

## Extant and Extraordinary: The Recent Brachiopod Collection At The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

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Museum specimens within phylum Brachiopoda are often fossil specimens and held in paleontological collections. This is due to their significant diversity and abundance throughout the fossil record, with several thousands of species recognized between the Cambrian and the Recent. Today, there are fewer than 500 extant brachiopod species. The recent brachiopod collection at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (SBMNH) is a unique collection with over 1,300 extant brachiopod specimen lots, including both fluid preserved specimens and dried shells collected between 1901 and 2020. With holdings from over 30 countries, the collection is focused on specimens collected in the northeast Pacific. This collection has been recently re-housed and digitized under the National Science Foundation Thematic Collections Network (TCN): Documenting Marine Biodiversity Through Digitization of Invertebrate Collections (DigIn) and is now available on the SBMNH Specify Web Portal (<http://www.sbizcollections.org/iz/>) as well as iDigBio. Uncovered data held within this collection has shed light on updated geographic distributions and depth ranges for particular species along the northeast Pacific.

