



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

PO 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

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2008

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

Historic Plaza de Alhecama Building to get Built Green Environmental Retrofit – *Santa Barbara Contractors Association members will restore 1920s era structure to an environment sensitive, energy efficient, Built Green certified facility in partnership with the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation*

GROUNDBREAKING WITH MAYOR MARTY BLUM & DR. JARRELL JACKMAN

Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Noon

Historic Plaza de Alhecama
914 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, CA

(SANTA BARBARA, CA) – **Groundbreaking will be held on Wednesday, April 30 at Noon for the restoration and retrofit of a 1920s era building in the historic Plaza de Alhecama. This unique project will be a model for sustainable remodeling and construction in Santa Barbara.** Mayor Marty Blum, Dr. Jarrell Jackman, Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (SBTHP) and representatives of the Santa Barbara Contractors Association (SBCA) and Built Green Santa Barbara program are scheduled to speak at the event.

Green building practices go beyond energy and water conservation to incorporate environment sensitive site planning, resource efficient building materials and superior indoor air quality, and examination of life cycle costs, transportation energy and embodied energy. **According to SBCA President Dan George, "Sometimes the most responsible way to build is to recycle an old building." This is exactly what the Contractors Association and the Trust for Historic Preservation have agreed to do. Mr. George states "This project is expected to be so energy efficient that it will generate all the power we need to operate and also export energy back to the power grid."**

The building is located in Plaza de Alhecama and was originally part of the Santa Barbara School of the Arts, the center of the fine arts movement in Santa Barbara from 1927 to 1938. In 1939, community leader Alice F. Schott purchased the School's property, saving the buildings from an uncertain future. In 1945, Schott deeded the property to the Adult Education Program of the Santa Barbara School District, which they occupied until 1981 before outgrowing the site and moving to a new location. SBTHP purchased the property in 1980 and sold it to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for incorporation into El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park in 1983. A general plan for the property was adopted by State Parks, the Santa Barbara City Council, and the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation in 1988. The studio and workshops have been leased to artists, theater groups, and small businesses while formal plans for the site were developed.

SBTHP Executive Director Dr. Jarrell Jackman touched upon the significance of the project, explaining, "We at the Trust are very pleased to bring together historic preservation and the World of Greening. The very act of rehabilitating an historic structure is an important aspect of the Greening movement, but we are taking it to a higher level by making the studios energy efficient. We feel this is just the first of many future collaborations with the SB Contractors Association and Built Green Santa Barbara."

SBCA member contractors will install FSC wood throughout, breathable membranes and specialized vapor shields, drainage planes, foam insulation, high performance architectural replacement windows, heat pump technology, low flow and waterless plumbing fixtures, tankless water heater, ultra high efficiency lights, solar water heating, photo voltaic electric generation panels, improved indoor air quality and site water control. The Contractors Association and Built Green Santa Barbara will use the building for offices and classrooms for the next ten years.

FOR ASSISTANCE WITH COVERAGE AND FURTHER INFORMATION:



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.

For information visit www.sbthp.org.

Contact: Dr. Jarrell Jackman, Executive Director, 805-965-0093



SANTA BARBARA CONTRACTORS

ASSOCIATION – has been serving the community since 1948. The SBCA is a network of builders, contractors, architects, designers,

suppliers and industry professionals working together to serve and educate the community.

For information visit www.sbcontractors.org.

Contact: Dan George, SBCA President, 805-884-1100



BUILT GREEN SANTA BARBARA – is a voluntary environmental building program that distinguishes and promotes resource efficient development, design, and construction. Built Green Santa Barbara is a

program of the Santa Barbara Contractors Association Education Foundation a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.

For information visit www.builtgreensb.org.

Contact: Karin Perissinotto, Executive Director, 805-884-1100

###