

About The Gail Project

My name is Stella Fronius and I am a fourth year at the University of California, Santa Cruz. I major in History and Anthropology, with an emphasis in Soviet Russia and East Asian studies. I have participated in The Gail Project for two years and am currently the Chancellors Undergraduate Intern for the Center for the Study of Pacific War Memories. My research within the humanities has opened up several doors, including being awarded the 2016 Humanities Undergraduate Research Award, as well as chosen to interview for the Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program (JET).

The Gail Project is a collaborative, international public history project that explores the founding years of the American military occupation of Okinawa. The project is inspired by a collection of photos taken in Okinawa in 1952 by an American Army Captain: Charles Eugene Gail. The photos were generously donated to Special Collections at McHenry Library by Charles' daughter, Geri Gail, and have since been made available for student research.

Our team of faculty, artists and undergraduate students at the University of California, Santa Cruz, are developing a traveling exhibition of Gail's photographs with an accompanying digital archive that is comprised of the photos, key texts and documents, oral histories from both American and Okinawan voices, as well as undergraduate student research and writing. We believe that using the photographs as a lens through which to view this crucial time is relevant to populations throughout Okinawa, Japan, the United States and the entire Pacific region, and we aim to establish a dialogue by shedding light on both historical and contemporary issues. The project emphasizes hands-on research and creation of content by undergraduate students and serves as an innovative platform for new educational methods that encourage the use of multimedia, social media, archival research and travel.

The Gail Project can be found at:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheGailProject/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thegailproject>

Medium: <https://medium.com/the-gail-project>

Official Website: <http://gailproject.ucsc.edu/>