



Joyce Bantugan (SFSU 2020)

**ALICE FONG YU (1905-2000)**  
**Alice Fong Yu Alternative School**  
**1541 - 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue, San Francisco**

Alice Fong Yu was born in a small gold mining town in Washington, California. Her father inspired her to become an educator. Alice attended San Francisco Normal Teachers' College (now SF State University). Immediately upon graduation, the principal at Commodore Stockton Elementary School in Chinatown insisted on hiring her for the school's predominantly Chinese-speaking students. After spending thirty-four years teaching at the school, Alice obtained a special education credential in speech therapy and spent her last ten teaching years to help students with speech disabilities. Alice was also the co-founder and first president of the Square and Circle Club in 1924, the first and oldest Chinese/Asian American women's service organization in the country.