

March 29, 2024 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact: Sully Gama Community Engagement & Impact Manager Yakima Valley Libraries sgama@yvl.org (509) 575-3407

Yakima Valley Libraries & Gilbert Cellars Introduce History Happy Hour

Yakima, WA – History Happy Hour is a new collaboration between Yakima Valley Libraries and Gilbert Cellars. Beginning April 10th through July 10th, the winery's tasting room will host Carlos Pelley, Archive Librarian of Yakima Valley Libraries' Northwest Reading Room, to present a series on Yakima Valley's diverse history.

"As the library looks for new ways to engage the community, what better (and more enjoyable) method than to have a conversation about our diverse history at a winery?" said Adult Programming Coordinator, Perry Missner.

Carlos Pelley and his colleague Matt Kendall curated the interactive presentations from over 50 primary sources and secondary sources. Pelley will share stories alongside historic imagery from YVL's archives. The monthly presentations will cover African American, Japanese American, Native American, and Latino(a) histories.

"We don't want to define a people group by tragedy; we also don't want to whitewash history. This series intends to tell a holistic story," said Pelley.

"There are so many stories to enrich the general narrative," said Kendall.

History Happy Hour is a free, all-ages event open to the public. Attendees are welcome to listen, learn, and contribute to the conversation.

Dates, times, and topics are listed here:

- Wednesday, April 10 @ 7-8PM African American History
- Wednesday, May 8 @ 7-8PM Japanese American History

- Wednesday, June 12 @ 7-8PM Native American History
- Wednesday, July 10 @ 7-8PM Latino(a) History

Event registration is encouraged but not required through the tock app linked from our website. Visit <u>www.yvl.org/hhh</u> to learn more about History Happy Hour.

Gilbert Cellars is a family-operated business that is proud to steward their vineyard lands through low-impact, hands-on farming and sustainable practices. Their tasting room is located at <u>2620 Draper Road</u>, <u>Yakima</u>, <u>WA 98903</u>.

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Yakima Valley Libraries: Together we empower, inspire, and connect.