



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

P.O. Box 388
Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0388
Tel (805) 965-0093 | Fax (805) 568-1999 | www.sbthp.org

To Bring Alive the History of Santa Barbara for Present and Future Generations

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos Available Upon Request

PRESS CONTACT

Jared Brach
Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation
Tel: (805) 966-1279
Fax: (805) 966-9888
E-mail: jared@sbthp.org
Website: www.sbthp.org

**Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation seeks volunteer Docents –
Share with others as you learn about Santa Barbara's unique history and heritage.**



(Santa Barbara, CA) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is now accepting applications for participants in the 2008 Docent Program. Training will begin on **Wednesday, January 16 at 10:00 am at El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park**. Two follow-up training sessions will follow.

Docents are needed to conduct site tours and lead educational activities that add to the visitor experience and increase awareness of the many services offered by the Trust for Historic Preservation. Docents lead group tours of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park and the Casa de la Guerra, help demonstrate Early California life and activities at community events, present slideshows and traveling learning trunks at local schools, and experience lectures, fieldtrips, and other lifelong learning opportunities.

Designed for new and returning docents, these programs will add to or reinforce your knowledge of early Santa Barbara History. The 2007-08 docent training schedule includes:

- **January 16, 2008** – Special tour of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park
- **January 30, 2008** – Special tour of the Casa de la Guerra
- **February 6, 2008** – Presentation by Michael Hardwick on the history of the Spanish and Mexican *Soldados* in California and at the Santa Barbara Presidio

For more information about Docent Opportunities contact the Trust's Education Department at (805) 962-9504, email karen@sbthp.org, or visit www.sbthp.org

ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation – Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization working to preserve, restore, reconstruct and interpret historic sites within Santa Barbara County. The Trust is the primary force behind the reconstruction and preservation of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park and the restoration of Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. The Trust is also preserving and restoring the Santa Inés Mission Mills—the site of a future California State Park and recently purchased the building that housed Jimmy's Oriental Gardens, providing an opportunity to interpret the history of Santa Barbara's Asian community in the Presidio neighborhood. The Trust is currently reconstructing the Northwest Corner of El Presidio de Santa Barbara, the eighteenth-century Spanish colonial fort that is Santa Barbara's birthplace. Using over 50,000 adobe bricks made on site, these additions will eventually house the new Presidio visitors' center, and with the help of the new Santa Barbara Presidio Research Center, serve to interpret the city's Hispanic heritage, and the larger multi-cultural heritage of the surrounding Presidio neighborhood from the eighteenth century to the present. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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