends!



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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.avim.parks.ca.gov>

and FAVIM is now on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/AVIndianMuseum>

Your Membership Is Important To FAVIM

FAVIM raises funds to support Projects and Activities at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum.

The membership is renewed each September, except in the case of Life Membership.

Please make membership checks payable to "Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum" (or "FAVIM"), and return to:

P.O. Box 1171, Lancaster, CA 93584.

If you are not yet a member, and would like to support the Indian Museum, and receive a quarterly FAVIM Bulletin, and also receive a 10% Discount with Membership Card to use in the FAVIM Gift Shop, please send your check to the above address.

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