



Yolo County Historical Collection

## NEWSLETTER



The Gibson House will be open for Curator Open Hours on March 22nd from 8am to 4pm.

It will not be open on Saturday, March 15th

### **PICTURING YOLO COUNTY OPENS @ THE GIBSON HOUSE**

March 6th - June 17th

**Opening Thursday, March 6th 4pm to 7pm**

In 2023, the Yolo County Historical Collection sent fifteen frames and nine paintings to conservators to be restored. “Picturing Yolo County” features newly restored portraits made by and for Yolo County residents during the late 1800s. These portraits, while similar in style, exemplify the different ways that local artists chose to work within this art form. This exhibition examines Yolo County portraiture through the work of six 19th century local artists: Phoebe Olevia Hodgen, Calthea Campbell Vivian, Clara Brown, Louis Grund Joran, Carrie Blowers and Annie Blowers.

### **PICTURE YOURSELF IN YOLO COUNTY PROJECT**

The Yolo County Historical Collection strives to create diverse exhibitions that show the history of all Yolo County residents. The goal of the Picture Yourself in Yolo County project is to work towards the telling of a more inclusive history through community collaboration. If you want to see yourself in the Gibson House, use the Picture Yourself activity sheet at the end of this newsletter or on the YCHC website [here](#).

# Collections Object Spotlight

## By Maggie Chang, YCHC Intern

Columbia Phonograph Co. Graphophone  
YO1-C338-48

Gift of Paula Johnson-Russell

Replayable audio is pervasive and an ever-present aspect of our lives. We listen to music, watch videos, and keep track of our schedule with notifications. For how ubiquitous our modern manufactured soundscape is, it's easy to forget there once was a time when audio was a precious luxury. In 1877, Thomas Edison invented the phonograph in 1877, marking the start of a long path of innovation in sound reproduction. It was the first machine that could both record

audio as well as replay the information it stored. However, because the recordings were done on tinfoil sheets, they were prone to damage and could not withstand multiple uses.

This is exactly what inventors Alexander Graham Bell, Charles Sumner Tainter, and Chichester Bell hoped to overcome with the graphophone. Instead of tinfoil, the team opted to record on wax because it was malleable enough for a machine to create grooves in but also sturdy enough to withstand being replayed multiple times. Throughout its 30 years of mainstream use, the graphophone's patent was held by several companies and ultimately became the namesake for the Columbia Phonograph Company's own audio device--the very model being highlighted here. While the graphophone itself may have been short-lived, the Columbia Phonograph Company went on to become a giant of the music industry, known today as Columbia Records.



### Open Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 12-4pm

Every Third Saturday from 8 am to 4pm

**Schedule a research appointment today!**

Appointments available Tuesdays and

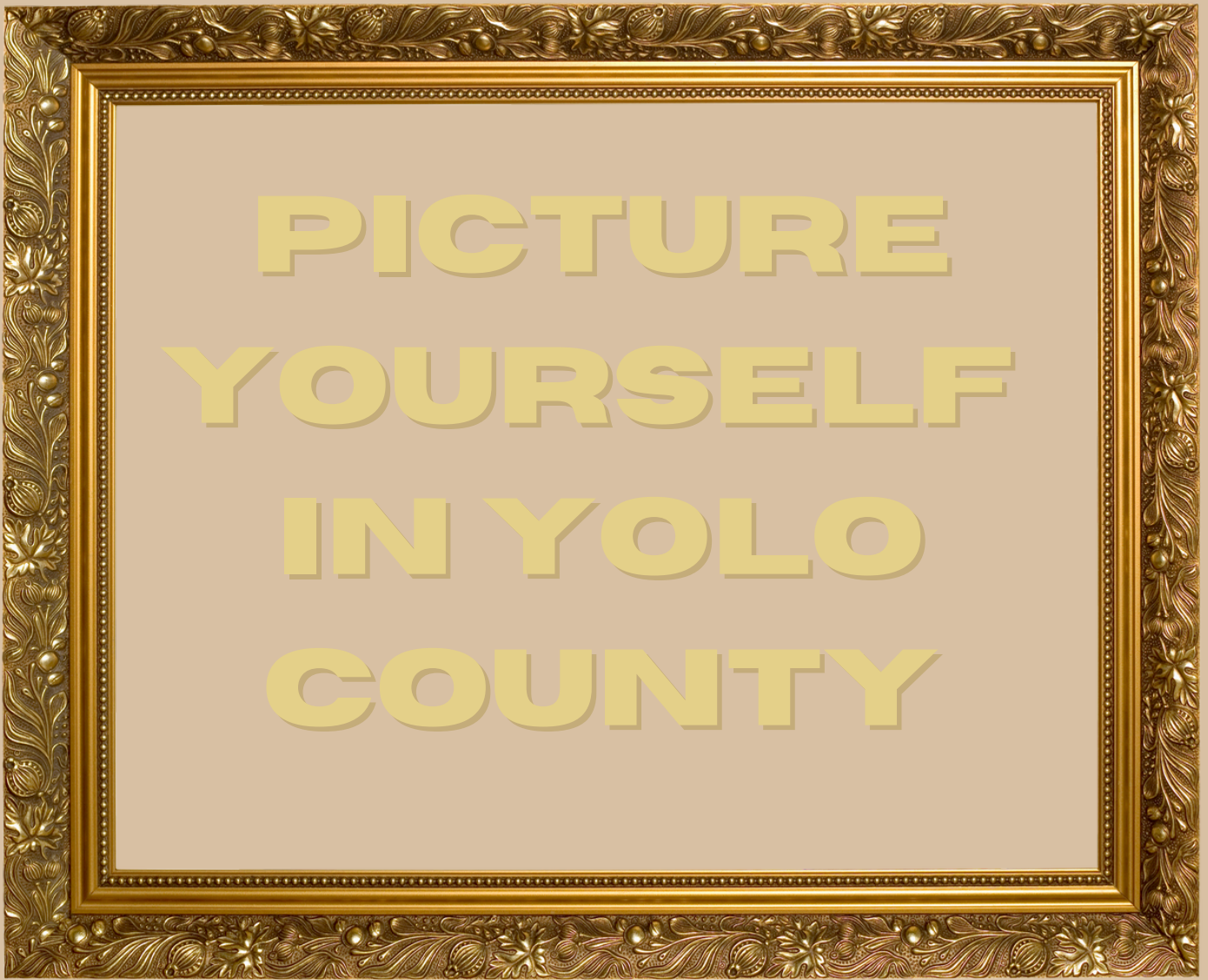
Thursdays from 8 am to 12 pm

[yoloarts.org](http://yoloarts.org)  
[yolocountylibrary.org/yhc](http://yolocountylibrary.org/yhc)

530-908-9421

**YCHC**  
Yolo County Historical Collectio





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## **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Attach a painting, drawing, or photograph of yourself, or your family to the template handout.\*
2. If you want your portrait returned to you, write your name and address on the back. All others will leave the Yolo County Historical Collection after the exhibition ends.
3. Return the template to the Gibson House Museum, via the email below, or the Davis, Yolo, Clarksburg, and West Sacramento Branches of the Yolo County Library to be hung in the Gibson House as a part of this exhibition.
4. If you are under 18, parental permission is required for all photographic submissions.

\*By submitting your template, you grant Yolo County Library and the Yolo County Historical Collection permission to post it publicly in the Gibson House and on our website and social media.

### **Contact:**

530-908-9421

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