

***A Journal of the Plague Year Archive Documents Impact
of COVID-19 on Everyday Life in San Francisco Bay Area***

Arizona State University historians launched *A Journal of the Plague Year: An Archive of COVID-19* in the days following the World Health Organization's declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic. *A Journal of the Plague Year* is a crowdsourced digital archive aimed at preserving the impact of the pandemic on everyday life. The archive allows individuals to submit personal stories, photos, videos, art, and documents. All stories, from mundane to extraordinary, are an essential part of the archive as it strives to capture the diversity of life during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Historians are currently building a collection within the archive dedicated to the San Francisco Bay Area. This collection is an effort to include a regional perspective in the archive that captures the spirit, community, and diversity of experience of those living in the San Francisco Bay Area during the COVID-19 pandemic. Life in the Bay Area has completely changed. Roads, schools, and sports fields sit empty. Companies are scrambling to adapt to save as many jobs as possible. Families are spending more time with each other than they possibly ever have. Frontline employees are working around the clock. Communities are finding ways to support, encourage, and inspire each other during these trying times. The San Francisco Bay Area Collection aims to capture the diversity and reality of everyday life for those living in this area.



Photo Credit: Michelle Zimmerman

If you live or work in the San Francisco Bay Area, we want to hear your story. Your voice matters and helps to ensure that the archive represents the reality of everyday life for Bay Area residents who lived during the COVID-19 pandemic. Future researchers and historians will use these resources to write the chapter of history you are currently living. What is life like for you right now? What do you think is essential for future generations to remember about the COVID-19 pandemic? You are living history. Take a moment to preserve your voice and experiences for future generations. Contribute your voice by using the [Share Your Story](#) page. Use the hashtag **#sanfranciscobayarea** to be included in the official San Francisco Bay Area Collection.

Shanna Gagnon
Curatorial Intern, JOTPY Team
srgagnon@asu.edu