

Warren J. Baker Endowment for Excellence in Project-Based Learning Robert D. Koob Endowment for Student Success

FINAL REPORT

I. **Project Title**

Religious History in California: Los Angeles' Pluralistic Past

II. **Student(s), Department(s), and Major(s)**

(1) Amy Hart

(2) History

(3) History (MA)

III. **Faculty Advisor and Department**

Dr. Matthew Hopper, History

IV. **Cooperating Industry, Agency, Non-Profit, or University Organization(s)**

California Pluralism Project

V. **Executive Summary**

The funding from this endowment enabled me to complete original research regarding California's religiously pluralistic history. I have been able to travel to Los Angeles twice to conduct interviews and visit archives relevant to the two religious institutions analyzed in my MA thesis. This resulted in a completed MA thesis that is now available through the Kennedy Library Digital Commons (<http://digitalcommons.calpoly.edu/theses/1385/>) and is in the process of being turned into an article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, *Southern California Quarterly*. The second trip to Los Angeles also including filming at each of the religious institutions, resulting in a short educational video on California's Religious Pluralism, which is currently involved in a video compilation for the California Pluralism Project.

VI. **Major Accomplishments**

(1) Completion of a MA thesis based on original research and interviews

(2) A publishable article that will inform the discussion on California's religiously pluralistic history

(3) An educational video on California's religious diversity that will potentially be used in high

school and community college classes.

VII. Expenditure of Funds

The requested funds were used on travel expenses and archival printing costs.

VIII. Impacts to Student's Learning

This endowment provided the opportunity to create a well-researched MA thesis, a peer-reviewed article, and an educational video on California's religious diversity that will contribute to the literature and add to the dialogue on California's rich history. The results of this project will lead to future educational opportunities for students and educators alike.