

This is a reminder that if you want to attend this presentation, you should reserve your seat as soon as possible. If you do not register before the venue reaches capacity, you will not be admitted to the event. My understanding is that it is very close to capacity now.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP at <https://www.pacificas-environmental-family.org/event-details-registration/pacifica-against-the-sea-1>

The Pacifica Historical Society, along with other Pacifica organizations, is hosting a March 3 event about the history and impact of sea level rise on Pacifica at the Pedro Point Firehouse.

Rosanna Xia, a Los Angeles Times reporter and author who covers the California coast, and Gary Griggs, a noted coastal expert and UC Santa Cruz professor, are the two speakers for the program, titled “Pacifica Against the Sea?”

The event is sponsored by the Pacifica Environmental Family, the Pedro Point Community Association, the Pacifica Climate Committee and the Pacifica Historical Society.

Xia is the author of “California Against the Sea: Visions for Our Vanishing Coastline,” published by Heyday Books and the winner of the Golden Poppy Award for best 2023 California nonfiction work.

Xia’s book focuses on California communities struggling because of rising sea levels. Pacifica is featured in a chapter entitled “A Town on the Edge” that traces the city’s difficulties in addressing its crumbling shoreline. Xia wrote about Pacifica in deeply researched Los Angeles Times articles in 2022 that led to her being named as a Pulitzer Prize finalist. Xia used PHS historical resources, including Footprints of Pacifica episodes, for her research.

Griggs is a Distinguished Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences at UC Santa Cruz with expertise in coastal erosion, sea level rise and geologic hazards. He has served on the State of California’s Ocean Protection Council’s Sea Level Rise Task Force, producing the “Sea Level Rise Guidance, 2024 Science and Policy Update”. Griggs also has studied the challenges facing Pacifica, having written the evaluation for the Beach Boulevard Seawall Replacement Project.

The program will start with an invocation and recognition of native tribes that for centuries cared for the coast by Catalina Gomes of the Muchia Te` Indigenous Land Trust and a descendent of the Rammaytush, Salinan and Bay Miwok. Pat Kremer, PHS vice president, will give a brief visual presentation of the changes along Pacifica’s shoreline.

The program will conclude with a book signing by Xia. Attendees can purchase books at the event or bring books to be signed by the author. "California Against the Sea" can also be bought at Pacifica's local bookseller Florey's, 2120 Palmetto Ave.

The program starts at 1 p.m. at the Pedro Point Firehouse, 1227 Danmann Ave., and is free. Carpooling, walking and biking are recommended due to limited parking adjacent to the venue. Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP at <https://www.pacificas-environmental-family.org/event-details-registration/pacifica-against-the-sea-1>