

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 7, 2016

CONTACT: Andie Apple

Assistant Director

[andie.apple@kernlibrary.org](mailto:andie.apple@kernlibrary.org)

661.868.0730

### News Release

## ***Kern County Library Presents Traveling Exhibit, “Remembering 1882: Fighting for Civil Rights in the Shadow of the Chinese Exclusion Act.”***

***November 4 – 18, 2016***

The Kern County Library will be hosting the Chinese Historical Society of America’s traveling exhibit, *Remember 1882: Fighting for Civil Rights in the Shadow of the Chinese Exclusion Act*, at the Beale Memorial Library, starting Friday, November 4 through Friday, November 18, 2016.

In 1882, Congress passed the nation’s first major immigration legislation – a law to prevent people of Chinese descent from entering the United States. The law would tear apart families, cut the nation’s Chinese American population in half, and remove the right to become citizens. *Remembering 1882* explores the historical debate around the Exclusion Act from its origins through its full repeal in 1968, the civil rights struggle of Chinese Americans and allies, and the historic importance of habeas corpus in the Chinese American community. In 2009, the California Legislature passed a Bill that apologized to Chinese Americans for the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and other unjust discriminatory laws, which resulted in the persecution of Chinese living California. With a vibrant Chinatown district and history in Bakersfield, *Remember 1882* gives viewers an inside look into history.

The exhibit is sponsored by The Chinese Women’s Club and the Chinese American Association of Kern County.

*For more information, visit [kerncountylibrary.org](http://kerncountylibrary.org).*