



Who Is Sarah Kidder?

A California Humanities Project



A New Project

Nevada County communications consultant Pamela Biery and actor Mary Baird worked with Famous Marching Presidents in 2019-2020 documenting the remarkable life of Ellen Clark Sargent with a video and women's history education project, "An Evening with Ellen". The success of this project led the team to explore other Nevada County women in history.

Sarah Clark Kidder

Sarah Clark Kidder was suggested for a historical project due to her powerful and significant role as the first women railroad president and the recent addition of a Kidder Wing at the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum (NCNGRRM).

A grant was applied for in June 2022 with California Humanities to produce an educational project on Sarah Kidder. This grant was received in August 2022 and work began.



Who Is Sarah Kidder Overview

Sarah Kidder became the first women railroad president in the world in 1901.

The NCNGRRM created a new Exhibit featuring Sarah Kidder artifacts. Nevada Union High School filmed and is completing editing on an 8-12 minute video that exemplifies Sarah Kidder's achievements in a playful parody of the television show "To Tell the Truth."

Three local actors portray Sarah Kidder, while local government and non-profit representative panelists ask the Sarah actors to answer questions. Participants explore the following questions: How did Sarah Kidder learn to run a railroad? What obstacles did she overcome? How does work liberate, connect, and empower women? How have women been treated in the workforce and in leadership roles?

This project is a collaboration between the NCNGRRM, and the Nevada Union High School Broadcast Department with participation by Nevada County Media, local government officials, educators and professionals.

Who Is Sarah Kidder Timeline

- 6-2022: California Humanities grant application
- 8-2022: Grant approval
- 9-2022-12-2022: Gathering of collaborative partners and actors, script writing
- 9-2022-1-2023: Public outreach and educational materials through media. Students train for filming at Nevada County Media and Nevada Union High School
- 2-2023: Filming of video
- 3-2023: Video premier, lecture series, railbus tours
- 6-2023: Conclusion of grant activities

Who Is Sarah Kidder Outline

- Write, direct and film an 8-12 minute video game show parody filmed by Nevada Union High School students with support from Nevada County Media
- Prepare educational materials for Nevada Union High School and NCNGRRM as well as historical libraries and public outreach
- Provide three lectures on Sarah Kidder during Women's History Month at NCNGRRM
- Provide ongoing presentation of the video, the Kidder Wing and railbus tours

Resolution Request

- In light of the under-representation of Nevada County's exceptional historically significant women;
- March being Women's History month;
- Ongoing community collaboration, involving the NCGRRM, Nevada Union High School, Nevada County Media, Doris Foley Historical Library, the Searles Historical Library, and representatives from Nevada County government and non-profits;
- It is an opportunity to emphasize these events already funded by a significant granting agency, the California Humanities, with a Resolution for Nevada County's Women in History





Sarah Kidder imposters, Mary Baird, Sands Hall and Gladys McWood Birdsong. Filming at Nevada County Media with Nevada Union High School students, and the Kidder Wing at Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum



NEVADA COUNTY
NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD MUSEUM



NEVADA COUNTY MEDIA



NEVADA UNION
HIGH SCHOOL BROADCAST CLUB