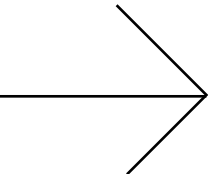


Bringing Oral History Home

*Intergenerational Storytelling
among Chinese Immigrant Families*



Presented by
The Evergreen Education Foundation
10/16/2026



The Evergreen Education Foundation
Family Story Project

Welcome

- Introduction To The Project
- How Does The Project Come About?
- Overall Framework
- Ownership & Privacy Architecture
- Real-Life Demo

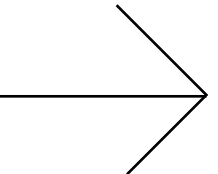


Bringing Oral History Home

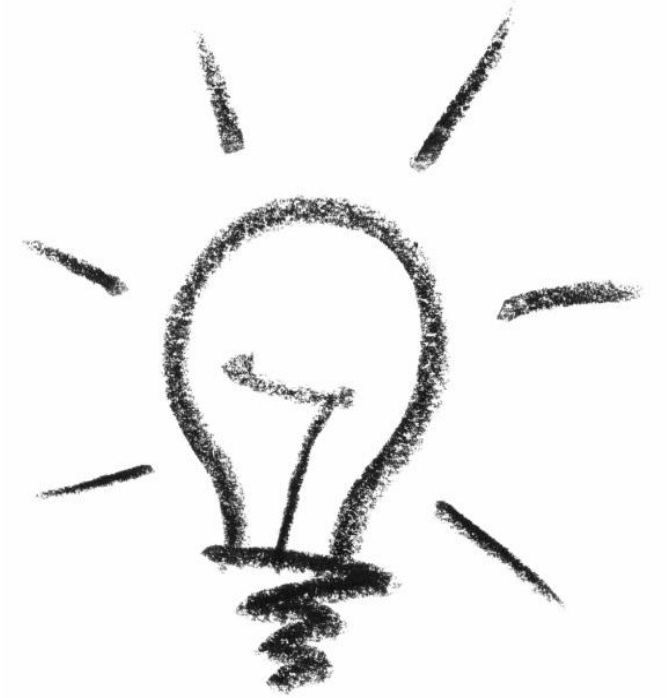
*Intergenerational Storytelling
among Chinese Immigrant Families*



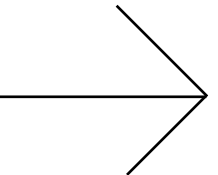
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Conversation Is The Foundation of Memories.



How Did The Family Story Project Come About?



Why Do This Project



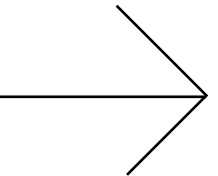
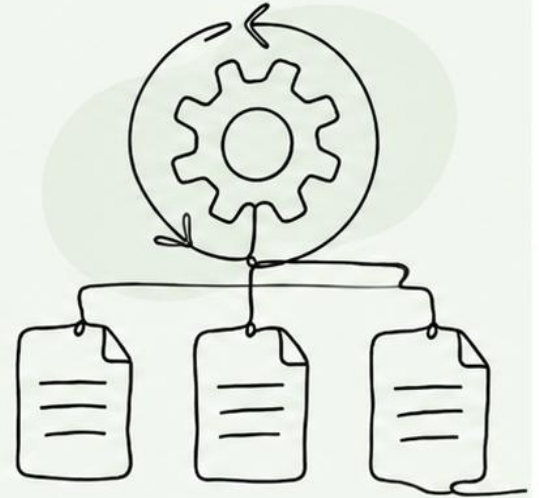
The Code of Silence



Why Oral History?



Design to Fit



Our Personal Experiences



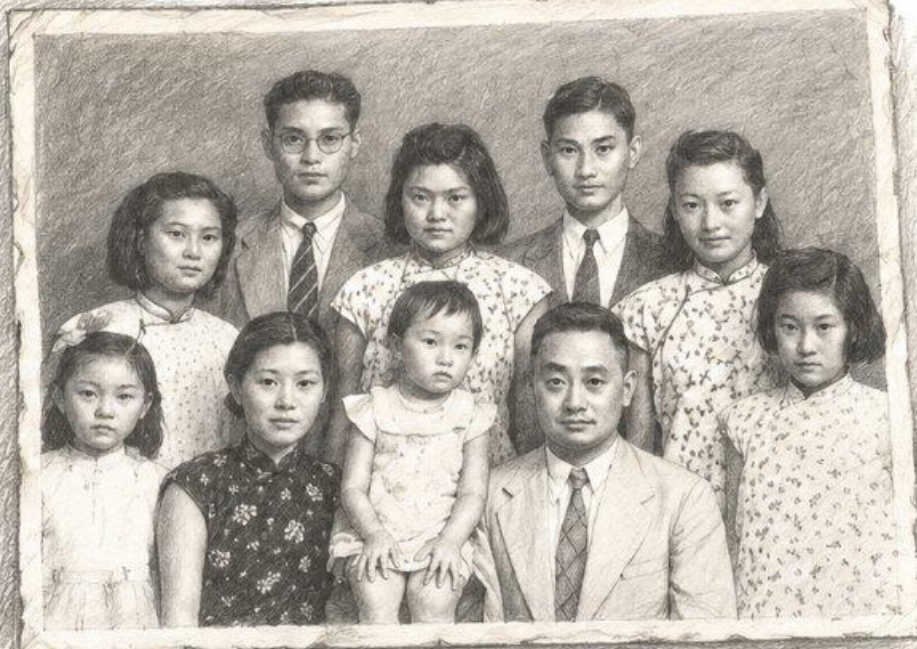
Our families' stories
inspire this work



We have lived these
experiences



We want future generations
to know and belong

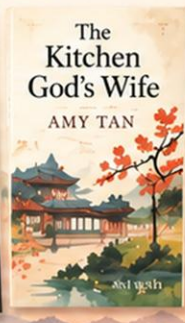
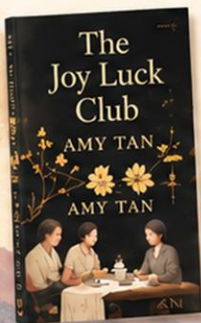


Healing Through Telling

When personal stories are heard, they can heal individuals, connect generations, and illuminate history.

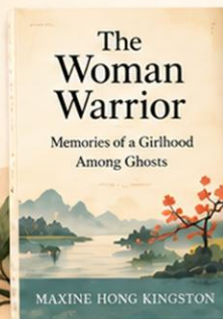
Amy Tan

She has spoken and written extensively about her mother's secrecy. Uncovering her mother Daisy's closely guarded secrets is the primary inspiration behind Tan's most famous books.



Maxine Hong Kingston

She famously wrote about the culture of secrecy, taboos, and what Chinese immigrant families do not tell their children.



"You must not tell anyone," my mother said, "what I am about to tell you."

— Maxine Hong Kingston
The Woman Warrior
(1976)

Why Oral History?

Example 1: High School Student Huang interviewed her grandmother concerning her experience during the great famine of 1959-61.



“
History is not
only about
Famous People,
It is also about
Ordinary People.
”

Why Oral History?

Example 2: **Tibetan Migrant Family Story**

Presented at the 2014 International Oral History Association Conference



Tour guide Clara doing Oral History

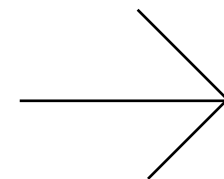


Why Oral History?

Example 3: **Tin Embroidery**

Art handed down from Mother to Daughter

Presented at the 2013 British Oral History Society Conference



Why Oral History?

Example 4: **Walking Horse**



Symbols of China's Tourism

Presented at the 2013 OHA
Conference





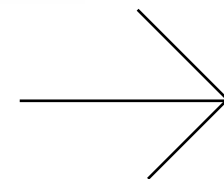
*A dinner party
with the hostess
telling us her story.*

Finally, the Concept came together

Why Oral History?

Twelve-year-old working at a sewing factory became a doctor of Psychology.

**Ordinary People with
Extraordinary Stories.**



Designing to Fit



Privacy

Private by default
Granular sharing options
Secure



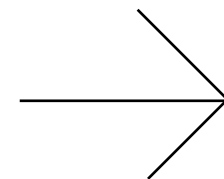
Ownership

Interviewee centered
Flexible
Your legacy, your way



Ease of Use

Simple tools
Searchable
Assessable

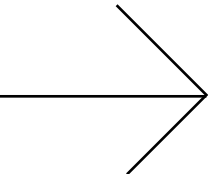


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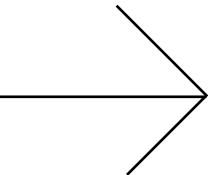
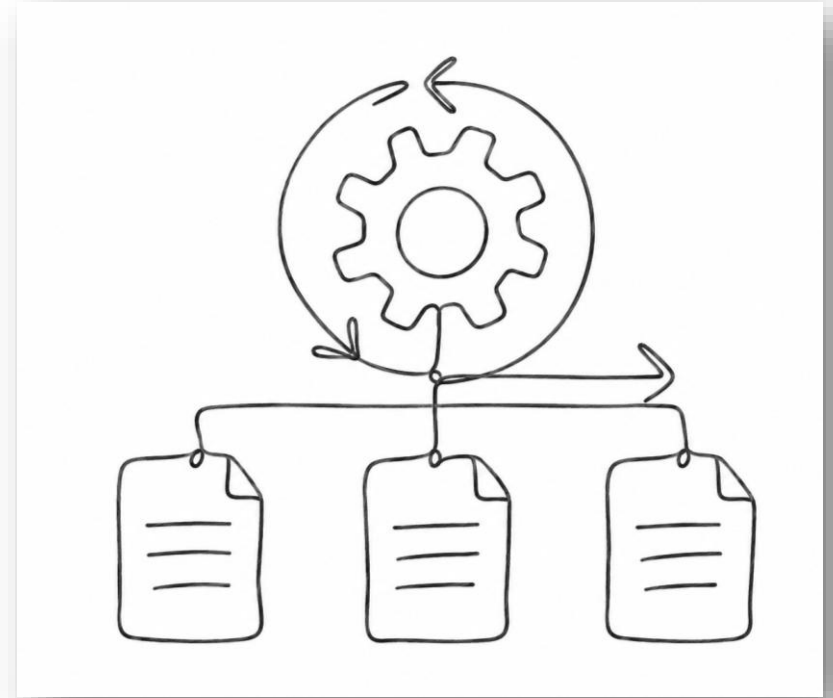


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Overall Framework

*From Conversations
To Searchable Memories*



A family story begins with a conversation.

But how do we turn that conversation into a lasting legacy?

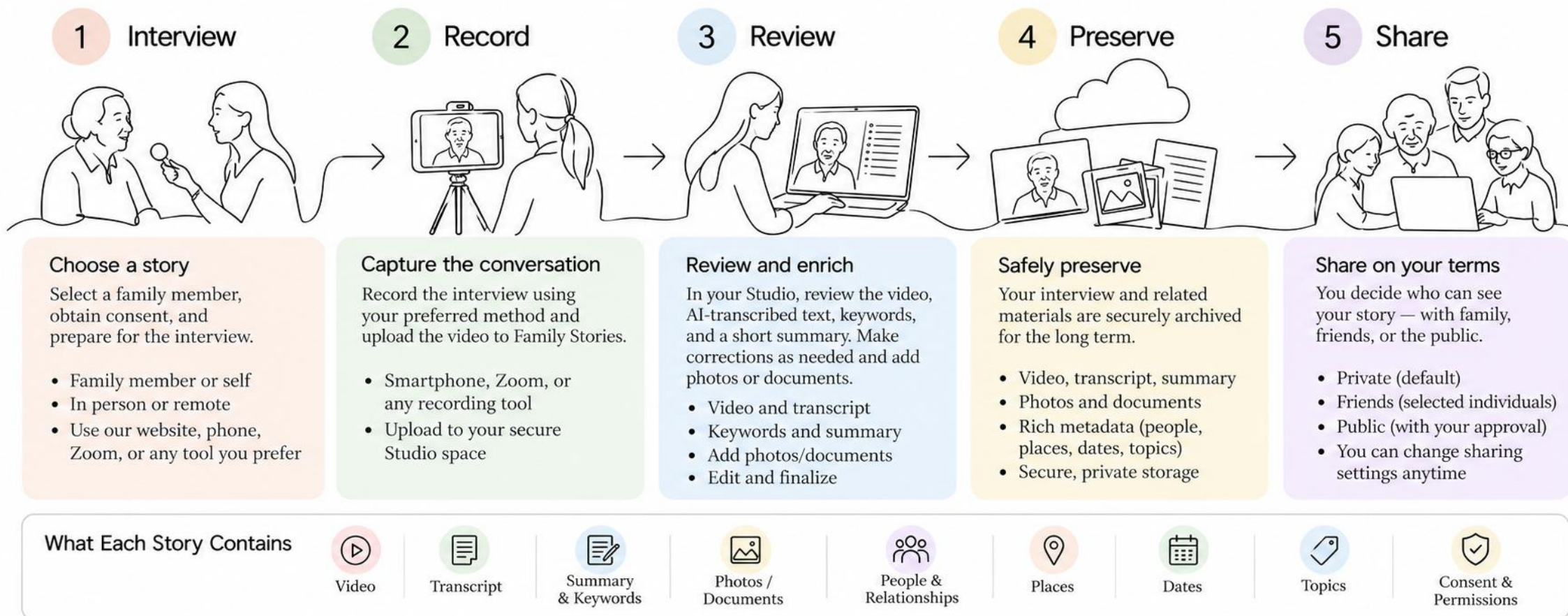
So we built a simple, thoughtful way for families to capture, preserve, and share their stories — on their own terms.

We architect a flow that is easy for all participants — from interviewees to family members to future generations.



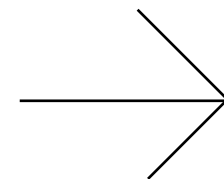
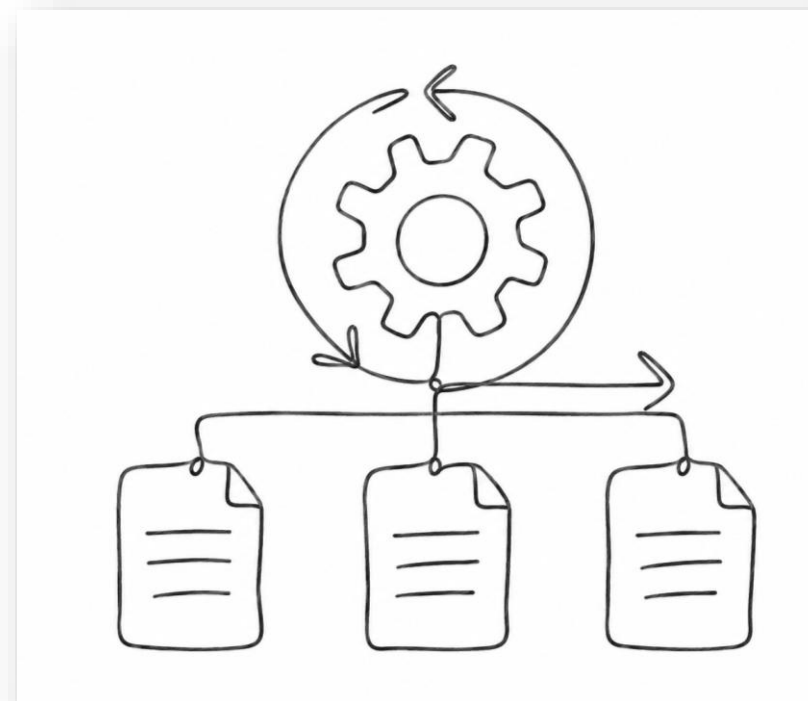
Interview • Record • Review • Preserve • Share

Family members interview and record the stories of their loved ones, creating an authentic, insider perspective and a living legacy for future generations.



Ownership & Privacy Architecture

Interviewee-Centered Approach

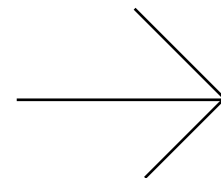


*‘Who owns a family story —
the person who tells it, the person who
records it, or the platform that preserves it?’*

At Evergreen Family Stories, we made a
deliberate choice: **the story belongs to
the person who lived it.**

Privacy isn’t just a setting.
It’s the foundation of how we designed
the entire platform.

Interviewee-Centered by Design.



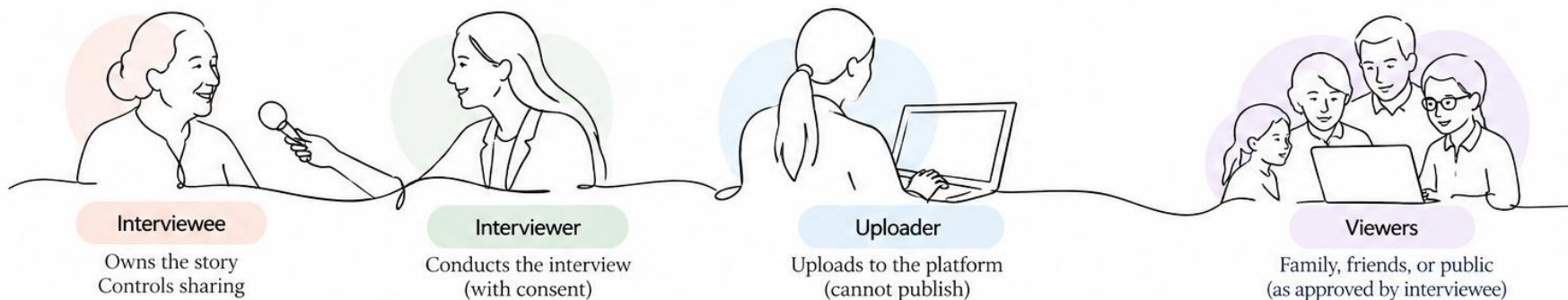
Ownership & Privacy Architecture

Interviewee-centered. Private by default. Securely stored.



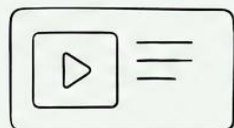
The interviewee owns and controls the story.

Only the interviewee can decide how and with whom it is shared.



Story Visibility Controls

Set by the interviewee



New Story

Private by default



Private

Only participants
and authorized users



Friends

Selected individuals
(you choose)



Public

Available to everyone
(with your approval)

Access Control

Every request is verified

- ✓ Participation
- ✓ Approved public status
- ✓ Friends permission
- ✓ Direct sharing link
- ✗ Access denied if conditions are not met

Secure Storage & Infrastructure

Your stories are stored safely and privately



Video & Files

Uploaded from your device
or our website



**Private Cloud Storage
(AWS S3)**

No public storage
All files kept private



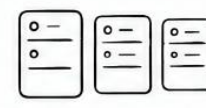
Encrypted Data

AES-256 encryption for
personal information and
release documents



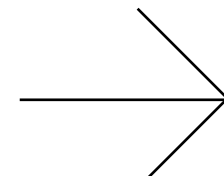
Access via Secure Links

Time-limited URLs only
after permissions
are confirmed



**Secure Authentication
& Permissions**

AWS Cognito and Amplify
Role-based access control

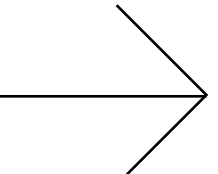


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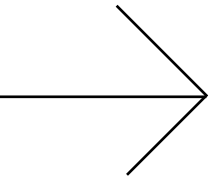


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Real-Life Demo

Intergeneration Dialogue Preservation



Start a New Story: Part 1

Choose how you want to capture your story

1

Upload or Record

Choose how you want to get your video into Family Stories.

Start a New Story

Upload or record?



Upload

A file you already have.



Record

Record in the app.

2

Your own story, or an interview?

Tell your own story, or interview a family member.

Start a New Story

← Back

Your own story, or an interview?



Your own story



An interview

3

Same room, or two devices?

Do the interview in the same room or connect from different locations.

Start a New Story

← Back

Same room, or two devices?



One Device

Same room.



Two Devices

They join on their device.

Start a New Story: Part 2

Your videos, interview network, and admin tools

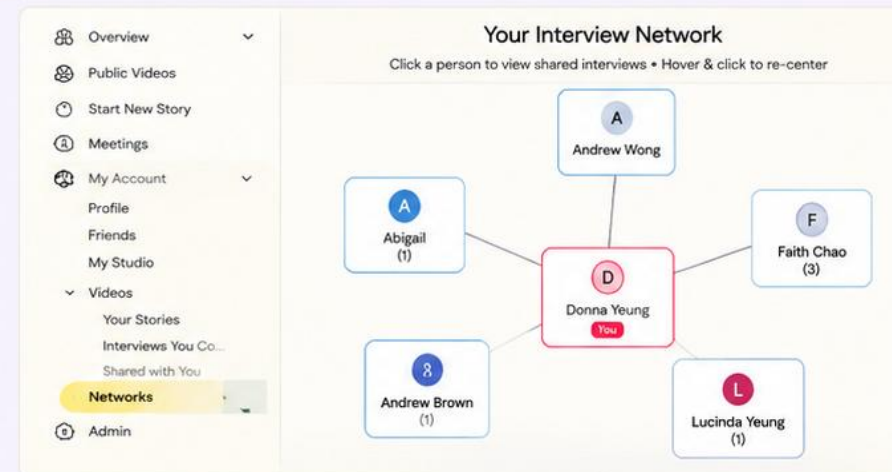
4 My Videos

View your videos, interviews and stories.



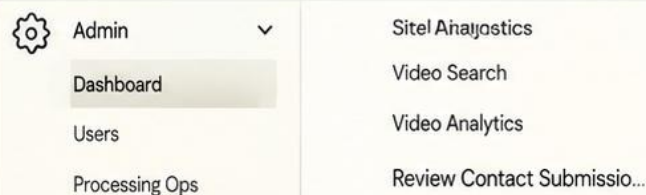
5 Your Interview Network

See the people you have interviewed and how they are connected.



6 Admin Tools

Manage the platform (for administrators).



| Q & A

Panel discussion session





Bringing Oral History Home to Chinese Immigrant Families



Evergreen Family Story Project

<https://www.evergreenfamilystories.org/>



Website by SI Creative Agency

sicreativeagency.com